

Steele County Times



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A father's plea to buckle up



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

A portrait of Logan Maas served as a painful reminder for motorists to buckle up during a statewide seat belt enforcement kick off in Austin Monday mo ning. Maas, a senior at Triton High School, was killed in December when he was thrown out of a vehicle in Dodge County. He was not wearing a seat belt, and now his family is urging motorists to click on their seat belts.

Minnesota police agencies kick off seat belt enforcement

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

Flanked by police officers from all over southeastern Minnesota, Matt Maas encouraged motorists to not do what ended costing his son's life. He failed to buckle up.

On Dec. 18, Logan Maas, a senior at Triton High School, was killed instantly when the vehicle he was riding in rolled over in Dodge County. Three others in the vehicle survived.

"It affects absolutely everything," Matt said of his son's decision to not buckle up. "It is hell on earth every day."

Logan was one of 91 people who died in Minnesota last year by not wearing a seat belt. In the last five years, 527 unbelted motorists lost their lives and 1,035 people suffered life-changing injuries.

Since Logan's death, the Maas family has been forced to deal with the harsh reality of their son not buckling up. "Every day you wake up with this huge hole, this sinking feeling in your chest and as the days go by it does not get any better," Matt said. "Everything is different now. There is no truly being happy. When you do experience something that makes you smile or gives you that feeling of happiness, those feelings quickly get run over by the sorrow and grief."

Matt and his family have replaced planning their son's graduation with educating the public about the devastating effects not buckling up can have on a family. Logan would be graduating from Triton next week.

This has been a difficult time for the Maas family as they have watched friends post pictures on social media of their kids going to prom, getting accepted to colleges and receiving graduation invitations in the mail. "The whole time, being proud of them and excited for all of them, but inside crying because we should be doing these things with Logan," Matt said.

> *'It's hell on earth every day.'*
>
> **– Matt Maas**
> **Unbelted Son Killed**

Matt's plea for motorists to buckle up comes as Minnesota kicks off a statewide enforcement campaign running from now until June 5. Law enforcement across the state, including most agencies in Steele and Dodge counties, will be taking part in the Click It or Ticket campaign. Police departments from all over southeastern Minnesota gathered in Austin Monday morning to launch the effort.

"The seat belt is the best defense against a crash," said Sgt. Troy Christianson of the State Patrol. "You can avoid a ticket and a crash by buckling up."

Seat belt use in greater Minnesota is a significant problem. In 2015, 87 percent of the unbelted deaths occurred in the rural areas outside of the metro area. Nearly 80 percent of vehicle occupants who were ejected or partially ejected and died were not wearing a seat belt.

"If you are involved in a crash and are thrown from the vehicle, the likelihood of survival is slim," said Steele County Sheriff's deputy Kari Woltman.

PLEA
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Girl rescued from beach

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

A 10-year-old Owatonna girl is fighting for her life after being rescued from the beach at Lake Kohlmeier in Owatonna Sunday afternoon.

Rescuers responded to the beach at about 4:20 p.m. for a girl who was "found unresponsive in the water," according to Sgt. Gary Okins of the Steele County Sheriff's Office. Investigators are still trying to determine if the girl went under as a result of a drowning situation or because of a medical condition, Okins said.

Mayo One airlifted the girl, whose identity has not been released, from the scene to a Rochester hospital. Her exact condition was unknown when this edition of the Times went to press.

Okins credited an unidentified citizen for saving the girl's life by performing CPR before rescuers got to the scene. "She is pretty shook up," Okins said of the girl's lifesaver.

The girl, Okins said, was swimming at the beach with her family when the incident happened. He added the girl was not too far out in the swimming area.

Sheriff's investigators are continuing the investigation into what led up to the incident. In Minnesota, sheriff's offices handle all water incidents even when they are within city limits, Okins noted.

Owatonna Police assisted at the sheriff's office at the scene

The Steele County Times will be delivered one day late next week due to the Memorial Day holiday

New water main project on SW 3rd St. nearly complete

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Numerous water main breaks in Blooming Prairie have necessitated some major projects since last fall to replace the old main.

One of most significant projects this spring has been the project on Southwest Third Street. City Administrator Mike Jones says $540,000 in utility revenue bonds will be sold to finance the Southwest Third project. RAW Construction of Faribault holds the contract on SW Third Street.

Alternate water lines were provided city water consumers above ground. Some of the alternate lines reportedly froze the weekend of May 15 with the abnormal cold weather. The old line is being replaced by a six-inch line.

Very minimal water shutdown has been required on the Southwest Third Street project. The line was shut down for only a

WATER
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Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

A major water main project continues on Southwest Third St. in Blooming Prairie. RAW Construction Co. of Faribault is holder of the construction contract. Work is slated to be completed by early June.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

BP Ambulance Service holds open house

In recognition of EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Week, the Blooming Prairie Ambulance Service held an open house on Tuesday, May 17. Some of the visitors came from the Boys and Girls Club of Blooming Prairie. Shown from left are: Madison Sorensen, Jazlyn Kapschk, Natalie Schumacher and Michael Wilberding.

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Opinion

Our view

Small towns: delightful or dictatatorial?

There is a definite appeal to the quaintness of a small town, but quaintness may also come with some quirks.

According to Arlene Webb, a minister at Stayton UMC in Portland, "a small town atmosphere is a place where neighbors know and care about one another and other common areas enjoy a high degree of safety."

She goes on to say, "Typically it also refers to an unspoken reference to tradition. The quirky comes when the tradition, direction and future is controlled by one or two who have pockets deep enough to ensure the security of their own desires or a level of leadership that evokes fear and not respect. "Legends in their own minds."

That is the challenge of many small towns and one or two that control its every move. When a town moves from democracy to theocracy, I advise people to begin to find a good Realtor. Sometimes, there's just not enough money to overthrow that theocratic government.

Some small towns grow bigger or smaller due to economic factors. Some change due to the climate. And some, to the atmosphere and the people in charge. It comes down to whether you love coming home after a vacation or dread it.

In a recent local article concerning a small town in southeastern Minnesota, the town's administration said that they wanted to make their city a "livable and loveable community." It was said in conjunction with a city clean up project. Admirable. They want to create a more esthetically pleasing place for people to live. They nailed the "livable" part.

The troubling statement comes when a further statement was issued, "All city employees not involved in law enforcement are on the lookout for code enforcement problems as well as checking around the city for any accumulated trash, unlicensed vehicles, and other code offenses. Law enforcement will be notified of continued violations and citations may be issued."

Upon further investigation, concerned citizens are not prompted to "feel the love" through that action or the statement. In fact, unsolicited calls have come forth concerning the "garden tractor patrol" roaming and policing the streets, filing complaints on friends and neighbors to make it a more "loveable" place to live. They swung the hammer but missed the nail.

One concerned citizen likened it to "Nazi patrols" no doubt who had gone forth at one time to make Germany a more loveable and fun place to live.

You can't change the love or concepts of a community simply by changing the esthetics any more than buying a grieving widow a new car can take away her sorrow. Externals change external things. Internals change internal things.

The love of a community and the "neighborly" acts one toward another go a long way in creating a pleasing place to live. Using the garden tractor patrols to offer to mow a lawn instead of reporting the weeds could go a long way. It comes back to the old adage of paying it forward.

Instead of creating a code enforcement patrol, better time would be spent with a benevolence patrol. You lead by example.

Controlling and enforcing the parameters of a community are a good thing. How you go about it is quite another altogether. I am reminded of a song by Gaylen Paul and the line that reverberates to those who want to be quaint and not quashing. "The tongue is a small member, but beware of the things it can say. It moves mountains still and has the power to kill, and a loved one might be in the way."



Submitted photo

Collectin' violations and takin' names. The code patrol coming to an area near you.



'It is hell on earth every day'



Logan Maas knew better.

In fact, the explorer turned firefighter with Dodge Center Fire made everyone wear their seat belt.

But last December something didn't click, and ended up going horribly wrong.

The 18 year old died on a gravel road in Dodge County just days before Christmas. Of the four occupants in the vehicle, Logan was the only one killed. He did not buckle up and was thrown from the vehicle after it rolled over.

"It floored me," Logan's father, Matt, said this week. "I could not believe he was screwing around in a vehicle and not wearing his seat belt. He very well knew better."

Logan was in the process of doing his senior board's project on the dangers of distracted and impaired driving.

The tragic crash hit Matt especially hard. He is the emergency management director for Dodge County and often is called in to assist with critical incidents and bad scenes. On this particular day, others in the sheriff's office came to his rescue to comfort him on the loss of his son.

Matt is now speaking out about the importance of buckling up. And it's not an easy task for him.

Matt says his family has been forced to live their worst nightmare.

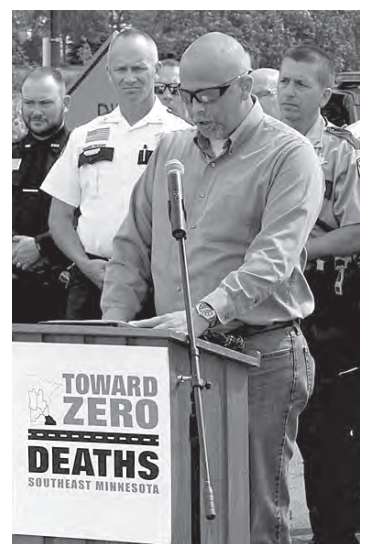
"Our family found ourselves giving permission for an autopsy to be done on our son, we found ourselves answering questions about eye and tissue donations, planning a funeral service, and putting pictures together for Logan's funeral, not his graduation," he said.

Matt cautions people about altering their behavior around friends and peers. As his son's case points out, some of these changes are good and some not so good. "Make sure that you are aware of that and make good decisions when you're behind the wheel, and not just you, but your family," Matt said.

It's often said that time heals. But that isn't happening in Matt's case.

"Every day you wake up with this huge hole, this sinking feeling in your chest and as the days go by it does not get any better," Matt said. "You realize that the hardest part wasn't losing him, but it is learning to go forward every day without him," he added.

Sheriff Scott Rose said the crash investigation determined that Logan was a rear seat passenger in a car with three other kids who were "screwing around on a gravel road." They reportedly drove repeatedly over a steep hill in an attempt to "get air." They wanted to experience the feeling of going over the hill without seat belts on, according to Rose.



Matt Maas

"We hope and pray that the Maas family's story serves as a reminder to everyone to please make sure to drive safe and buckle up," Rose said. He also stressed making an extra effort to enforce the importance of seat belts with kids.

Sadly, teen drivers continue to be overrepresented in traffic crashes due to driver inexperience, distractions, speeding and risk taking and seat belt nonuse. Much of this seemed to come together in a perfect storm with Logan and his friends last winter.

As Matt faced the public for the first time at a press conference this week, it's obvious and understandable that his son's death has devastated the family, and things will never be the same again.

"It is hell on earth every day," Matt says.

That's why Matt is in hot pursuit of changing the driving behaviors of others. Buckle up

Memories kindle the heart, tears are healing



Memories of our departed loved ones kindle the heart and our tears of love help the healing process.

As we approach another Memorial weekend, many of us will visit local cemeteries to remember our loved ones. Many of the loved ones served in U.S. military services and made sacrifices to protect our many freedoms won years earlier.

I vividly remember my mother going to the Lakewood Cemetery in Albert Lea to plant flowers at the foot of a gravestone for her parents. Mom loved to plant the colorful flowers as a testament to her faith. It was often a tearful but rewarding time for her.

Of all the national holidays, Memorial Day holds some of the most significant meaning for me because it allows me time to reflect on our family members who have gone before us. It also gives us time to say thank you to the many men and women who have served our country during some very difficult times.

I marvel at how many veterans organizations pay tribute to veterans of the armed forces by placing flags on graves. American flags abound and other floral displays make our cemeteries a haven of love.

Memorial Day is also a time to pay loving respect to our family members who were not members of the Armed Services. Our daughter Tammi died at the young age of 22 and is buried next to her grandparents (my parents) at the Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church cemetery located just five miles south of Blooming Prairie.

Just prior to Memorial Day, Judy and I always put out a floral spray near Tammi's grave stone. Our son Troy and his family always place a wreath on Tammi's grave around the Christmas season.

A few years ago, Tammi's aunt and uncle, Cindi and Darrell Hansen, also Tammi's godparents, purchased a battery operated candle that they placed

MEMORIES
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On stage at the Steele County Fair

The Grandstand schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, August 16
Bull riding will begin at 7:30.

Wednesday, August 17
Battle of the bands begins at 5:30, and is a free event. Chris Brooks and the Silver City Boys begins at 8:00.

Thursday, August 18
Hairball Concert begins at 7:30.

Friday, August 19
NTPA Tractor Pull begins at 7:30.

Saturday, August 20
Antique Tractor pull begins at 8:30 a.m. This even will be free with coupon. Enduro Race begins at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 21
Demolition Derby begins

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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)

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DEADLINE

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

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

ETHICS

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Second Front

Area Memorial Day services planned

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

Several area communities are planning Memorial Day services on Monday as a tribute to honor fallen and deceased veterans.

Memorial Day is a time to reflect and honor all those who have died, not just the veterans who served their country's call, but their family members and friends who are no longer living.

Blooming Prairie

The Blooming Prairie VFW and American Legion will host a program in honor of deceased veterans beginning Monday at 11 a.m. at the BP City Cemetery.

Pastor James Fennell of First Baptist Church will present this year's address. The Blooming Prairie High School Band, under the direction of Ross Reihus, will be playing musical selections. Military honors will be by the VFW and Legion members.

Prior to the ceremony, refreshments will be served at the BP Servicemen's Club at 9:30 a.m. In a change from previous years, the band and honor guard will be assembling at the Prairie Plumbing parking lot on Highway 218 south starting at 10:30 a.m. They will not be marching through town as in years past.

The parade starts at 10:45 a.m. at Prairie Plumbing and marches to the cemetery and through the 14 American flags, which have been donated by Jesse and Lavon Hernandez to the VFW and Legion and will be displayed on future Memorial Day services. Marchers will continue to the northeast corner of the cemetery for the program.

Organizers are inviting any veteran who is not able to march in the Honor Guard to join in



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Veterans Memorial Park in Austin, Minnesota

formation at the cemetery.

A potluck dinner will take place at noon at the Servicemen's Club. Participants are asked to bring a generous dish to share.

Following the dinner, there will be a presentation and recognition of the 2015-16 Voice of Democracy and 2016 Patriotic art winner Marissa Larson. She will be giving her essay and presenting her art piece.

There will be several Quilts of Valor presented to local veterans at the program. A quilt, print and cash prizes will be awarded.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Servicemen's Club.

Owatonna

A Memorial Day parade and program is slated to begin at 9:30 a.m. in Owatonna. The parade will start at the corner of South Elm Avenue and East School Street. It will end at the Steele County Fairgrounds.

The program is set to get underway at 10:30 a.m. at the Four Seasons Building on the fairgrounds.

Weather cancellation announcements for the parade will be made by 9 a.m. If anyone has questions regarding the parade or program, call the VFW at 507-451-1001.

Geneva

A program will take place at the Geneva Cemetery starting at 10 a.m.

New Richland

There will be a program beginning at 11 a.m. at the All Saints Catholic Church at 307 1st St. SW in New Richland. The event will take place rain or shine.

You're getting old, Mr. Staloch. . .

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Blooming Prairie Elementary School Principal Chris Staloch must have felt just a tinge older one day last week, in fact on his 40th birthday, May 18.

If he didn't feel older when arriving at his job on this day, it didn't take long to realize that maybe the years have been ticking by rather fast. All he had to do was look into the hallways and see a young student hobbling by, using a cane.

Teachers also put on the years by dressing in clothes worn "in the olden days." Some teachers also moved down the hall with the help of a walker.

It was all done in jest and as a tribute to a man who students, teachers and administrative staff have loved to admire during his five years as elementary principal. Staloch, a native of Minnesota Lake, has spent his entire education career over 17 years in Blooming Prairie.

"I was totally surprised but had a feeling something was going on," said Staloch upon noticing a different atmosphere at school. "The kids made a point of bringing up my birthday," he said.

As the day progressed on this particular Wednesday, more surprises appeared. The fifth and sixth grade band came to Staloch's office and played its rendition of Happy Birthday. A second grade class also made a special book commemorating his birthday. The title of the boak is "What Does Mr. Staloch do all day?

Balloons, cards and lots of greetings from parents of students were received by Staloch during this special day.

"It was a great day at school and the day was topped off with an evening out with my family," Staloch said.

It was a day Mr. Staloch will long remember, a day when his students actually aged more quickly than he has.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

"Remember when, Mr. Staloch?" Three young maidens turned into three elderly ladies to help remind Blooming Prairie Principal Chris Staloch that he is getting a little older. They are: Hannah Hamersma, Lexi Steckelberg and Clare Rennie. Staloch turned 40 on Wednesday, May 18 and couldn't believe his eyes when walking the halls and seeing his students and staff age befo e his eyes.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Emma Christianson, Blooming Prairie High School junior-to-be takes a swing at a wrecked car during a fundraising project she spearheaded on Saturday, May 21 near the high school. Her project raised awareness to Nigerian women killed by a terrorist movement.

Three juniors-to-be raise funds for respectable causes

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Three Blooming Prairie High School juniors-to-be were busy Saturday, May 21 with their pet projects designed to raise funds for just causes.

Early in the morning, current sophomores Rylee Fawver and Jerrin Jax organized a walk/run to benefit depression awareness. About 70 walkers/runners participated, starting at the high school and continuing for 3.1 miles (5K) and ending where they started, at the high school.

John Bruns, high school teacher and coach, was the first runner to finish in 21:47.

The project undertaken by Fawver and Jax came out of a history project.

"We want to come together to make people aware of depression and mental illness," Fawver said. She said the project paid tribute to their fellow student Alex Jorgenson who passed away a year ago.

Later in the morning Saturday, junior-to-be Emma Christianson directed her fundraiser, a drive to raise funds to benefit Nigerian girls affected by Boko Haram. It's a terrorist group in northeast Nigeria.

All money earned by Emma's car bash goes to American University of Nigerian Foundation. It will help pay for their education. This project was again through the high school social studies classes.

Emma's car bash offered students and others a chance to swing a large sledge hammer at a junked car positioned near Victory Field. Donations were accepted for the hammer chances.

Even Brett Miller was there doing his best to put a few more dents in the automobile. And, Emma tried her luck, too.

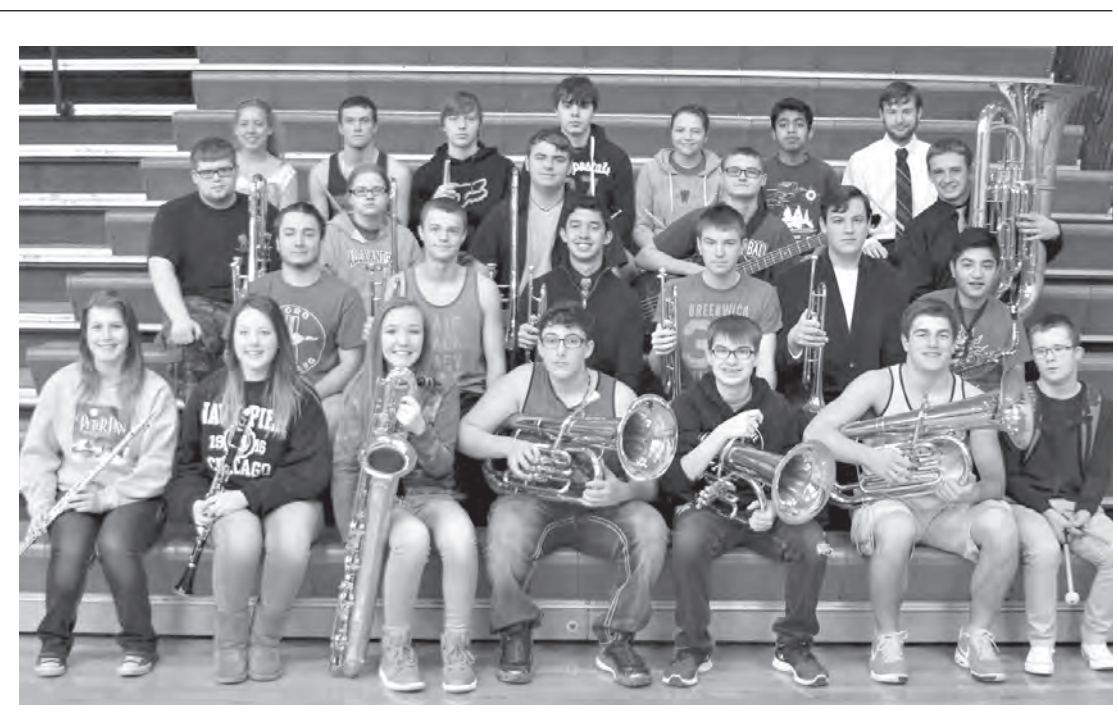
"These student efforts show how seriously our students are following international issues," said high school principal John Worke.



Submitted photo

One Act Play
Front Row: Alec Ille, Rose Johnson, Jake Hyland, Byran Fristdedt. Second Row: Ellie Jones, Erica Laganiere, Austin Christians, Rylee Fawver, Michael Pape, Ross Reishus

BP Fine Arts groups showcase their talents



Submitted photo

Senior Choir
Front Row: Ethan Arett, Ryan Pena, Jon Hansen, Rose Johnson, Brianna Green, Irasema Zamarripa, Alyssa Northway, Jackie Hyland, RaeAnn Grundmeier, Jada Trom Padilla, Rachel Oswald. Second Row: Bria Baldwin, Emily Trihus, Rachel Pirkl, Asia Thostenson, Alexander Richard, Taylor Peterson, Hailey Naatz, Leah Inwards, Kylie Forystek, Courtney Wobschall, Kari Bottin. Third Row: Caleb Kubista, Timothy Wolf, Jeremy Hocking, Ian Wayne, Brett Motl, Laura Grant, Cassaundra Green, Nathaniel Erickson, Dakota Hanson, Payton Simon
Fourth Row: Brett Miller, Bryan Fristedt, Evan Doerhoefer, Marten Morem, Ausin Behne, Jake Ressler, Nick Thompson, Josh Hein, Theodore Decker, Seth Peterson, Riley Millam



Troms mull next step after judge upholds feedlot use permit

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

A week after a District Court judge refused to vacate a conditional use permit for a Dodge County hog feedlot the plaintiffs in the suit have made no decision on whether to ask the Minnesota Court of Appeals to review the case.

Judge Joseph Chase ruled in favor of Dodge County and Masching Swine Farms in the lawsuit filed by Lowell and Evelyn Trom over issuance of a conditional use permit for a hog feedlot in Westfield Township.

"We're disappointed the court didn't throw out the permit again," James Peters, attorney for the Troms said. "There hasn't been a decision on what to do next."

The order from Chase denied a motion for summary judgment from the Troms that asked the court to overturn the issuance of the conditional use permit granted in late 2014 to Nick Masching for a feedlot in Westfield Township on property adjacent to the Troms. He granted motions for summary judgment submitted by attorneys for the county and Masching.

The case grew out of a feedlot conditional use permit issued to Masching in 2014. The Troms challenged that decision in District Court and Judge Jodi Williamson did vacate the county's decision because of procedures followed by the county in granting the permit.

Her order said Masching could reapply for the permit if all conditions of the application were met. He did reapply and the permit was granted for a second time.

The Troms then filed a second suit and Peters had argued that consideration of the application violated a six-month waiting period following the denial of a prior application, that the application was improperly "fast-tracked" and "rushed" to approval, the application was prejudged and considered via a process that was biased.

He also argued that the public hearing on the application was conducted unfairly and improperly limited comment from opponents, that the application was deficient in omission of information on manure management and that the county never considered the adequacy of manure management as well as public health, welfare and environmental concerns.

The danger signals evident in the procedure followed by the county, and in the result, indicated the county decision was arbitrary and capricious, Peters argued.

Paul D. Reuvers, representing Dodge County, and Jack Y. Perry, representing the Maschings, had both submitted motions of summary judgments for their clients denying the Troms claims.

In issuing his decision, Chase wrote that the approval of the application was not arbitrary or capricious, that it was based upon substantial evidence; that the procedure the county followed was fair and afforded due process, that the process followed and the result were consistent with the applicable ordinances and the result of reasoned decision-making.

Peters said last week that the Troms could ask the Minnesota Court of Appeals to take another look at the case. That court, he said, would do a "de novo" review of the court record.

"The court would basically look at it with a fresh set of eyes," he said. The attorneys could again present their arguments, he said, but no new issues could be introduced.

The plaintiffs have 60 days to decide whether they wish to pursue that path, he said.

He said that even though the decision was not what they wanted, he appreciated the effort put into the case from the judge and the length of the decision shows the many issues involved.

"What's clear," he said, "is the hundreds of feedlots in Dodge County." The issue, he said, is how the county commissioners view feedlots and how they seem to be approving all that come before them.

WATER

Continued from Page 1A

couple of hours when the temporary lines were installed and only three hours on Tuesday, May 17.

Contractors are predicting completion by the first part of June.

Last fall, the project of First Ave. SW to Center Ave. was undertaken, now from First Ave. SW to Memorial Ave. and earlier from Center Ave. to 3rd Ave. SE. In all, the construction has covered about six blocks.

Jones said the worst block was between First Ave. SW and Center Ave.. He said the water main in total had been repaired 12 times. "Workers found some leaks while they were doing the water main construction," Jones said.

Asked about the age of the old water main on SW Third Street, Jones said nobody knows. "We were experiencing lots of breaks the last few winters and the city decided to replace the whole thing," Jones said. "Of course, the line only breaks when it is cold" Jones added.

"It has been a big investment but sooner or later it had to be done; you can only put so many Band Aids on an owie," Jones said.

RAW construction engineering has been done by John Winjum and city work has been supervised by Brett Grabau of Stantec, Rochester.

Blooming Prairie city workers have been providing guidance and advice on the water main projects. "Tom Swenson is my go-to guy when it comes to water and electric in the city," Jones said.

Steele County youths ask for support

St. Paul, MN (5/20/16) – Steele County youth joined more than 250 youth advocates at the Minnesota State Capitol on May 3 to promote ways to reduce youth smoking and to save Minnesota youth from a lifetime of addiction to tobacco. See attached photos.

"This event was a fantastic opportunity for youth to talk with their state lawmakers about the problem of tobacco in Minnesota," said Molly Moilanen, Co-Chair of Minnesotans for a Smoke-Free Generation, a coalition of Minnesota's leading health organizations. "They shared concerns about how Big Tobacco targets them and how deadly tobacco products have impacted their lives."

Steele County youth joined students from around the state for the Day at the Capitol event that connects Minnesota youth advocating to reduce tobacco's harms with their state legislators. Minnesotans agree more needs to be done to keep kids from a lifetime of tobacco addiction and disease. The best way to prevent youth from using tobacco products is to keep them from starting in the first place. These steps can help ensure a smoke-free generation:

1. Raising the tobacco purchase age to 21. Ninety percent of adult smokers started before the age of 18. Widening the gap between teens and those who can legally purchase tobacco reduces kids' ability to buy it or access it through social networks.

2. Restricting sales of flavored tobacco products. The tobacco industry uses candy, fruit and menthol flavors to appeal to youth, African Americans, LGBTQ communities and others. Nationally, more than 40 percent of students who smoke use flavored products, and restrictions will help keep them out of young people's hands.

3. Increasing public funding for tobacco control efforts. Minnesota currently spends just 42 percent of what the Centers for Disease Control recommend for an effective, comprehensive tobacco control program.

4. Keeping tobacco prices high. This is the most effective way to prevent kids from becoming addicted to tobacco products. High prices discourage youth from starting and encourage current smokers to quit.

As the Minnesota Legislature comes closer to a 2016 tax bill, youth advocates also educated legislators about the importance of preventing tax breaks for tobacco companies.

"Lawmakers play an important role in creating a smoke-free generation," said Moilanen. "There is a strong and proven correlation between high tobacco prices and lower youth smoking rates. We cannot afford to roll back the clock by giving tobacco companies tax breaks. It is encouraging to see young people carrying this message and keeping Minnesota on track to achieve a smoke-free generation."



Submitted photo

Front row: Jenna Goddard. Left to right, middle row: Josie Mueller, Taylor Savoie and Shelby Taylor. Back row: Ellie Nigon, Mikayla Burkhartzmeyer, Ashley Burkhartzmeyer, Darren Reed, Dalya Adams, Rep. John Petersburg, Bree Houser, Jamie Lysne and Jordan Ziegler.

PLEA

Continued from Page 1A

"Protect yourself from dangerous drivers on the road by wearing your seat belt. It could save your life," she added.

Safety experts encourage drivers to take control of their vehicle and refuse to start driving until every passenger is belted. Minnesota law requires all drivers and passengers to be buckled up.

Matt urges everyone to buckle up and for family members to have awkward dinner conversations about good driving practices.

"It is better to have an awkward dinner conversation than it is to sit down for dinner every night and have an empty seat at the table," Matt said. "Remember it can happen to you."

Modern baccalaureate inspires graduationg seniors

By Jessica Nafe
Staff Intern

New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva high school honored their graduating class at the annual baccalaureate service held on Sunday, May 22. Pastor Patrick Stitt and the worship band from his church, Vibrant Life in Ellendale, created a modern baccalaureate service that included contemporary music and a message that encouraged the graduating class to go out into the world and "fight!"

With graduation gowns on, the seniors proceeded into the high school gymnasium to a piano prelude played by band director Jacob Bender, causing a few tears to well up in the eyes of some audience members. After a welcome from Pastor Stitt, a prayer written and read by Anna Lundberg, and a time of worship to the Vibrant Life band's rendition of "Overwhelmed," Dempsey Tucker read the scripture passage from Ephesians 6:10-20. The bible verses on the Armor of God lead into Pastor Stitt's message entitled "Fight!"

Pastor Stitt began by painting a picture of the next few years to come for the graduates, including the lack of Calculus the future holds. On a more serious note, Pastor Stitt encouraged the seniors to take up the Sword of the Spirit and fight the evils of our world they will soon encounter. Poverty, ignorance, selfishness, racism, indifference, prejudice, and materialism are a few of the evils that Pastor Stitt believes are overtaking our world, problems that he trusts NRHEG's graduates can fix. By taking their education beyond the classroom, each of the seniors possess the power to leave the world better than they found it, Pastor Stitt preached. He instilled in the graduates that each of them may have a different battle to fight, and a unique way to fight it, but they all must take up the sword and "fight, fight, fight."

A responsive reading that included graduates, parents, and teachers alike recognized the accomplishments of the graduates and encouraged the seniors to follow God's guidance in their future endeavors.

Anna Lundberg performed "Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)," a touching song that speaks of stepping out into the unknown and trusting God throughout. Pastor Stitt closed the service with prayer, and the graduates once again filed out of the gym. The Gideons, an evangelical Christian association, distributed pocket-sized bibles to each of the graduates.

In two short weeks, the seniors will be in their graduation gowns once again, at the commencement ceremonies to be held on Sunday, June 5, at 2:00 at the NRHEG high school.



Photo by Karen Nafe

Vibrant Life Worship Band leading a song

MEMORIES

Continued from Page 2A

on a shepherd's hook at Tammi's grave. When darkness arrives, the candle lights and stays lighted for six hours.

Judy and I, Darrell and Cindi often take frequent trips to the cemetery to bask in the candle light which represents Tammi's light in our lives. It is sort of like an eternal flame. She lives forever in our hearts.

How we remember our loved ones is up to each one of us and we may do it in special ways, flowers, a candle, a personal visit to a grave site and a prayer of remembrance.

I personally love visiting the cemetery to trace the history, not only of our families, but of our communities.

Memorial Day is observed every year on the last Monday of May. It originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868 when the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established it as a time for the nation to decorate graves of the war dead with flowers.

By the 20th century, competing Union and Confederate holiday traditions, celebrated on different days, had merged, and Memorial Day eventually extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service. It typically marks the start of the summer vacation season, while Labor Day marks its end.

Be safe, enjoy your family and pay respect to those who have gone before us. Happy Memorial Weekend.

X Slug Here
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Simple Steps to Protect Yourself from Melanoma



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

Dear Savvy Senior,
Does skin cancer run in families? My 63-year-old brother died of melanoma last year, and I'm wondering about my risks of getting this. What can you tell me?
Younger Sibling

Dear Sibling,
While long-term sun exposure and sunburns are the biggest risk factors for melanoma – the deadliest form of skin cancer – having a sibling or parent with melanoma does indeed increase your risk of getting it two to three times.

Each year, about 75,000 Americans are diagnosed with melanoma, and around 10,000 people will die from it. While anyone can get it, those most often diagnosed are Caucasians, age 50 and older. And those with the highest risk are people with red or blond hair, blue or green eyes, fair skin, freckles, moles, a family history of skin cancer and those who had blistering sunburns in their youth.

Skin Exams

The best way you can guard against melanoma and other skin cancers (basal and squamous cell carcinomas) is to protect yourself from the sun, and if you're over age 50, get a full-body skin exam done by a dermatologist every year, especially if you're high risk.

Self-examinations done every month or so is also a smart way to detect early problems. Using mirrors, check the front and backside of your entire body, including the tops and undersides of your arms and hands, between your toes and the soles of your feet, your neck, scalp and buttocks. Be on the lookout for new growths, moles that have changed, or sores that don't heal. Follow the ABCDE rule when examining suspicious moles.

- Asymmetry: One half of a mole doesn't match the other.
- Border: The border is blurred or ragged.
- Color: The mole has uneven colors, often shades of brown, tan or black, with patches of pink, red, white or blue.
- Diameter: The lesion is new or at least a quarter-inch in diameter.
- Evolving: The mole is changing in size, shape or color.

For more self-examination tips and actual pictures of what to look for, see SkinCancer.org or Melanoma.org.

In the spring and summer, there are a variety of places that offer free skin cancer screenings. Check with the American Academy of Dermatology 888-462-3376.

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Tuesday, May 30, 2006
Dan Evans, Publisher

Terrie Amundson, a local runner of Blooming Prairie, participated in the 2006 Boston Marathon after qualifying for the race with a seventh place finish at a Rochester marathon relay months earlier. Amundson passed the finish line at the Boston Marathon in 3 hours, 2 minutes, and 51 seconds, placing him in the top 6% of the 22,473 competitors.

Nearly 800 students from high schools and technical colleges from across the state competed in leadership and occupational skills contests through SkillsUSA. The contest is a state-level competition for career-oriented students in trade, industrial, technical, and health occupations. Riverland Community College sent 17 students to compete and three students came back with firs place finishes. Steve Harguth (Waseca) won the residential wiring contest, Vida Hierlmaier (Ellendale) won the prepared speech contest, and Steve Schmidt (Austin) won the extemporaneous speech contest.

More than $300,000 of damage was done to a barn on the Waltham farm when a blaze ignited. The dairy cows were safely removed from the barn, but hay and milking equipment were lost in the fire, the cause of which is yet to be determined.

20 Years Ago
Tuesday, May 28, 1996
Elsie Slinger, Editor

Superintendent Irv Peterson announced to the Board of Education Tuesday night that results of the first statewide test in mathematics and reading were received by the district, and Blooming Prairie students did quite well. Ninety percent of all eighth graders passed the state requirement on the Graduation Standards and seventy-one percent of the students passed the reading portion of the test, both high scores for a first test involving all students

The BP girls' golf team won the sub-section tournament, defending the championship title they earned last year. With a score of 298, the girls ran away from second place Lanesboro by 20 strokes.

Two local wrestlers competed in the MN/USA Wrestling State Freestyle and Greco Tournaments. Grant Johnson placed first in the 10 and under 70 pound weight class, and Tim Schlund captured the fourth place title in the 14 and under 95 pound weight class.

50 Years Ago
Thursday, May 26, 1966
Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors

The Red Cross Bloodmobile visit to Blooming Prairie brought surprisingly good results as 102 people reported to the center to donate blood, with 81 pints of blood being collected. Mrs. Howard Ryan of BP was awarded a 4-gallon pin following the recent letting, a milestone only one other Steele County resident has earned.

The BPHS track team fi - ished first in their final meet of the year over Albert Lea and Owatonna to complete a perfect season. With a record of 28-0, the team looks forward to competing in the district tourney.

Dr. John R. Fischer announced that he will be closing his medical office in Blooming Prairie, as he plans to move his family to St. Louis, Missouri to specialize at Washington University School of Medicine. Dr. Timothy Nealy will open a medical practice here in Dr. Fischer's old office

Seven new batteries and an assortment of John Deere toys stolen from the L.S. Ulland Co. of Blooming Prairie were discovered last Saturday on the Odin Ingvalson farm. Mr. Ingvalson found the articles behind a tree in a field on the furthest end of his farm and promptly reported his finding to the police. No suspects of the robbery that occurred last December have been found.

75 Years Ago
Thursday, May 29, 1941
Frank Krejci, Publisher

Diplomas will be received by 52 seniors of the Blooming Prairie high school at the 1941 Commencement, the largest number of students in the history of the school, exceeding the record-breaking class of 1940 by 11. Valedictorian of the class is Elaine Starz and Salutatorian is Jeanne Mack.

A warming from the fire department was issued this week following a fire in a small storage building in an alley here Saturday afternoon. Burning rubbish too near the building caused the fire, although the building was covered with corrugated steel sheeting. A hole was burned in the building by the fire, but no other major damage occurred. Fire Chief Ross Hollowell stated that the practice of piling and burning rubbish near alley buildings should be stopped or else the state fire marshal will be called to condemn the buildings affected.

Phillip LaFollette, ex-governor of Wisconsin, son of the famous old "fighting Bob" and one of the nation's foremost political figures may be the main speaker here July 4th at the annual celebration sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Golf Club.

University of Minnesota
School of Nursing

Are you caring for a person with memory loss? Would you like more help?

The University of Minnesota is examining the effects of remote health monitoring for people with memory loss and their family members. Learn more about participating in this free study by contacting Professor Joe Gaugler at **612.626.2485** or **gaug0015@umn.edu**.

Visit **http://eneighborstudy.org** to learn more

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Community

Obituaries

Lloyd L Matthes, 85, Blooming Prairie



Lloyd L. Matthes, age 85 of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota died peacefully on Monday evening, May 16, 2016 surrounded by his loving family at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie.

He was born January 20, 1931, in Owatonna, Minnesota, the son of Lloyd W. and Agnes (Pirkl) Matthes. He grew up in the Meriden, Minnesota area, graduating from Owatonna High School. After graduation, Lloyd attended Mankato Business College. He entered the military in 1951, serving his country in the U.S. Army in the Korean War until his honorable discharge in December 1952. On December 29, 1956, he was united in marriage to Bonnie L. Johnson in Blue Earth. The couple moved to Blooming Prairie in 1964, where Lloyd worked at IMC as a Plant Manager, and for the Minnesota Department of Transportation for 15 years. He was a member of First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, served with the Blooming Prairie Ambulance crew and was a Mason. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing, hunting, bird watching, loved to participate in trap shooting and watching all sports. He especially loved his children and grandchildren and the time he could spend with them.

Survivors include his three children, Greg Matthes of Owatonna, MN, Kathy Carlson (Dan Chesky, Jr.) of Northfield, MN and Patsy (Todd) Thoen of Waltham, MN; three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; his brothers, Donald Matthes of Meriden, MN and Robert Matthes of Lakeville, MN, his sister Darlene (Roger) Rishavy of Rochester, MN, six sisters-in-law, Beverly Dahl of Colorado, Sharon Young of California, Shelia Grussing and Carolyn Sasse of Minnesota, Connie Wetzstein of California and Gayle Steiger of Minnesota; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Lloyd W. and Agnes Matthes and his wife Bonnie in 2013.

Memorial services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2016 at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with Pastor Charlie Leonard officiating. Visitation will be held from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. immediately preceding the service at the church. Interment will be in First Lutheran Cemetery. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com. Memorials can be directed to Prairie Manor Care Center or the Blooming Prairie Ambulance Service. Worlein Funeral Home Blooming Prairie is in charge of arrangements.

World No Tobacco Day

May 31st, World No Tobacco Day, highlights a day that helps educate and inform the world on tobacco issues. This year's theme chosen by the World Health Organization, WHO, is plain packaging on cigarette packs. Plain packaging is an important demand reduction measure that will help to reduce the appeal of tobacco products and will help to increase the effectiveness of health warnings.

Australia became the first country to pass this type of law in 2012 and tobacco control advocates are encouraging other countries to follow. This type of packaging has been shown to prevent youth and adults from smoking. In 2012, the Food and Drug Administration started a campaign in the United States to require plain packaging with graphic images on cigarette packs but was faced with a legal battle against tobacco companies.

Since the challenge in 2012, Minnesota has been advocating for other tobacco policies, like the cigarette tax increase of $1.60 in 2013. The tobacco tax increase is working. "We have seen a decrease in smoking rates with youth and adults in Minnesota since the increase," says Jane Nyquist, Steele Public Health Educator. Local advocacy groups such as the Four Corners Partnership, a collaboration of Dodge, Goodhue, Rice, and Steele counties working to reduce tobacco's harm, have been working on passing local policies as well. In January, Steele County created a Clean Indoor Air Policy which prohibits the usage of electronic cigarettes in businesses and all public places where conventional tobacco products are not allowed.

Another policy that tobacco control advocates are working on is raising the tobacco purchase age to 21. According to a 2014 report, raising the minimum age to 21 nationally would result in 240,000 fewer premature deaths and 45,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer.

"This is a nationally supported prevention effort said Nyquist. A 2014 national survey shows that 75 percent of adults are in favor of increasing the minimum purchase age and that includes 70 percent of smokers." A few weeks ago California, following Hawaii's lead, passed the new law. The idea has been gaining momentum around the country. At least 80 municipalities in the United States have raised the age to purchase tobacco to 21.

World No Tobacco Day is a great way to raise awareness for this global problem. This year's theme and other policy work around the world are helping to tackle this public health issue.

Anyone interested in quitting smoking can go to www.quitplan.com or call 1-800-354-PLAN. The Four Corners Partnership educates the public and elected officials in Dodge, Goodhue, Rice and Steele counties about the harm tobacco causes. We advocate for proven, evidence-based policies that will reduce tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke, and prevent youth from starting to smoke. Learn more at: www.4cornerspartnership.org



Lions Club donates planters

Staff photo by Howa d Lestrud

The Blooming Prairie Lions Club donated two wooden planters to the Heather Haus on a recent weekend. Shown from left to right are Heather Haus residents and Lions members: Ethel Christianson, Peggy Stesvold, Esther Hanson, Merle McNutt, Eleanor Harms, Lions president Harvey Farr, Lion Dean Zilm, Lion Troy Barth and resident Helen Olson. It took the Lions about three hours to build the planters.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

May 24
Jacob Peterson
Margaret Swenson
Sawyer Emanuel
Leah Thompson
Bella Hernandez

May 25
John Welch
Porter Francis DeYoung
Maddie Broten
Anderson

May 26
Alyssa Alwes
Sean Ingvalson
Dave Klug
Connie Williamson
Justin Kormann
Lou Sheppard

May 27
Darrick Schewe
Mary Malherek
Amy Simon

May 28
Jill Lindeman
Kristin Lueth Koening
Eleanor Harms
Karen Valentine
Jerry Ingvalson
Isaac Ille
Jennifer Wondra
Jesse Hernandez
Kolby Vigeland
Ella Salinas

May 29
Brian Kerrigan
Deb Farr
Grayson Spinler

May 30
Gene Myre
Ragna Thompson

May 31
Brieanne Wangen
Nathan Peterson
Grant Johnson
Judy Esplan

June 1
Bev Hoveland
Virginia Lindquist
Julie Cochlin
Owen Gimbel
Ryder Smith
Rayanne Alwes

Anniversaries

May 24
Paul and Jackie Smith

Val and Ashley Garcia

Clarence & Diana Boyd

May 25
Mr & Mrs L Dean Christianson

May 26
Sarah & Adam Bumgarner

May 28
Jim & Monica Prihoda

Mr & Mrs Doug Krell

May 29
Mr & Mrs Lerald Farrow

May 30
Michael & Kathleen Iversen

May 31
Keith & Carol Holman

June 1
Mr & Mrs Robert Olson

Bill & Jennifer Walsh

Allen & Dorothy Johnson

Samantha & Bryan Jr. Hernandez

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SEMCAC senior menu

May 24:
Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Stewed Tomatoes, Orange Wedges

May 25:
Crab Salad on Lettuce, Sweet & Sour Cukes, Peach Half with Cottage Cheese, Batter Bun, Rhubarb Rosie

May 26:
Meat Lasagna, Mixed Greens Salad, French Bread, Orange Slices, Pudding/Fruit Garnish

May 27:
Shredded Turkey on Bun, Potato Salad, Baked Beans Pickles, Melon Cup

May 30:
CLOSED - Memorial Day

May 31:
Chicken Breast, Wild Rice Pilaf, Spinach with Vinegar, Waldorf Salad, Pudding

June 1:
Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Beans, Fresh Fruit



The Family of Lou Benson invites you to a Celebration of Her 100th Birthday!
May 28, 2016 • 1:30-4 p.m.
First Lutheran Church
434 1st St SW • Blooming Prairie, MN

GRIEF RELIEF



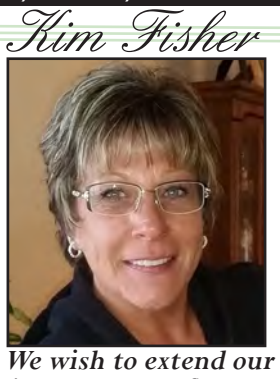
If a friend is dying, what can you do? Don't avoid your friend by staying away or changing the subject when they talk of illness or death. Follow the normal conversations that are part of your relationship. If your friend wishes to talk further allow them to; letting them know that you care and will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

Direction with dignity from Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna.



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To the family & many friends of the late
Kim Fisher



We wish to extend our sincere thanks for your many kindnesses and the condolences and support that we have received. The love and support shown to us are a great comfort as we mourn the loss of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother.

Dale Fisher & Family

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Area Church Spotlight



Cedar Creek Church - Hayfield, MN

Pastor's corner

When there are no words

Pastor Aaron
Cedar Creek Church

All of us go through times when those we love are experiencing deep suffering and heartache. It may be death of a loved one, serious health challenges like cancer, or other very, very difficult challenges. Those are times when we as Christ followers must "mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15) but what do we do when there seem to be no words that could possibly make things any better?

There won't always be words. Sometimes it's just your presence. Kenneth Hauk says in his book, "Don't sing songs to a heavy Heart", "Suffering people may have a difficult time believing God is with them. One gift you can offer them is to be present in their pain. The physical presence of another human being can bring significant comfort to those who are suffering". Many whom have suffered have said it was the presence of friends much more than any profound words that brought them comfort. Knowing this can encourage us to not to feel pressured to say something that may end up not being helpful at all.

Other suggestions in caring for the suffering:

*Respect the unique ways each person deals with suffering. If they allow you into their suffering, be available, be a good listener and speak words of comfort but don't try to correct them in how they are handling their difficult times.

*Feel free to be honest with your feelings of inadequacy of helping. As one man expressed, "When I admitted my anxiety and sense of helplessness to the sufferer, it broke the ice and made it clear that I was not some superman there to save the day, but rather someone who would be there to help him ask the questions and express his feelings" ("Don't sing songs to a Heavy heart").

*When you do speak, keep it simple: "Hello" or "Good to see you" or "Let me know how I can pray are some examples. "How are you?" may not be the best question if it's obvious that things are not well at all!

*Cards with personal notes and Scriptures of comfort are encouraging.

*Kenneth Hauk in his book gives some statements to avoid: "I know how you feel", "It's for the best"," Keep a stiff upper lip", "At least…", and "You should/ shouldn't…"

Area Church Schedule



Lutheran

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 38th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
588 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:00 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
Summer Worship:
9:00 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 Sept. 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

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Dean Smith, Associate Pastor
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www.tlcowatonna.org
9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Sunday School

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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

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Hwy 30 Ellendale
507-465-8217
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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
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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.
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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
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(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,
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Sunday Mass 8:30 a.m.
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Winter at Christ the King, Medford

Christian

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Owatonna Campus
422 W. North Street, Owatonna
Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
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Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

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43089 180th St., Medford
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Pastor Cindy Kennedy
(507) 835-8726
Service: 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

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200 Sixth St. N.W., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirksena
(507) 684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
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Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
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www.owatonnaumc.org
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Contemporary Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Church School/Adult Classes: 10 a.m.

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Pastor Keith Haskell
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Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
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www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

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

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Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
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Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

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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

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

Seventh-Day Adventist

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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

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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.,
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Pastor Matt Fennell
(507) 583-2673
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Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday

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HOMETOWN EXTRA

Blooming Prairie

Four days of rehearsals for Robin Hood, a production of the Prairie Fire Children's Theater and presented by the Blooming Prairie PTO, were held last week leading up to two public performances, one on Friday night and the other on Saturday afternoon. Directors Bryan Farthing and Jordyn Woffo d work with the students at this rehearsal at Blooming Prairie High School.

Robin Hood and Merry Men invade Blooming Prairie

Story and most photos by HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer



Robin Hood and his Merry Band invaded Blooming Prairie last week and left a lasting impression on theatre goers at two performances on Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21.

More than 70 aspiring young actors and actresses from the Blooming Prairie Elementary School appeared on stage in two performances of Robin Hood, a production of the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre.

The theatrical performance represented the sixth Prairie Fire production showcasing Blooming Prairie Elementary School students in grades 2-6. The shows, featuring actors in full costume, were presented on stage at Blooming Prairie High School and were sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

Other Prairie Fire productions staged in Blooming Prairie were: "Sleeping Beauty," "Beauty and the Beast," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Cinderella" and "Wizard of Oz."

Prairie Fire Children's Theatre (PFCT) is a professional touring theatre company based in Barrett, Minnesota and has been bringing a theatrical experience to communities across the upper Midwest since 1987. Prairie Fire tours a variety of original musical adaptations of classic tales.

Throughout the entire year, Prairie Fire Children's Theatre sends two professional Actors/Directors to a community for a one-week residency. Local children fill the roles, and PFCT provides everything needed to do the show.

Two touring directors, Bryan Farthing and Jordy Wofford led the Blooming Prairie production. The theatre group held tryouts on Monday, May 16 and staged rehearsals on separate days leading up to the live performances on Friday and Saturday. Including rehearsals and actual shows, the cast invested nearly 25 hours for the week.



BP Elementary School student Brady Kittelson reads about the greatest National Football League running backs while taking a break between scenes of Robin Hood rehearsals at BP High School.

Directors Farthing and Wofford worked closely with cast members in learning their lines and in practicing their movements. "Capeish," uttered the directors to the cast members when another scene was rehearsed. The Italian word means "Do you understand?"

Farthing is in his fifth year and 13th tour with Prairie Fire. He began his acting career when he was a senior in high school at Annapolis, MD. He grew up only about five miles from the Naval Academy.

The two Prairie Fire directors are in their final run of Robin Hood, having started the tour last January. The tour covers the Upper Midwest including Minnesota, the Dakotas, Wisconsin and Ohio.

Following the completion of the production in Blooming Prairie, Farthing planned to move his residence to St. Louis, MO. While there, he hopes to audition for professional theater roles. He said he has enjoyed teaching more than actually performing in productions. "It's great to see the young kids come out of their shells and to be able to perform in front of crowds of more than 200 people," said Farthing.

"The kids show a lot of growth during a week of rehearsals," Bryan remarked.

Costuming and actual writing for the Prairie Fire productions are done by Daniel Nordquist and Deborah Pick. Farthing pointed out that most high school, college and community productions are under a couple of months timeline. Here, the production is done in a week.

The stories are also given a different version. In the Robin Hood production, there are no bows and arrows, but rather laughing contests versus archery contests. The productions are more school friendly, the directors pointed out.

Jordyn has been with Prairie Fire for two years and is on her third tour. She tried out for Prairie Fire when attending college as a musical theatre major at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois. "Prairie Fire came to my school for auditions and I was fortunate to have been chosen for 'Beauty and the Beast,'" said Wofford.



Prairie Fire Children's Theater director Jordyn Woffo d shows Robin Hood cast members how to scream. Jordyn is in her second year of touring with Prairie Fire.

During her first summer tour, she spent about 12 weeks putting on two performances a week. Jordyn also worked "Peter Pan" and now is helping with Robin Hood. Most of the nearly 50 Robin Hood shows have been performed in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"I love it," Jordyn responded when asked what kind of a rush she gets from putting on these elementary school shows. She said she enjoys teaching theater to kids who normally wouldn't have the opportunity to perform.

The week indeed was busy for the actors and actresses and for directors Bryan and Jordyn who go over the 11 scenes many times during rehearsals. "We also have to do laundry for the show costumes," Jordyn revealed.

"It was cool and fun," smiled Lily Schammel, one of the actresses.

Scenes from Robin Hood included:

- Scene 1, "Ain't Life Easy in Sherwood Forest"
- Scene 2, "The Sheriff has a Plan"
- Scene 3, "Tell Me Something"
- Scene 4, "Marian is Captured"
- Scene 5, "The Faeries Battle the Gnomes"
- Scene 6, Marian Hears the News in France"
- Scene 7, "Bring on the Prisoners"
- Scene 8, Prince John Issues a ProclamationL"
- Scene 9, "Flora Brings News of Marian"
- Scene 10, "The Laughing Contest"
- Scene 11, "The Final Showdown."



Original songs by Daniel Nordquist included "Ain't Life Easy," "Tell Me Something," "Here Comes the Gnomes" and "What's His Name?"

The technical crew consisted of Natasha Gonzales, Teresa Gonsales, Aden Doocy, Karter Snyder, Brady Johnson, Ayden Jones, Isaiah Jones, Logan Marzolf and Nevaeh Garcia.

The Royal Family consisted of Maid Marian, Madison Thurnau; Prince John, Melanie Winzenburg; Anabel, Teagan Sutter; Jezebel, Bobbie Bruns; Wilhelmina, Madi Lea; Ariel, Rachel Winzenburg; Juliette, Layla Lembke and Sheriff of Nottingham, Bryan Farthing.

The Merry Band includes Robin Hood, Bradley Simon; Mother, Haven Carlson; Little John, Jeffrey Easton; Friar Tuck, Abby Hefling; Will Scarlet, Zach Hein; Cook Henny, Emily Anderson; Rimshot, Asha Lighthizer and Merry Band members Syerrah Martinez, Choloe Weber, Kaydance Schumacher, Anna Kuglin, Luke Heimgartner, Zoey Alwes, Lizzi Miner, Jaylee Schleicher, Lilahna McDaniel, Cameron Blume, Lucas Smith, Hailey Schumacher, Karson Strand, Lilly Schammel and Hannah Freese.

Faeries were:; Hailey Hensrud (Bluebell), Jenna Johnson (Poppy), Ella Farr, Lauren Brown, Anika Sunde, Mayleena Yanes, Jamie Reinke, Catelynn Bartlett, Aubrie Brandt, Ella Smith, Milayna Davis, Samantha Hefling and Cleopatra Carlson.

Gnomes were: Alex Lea, Avery Miller, Carter Bishop, Drew Reinke, Sam Michaud, Jaxon Harberts, Breckin Cochlin, Sandy Hammersma, Bo Zwiener, Colby Johnson, Mason Simon, Morgan Camery and Jack Bruns.

Deputies are: Jacob Pauly, Trista Motl, Gage Hein, Cooper Cooke, Myah Getchell, Leah Thorson, Brady Kittelson, Bailey Brown, Kolby Vigeland, Addison Doocy, Anna Reese, Anna Pauly, Lauren Schammel, Cole Wangen, Shanna Halverson, Hannah Hamersma and Madeline Stoen.

The Blooming Prairie PTO Planning Committee for Robin Hood consisted of Kim Lea, Nicki Bishop, Diane Pfeiffer and Michelle Millam. Haley Tollefson was in charge of programs and posters, Tammy Wolf did photography, US Bank printed the programs, A Touch of Charm sold flowers and Kari Bottin handled the sound.

Prairie Fire not only specializes in touring original adaptations of classic children's tales but also has a touring program for junior and senior high schools. Theatrical workshop residencies are also available from Prairie Fire. For more information, go to prairiefirechildrenstheatre.com.

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Hometown Sports

B Section | www.steeledodgenews.com | Tuesday, May 24, 2016

TISCH DISH



JOE TISCHLER

Unique team nicknames

I have always had a fascination for obscure high school/college team nicknames. I would always impress my friends and family by quickly rattling off a team's nickname at their request be it easy ones like the Minnesota Golden Gophers or ones that hardly anyone would know about such as the Grand Canyon University Antelopes.

There were 351 school to play NCAA Division I men's college basketball this past season. The most commonly used nicknames are the Bulldogs and Eagles (some of which are "Golden" or "Purple" Eagles) with 15 each, followed by the Tigers with 13 and Wildcats with ten.

My curiosity for this subject was rejuvenated when I started writing for this publication, because one of the strangest school nicknames is right in our backyard.

Mike Olson published a column on scout.com in October naming the most unusual high school mascots in each state. Some of the more obscure ones include the Laurel Hill Hoboes in Florida, the Watersmeet Nimrods in Michigan, the Yuma Criminals of Arizona, and the Minnesota's representative, the Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossoms.

The Blossoms got their name from an Austin newspaper over a century ago with "Awesome" being added later on.

While there are many more unusual high school nicknames I could mention, my allure for nicknames began while watching the NCAA Basketball Tournament growing up.

The Southeastern Conference could use some help in adding variety to their school nicknames. Of the 14 schools, three are called Tigers (Auburn, Louisiana State, Missouri) and two are known as Bulldogs (Georgia, Mississippi State) leaving them with many Tigers vs. Tigers or Bulldogs vs. Bulldogs matchups.

Here is my list of the top ten unique/obscure college team nicknames that the Southeastern Conference should consider adopting:

10) Virginia Tech "Hokies": The hokie isn't even a real thing; it's mascot though is modeled after a turkey.

9) Canisius "Golden Griffins": The griffin is a mythical creature with the head, forelegs, and wings of an eagle and the hindquarters, tail, and ears of a lion.

8) Saint Louis "Billikens": The billiken is a mythical good-luck figure who represents "things as they ought to be."

7) Wichita State "Shockers": This nickname would only make sense in Kansas.

6) Louisiana-Lafayette "Ragin' Cajuns": A ragin' Cajun is not a person or an animal, but a feeling that describes their unique way of life.

5) Western Kentucky "Hilltoppers": the campus sits atop of a hill which easily describes the nickname, but have you seen this mascot? It may be the strangest one in all of sports.

4) Presbyterian "Blue Hose": name refers to the socks worn by their football team in the early 20th century.

NICKNAMES
Continued on Page 4B

BP boys, Christianson, win conference titles



By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

With individual medalist honors for both the boys and girls, the conference meet at Lakeside Golf Course in Waseca Thursday, earned the BP boys the conference championship for the first time since 2010. The team carded a 345 over the 18-hole course to defeat United South Central by just five strokes.

"We had a nice lead going into today's final meet," remarked Coach Cory Hendrickson, "but I think the boys were happy not only to win the conference, but to win this final meet as well. Five conference meets were played this season and the boys won four of the five. That marked quite an accomplishment."

The only disappointment for the boys, and it was a minor one, was that USC's Ryan Pederson edged Tommy Braaten for the overall season medalist honors. Braaten did take medalist honors in this final meet with a sparkling 73. Pederson shot a 75 for runner-up medalist and BP's Jon Hatch finished third individual with an 84. Behind Hatch, Lucas Noble carded a 91, Ethan Strunk a 97, and Jake Ressler a 99.

NRHEG finished fifth of the five teams with Atom Oquist shooting a 97 to lead the Panther scoring. Nick Schultz had a 104, Ross Lenort a 109, Chris Stenzel a 115, and Ethan Thompson a 132. The team carded 425 total for the meet.

Only two schools had complete teams for the girls with NRHEG earning the team win with a 431 total. USC took second with a 444 total. BP's Taylor Christianson took medalist honors by 12 strokes over the Panthers' Tali Wayne and USC's Katelyn Loegering, both of whom carded a 101. Jessica Ressler finished sixth behind Kyrie Possin and Jessca Nafe (both from NRHEG). Possin shot 107, and Nafe 109, ahead of Ressler's 112. Ryley Kozolek, Bayli Possin, and Grace Logan rounded out the Panther scores. Kozolek and Possin both shot 114, and Logan had a 131. The teams will next compete in the sub-section meet tomorrow at Rochester.

Staff photos by Joe Tischler

BP's Tommy Braaten (left) and Taylor Christianson (below) tee off at the final day of the Gopher Conf. meet Thursday in aseca.



Medford, Meixner, peaking at right time

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

One month ago, the Medford baseball team was shutout in back-to-back games including a 4-0 setback at Maple River. Those losses put the Tigers record at 3-6.

The team has turned things around since then as they enter the Section 2AA playoffs on the right note, winners of eight of their last ten, including a 3-1 win over Maple River Thursday in Medford.

"It's a process," said head coach Jon Chappuis. "By the end of the year, we wanted to be playing our best ball. Hopefully this is an indication that we're playing our best ball."

Finding his pitching groove at the right time is senior Nicholas Meixner. After tossing nine shutout innings in his previous outing against New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva, Meixner gave up only one run on five hits while striking out eight in another complete game win against the Eagles.

"All of my pitches are really starting to work," said Meixner. "I'm feeling just as comfortable throwing fastballs as I am throwing curveballs."

Meixner used those pitches and more to get out of a tight jam in the sixth. Maple River led off the frame with two singles. Two fly outs and a walk followed loading the bases with two outs. He struck out Alec Bair to preserve the 3-1 lead.

"We talked about how he's been pitching differently," said Chappuis. "Before he was starting out fastball, fastball, fastball and kids were jumping on that first pitch, because he's pretty accurate with that. We talked about mixing it up, especially at the top of the order, with his curveball which is one of the best I've seen in the conference.

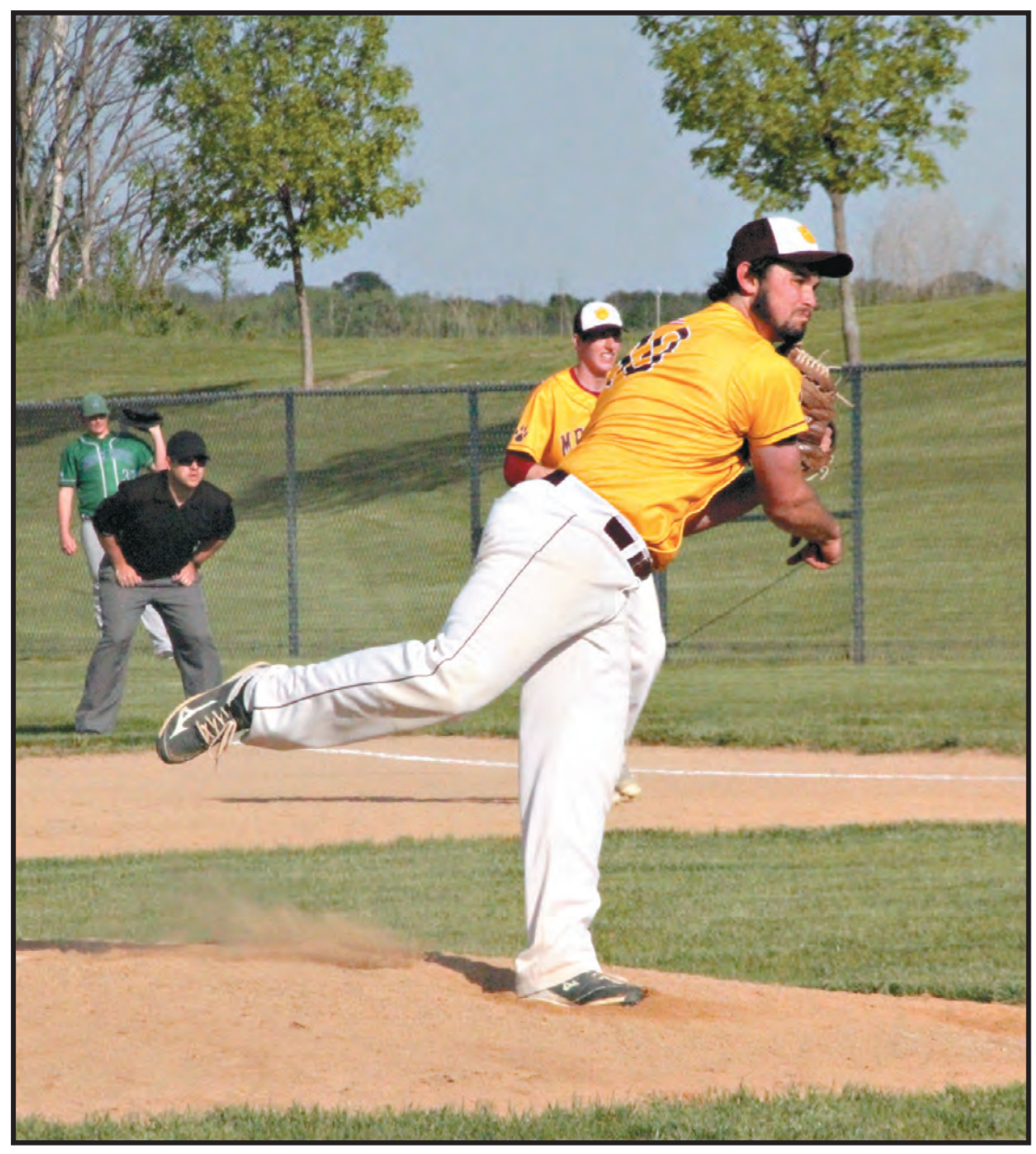
"He's always been a better warm weather pitcher; he gets stronger as the season goes on."

Meixner's services were called on again two days later in the regular season finally against United South Central. In a game Medford won 5-4 in eight innings, Wyatt Volkmann pitched the first 7 2/3 innings. With two outs, he walked two straight batters and was pulled for Meixner who got the final out of the inning on a line out to center.

Cole Volkmann led off the home half of the eighth with a single and later moved to second on a sacrifice. A walk and a pop put runners on first and second with two outs for Javis VonRuden who delivered the game-winning single to left to score Volkmann. VonRuden went 4-for-5 on the afternoon.

VonRuden has been hot down the stretch at the plate for the Tigers. He's hit safely in nine of the last ten games and his batting average has gone from .250 to .419 going into the postseason.

"I think we're coming in right where we should be," said Meixner. "Everybody is feeling pretty confident. I think we're ready for the playoffs."



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Medford's Nicholas Meixner follows through on a pitch Thursday in their home game against Maple River. The senior has allowed only one run in his last two starts.

Prep Report

BASEBALL

- Monday, May 16
NRHEG 13, Blooming Prairie 5
WEM 10, Medford 0
Eden Prairie 8, Owatonna 1
- Tuesday, May 17
Faribault BA 11, NRHEG 1
Medford 14, Triton 3
Owatonna 9, Austin 7
- Wednesday, May 18
Blooming Prairie 19, Lyle-Pacelli 18
- Thursday, May 19
Faribault BA 10, Blooming Prairie 6
Medford 3, Maple River 1
Owatonna 5, Winona 1
- Friday, May 20
Blooming Prairie 6, Alden-Conger 3
JWP 4, NRHEG 2
Owatonna 6, New Prague 3
- Saturday, May 21
Medford 5, USC 4

- Monday, May 23
Tri-City United at NRHEG
Rochester JM at Owatonna (DH)
- Tuesday, May 24
NRHEG at Blue Earth Area

PLAYOFFS
Section 1A-West
- Thursday, May 26
#7 Blooming Prairie at #2 Faribault BA
Section 2AA
- Friday, May 27
Medford, NRHEG TBD
Section 1AAAA
- Saturday, May 28
Owatonna TBD

- GOPHER CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 22 according to Minnesota-scores.net)

WEM	9-2	12-6
Faribault BA	8-3	10-8
USC	8-4	12-5
Maple River	7-5	11-7
Medford	6-6	11-8
NRHEG	3-9	6-12
Blooming Prairie	0-12	3-17

- BIG 9 CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 22 according to Minnesota-scores.net)

Northfield	8-2	15-4
Owatonna	8-2	12-6
Mankato West	7-4	11-6
Red Wing	7-4	12-8
Albert Lea	6-5	11-8
Rochester Mayo	5-5	11-8
Austin	5-5	7-10
Winona	5-6	10-10
Rochester JM	4-6	11-7
Rochester Century	4-6	7-11
Mankato East	4-7	7-13
Faribault	0-11	2-18

SOFTBALL

- Monday, May 16
NRHEG 6, Blooming Prairie 5
WEM 13, Medford 3
Owatonna 12, Rochester JM 7
- Tuesday, May 17
NRHEG 11, Faribault BA 4
Owatonna 11, Austin 2
- Thursday, May 19
JWP 7, Blooming Prairie 3
NRHEG 7, Maple River 4
Faribault BA 14, Medford 0
Winona 11, Owatonna 1
- Friday, May 20
Triton 3, Blooming Prairie 2
Farmington 1, Owatonna 0

PLAYOFFS
Section 1A-West
- Monday, May 23
#6 Lyle-Pacelli at #3 Blooming Prairie
Section 2AA
- Tuesday, May 24
#10 Maple River at #7 NRHEG
#13 Medford at #4 Fairmont
Section 1AAAA
- Tuesday, May 24
#6 Owatonna at #3 Lakeville North
- Thursday, May 26
Owatonna vs. TBD

- GOPHER CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 22 according to Minnesota-scores.net)

WEM	7-2	14-5
Faribault BA	7-2	13-6
Maple River	5-2	5-10
NRHEG	7-3	15-5
Blooming Prairie	2-5	7-12
USC	1-6	3-16
Medford	0-9	5-13

- BIG 9 CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 22 according to Minnesota-scores.net)

Mankato West	11-0	19-1
Mankato East	9-2	15-5
Winona	8-3	16-4
Rochester Century	7-4	11-8
Owatonna	7-4	11-9
Northfield	6-5	10-10
Faribault	5-6	13-7
Rochester JM	5-6	9-11
Rochester Mayo	4-7	12-8
Red Wing	2-9	6-14
Austin	2-9	4-15
Albert Lea	0-11	3-16

GOOD LUCK TO AREA BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL TEAMS AS YOU BEGIN YOUR SECTION PLAYOFFS THIS WEEK.

Blossoms win two of three going into playoffs



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Blooming Prairie freshman Seth Peterson delivers a run-producing hit in the completion of their suspended game Wednesday against Lyle-Pacelli.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

A 6-3 victory over Alden-Conger on the home diamond Friday earned the BP baseball team its third win in the last five games. That comes after fifteen straight losses opened the season. Ninth grader Seth Peterson picked up the win as he pitched the first five innings with Riley Olson relieving for the final two innings.

"I feel as if we have improved a lot this year," said Coach Matt Kittelson, "and we are playing our best ball right now. Hopefully that will carry over into the playoffs."

Peterson gave up five hits and two walks with just one earned run. He struck out six Knight batters. Olson allowed just one hit in his work on the mound and he walked just one while striking out two.

Camden Heimerman had two hits and two RBIs. Max Romeo also had two hits. Ben Smith added a hit and Peterson doubled for 2 RBIs. The team record improved to 3-17 with the non-conference win.

Eight-run inning dooms BP

BP counted three runs in the first inning at Faribault to take a first lead over Bethlehem Academy Thursday. They led 5-2 after three innings, but then the defense crumbed, and the Cardinals scored eight runs for a 10-5 lead and the ball game.

The Blossoms added a single run, but that was not nearly enough. Junior Connor Getchell looked good at times, but he couldn't survive that disastrous fourth inning. He pitched five innings, giving up nine earned runs on four walks and one strikeout. Peterson pitched a scoreless last inning.

Heimerman had a career day at the plate with a 3-for-3 day. Olson had two hits, and Smith, Peterson, and Romeo all added one hit each. The one bad inning spoiled what was otherwise a pretty good ball game.

BP wins marathon

It took a month to complete but the Blossom baseball team won their second game of the season 19-18 over Lyle-Pacelli on the home diamond. The game originally was stopped by the weather and completed Wednesday.

The Blossom boys trailed 17-11 when the game was originally stopped. They still trailed 18-15 after six innings, but three runs in the seventh tied the score and Brad Staska's fielder's choice scored the winner. The inning started with a walk to Payton Simon, continued with Olson's double, and ended with Peterson scoring the winner, after he had first reached on a fielder's choice.

"This says a lot about the boys', commented coach Matt Kittelson. "They never gave up, and they are starting to believe in themselves a little bit. A little confidence is great to see."

The three runs to tie the score resulted from a Heimerman single, a walk, fielder's choice, Olson's single and a base hit from Romeo. Olson kept the Athletics in check until the BP run in the ninth inning. Olson, Romeo and Staska all had three hits in the game, Staska had four RBIs and Rome added three. Peterson also had three hits, with a double and Ethan Arett chipped in a pair of hits and two RBIs.

NRHEG overcomes BP

After earning their first win of the season a week ago, the Blossom baseball team fell back into some disturbing habits and fell to NRHEG for the second time this season. The Panthers used 14 walks in the game to defeat the local 13-5 on the BP diamond Monday, May 16.

A walk, hit batter, double, and a groundout plated three runs for the visitors in the first inning; four walks, a hit batter, three Blossom errors, and a double and single counted 8 runs in the second, and it was 11-0 after just two innings. Both teams scored a single run in the third. Simon's single, a sacrifice, and a Panther error accounted for the Blossom run. They added three more runs in the fifth, after NRHEG also added a run in the top of the inning. Olson and Getchell both singled, and Staska stroked a double. Romeo's base hit counted the other run. Each team scored a single run in the sixth to end the scoring. Peterson took the loss for the Blossoms, with Getchell pitching the last five innings. Dempsey Tucker got the win for the Panthers. Olson, Simon, Romeo and Staska all had one hit for the blossoms.

Chateau recap

By MATTHEW GRAGE
Guest Writer

It was back to racing Friday Night at Chateau Raceway after a week off for the weather. Sunshine and temperatures in the 70's made for a perfect night for the third night of racing action at the track just north of Austin. A nice field of 78 cars were on hand for the six classes of cars on hand for the evenings action. Leading the way with 21 cars were the USRA B Mods and for the third straight time to open the season it was Kylie Kath of Owatonna who found himself in Victory Lane at the end of the night with another feature win. Kath came from the fourth row to run down early leader Jerry Young of Blooming Prairie. Seven cautions plagued the race with the first six cautions coming in the first six laps and being able to avoid the accidents helped Kylie get to the front eventually getting the lead off a restart. Brother Kadden Kath made his way up to second ahead of Jeremiah Christiansen who along with his son Cole pulled in from Sioux Falls South Dakota for the night's action. Heat wins went to Kadden Kath, Taylor Ausrud of Hayfield, and Scott Demmer of Ellendale.

The first half of the USRA A Mod feature belonged to Jason Cummins of New Richland who shot off the outside of the front row to grab the early lead. Jacob Bleess of Chatfield, who started on the pole fell in line second for the first ten laps or so of the 25 lap main event before he started sticking his nose alongside Jason. The two ran side by side for a few laps until Bleess took over the top spot and drove off to the win. Steve Wetzstein of West Concord patiently worked thru the field from row four catching Cummins and moving by him with eight laps remaining. Cummins ended up third. Heat wins belonged to Brandon Davis of Medford and Greg Pfeifer JR of Brownsdale.

In WISSOTA Midwest Modified action Dan Wheeler of Savage wheeled his Red 1 machine to the front with a big move right off the drop of the green. Starting outside in row two he dropped right to the middle of the track and went three wide with the front row of Garritt Wytaske of Lansing and Ryan Goergen of Stacyville Iowa. Coming out of turn two he left them behind and took control of the race. Dustin Steinbrink of Austin worked from row four up to second while Goergen held on for third ahead of Garritt. Wheeler also had a heat win on the night along with Goergen.

Also adding to his feature win total on the early season was Mike Blowers of Waseca in the WISSOTA Street Stock Class. Mike has all three of the feature wins in the class this year. Working with a row four starting spot he moved into fifth on the first lap and up to fourth a lap later. Off a restart he moved up to second on lap four and went to the lead a lap later. Zach Elward of Hayfield had a nice run coming home in second after starting back in the third row. The biggest mover of the race however was Kyle King of Hastings who came from row seven to come home third. King started tail end on the field after he was torn up on the initial start of his heat race at the start of the night. His crew put him back together and he put on a good show as he passed a lot of cars moving toward

CHATEAU
Continued on Page 4B



Huskies fighting for Big 9 crow



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Owatonna's Eli Havelka attempts to get New Prague's Nathan Berg in a rundown in Friday's home nonconference game.

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Going into postseason play, a team wants to be playing its best baseball of the season and the Owatonna Huskies are doing their best to go into the playoffs with some confidence.

Prior to Monday's season-ending home doubleheader with Rochester John Marshall, the Huskies were winners of three straight and were tied at top the Big Nine Conference standings with Northfield.

After losing a non-conference home game to Eden Prairie Monday, May 16, Owatonna came back the next day and got a come-from-behind victory at Austin 9-7.

It didn't seem like Owatonna would need to come back after posting six runs in the first inning. The score remained 6-0 until the fifth when the Packers scored all seven of their runs in the bottom half of the frame.

Kodey Kiel's sacrifice fly to score Noah Budach tied the game in the sixth. Owatonna used a two-out rally to pull ahead in the seventh. Eli Havelka would score following a Nathan Deason single and Budach's single would plate Eric Benson. Alec Holcomb struck out two in the final inning to get the save.

Two days later, the Huskies scored twice in the first inning in a home conference tilt with Winona to propel them to a 5-1 win.

After the Winhawks scored in the fourth to trim the lead, the Huskies scored three times in the fifth to extend their advantage.

Clay Leidall and Holcomb held Winona batters in check all day as the duo combined to strike out ten while allowing just four hits.

Friday night, allowing after three first inning runs, Owatonna pitchers shutdown the Trojans the rest of the way in the 6-3 win.

Softball

The softball Huskies used the momentum from the win over Mankato West into victories in their first two games of last week.

Owatonna plated eight runs in the first and got a 12-7 road win over Rochester John Marshall Monday, May 16. Riley Sheehy, Ellie Rohman, Braelyn Johnson, and Kenzie Karsten each had two hits in the 13-hit Husky attack. RBI doubles from both Rohman and Johnson and a two-run single from Kayla Johnson led to Owatonna's big first frame.

The next day for the home finale against Austin, Owatonna used more early runs en route to an 11-2 win.

The Huskies scored three times in the first, four more in the second, and four in the fourth to take a commanding lead. Blazek was steady in the circle striking out five and allowing one earned run.

Owatonna finished the regular season portion of their schedule with a pair of road losses Thursday to Winona (11-1) and Friday at Farmington (1-0).

NRHEG enters playoffs on a high

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

NRHEG finished the regular season on a high note, as they took down Maple River 7-3 at Mapleton Thursday. The victory gave the Panthers a 15-5 record overall and a 4-2 mark in the Gopher conference.

"This was a great team win," remarked Coach Wendy Schultz. "We hit the ball well and got big hits when we needed to. "(Natalie) Aaseth's double in the fourth drove in three runs, and probably provided the biggest hit of the Game".

A first inning run enabled NRHEG to lead 2-0 in the fourth. Natalie Aaseth doubled with the bases loaded in the fifth to extend the lead and enabled the Panthers to withstand a four-run comeback by the Eagles in the bottom of the seventh.

Kayley Camerer and Paige Knudson both had two hits in a nine-hit offense. Anna Lundberg gave up eight hits, struck out six batters, and walked three in picking up the win.

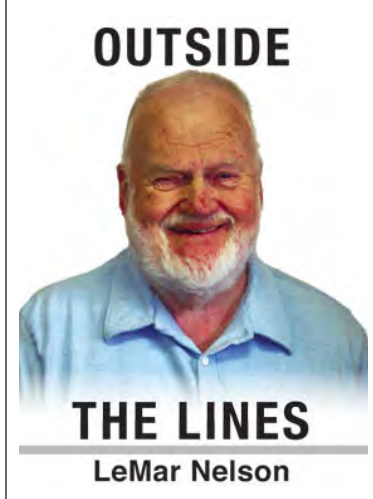
In one of the better ball games of the season for the Blossom girls, NRHEG edged the locals 6-5 on the home field Monday, May 16. A three-run fourth inning proved just enough to take down the Blossoms for the second time.

With the score tied at 2, Aaseth singled on a 3-2 count with two outs. Rachel Collins and Paige Knudson both walked, and Aaseth scored on a passed ball. Grace Johns then doubled to score both Collins and Knudson and the Panthers led 5-2.

BP got two runs back in the bottom of the inning. Lembke singled, Lila Carlson walked, and Abby Wayne doubled both runners home. NRHEG added a run in the seventh, as did the Blossoms. Gabby Muri's single drove in Knudson, who had singled as well.

Sunde stroked her second hit of the day for BP and stole second. McKenna Hein followed with a double to score Sunde, and the tying run was on. The rally ended, however, when Bria Baldwin fouled out, and Strunk hit a medium fly ball to right field. Sunde had scored a run in the first for BP, and Baldwin singled home Emma Christianson in the second. Knudson and Johns singled for a run in the NRHEG first, and Johns scored on the only Blossom error of the game.

"We played pretty well and Grace really starred at the plate today", commented Schultz. BP has really improved from early in the season, and this was an exciting ball game."



Salutes to the locals

It was a week of triumphs and disappointments on the sports scene as the action next shifts now to the playoffs in the various sports. The biggest success belongs to the BPHS golfers. The Blossom boys won the conference title for the first time since 2010 and Tommy Braaten and Taylor Christianson earned medalist honors in their respective divisions. Braaten's 73 over the 18-hole Waseca course really sparkled.

The baseball team won three of their last five games and Coach Matt Kittelson was quick to sing the praises of the team and their season-long effort. Maybe they can make some noise in the sub-section now after suffering without win over the first fifteen games of the year.

Despite their losing record, the softball team did get the number three seed in the sub-section. The team has been playing better lately, although their three losses last week were disappointing also. Maybe they can peak at the right time. Finally, some events in sub-section track should pose success for some individuals. The two long distance relay teams, Nelson in the dashes, and Grundmeier in the 400 all should perform well, and Ille has one of the top times in the 1600.

A big tip of the hat this week goes to BPHS junior Leah Schiefert, who tied the school record in the pole vault at the Gopher Conference track meet last week. Her vault of 8'6" tied her with Jenny Burt, who leaped that height. Well done, Leah. A shout out also to Anthony Nelson for second in both the 100 and 200, and to Wyatt Grundmeier for a first in the 400.

Alec Ille won the 1600 event, and the boys 4 X 400 relay team won an exciting final race. Alec Ille, Anthony Nelson, Wyatt Grundmeier, and Elijah Baker run for the Blossoms in that event. Besides Schiefert's effort in the pole vault, the girls' 4 x 800 relay team captured second. A tip of the hat is deserved by all of those achievements.

Another salute this week goes to the EMT crew for the successful open house at the ambulance station last week. It is a great building, and we are so blessed in this community to have such a dedicated group of volunteers. Thanks much for keeping all of us a little safer and a little healthier!

Food for thought?

Maybe it is just the German and Scandinavian heritage of so many in the community, but Becky Noble at the chamber office last week had many suggestions for opportunity to feed our faces and our intellect. The first such chance came at B to Z Hardware where the Boys and Girls Club was selling lunch at the same time customers were taking advantage of many plant specials. Profits from the lunch went to the local club.

Saturday evening many people left the stove off again and ate at the Sons of the American Legion benefit. Proceeds from that went to the club kitchen fund and donations were also available for the planned Veterans' Memorial. I know that personally, I did no cooking on Saturday. Of course as Becky reminded us, we have several good places to eat right here; why do we need to travel out of town for a bite to eat?

Two events have moved into definite phases now. The Fourth of July posters are up and buttons are still available for purchase. Support the activities of that great celebration by wearing a button proudly. Elsewhere in this issue of the Times is an article about the Potluck String Band that will entertain all of the people attending the B & G Club annual ribfest on Saturday, June 25.

That blue grass contingent is also going to be in concert at the City Park on Sunday, July 3. Check the posters and the local paper for times. The ribfest will go from 3 to 7 p.m. with a big raffle, a number of cookers vying for awards, and entertainment for all ages in addition to the string band music.

Personalities gone

It has been a couple of weeks now, since we have had to mention noted deaths, but last week, three people from various fields left us. The most famous had to be the veteran newsman Morley Safer, who died just a week after he retired. He reported stories on Sixty Minutes for forty years and covered events for sixty. He won a lifetime achievement Emmy and a Peabody Award as just two of his many successes. He was 84. I will mention two others next week, when we'll talk again.



These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of May 20

Results

Hornets:

Feature: Bobby Blowers-Waseca, Terry Blowers-Waseca, Marissa Wolff-Janesville, Ralph Hanks-Waseca, Dan Lewison-Dexter, Nick Sillman-Minnesota Lake, Cody Hyatt-Waseca, Jacob Bennett-Austin, Ryan Timm-Austin, Caylie Blowers-Waseca
Heat 1: T Blowers, Wolff, Sillman, Timm, C Blowers
Heat 2: Hanks, B Blowers, Lewison, Hyatt, Bennett

Pure Stocks:

Feature: Jason Newkirk- Austin, Daniel Guttormson-Austin, Chris Hotovec-Dodge Center, Jim Briggs-Albert Lea, Brandon Dunbar-Zumbrota, Matt Brooks-Austin, Cole Kroneman-Austin, Greg Lammers-Owatonna (DQ Brandon Shaner-Owatonna)
Heat: Newkirk, Shaner, Brooks, Lammers, Guttormson, Briggs, Hotovec, Kroneman (DNS Dunbar

WISSOTA Midwest Modified

Feature: Dan Wheeler-Savage, Dustin Steinbrink-Austin, Ryan Goergen-Stacyville IA, Garitt Wytaske-Lansing, Billy Steinberg-Kasson, Michael Wytaske-Lansing, Jeremy Misgen-New Richland, Jacob Stark-Austin, Brayten Cisneros-Blooming Prairie, Luke Hainka-Wannamingo, Daryl Hainka-Wannamingo (DNS Jesse Hernandez-Blooming Prairie, Tianna Mithun-Freeborn)
Heat 1: Wheeler, M Wytaske, Misgen, Steinberg, L Hainka, Cisneros, Mithun
Heat 2: Goergen, Hernandez, Steinbrink, G Wytaske, Stark, D Hainka

WISSOTA Street Stock

Feature: Mike Blowers-Waseca, Zach Elward-Hayfield, Kyle King-Hastings, Kory Adams-Stacyville IA, Durand Peterson-Glenwood, Noah Grinstead-Austin, Blake Adams-Stacyville IA, Brent Holland-Glenville, Nick Roehmhildt-Waseca, Bernie Adams-Stacyville IA, James Connors-Waseca, Mike Chisholm-Osage IA, Fred Prudoehl-Winona
Heat 1: B Adams, K Adams, Blowers, Chisholm, Connors, Roehmhildt
Heat 2: Elward, B Adams, Peterson, Holland, Grinstead, Prudoehl

USRA B Mod

Feature: Kylie Kath-Owatonna, Kadden Kath-Owatonna, Jeremiah Christiansen-Sioux Falls SD, Scott Demmer-Ellendale, AJ Zvorak-Blooming Prairie, Mark Wytaske-Austin, Anthony Condit-Austin, Dan Tenold-Northwood IA, Taylor Ausrud-Hayfield, Cole Lonergan-Dexter, Taylor Ovrebo-Wells, Chris Bruns-Owatonna, Cole Christensen-Sioux Falls SD, Jayden Larson-Mankato, Dustin Kruse-Brandon SD, Jerry Young-Blooming Prairie, David Henderson-Mason City IA, Raey Hastings IV-Austin (DNS Jesse Baer-Minnesota Lake, Joe Warling-Oakdale, Morgan Schrage-Cresco IA
Heat 1: Ausrud, Kruse, Zvorak, Ovrebo, Bruns, Henderson, Hastings IV
Heat 2: Demmer, Ky Kath, Wytaske, Tenold, Lonergan, Condit
Heat 3: Ka Kath, J Christensen, Larson, Young, C Christensen, Baer

USRA A Mod

Feature: Jacob Bleess-Chatfield, Steve Wetzstein-Dodge Center, Jason Cummins-New Richland, Brandon Davis-Medford, Darwyn Karau-Kasson, Greg Pfeifer JR-Brownsdale, Joe Horgdahl-Kasson, Doug Hillson-Blooming Prairie, Joe Ludemann-Grand Meadow, Greg Jensen-Albert Lea, Jim King-Hastings, Jacob Stark-Austin
Heat 1: Davis, Bleess, Cummins, Wetzstein, Hillson, Stark
Heat 2: Pfeifer JR, Horgdahl, Ludemann, Jensen, King, Karau

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BP trap team

With two weeks left in the regular season, the Blooming Prairie High School trap shooting team stand in seventh place in its 1A Section 9 conference. Blackduck High School and Cross Lake Community School currently hold down the first two spots. Blackduck has 3,058.5 points to 3,040.5 for Cross Lake. BPHS has 2,179.5 points, just nine points behind Henning High School.

In individual standings, BPHS junior Zach Sisler stands in first place with 106 total points. Eighth grader Colton Krell is right behind for second at 98 points. Senior Jon hatch is tied for third with 85 points, and Karson Vigeland and Chris Wacek round out the top five Blossoms with 73.5 and 485 points.

Seven shooters will travel to Alexandria on Tuesday, June 14, to compete in the regional competition. A place in the state shooting championship will be on the line at that event. Staff member Erik Vigeland is one of the advisors for the Blooming Prairie team.





Grundmeier, Hanson earn two conference track titles

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Eight local individuals and two relays came away with conference championships at the Gopher Conference track and field meet last Tuesday at United South Central High School in Wells.

New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva finished behind both Waterville-Elysian-Morristown in the girls' competition and Maple River on the boys' side for second place in their respective teams.

WEM ran away with the girls' competition by setting three conference records in recording 184 team points. NRHEG totaled 127 points with Medford placing fifth with 58 points and Blooming Prairie coming in seventh with 49.5.

The Panthers had three conference winners with Hailey Schuller claiming the 100-meter hurdles crown in a time of 17.15, Maddie Wagner jumped the furthest in the long jump at 14-feet, 5.5-inches, and Sophia Fischer won the shot put at 36-feet, 7-inches.

Wagner also placed second in the high jump at 4-feet, 8-inches and teamed with Schuller, Caitlin Goette, and sister Marnie to take second in the 4x200-meter relay in a time of 1:53.05. Marnie grabbed third place finishes in both the 200 meters (28.68) and high jump (4-08).

Medford's Rachael Luebbe is a conference champion in the high jump where she reached a height of 4-feet, 10-inches. She also placed second in the 200 meters at 28.12 seconds. Ashley Gilbertson had a second place showing the shot put (34-04) and a third place distance in the discus (99-06). Cassie Borwege finished third place in both the long jump (13-11.5) and triple jump (30-00.5).

Blooming Prairie's Leah Schiefert had a second place showing in the pole vault at 8-feet, 6-inches as did the 4x800-meter relay team of Alison Pryor, Taylor Wurst, Samantha Wurst, and Lauren Karkoski in a time of 1:53.05. Karkoski also placed third in the 400 meters at 1:06.33.

On the boys' side, Maple River easily claimed the team title with 203 points with NRHEG behind with 101.5 points. Blooming Prairie took fourth with 74 points and Medford placed fifth with 69.

Two individuals and one relay crossed the finish line in first place for Blooming Prairie. Wyatt Grundmeier claimed the conference title in the 400-meter dash in a time of 54.22 and Alec Ille took the 1600-meter crown in a time of 4:34.91.

"Alec Ille has been working very hard, putting in long runs and occasional speed work on the weekend, and concentrating on staying healthy to peak at the right time this year," said head coach Ryan Slack.

The 4x400-meter relay team of Elijah Baker, Marten Morem, Gabriel Hagen, and Grundmeier won with a time of 3:41.76. Anthony Nelson took second place in both the 100 meters (11.58) and 200 meters (23.49).

"Grundmeier has really come into his own this year," said Slack. "He is the type of all-around athlete who could probably be a successful decathlete someday."

Medford's Preston Hanson was a two-time winner in the shot put (48-10.5) and discus (126-07). Alex Goetze had the fastest time in the 3200-meter run in 10:32.25. Brett Johnson came in second in the pole vault at 10-feet, 6-inches and Zach Valen, Josh Schauer, Tye Devoe, and Marcus DeLeon teamed for a second place time in the 4x100-meter relay in a time of 48.03.

NRHEG's quartet of Tyler Schlaak, Agro Gushwa, Nathan Krause, and John Cole won the 4x800-meter relay crown in a time of 8:42.16. Krause was a second place finisher in the 400-meter dash at 55.64 and Zeke Erickson finished behind Hanson to place second in the both the shot put (43-09.5) and discus (120-03).

"The 4x800 overcame the loss of Josh Fleming to injury to win the conference title," said head coach Duey Ferber. "I'm very proud of these boys, they really left it all out on the track."

Teams compete this week in their respective sub-section meets.

Girls team scores: 1-Waterville-Elysian-Morristown 184, 2-New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva 127, 3-United South Central/Alden-Conger 107.5, 4-Maple River 91, 5-Medford 58, 6-Faribault BA 54, 7-Blooming Prairie 49.5.

Boys team scores: 1-Maple River 203, 2-New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva 101.5, 3-Faribault BA 96, 4-Blooming Prairie 74, 5-Medford 69, 6-United South Central/Alden-Conger 66.5, 7-Waterville-Elysian-Morristown 59.





Staff photos by Joe Tischler

Top right-Medford's Preston Hanson won the conference title in both the shot put (48-10.5) and discus throw (126-07).

Right-Blooming Prairie's Anthony Nelson gets his start in the finals of the 100 meter ash. After having the fifth best time in p eliminaries, Nelson placed second in the finals (11.58). He als finished second in the 200 meter dash (23.49)

Below-NRHEG's Marnie Wagner hands the baton to sister Maddie in the final leg of the 4x200 meter relay. The Panthers got edged out at the finish by the team f om WEM.



CHATEAU

Continued from Page 2B

the front. Elward and Bernie Adams of Stacyville Iowa took the classes heat wins.

Mike's son Bobby Blowers of Waseca scored his first feature win of the season in the Hornet class. Coming from midpack of the ten car field he came to the front in just a hand full of laps moving past Terry Blowers of Waseca for the win. Marissa Wolff of Janesville rounded out the top three. Heat wins belonged to Terry Blowers and Ralph Hanks of Waseca.

Jason Newkirk of Austin owned the Pure Stock class for the night as he took home the heat win along with the feature win. Matt Brooks of Austin has the early lead before contact between him and Brandon Shaner of Owatonna dropped him back several spots. Shaner was black flagged for the contact but before he left the track he spun his car out and collected Brooks knocking him out of the race as well. From there it was a shootout between Jason and Daniel Guttormson of Austin. Newkirk took the win with Daniel taking second ahead of Chris Hotovec of Dodge Center.

Next week is one of the biggest shows every year at Chateau Raceway as it's the 19th Annual Mike Guttormson Memorial. The track will be hosting the USMTS Modified Touring Series for an exciting night. Also on hand for the night will be three of the tracks regular classes, the USRA B Mods, the WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds and the Pure Stocks. Action is scheduled to get underway at 7:00.

NICKNAMES

Continued from Page 1B

3) Coastal Carolina "Chanticleers": A chanticleer is a proud and fierce rooster who dominates the barnyard.

2) Campbell "Fighting Camels": Campbell University is located in Buies Creek, North Carolina. I didn't know camels roamed there, yet alone fight with each other.

1) Missouri-Kansas City "Kangaroos": I've visited Kansas City, Missouri many times and I have yet to see a kangaroo hopping around town.

Thanks to the "Awesome Blossoms" for being the inspiration to this topic and list.



Minnesota Twins Schedule

16 - A	17 - A	18 - A	19 - H	20 - H	21 - H	22 - H
DET	DET	DET	TOR	TOR	TOR	TOR
Loss 8-10	Loss 2-7	Loss 3-6	Loss 2-3	Loss 3-9	Win 5-3	Loss 1-3
23 - H	24 - H	25 - H		27 - A	28 - A	29 - A
KC	KC	KC		SEA	SEA	SEA
7:10pm	7:10pm	12:10pm		9:10pm	9:10pm	3:10pm

Public Safety

Blotter spotlight: Officers responded to a report of

Police blotter
Steele County

May 16

Theft. Officer took a theft report in the city at 5:20 p.m.

Owatonna Police
May 13

Arrest. Police arrested a motorist following a traffic stop in the 1200 block of Oak Ave. S. at 3:49 a.m.

Theft. A vehicle was reported stolen from the 100 block of 24th Ave. NW at 9:15 a.m.

Assist. At 1:05 p.m., police assisted with an arrest in the 700 block of University St. E.

Assault. Officers responded to an assault in the 300 block of School St. W. at 3:40 p.m.

Warrant. Police arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 100 block of Landmark Dr. NE at 4:16 p.m.

Crash. Paramedics and police responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries at Bridge St. W. and Riverside Ave. NW at 5:52 p.m.

Drug. Police responded to a drug court incident in the 300 block of Arglen Dr. NW at 10:46 p.m. They made an arrest at the scene.

May 14

Theft. Officer took a theft report in the 100 block of Bridge St. W. at 1:01 a.m.

Assault. At 3:49 a.m., police responded to an assault in the 300 block of 22nd St. SE.

May 15

Domestic. Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 2300 block of 26th St. NW at 10:12 a.m.

Arrest. Police made an arrest following a traffic stop at Mill St. W. and Oak Ave. S. at 2:36 p.m.

Crash. A motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred in the 3400 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 5:09 p.m.

Death. At 6:39 p.m., police began a death investigation in the 400 block of University St. E.

Vandalism. Police took six property damage reports in the 2700 block of Hoffman Dr. NW throughout the day.

May 16

Harassment. Officer advised on a harassment incident in the 100 block of 24th Place NW at 7:35 a.m.

Warrant. At 8:32 a.m., police made a warrant arrest in the 500 block of 22nd St. NE.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 1000 block of Hoffman Dr. NW at 9:35 a.m. and in the 600 block of Murray St. SE at 7:05 a.m.

Shoplifting. Officer issued a citation for shoplifting in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 3:17 p.m.

Hit and Run. A hit and run crash resulting in property damage occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 2:46 p.m.

Fraud. At 6:55 p.m., officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 400 block of Vine St. E.

Arrest. Police assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 2000 block of 3rd Ave. NW at 10:10 p.m.

May 17

Warrant. Officer arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 700 block of State Ave. NW at 7:24 a.m.

Shoplifting. A shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 3:29 p.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 400 block of State Ave. NW at 4:24 p.m.

Fight. At 8:15 p.m., officers responded to a fight in the 400 block of St. Paul Place NE.

May 18

Warrant. Officer made a warrant arrest in the 200 block of Vine St. E. at 12:39 a.m.

Theft. Police issued a citation for theft in the 1200 block of Oak Ave. S. at 1:44 a.m.

Shoplifting. At 7:48 p.m., a shoplifting citation was issued in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

May 19

Trespassing. Police responded to a trespassing incident in the 700 block of Prospect St. E. at 12:02 p.m. They made an arrest at the scene.

Child Protection. At 1:05 p.m., officers received a child protection report from the 200 block of Pearl St. E.

Criminal Sex. Police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 200 block of 22nd St. NW at 4:19 p.m.

Restraining Order. Officer arrested a subject for violating a restraining order at 15th St. NE and Elm Ave. N. at 6:24 p.m.

Steele County Sheriff
May 13

Fraud. A citizen reported being the victim of a fraud incident in the 5000 block of 168th St. SE at 11:38 a.m.

Assist. Deputies assisted another agency in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW at 1:34 p.m.

Motorist. Deputy assisted a motorist at 123rd St. SE and Hwy. 218 at 8:36 p.m.

May 14

Theft. At 2:05 p.m., deputy took a theft report in the 1300 block of 92nd Ave. SW.

DWI. Deputies responded to a drunken driving incident on Hwy. 30 E. at 11:12 p.m.

May 16

Burglary. Deputies began a burglary investigation in the 3900 block of Runway Rd. at 12:41 a.m.

Theft. Deputy took a theft report in the 1800 block of 44th Ave. SE at 12:44 p.m.

May 17

Restraining Order. At 3:04 p.m., deputies responded to a restraining order violation in the 400 block of 2nd St. NW.

May 18

Thefts. Thefts were reported in the 3300 block of County Rd. 45 N. at 9:55 a.m. and in the 3800 block of County Rd. 45 N. at 3:47 p.m.

Child Protection. Deputy took a child protection report in the 10000 block of 98th St. SW at 10:05 a.m.

Trespassing. At 2:16 p.m., deputies responded to a trespassing incident in the 1000 block of 92nd Ave. SW.

Steele Arrests

Owatonna Police

Jonathan Thomas Raschke, 35, arrested at 4:26 p.m. May 13, felony probation violation apprehension and detention, held for court.

Ryan Joseph Wilson, 26, arrested at 12:24 a.m. May 14, felony probation violation apprehension and detention, held for court.

Matthew Barry Andrews, 40, arrested at 11:06 a.m. May 15, assault/domestic assault, held for court.

Jake Michael Karow, 30, arrested at 3:04 p.m. May 15, felony controlled substance, held for court.

Carrie Suzanne Cook, 38, arrested at 3:04 p.m. May 15, felony controlled substance, held for court.

Anthony James Moore, 41, arrested at 12:40 a.m. May 18, probation warrant arrest, held for court.

Miles Nelson Singleton, 31, arrested at 12:03 p.m., May 18, false information and revoked license warrants arrest, $1,000 bail.

Daniel Moises Rangel, 35, arrested at 6:36 p.m. May 19, Danco violation, held for court.

Chantel Ariel Smith, 18, arrested at 7:15 p.m. May 19, trespassing, held for court.

Jason Daniel House, 35, arrested at 2:08 a.m. May 20, DWI, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff

Denasha Raye Sutton, 19, arrested at 10:37 a.m. May 17, warrant arrest, held for court.

Rebecca Lee Stuber, 43, arrested at 2:30 p.m. May 18, felony probation violation apprehension and detention, body only.

Levi Jeffrey Westling, 24, arrested at 10:30 p.m. May 18, civil contempt warrant arrest, $10,000 bail.

Kaylynn Alicia Smart, 28, arrested at 1:53 a.m. May 19, drugs warrant arrest, body only.

Jonathan Scott Lantry, 29, arrested at 12 p.m. May 19, probation violation warrant arrest, body only.

Edward James Climer, 35, arrested at 3:48 p.m. May 19, warrant arrest, $10,000 bail.

Court news
Steele County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 9 – 13:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Jose F. Hernandez, 31, Albert Lea, no MN license, $181; Christopher J. Johnson, 51, Blooming Prairie, domestic assault, $581, 3 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, mental health screening, no possession of firearms and 1 year of supervised probation; Eh Paw, 34, St. Paul, no MN license, $181; Isidro R. Ruiz, 38, Blooming Prairie, no MN license, $181; Kristine A. Schroeder, 22, Blooming Prairie, suspended license, $281; Amy J. Snider, 40, Blooming Prairie, expired tabs, $111.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Jessica J. Altobell, 32, Faribault, speeding, $121; Thomas J. Bauer, 28, Big Lake, seat belt, $106; Kimberly A. Bennewitz, 55, Hudson, WI, speeding, $121; Brandin D. Botten, 27, Medford, DWI, $506 and 90 days in county jail; Adrian P. Celis, 36, Northfield, cancelled license and no insurance, $481; Isaac Clayton, 48, Chicago, IL, speeding, $141; Scott D. Erickson, 57, Zumbrota, seat belt, $106; Marco A. Flores Victorino, 27, Albert Lea, license plates violation and window tint violation, $161; Ashton K. Giese, 34, Dayton, speeding, $121; Anthony A. Grigsby, 22, Mankato, no license in possession, $101; Daniel J. Hill, 42, Alden, speeding, $121; Justin N. Holmes, 19, West Kensington, no license and no insurance, $381; Anthony D. Johnson-Schmidt, 44, Sioux Falls, SD, speeding, $131; Brian W. Keller, 33, Cambridge, speeding, $121; Dawn R. Kooiker, 55, Medina, speeding, $121; Connor M. Medvec, 21, Owatonna, seat belt, $106; Gabriel D. Phillips, 18, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Jonathan D. Phillips, 46, Owatonna, move over law violation, $100; Gwen J. Reed, 63, St. Paul, speeding, $100; John H. Reed, 21, Omaha, NE, suspended license, $281; Trechaun K. Sayles, 28, Robbinsdale, speeding, $131; Jason J. Ventre, 35, St. Augustine, FL, speeding, $141; Ashley N. Wright, 28, Lincoln, NE, speeding, $131; Meng Zhang, 22, Minneapolis, speeding, $121.

Owatonna Police Department

Ruqiyo O. Ali, 18, Owatonna, text messaging while driving, $131; Cameron K. Burns, 46, Owatonna, expired tabs, $111; Anthony J. Cassen, 28, Owatonna, barking dog, $131; Corrin A. Christensen, 23, Faribault, suspended license, possession of Paraphernalia and Marijuana, $662; Gloria J. Cox-Edlund, 69, Owatonna, assault, diversion program, domestic inventory screening and 1 year of supervised probation; ReDeanna M. DeLeo, 29, Faribault, possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia, $181; Chris J. Doucette, 40, Medford, no MN license, $181; Irma P. Enriquez Hernandez, 36, Waseca, speeding, $131; Stetson P. Fox, 29, Owatonna, suspended license, $281; Katherine A. Gaffke, 20, Owatonna, liquor sale to minor, $281, 1 day in county jail and 12 months of unsupervised probation; Katelyn D. Hanneman, 20, Ellendale, assault, $81, diversion program, anger management or psychological assessment and 2 years of supervised probation; Emmett L. Huskey, 53, Owatonna, irregular driving, $121; Marino R. Isom III, 18, Mason City, IA, minor consumption, $181; Travis W. Jackson, 36, Owatonna, violation of restraining order, $81, diversion program, domestic violence inventory, early intervention program-family violence program and 2 years of supervised probation; Vincent Johnny, 26, Austin, possession of Marijuana, $131; Justin R. Kadner, 35, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, $581, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, mental health evaluation, no contact with victim, and 1 year of supervised probation; Mohamed O. Mohamud, 26, Owatonna, suspended license, $281; Derek R. Montgomery, 29, New Richland, seat belt, $106; Jennifer A. Nahmens, 36, Owatonna, financial transaction card fraud, $581, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state and 2 years of supervised probation; Jennifer D. Ohm, 31, Owatonna, suspended license, $281; Brandon M. Oreskovich, 30, Owatonna, DWI, $406, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 2 years of supervised probation; Vallen C. Ortiz, 39, Faribault, no MN license and speeding, $221; Gary J. Percival, 29, Minneapolis, prostitution, $1,081, no access to Internet without approval, complete the Intervention Program for Men who use Prostituted Women and submit letter of completion and 1 year of supervised probation; Gary S. Rousey, 46, Waterville, shoplifting and theft, $303.93, 34 days in county jail and 1 year of supervised probation; Noemi Y. Segura, 31, Faribault, cancelled license, $281; Nikolas C. Steinbacher, 33, Maple Grove, neglect or endangerment of a child, $381, chemical dependency treatment and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Matthew D. Weis, 40, Pine Island, speeding, $141; Nickolas J. White, 24, Owatonna, school bus stop arm signal violation, $181; Dennis W. Wimer, 31, Owatonna, open bottle, $181; Kevin J. Zimny, 26, Waseca, possession of Marijuana, $131.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Austin A. Bell, 19, Waseca, suspended license, speeding and pending validation of offense, $612; Brenda H. Bijnagte, 40, Minneapolis, speeding, $121; Denise L. Bonde, 59, Rochester, speeding, $121; Zachary P. Cates, 21, Owatonna, speeding, $141; William J. Cervenka, 51, Medford, expired license, $181; Jathan P. Dettmer, 19, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Johnathan J. Edwards, 18, Mankato, speeding, $581; Nathan T. Eide, 44, Rochester, speeding, $121; Larry A. Fennert, 32, Kasson, expired tabs, $111; Heather P. Fowls, 31, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Raymond M. Garcia, 62, Waseca, speeding, $121; Bridgit F. Gilmore, 48, Kildeer, IL, speeding, $221; Reese W. Hageman, 30, Blooming Prairie, speeding, $141; Patrick M. Hamilton, 20, Owatonna, stop sign, $131; Mohamed A. Heban, 32, Edina, speeding, $131; Kristen M. Hurd, 34, Burnsville, DWI, $706, 30 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, 216 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Ryan G. Kern, 20, Faribault, following vehicle too closely, $131; Timothy P. Kuhlman, 56, Medford, speeding, $121; Darlene E. Mosley, 28, Morristown, speeding, $111; Carol M. Musel, 64, Faribault, speeding, $121; David A. Nelson, 79, Devils Lake, ND, speeding, $121; Ronald L. Neuharth, 49, Owatonna, speeding, $281; Patrick J. Pitlick, 51, Jordan, speeding, $121; Blake C. Plonske, 26, North Mankato, failure to drive in single lane, $131; Matthew B. Potter, 45, Waseca, speeding, $121; Roger R. Schneider, 73, Sleepy Eye, speeding, $121; Thomas R. Stephenson, 51, St. Paul, speeding, $131; Tyler G. Treichel, 24, Rochester, invalid license, $131; Kim T. Vuong, 43, Austin, speeding, $121; James R. Wagoner, 23, Owatonna, criminal vehicular operation, $3,419.31, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 3 years of supervised probation; Ferris G. Walker, 60, Troy, AL, speeding, $100; James M. Willis, 39, Austin, revoked license and no motorcycle endorsement, $331.

Woman charged after K-9 unveils suspected drugs in stop

A police K-9 unit helped in the discovery of suspected drugs during a traffic stop in Owatonna.

Carrie Cook, 38, has been charged with felony fifth-degree controlled substance crime after police allegedly found a variety of drugs during the stop.

While patrolling along South Cedar Avenue on May 15, an officer noticed a vehicle parked on the east side of the road at Cedar and Rice Street. The officer learned the vehicle was stopped in Faribault the previous day for a revoked driver's license. In addition, the officer recognized the subject in the Faribault case as the driver in this incident.

After making the stop, the officer saw the passenger, Cook, quickly place both hands tight to her side. Police detected the odor of fresh marijuana and called for the K-9 unit to do a search of the vehicle.

Officers found a small bundle of marijuana wrapped in a plastic wrapper, along with a digital scale with white residue, various prescription medications classified as controlled substances, and a small crystal believed to be methamphetamine on the floor, according to police.

Police blotter
Dodge County

May 11

Animal. At 10:47 a.m., a Hayfield citizen reported that his neighbor's cattle were out in his hay field again in the 23400 block of 720th St.

Noise. Deputies received a complaint that a subject was shooting and scaring her horses in the 26900 block of County Hwy. 34 in Kasson at 6:08 p.m.

May 12

Vandalism. Graffiti was reported in the 300 block of Main St. E. in Dodge Center at 7:51 a.m.

Juvenile. At 8:06 a.m., deputies were requested to assist with an out-of-control juvenile in the 800 block of Hwy. St. W. in Dodge Center.

Civil. Deputies assisted a subject with returning a computer in the 73400 block of 200th Ave. in Hayfield at 5:17 p.m.

Larceny. At 5:50 p.m., deputies took a report of the theft of packages in the 300 block of 3rd Ave. NE in Dodge Center.

Probation Violation. A Kwik Trip employee called deputies when there was an intoxicated female in the Dodge Center store in the 400 block of 2nd Ave. NW at 10:34 p.m. Deputies responded and found the woman to be in violation of her probation.

May 13

Fire. At 11:20 a.m., deputies and Dodge Center Fire responded to a clothes dryer fire on 2nd St. SE in Dodge Center.

Dumping. Environmental dumping occurred at 740th St. and 220th Ave. in Hayfield at 8 p.m.

Juvenile. Deputies received a complaint regarding an out of control juvenile in the 600 block of 3rd St. NW in Hayfield at 10:34 p.m.

May 14

Child Endangerment. At 12:23 p.m., deputies began an investigation of child endangerment on 6th Ave. SE in Hayfield.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 900 block of 3rd Ave. SE in Hayfield at 7:15 p.m.

May 15

Fire. At 1:32 p.m., Blooming Prairie Fire and Blooming Prairie Police responded to a grass fire at State Hwy. 30 and 740th St. in Blooming Prairie.

May 16

Suspicion. Deputies responded to a report of suspicious activity at 120th Ave. and 535th St. in West Concord at 9:43 a.m.

Trespassing. At 10:43 a.m., deputies assisted with a trespassing incident in the 100 block of 5th St. SW in Dodge Center.

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

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

Chad Livernois – check forgery - $3,000 bail
Noe Longoria – DWI - $12,000 bail
Andrew Lopez – contempt of court - $1,000 bail
Carlos Lopez – open bottle - $181 bail
Jose Lopez – domestic assault - $700 bail
Ramon Lopez – disorderly conduct – no bail
Rogilio Lopez – DWI, revoked license - $12,000 bail
Gregory Loudermilk – no license - $1,000 bail
Krystie Louis – aid and abet theft - $10,000 bail
Anthony Lucarelli – DWI – no bail
Cody Luchi – burglary – no bail
Leah Ludwig – theft - $2,000 bail
Sarah Luke – public nuisance - $800 bail
Robert Luna – DWI – no bail
Naykor Mabior – assault of police officer - $10,000 bail
Juan Macas – no license - $500 bail
Jose Macias – revoked license – no bail
Shane Mack – theft – no bail
Faisai Mahamed – criminal sexual conduct – no bail
Veronica Maldonado – invalid license - $500 bail

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2016 EVENTS

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Friday, June 3

11am	Food Vendors open for lunch
4:30pm	Greetings and Instructions to Pro BBQ Teams
5:30pm	Kids Q Kick Off (Instructions and distribution of meat/ grills)
5:30pm	VIP Reception
5:30pm	Tweed Funk in the Beer Garden
6:30pm	Steak CookOff
7pm	Brother Sun Sister Moon in Park Square Free
7pm	Special Olympics Chef's Tour
7:30pm	Bridget Kelly Band in the Beer Garden
9:30pm	Fabulous Lovehandles in Beer Garden

Saturday, June 4

7am	Backyard Amateur BBQ Competition (Cooks' Meeting)
7:00am	Registration for 5K Walk/Run
8:30am	Start of 5K Walk/ Run
9:30am - 2pm	Antique Tractor & Big Rig display
10am	Start Family Bike Cruise
11am	Food Vendors open for lunch/ Antique Tractor Parade
11:30am	The Swamp Kings in Park Square Free
12:30pm	Mark Cameron in Park Square Free
1:30pm	Blues 4 Kids Harmonica lessons Park Square Free
2pm	Tullie Brae in the Beer Garden
2pm	Mike Fugazzi in Park Square Free
2:30pm	Armadillo Jump in Park Square Free
4pm	Awards Ceremony Park Square Free
4:30pm	Dave Lambert & The Motivators in Park Square Free
4:30pm	Hot Rod Car Show Free
5:30pm	The Beat Daddys in the Beer Garden
7:30pm	The Jimmys in the Beer Garden
9:30pm	Smokin' in Steele Band in the Beer Garden

Sunday, June 5

8 - 11:30am	Pancake Breakfast in the Beer Garden only $7

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Hometown Living

C Section | www.steeledodgenews.com | Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Teach your children well

LITTLE THOUGHTS ON THE PRAIRIE



MARK DELAP

Tonight I am reminded of my early childhood. When I was young, I obviously felt a security in my dad coming home each night after work and reading the paper. Perhaps that is where my love for just sitting and relaxing with the news comes from.

My dad was a blue collar worker. He worked at A.O. Smith Company (Harvestore silos) with my maternal grandfather for many years. He then graduated up to a managerial position and became the production control supervisor for Wrought Washer Company in Milwaukee.

Although a quiet man, he was from the generation of post-war fathers who really didn't share their emotions. There is an entire generation of men who didn't learn how to open up. Not so much because they didn't care, but they simply did not know how.

But my dad. He had a soft side. A precious side. He knew that my brother and I were scared of the dark as kids. We had bunk beds. We also had monsters under those beds and strangers who lived in our closet. So, yeah… it was pretty intimidating at night.

Dad would come in without fail. Every night. And he would tuck us in and lay down with us and we would sing songs until we were tired and eventually would fall asleep. He would sing goofy songs like, "Barney Google" and "Eating Goober Peas" and a few old hymns. I can remember I liked motorcycles and he made up a song just for me about Mark's motorcycle. "The motorcycle song" and I can still sing it for you today.

A few years back I remember the phone call that came one dreary October afternoon from my mom. "Dad's got cancer," She said. It took wind out of all of our sails. I immediately went to work. I went into the recording studio where I was recording some songs on a CD I was working on. I began to record some of those old songs that dad used to sing to me as a kid. And then I wrote him a song for his final chapter. It's called "Daddy's Songs."

As I was in production, a package came in the mail. Mom sent me a little reel-to-reel tape that she found as she was cleaning out dad's drawers. Obviously nobody had reel-to-reel capabilities at the time, so I had my producer dig out an old TEAC unit. To my surprise, it was me and my dad singing when I was about 3 years old. My mom had recorded it.

Being the profound and inspirational producer he was, Greg Brayton managed to mix a bit of that old tape into the new CD. It was brilliant. The song came out better than I had imagined.

And so I created this "mix tape" for my dad, and wasn't it wonderful how life had come full circle. The same songs that were sung to me as a child, which took away my fears and allowed me to drift into sleep were now on his little DVD player and once again, I got to sing with my daddy each night.

The songs he sowed into me as a child were now tucking him in at night and taking his fears away as he was about to drift into his sleep. You never know what that time spent with those you love will yield. He harvested a peace through the greatest storm of his life.

And he passed. He didn't lose his battle with cancer, he beat it. No more pain. No more sorrow. No more silence. Singing the songs of the ages for all time, and no doubt, every once in a while, as the wind comes blowing gently through the prairie, I can hear the words… "Once there was a motorcycle down at the store… Mark went to buy that motorcycle." Goodnight dad.

Daddy's Songs can be heard on line at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuEa1CHbVKI

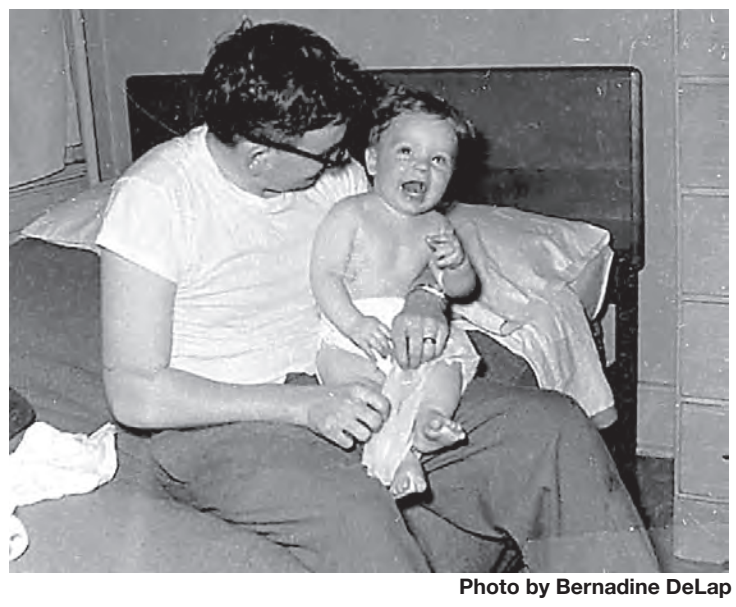


Photo by Bernadine DeLap

My dad taught me to sing at a very early age and music has been a part of my life ever since. What you sow into your children, you may one day reap.

STEELE TALKIN'



CAROLYN WHEELER

Mental Health Awareness – Talking About It Saves Lives

The President has issued a proclamation for May as National Mental Health Awareness Month. The statistics show how many millions of children, adults, families are impacted by mental health conditions. Though we have made progress expanding mental health information, bringing it more to the forefront and having more open conversations about mental health, too many people still do not get the help they need.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recently released a surprising report that shows an increase in suicide in the United States from 1999 to 2014, with the greatest annual percent increases after 2006. The percent increase in suicide rates for females was greatest for those aged 10-14, and for males, those aged 45 to 64. The CDC notes further that many people who have suicidal thoughts or attempt to kill themselves never seek professional help.

But WHY is it so hard for so many to talk about mental health, to seek help?

We share the details of our physical lives so willingly: our latest diet, our kid's need for braces, maybe a family member struggling with heart disease. But when it comes to mental illness, we tend to hold back, be less comfortable with letting others know. The shame and stigma surrounding mental health issues, such as bipolar disorder and anxiety, are the biggest obstacles when it comes to getting help. It's time we started looking at mental health the same way we do physical health.

Unlike other health conditions, mental illness is often seen as a sign of weakness. We'd never tell someone with breast cancer to "just get over it" or work on their willpower, but that's the advice people with eating disorders, substance abuse problems, depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues hear all too often. And those suffering with mental illness also often think of it themselves as weakness. In a TED talk called, "Depression, the secret we share", Journalist Andrew Solomon says:

People still think that it's shameful if they have a mental illness. They think it shows personal weakness. They think it shows a failing. If it's their children who have mental illness, they think it reflects their failure as parents.

Many people are uncomfortable with the topic of suicide. Too often, victims are blamed and their families and friends are left stigmatized. As a result, people rarely communicate openly about suicide. Thus, an important public health problem is left hidden in secrecy, which hinders effective prevention.

But mental illness is just like any chronic physical condition. It can be managed with counseling and/or medication, and there will be both good and bad days. As debilitating as mental illness can be, it isn't–

BOOK NOOK



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

As we prepare for the 2016 Summer Reading Program at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library, we would like to ask for help from the community. At each weekly Tuesday storytime, we make a simple craft with the children. We are in need of empty egg cartons and cardboard boxes from 12 packs of soda. (No beer boxes, please!) We could also use cheap aluminum pie plates. Thanks for your help!

We also could use help from a specific population: the youth in town. Any student going into 7th grade and older is welcome to be a teen volunteer this summer. Jobs for the youth include handing out treats at the movies, assisting younger children with crafts, setting up for performances and book fairs, and leading sports activities. If you are interested, just stop in at the library or email us bpbl@selco.info.

Finally, help us make this a fun summer by coming and taking part in all the activities planned. We will have events over 40 days this summer! Pick up a calendar and brochure at the library so you don't miss out on any of them.

Thank you, Blooming Prairie, for all of your support!

The pot luck string band plays on

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

He started as a guitar player who sang folk songs. Soon Scott Anderson asked Jim Miller to join him. And then, like the fictional Topsy, it just grew and grew and grew. Now the group is an eight-member string band that is quietly making a name for itself playing venues large and small from Minneapolis all around the area.

The potluck string band will be making two appearances in the Blooming Prairie community next month, beginning as the featured entertainment at the Boys and Girls Club annual ribfest competition on June 25 at the local Servicemen's club. They will follow that with a concert in the Blooming Prairie City Park the Saturday before the big Fourth of July celebration on Sunday, July 3.

The history of the band is a fascinating one. Scott Anderson began playing guitar and singing by himself. He then asked a friend, Jim Miller, to join him on vocals a year ago and the duo began gathering new members in the band just from friends and acquaintances interested in playing and singing. Now a year later, although the group plays a lot of blue grass music, they play several different types of music, and as Scott likes to say, "We call it Americana"

Susie Gilbertson, who also plays the banjolele, and the newest member of the group, Karin Torrey, who also plays the fiddle, now joins Miller, who learned to play a bass, just to add to his singing. Eric Holm accompanies on the electric guitar, Dave Fischer plays washboard, Matt Simcaski picks the banjo,, and John Beesley strums the mandolin.

As miller explained, 'We really think of ourselves as a family, and the reason we are somewhat successful is because we all genuinely like each other. We seem to have a great blend in our harmony too, which is also a plus. We grew to this eight member band through inviting anyone who really showed an interest in our music to join the group.' Anderson, who started the whole thing, commented, "I began as a soloist, but Jim was interested to join me, and before we knew it, here we are, eight members strong."

Probably the neatest thing about the group is that the band is strictly a pastime and not an occupation. All eight members in the group have full time careers aside from the string band. Occupations range from independent broker, company recruiter, Dell computer salesman, electronics distributor owner, recruiter manager for sleep number beds to shipping specialist. One of the group, Karin Torrey, is an editor at Wood Lake Medical, just to give one an idea of the wide range of careers involved.

The name of the band is easily explained. They practice twice weekly, Tuesday and Friday, and Friday, true to Scandinavian custom is also potluck time. Although it is entirely questionable that all members have that Scandinavian heritage, they all welcome the potluck. Often there will be a couple of hours of practice, an hour of potluck, and another hour of two of practice.

It doesn't make any difference which member of the group one talks to, the answer as to why they are a part of the group is the same. "We really like each other, and we enjoy our music together. It wouldn't make a bit of difference if we were playing just for ourselves or for a big audience, it would be the same. We would be having fun!"

Although the primary focus of the music is blue grass type, the band will morph into other kinds of music as well, from genuine folk songs to rock and roll to modern selections. They try it all.. Right now they have a list of approximately 60 songs, and in the course of a performance, they will probably play most of them.

The group will be performing from 3 to 7 p.m. at the ribfest hours, and the Sunday, July 3 hours will be publicized in the Steele County Times and in posters in the community. A large crowd us expected to attend the ribfest, and this potluck band will certainly add to the fun and entertainment.



Submitted photo

Members of the potluck string band that will be playing at the B & G Club annual ribfest on Saturday, June 25. The band will also perform in concert at the Blooming Prairie city park on Saturday July 2. Members of the band from left to right: Eric Holm, John Beesley, Karin Torrey, Dave Fischer, Scott Anderson, Susie Gilbertson, Matt Simlaski, and Jim Miller

Contestant entry into Free Fair's Battle of the Bands now

By AHREN BACKMAN
Staff Writer

Any band from Kiss to Owl City can now enter this year's Steele County Free Fair's Battle of the Bands. According to the second rendition of Fair Talk by Todd Haley, Director of Public Relations, the 2016 battle is now open to any band, not just a band with a member from Steele County. Last year, the Eau Clare, Wisconsin based bass group, Forward Bass Band, won first place. Forward Bass Band consisted of only one member from Steel e County, Trent Spatenka of Owatonna.

Although Kiss should not be expected, the decision to widen the range of musicians may raise the level of talent to new heights. If Gene Simmons did want to enter the battle he would have various options to do so. According to the second instalment of Hale's Fair Talk, interested parties can compete for the $500 dollar grand prize on August 17 at 5:00. For more information visit the fair office in Owatonna, call 507-451-5305, or visit www.scff.org.

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Blooming Prairie Living

Blooming Prairie city council welcomes new community contributors

Also increases on-call police pay

By AHREN BACKMAN
County Staff Writer

"Your in," stated Mayor "H" Peterson to Brian Penkert at the Blooming Prairie City Council meeting on May 16th. Penkert and his Blooming Prairie based insurance agency, Hometown Insurance, had just been unanimously approved as the official insurance agent of the city of Blooming Prairie. Previously, Keith Holman of Holman Insurance held job, but after over 40 years in business Holman and his wife Carol decided to retire. Before the council voted on the appointment, Holman gave a striking vote of confidence in for Hometown.

This was the second official welcome of the day for the BP city council. Earlier in the meeting, the council held a special ceremony for new Blooming Prairie part-time police officer, Michael St. John or "Shane" as he likes to be called. St. John currently works as a supervisor security officer and has been doing so for 8 years. During this time, St. John has many certifications, including taser instruction, and specializes in crisis management de-escalation.

The two welcome appointments were just a few of the items on a packed agenda for the city council. The council also passed a resolution to increase the amount Blooming Prairie police officers can get paid when on-call during weekend hours. The need for the pay increase, specifically for public safety officers, came from the ridged stipulations on response times. Officers have a very short time to respond to calls, so council members had concerns about officer's weekend family life being interfered with.

Previous to the decision, if an on-call officer was not called on a weekend, he or she would receive one half hour of pay. Now, that amount is increased to two hours of pay. City Administrator Michael G. Jones stated this increase in pay will also be an incentive for different officers to cover each other's on-call hours in case of emergency.

Blooming Prairie Police Chief, Greg Skillstad, was all positivity during a post-meeting interview, saying "It's huge, our officers will now be compensated for being on-call. It's saying thank you."



Staff photo by Ahren Backman

Officer Michael St. John stands with his son while being sw n in as the newest addition to the Blooming Prairie police force.

Volunteers still sought for 2016 Fourth of July celebration

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

An appeal was made once again at a regular monthly Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce meeting for volunteers to come forward and help with the 2016 Fourth of July celebration in Blooming Prairie. The annual celebration marks 42 years.

This year's celebration will mark the 149th anniversary of Blooming Prairie.

Luke Swenson, president, and Sarah Esplan, secretary, urged business owners and others to volunteer to help with the celebration.

Becky Noble, executive director, said door to door button sales began recently and buttons will now be available at downtown businesses. Buttons cost $3 each.

Two new events will be featured this year, Noble said, referring to a Hammerschlagen and a performance by the Potluck string band.

Buttons were given to four chamber student ambassadors, Tony Nelson, Lauren Larkoski, Camden Heimerman and Alison Pryor. Heimerman and Pryor are juniors and will return next year as ambassadors.

Seniors Nelson and Larkoski were presented framed drawings of the downtown Blooming Prairie area. "It's really amazing what you do for your community," Larkoski said. "I've enjoyed attending all of the meetings and thanks for welcoming us," Nelson added.

The ambassadors were responsible for organizing a tour of five area businesses two weeks ago by high school sophomores. The tour took the students to the Minimizer operations center, the Minimizer corporate office, A Touch of Charm, Sportstitch, and to Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner.

President Swenson praised the ambassadors for their ideas. He also thanked business owners for opening their businesses for the tours.

Swenson announced that eight have applied for five student ambassador positions for next year.

Other items discussed included:

• Benches will be installed on Main Street.

• Golf Fun Day is July 20 (18 holes).

• Rib Fest is from 3-7 p.m. on June 25.

• B to Z Hardware announced it was having a lunch May 21 to benefit the Boys and Girls Club.

• Sons of the American Legion planned a dinner for Saturday night, May 21.

• Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 15 at Zwiener's cabin at Beaver Lake, Ellendale

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By Shirley Johnson

Brown ground beef in a large frying pan over medium heat. Add chopped onion and celery. Add salt and pepper, corn and potatoes. Simmer until done.

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CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

Brookside Campground to observe 50th anniversary

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

That's a slogan adopted by Brookside Campground owners Dondi and Karla Stender. The Stenders are embarking on their second year of owning and operating the popular campgrounds located 3 1/2 miles south of Blooming Prairie on Highway 218. "The campground is very family oriented and our rates are very reasonable," Dondi says proudly.

Son D.J., 14, will be a freshman at Blooming Prairie High School next fall. He is a "big help" at the campground, handling much of the mowing. The Stenders also have a daughter Kari, a career missionary who soon will be departing for Ecuador.

The year 2016 is special for the Stenders in that they will be observing and celebrating the campgrounds' 50th anniversary. The Stenders are offering free primitive camping June 3-5 and will serve cake and ice cream beginning at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 4.

Charlotte and Dale Braaten began clearing land for the campground in 1965 and opened it officially in 1966. They owned and operated it for 20 years until 1986.

New owners ran the campground until Oct. 15, 1990 when Charlotte's son Steve and his wife Becky purchased the business and operated it until April 13, 2013. The Braatens sold the campground to a couple from Forest City, Iowa. The Stenders then became the current owners.

Nestled in a heavily wooded area in Mower County near the beautiful Cedar River, Brookside has been a popular landing spot for many families over the years.

Seated in comfortable surroundings at the campground store, the Stenders make mention of how quiet, safe and secluded the campground is. The campground spans 46 acres and has 110 sites with 65 of them seasonal. More than 100 primitive camp sites are available.

The camping season is typically May 1 to Sept. 30 and if the weather cooperates, the campground may open in mid-April and stay open until mid-October. Brookside draws campers from Blooming Prairie, Austin, Albert Lea, Rochester, Owatonna, Hastings and beyond.

The Stenders love the small town atmosphere, both being from small towns in northwest Iowa. Deciding to cultivate a different ambition after working as an IT (Information Technology) director for 31 years, Stender said it made sense to search for a campground for sale. They looked in Minnesota and Wisconsin and said they were fortunate to find Brookside for sale on the internet.

"We were sick of the big city," said Karla. The Stenders were living in Nebraska at the time they decided to pull up roots and find another vocation. Karla worked for Taher Food Services in Omaha and was able to connect with the same food service in Blooming Prairie at the high school.

"It was love at first sight," the Stenders said about their new adventure. The location was perfect, they said, because they have family in Sioux City, Des Moines, Minneapolis and Rochester.

All campground sites have picnic tables and fire rings. All RV sites have electric and water with sewer hookup available on some. A large pavilion is available in one group area to rent for birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, reunions or other events.

Because of its location bordering the Cedar River, campers can fish in the river and shove off in their kayaks or canoes.

Clean restrooms with private showers for camping convenience are offered to campers. In the lodge, campers will find games, snacks, free Wi-Fi and other conveniences. Firewood is for sale as are other small grocery items.

Weekends are themed throughout the year, Christmas in July and Halloween in August. An ice cream social is planned for July 4. Dances, with a DJ, are planned for Memorial Day and Labor Day. Pancake breakfasts are scheduled the second Saturday of each month

Brookside offers 20/30/50 amp full hookup (W/E/S), large pull-through sites, group areas, tent sites with water and electric, primitive tent sites, dump station, convenience store, heated swimming pool (50x20), kiddie pool, basketball and volleyball courts, gaga ball, horseshoe pits, game room, shaded sites, hiking trails, picnic areas and kayak/canoeing access. The campground is also pet friendly.

"It's hard work, but fun work, and our campers are a community within a community," Karla says. Dondi quickly points to the campground store where there are no hours of operation listed. "We're available pretty much 24/7," he says.



Submitted Photo

Dondi and Karla Stender and son D.J. always have the welcome mat out at the Brookside Campground store. Brookside is a member of the Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce. Brookside is observing its 50th anniversary this summer with special events planned.

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Officer's position held throughout the years: 9th historian, 10th Reporter, 11th President and 12th Student Advisor
Favorite FFA Activity: National convention.
Favorite FFA memory: Placing 2nd at State FFA Convention last year in dairy showmanship.



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CountyLiving

BP band performs original work of accomplished composer.

Young musicians display talent at spring concert in Blooming Prairie

By AHREN BACKMAN
Staff Writer

Composer and trombonist Aaron Strang earned his Bachelors of Music degree in Instrumental Music Education from the University of Minnesota Duluth in 1996. Over the next 20 years, Strang composed many shows, and even won a national compositing contest in 2000 for his piece, "Suite Dreams." On May 18, just before 9 p.m., a combined effort of the Blooming Prairie Junior and Senior high band performed Strang's original piece, "Blooming Prairie Portraits."

Composer Aaron Strang, introduces his original three movement suite, "Blooming Prairie Portraits," which served as a dramatic ender to the night.

Composer Aaron Strang gives background on his suite, "Blooming Prairie Portraits," while the combined Blooming Prairie band sets up to preform it for the first time ever.

"Portraits" began with an energizing woodwind heavy introduction, and then slowed into the heavy brass section. In the middle of the piece, the band fell fully silent, only to erupt into the sturing first half melody. After an abrupt page turn the melody began again, this time featuring a booming bass line from the tuba section.

The first audience ever to hear the song, burst into applause after the diverse tones ended. The original was created for the band by Aaron Strang after he was approached by fellow UMD graduate Blooming Prairie Band Director Ross Reishus.

The original piece may have been the main event at the concert, but the song was just a cherry on top of a very musical cake.

The full concert began an hour and a half earlier with the Jazz band playing classics such as Brown Eyed Girl and Fly Me To The Moon. Junior Carter Millam garnered great applause for his guitar solo during the closing piece "Frankinstein."

Next up was the Junior High band, with a wide variety of pieces, including "Normandy Beach March," "Paso Flamenco," and a unique arrangement of "Amazing Grace." Allison Krohnberg had a solo tenor sax in "Amazing Grace."

Finally, the Senior High Band featured a line-up with a classic feel. The songs included the Karl King classic "The Trombone King," and a 1978 arrangement of "Carpathean Sketches." The only flutist in the band, Marnie Reese, carried many parts of the methodical 1985 gem, "Yorkshire Ballad." Before the last song of the night, director Ross Reishus, presented senior high awards. The Pep band MVP awards went to Sophomore Jon Herron and Junior Austin Christens.

'The first audience ever to hear the song, burst into applause after the diverse tones ended.' - A.B.B.

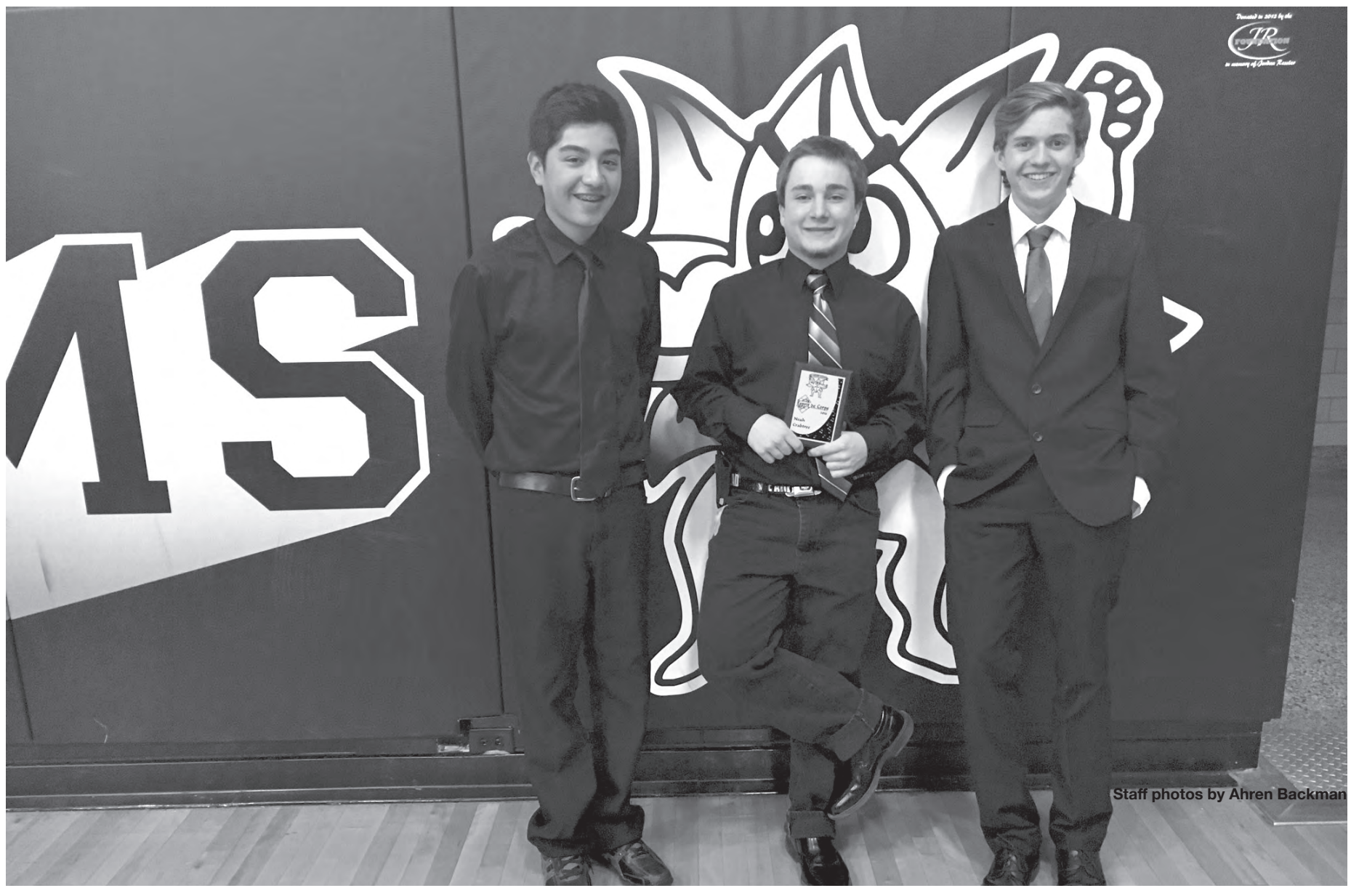


Left: The Esprit De Corp senior award went to trumpet player Noah Crabtree, the only senior in the band. After the individual award, Crabtree was presented with a group award for the Senior High Band gaining a Superior rating at large group competition.

Below: High School band members Alec Ille and William Cardenas stand with senior award winner Noah Crabtree.

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Staff photos by Ahren Backman

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Journalism Casting Call

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 507-676-0679or 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.

MedfordLiving

By Lois Nelson
Medford Mayor

Congratulations to the Class of 2016 on your graduation—both those of you graduating from area high schools as well as those from area colleges and universities! Also, to your parents and all students who are winding up another school year. This is a great time of the year for celebration and making plans…for the future or the summer. Enjoy a little relaxation, but I encourage you to work at something and take on a project or two or do something different and for service in your community. You'll learn from the experience, make some new friends and you may just enjoy yourself.

Please watch out for our area residents when driving in Medford or anywhere during these vacation months. Distractions can result in injury to anyone. Federated Insurance is sponsoring a campaign right now about not using your cell phone while driving – for phone conversations or texting. You maybe noticed the billboard on the interstate around Owatonna or driving to the Twin Cites with the little girl and a powerful message…"Please make it home safe today." Federated statistics identified that over 60,000 of their clients were involved in accidents nationwide last year involving texting. We have a law against texting in Minnesota. Those few seconds to glance at your phone or to put in a phone number are enough to lose control of your vehicle. Be careful all year round. For additional information, you might want to check out these messages:

This is a link to the Federated Insurance DVD:

https://www.federatedinsurance.com/ws/fi/InsuranceResources/PROD_634895

Here is a link to resources for a distracted driving policy:

http://www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org/traffic/distracted-driving/

Of course, please don't view while driving!

The Medford Swimming Pool opens on Sunday, June 5. Come join us for the opening or anytime through the summer months. Swimming lesson information is also on the website: www.medfordminnesota.com. Scholarships for lessons are also available this year for any family residing in the Medford School District.

The city's Beautification Committee has the planters planted in our parks and along Main Street. Thanks to the many donations made and monies are still appreciated payable to the Medford Area Recreational Committee (MARC) and can be sent or dropped off right at City Hall.

Our Veteran's Committee is adding the final touches to the Veteran's Memorial located north of the Medford Senior Care facility on 3rd St NE and County Road 12 NE. This committee has worked for three years to take their dream to reality.commemorating any veteran who has served in our arm forces. Veterans' names will continue to be added to the memorial once or twice a year. The special form is also included on our website. Our community is proud of this new addition at this site and appreciative to all involved in making it reality.

Straight River Days isn't far away. The celebration starts Thursday, June 16 through Saturday, June 18. Your business or organization can still be a part of the Friday night parade. The Fire Department is sponsoring a 5K run Saturday morning. There are street dances scheduled both Friday and Saturday evenings. Lots of the events Saturday take place at Straight River Park.

All the details are included on both the city website or at: www.straightriverdays.com.

Have a safe and wonderful summer. See you in Medford!
Mayor Lois



The Medford Veterans Memorial is a peaceful place to reflect and remember those who protected and served our country.

Memorial Day, Medford 2016

Steele County Public Records

Steele County • October 2015

Births

- Braxton Thomas Prondzinski, Parent: Angela, Oct. 2
- Alex Antonio Marquez, Parent: Fabiola, Oct. 3
- Lake Maybelle Lamotte, Parents: Kelly and Derrick, Oct. 5
- Willa Rose Klinger, Parents: Jeanne and Kristopher, Oct. 6
- Teresa Grace Schueller, Parents: Brianna & Timothy, Oct. 6
- Rafe Theodore Arndt, Parents: Jenny and Timothy, Oct. 7
- Addilyn Joy Hendrickson, Parents: Katelyn & Cody, Oct. 9
- Rowyn Callaway Hoban, Parents: Laurel and Jared, Oct. 9
- Eva Jubilee Masopust, Parents: Felicia and Sean, Oct. 10
- Indira Catherine Hughes, Parents: Abby & Matthew, Oct. 11
- Addison Rose Hovde, Parents: Amanda & Joseph, Oct. 12
- Henry Daniel Toft, Parents: Alyssa and Bryan, Oct. 12
- Jesus Abelardo Salinas Jr., Parents: Diana & Jesus, Oct. 14
- Aubrey Nicole Dittrich, Prts: Katie Moore & Codi Dittrich, Oct. 15
- Hattie Amelia Powell, Parents: Tanya & Chad, Oct. 15
- Kaylee Marie Moody, Parents: Lauren & Kevin Jr., Oct. 15
- Roger Rene Sutter, Prts: Andrea Rosales & Brent Sutter, Oct. 15
- William Edward Kasper, Parents: Elizabeth & Abraham, Oct. 16
- Amos Robert Merlin Knutson, Prts: Christina & Nels, Oct. 19
- Parker Kenneth Schlichter, Prts: Sheana & Corey, Oct. 19
- Alana Raine Kukacka, Parent: Lisette Alanis, Oct. 19
- Reid Thomas Blasing, Parents: Nicole and Jess, Oct. 20
- Waseem Shueeb Abdi, Prts: Fathia Ali & Shueeb Egal, Oct. 23
- Clara Lee Osmundson, Parents: Ashley and Jesse, Oct. 23
- Eliza Michelle Williams, Parents: Michelle & Ryan, Oct. 24
- Alaina Elizabeth Anhorn, Prts: Rachel & Joshua, Oct. 24
- Layla Elizabeth Phillips, Parents: Gisela & Matthew, Oct. 25
- Ashton R. Reyes Sanchez, Prts: Antonieta M. & Bryant O., Oct. 25
- Jace River Madsen, Parent: Leslie, Oct. 26
- Jacob Allen Dobberstein, Parents: Linda & Joshua, Oct. 26
- Kamryn Rae Field, Parents: Alisha and Robert, Oct. 28
- Jayna Kathleen Moore, Parents: Rebecca & Willie Jr., Oct. 28
- Jada Janna Herron, Parents: Jessica and Mark, Oct. 29
- Angel Levi Perez, Parents: Yesica and Daniel, Oct. 29
- Boston Joseph Bahe, Parents: Amber and Chad, Oct. 30
- Kaelin Alexander Wimer, Parents: Dawn and Sean, Oct. 30
- Mahdi Osman Noor, Parents: Saadiyo Abdir & Osman Aden, Oct. 31

Deaths

Mary Louise Gruntzel, 59, Bangor, WI	Oct. 2
Tillie Christine Ressler, 98, Blooming Prairie	Oct. 2
Irma Wradislavsky, 74, Blooming Prairie	Oct. 7
Donald Eugene Karsten, 84, Medford	Oct. 8
Joseph Gerard Gauthier, 78, Owatonna	Oct. 9
Jeppe Bremer, 88, Blooming Prairie	Oct. 10
Alma Frieda Sophia Weatherly, 98, Owatonna	Oct. 12
David Marcus Church, 49, Owatonna	Oct. 14
Juan Villarreal, 51, Owatonna	Oct. 15
Mary Josephine Nelson, 78, Owatonna	Oct. 17
Janice Ardell Long, 76, Winona	Oct. 17
Dorothy Evelyn Jones, 79, Claremont	Oct. 17
Jerry Lee Peterson, 75, Owatonna	Oct. 18
Elaine Marie Bruhn, 90, Owatonna	Oct. 19
Wilma Katherine Mast, 94, Blooming Prairie	Oct. 20
Audrienne Y. Nelson, 93, Owatonna	Oct. 20
Delores Mae Perkins, 80, Owatonna	Oct. 23
Marvin J. Kanne, 87, Waseca	Oct. 25
Lillian May King, 93, Owatonna	Oct. 25
Lorene Pearl Williamson, 89 Blooming Prairie	Oct. 26
Florence Nmi Mickelsen, 97, Owatonna	Oct. 26
Anna Marie Erdman, 90, Owatonna	Oct. 27
Margaret Marie Anderson, 93, Owatonna	Oct. 28
Wayne Darril Levine, 77, Owatonna	Oct. 31

Marriages

Kurt John Knapper & Julia Maureen McCartney Suarez • Oct. 1

Troy Franklin Lembke & Heather Elizabeth Becker • Oct. 3

Seth Ransey Ackerman & Sarah Michelle Radtke • Oct. 3

Dennis Joseph Karsten & Connie Lee Sjomeling • Oct. 3

Reid William Balzer & Eva Mildred Metzler • Oct. 3

Jason Michael Tschida & Faith Janine Black • Oct. 3

Lance Michael Huston & Brianna Michele Snyder • Oct. 3

David Eri Lewis & Patricia Anne Johnson • Oct. 10

Timothy Shawn O'Connor & Lori Mae Prokopec • Oct. 10

Christopher Glenn Gadzinski & Christy Joann Peterson • Oct. 10

Aana Elizabeth Spurgeon & Tracy Marie Garner • Oct. 17

Shannon Elizabeth Abbott & Eric Glen Proehl • Oct. 17

Ashley Ann Mack & Tyler James Schertler • Oct. 20

Donald Tim Zilm & Judy Ann Olson • Oct. 23

Stacy Jo Wencl & Nicholas Eugene Slowinski • Oct. 24

Joshua Boone Jensen & Elizabeth Anna Jane Pridie • Oct. 24

Mitchell Bradley Schuster & Paige Nicole Chapman • Oct. 24

Jason Edward James Lee & Sara Ashley Williams • Oct. 30

Divorces

Darlene E. Champeau/Michael J. Champeau

James Douglas Fong/Shanarra Renee Bonner

Blooming Prairie Cancer Group

Cancer Corner

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

It's the best day ever

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

A sign on Anne Rudlong's desk at Wells Fargo Bank offices in Austin says it best: "It is the best day ever."

Anne, a resident of rural Blooming Prairie, gets misty eyed when reflecting on her journey with cancer. "God has chosen me to continue to breathe and to continue to help people as much as I can," says Anne, a daughter of two missionaries to Africa. Anne was born in Africa.

Anne calls her battle with cancer a journey of faith.

Both of her parents were missionaries in Cameroun, Africa. Her father was an ordained pastor. Anne spent her first seven years in Africa and then seven years on a mission assignment of her parents on an Indian reservation in Tokio, N.D.

After graduating from high school and college in Austin, Anne worked full time as a waitress at a Perkins Restaurant in Austin. "I had several different jobs trying to find my way in life," she says. She married and she and Shad worked together in her husband's flooring business.

When helping her husband with flooring one day, Anne noticed an achiness on her left breast. "I didn't think much of it and thought I had pulled or stretched something," she said. After a week of discomfort, she decided to see a doctor.

Anne had no family history of cancer and was told she was one in 160,000 to have breast cancer. "I felt a great sense of relief but my doctor at the Austin Medical Center wanted me to do more tests," Anne relates. A biopsy was ordered.

Following the procedure, Anne recalls waking up and seeing an expression on the doctor's face that told it all. He suspected cancer. On her 25th birthday, Anne received a call telling her she had cancer. She also received a call from a local bank telling her the job had been given to someone else.. That night, she and her husband were driving to the Old Mill in Austin when they hit a deer. "It was not the best day ever," she said.

"I could not imagine why all this was happening to me. I felt I was a good person and was just handed a death sentence when I found out I had cancer. It was very crushing and devastating. All I could think about was missing out on my children's lives. Hunter was 3 and Alexa 2. They were my world."

On Feb. 18, 1998, Anne underwent a radical mastectomy. Surgeons removed the left breast and all lymph nodes. Lab tests showed it was evasive cancer but mostly controlled in the ducts. The cancer was estrogen fed and treatment was recommended by taking Tomoxfin.

"My world was turned upside down in a few weeks. My daughter wanted me to pick her up and hold her; I could not. I could see in her eyes that it was like I was rejecting her. She was very much a mama's girl and the look on her face crushed me.

"Everything happened so quickly that I hardly had time to comprehend what had happened. . . In the weeks to come I started to feel better physically but mentally I was a wreck. Every time I turned on the TV or talked to someone, all I heard was the word cancer.

"I grew up knowing God and this was a time where I looked back and thought I was living on prayers and faith of others to get me through this situation.

"Believing in God and having full faith and trust that He knows what He was doing with my life was very challenging at this time. . .

"My son Hunter came and sat next to me on the couch. He said, 'Get the book, mama, get the book.' He left and came back and handed me the book, The Bible. I knew that God was working though my little boy and you know what, I was going to be OK. I felt in that pivotal moment that God was trying to let me know that He was in control.

"It was amazing how life could go from the lowest lows to the highest highs."

Anne relied on Bible verses to help her in her journey, for example, Proverbs 3:5-6, Ephesians 2:8 and Jeremiah 29:11.

Within a year, she was healed completely and was asked if she wanted to work at a local bank. A year to the date she was first rejected, she was asked if she wanted a job. Now, it's 17 1/2 years later and she's still working there.

Feeling good, Anne was given a physical and told she had a perfect family and possibly should have no more children. "I remember being very angry. . .I loved my children but I had a feeling my family was not yet complete. Five years later after being cancer free, Anne and Shad were blessed with a daughter Gracie. "I chose her name because it means blessing," Anne says.

Anne's middle child, Alexa, and her boyfriend Corey blessed Anne and Shad with a grandson Harrison on Feb. 16, 2016.

Anne is a strong supporter of the BP Cancer Group. Daughters Alexa and Gracie have donated delicious cupcakes to the cancer auction the last 3 years. "They go over really well at the auction," Anne says with pride.



The future continues to look good for Anne Rudlong. "it was not just what cancer did to me but also what it did for me," she concludes.

Sponsored by KREJCI Ford

OwatonnaLiving

Writing workshop helps

By AHREN BACKMAN
Staff Writer

Austra Hanson has lived in Blooming Prairie for nearly twenty years. This is simply the end to a fascinating story.

"I was born and raised in Latvia," Austra, "it's one of the Baltic countries, between Germany and Russia." Unfortunately, Austra said her family had to leave the country for WWII and settled in Germany. After the war, Hanson's family could not return home to Latvia, so they applied, and were accepted, to go to the United States.

After a year, Austra's father, who was originally a farmer, moved to Owatonna. Blooming Prairie entered the story when Hanson met her husband, Dale Hanson, who is a BP native. "For Dale's job, we moved all over the country."

When asked how this story ends in Blooming Prairie, Austra's answer was simple, "We were looking at where is home, and to us that was always Minnesota."

Helping Austra to her goal is Kevin Strauss, an accomplished author, who teaches a writing workshop at the Blooming Prairie Library. During the May 16th class, Strauss took Hanson and five other local writers through critical elements of story writing and character development.

Hanson said she enjoys the workshop it has been helpful in going through her story.

"I am doing it for our children, because they don't really know the story," Hanson said to conclude the interview.

Local school group utilizes "grabber things" during trash clean-up day

By AHREN BACKMAN
Staff Writer

Of the all the tools the students of Owatonna's Alternative Learning Center program used to clean trash off the streets around Owatonna's downtown, ALC school counselor Marshall Kading could not come up with a name for those things that are used to grab trash off the ground. Even after a few minutes of thought provoking small talk, involving Marshall Kading's trash clean up experience and a certain Times reporter's extensive personal experience being bored at his grandmother's house, the term "grabber things was settled on.

The students, including members of the Action program, began the clean-up day at 9 a.m. on March 20 by separating into four groups. The groups were then given work gloves and tools to help clean. Kading's group was focused on Central park and picked up around five or six bags of trash totaling around 70 pounds. Many of the bags of trash were left on the side of the road to be picked up by the city of Owatonna.

Around noon the trash clean-up had wrapped up, and students were treated to a lunch provided by the Chamber Main Street Program and Owatonna business partnership. Kading said many students took advantage of the sunny March day by playing outdoor games. After extensive internet research, a definitive name for "those grabber things", was unavailable at press time, but the search was narrowed down to either "the gopher" or "the claw".

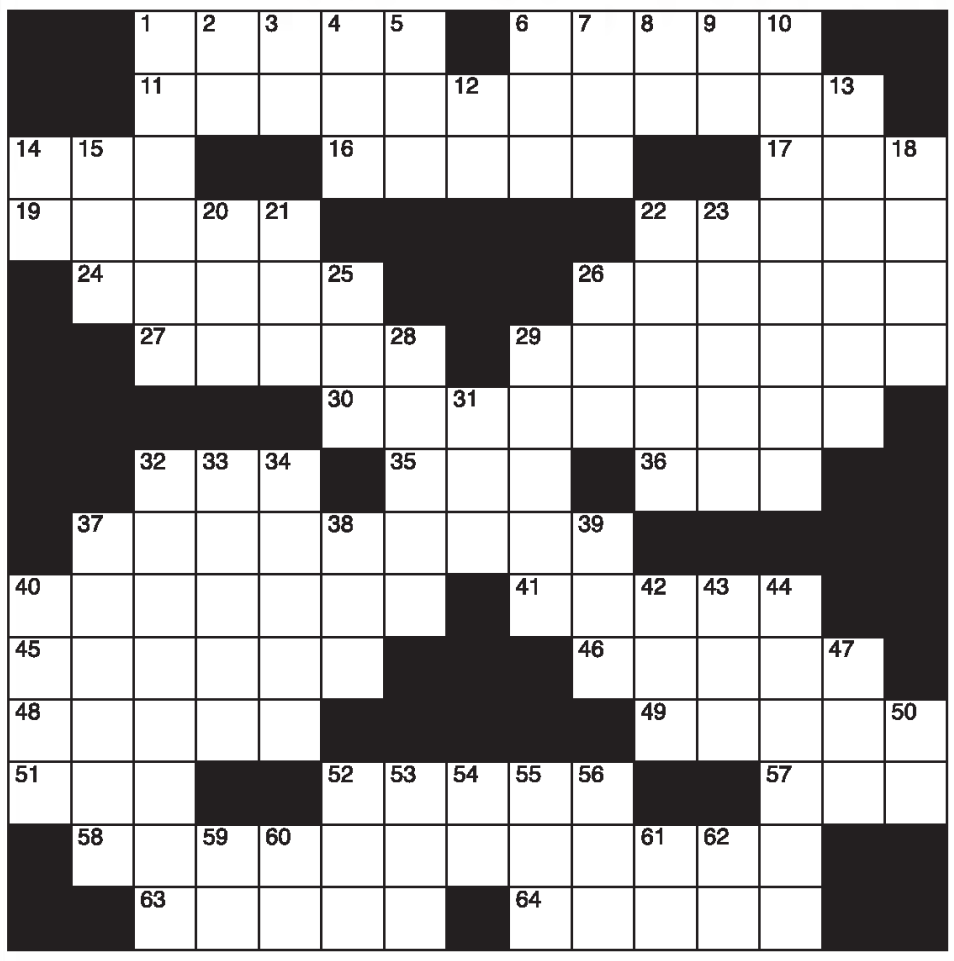


Staff photo by Ahren Backman

Isaiah Zapata(left) and Jequan Sherden(right) eat lunch after three hours of trash pick-up.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Solution on page 6C



CLUES ACROSS

1. Severo ___, US biochemist
6. Mother of Perseus
11. Failure to act promptly
14. British Air Aces
16. Wire rope
17. Make a mistake
19. Opposite of digest
22. Carefree spending
24. Chilean pianist Claudio
26. Reference point to shoot at
27. Soft exhales
29. Accumulated glacial debris
30. Front-runners
32. Seaman
35. Border for a picture
36. Distress signal
37. Ruses
40. Audio-systems
41. Hindu holy man
45. Sermon on a moral topic
46. Umbrellas (British)
48. Old World buffaloes
49. Filled with narcotic medication
51. Norse goddess of death
52. Hall for music or drama
57. de cologne
58. 2 consecutive games
63. Tree shadow
64. Distributes playing cards

CLUES DOWN

1. Propositions
2. 38th state
3. 1/3 of Santa's laugh
4. Non-exchange stocks (abbr.)
5. Dentist's group
6. Dekaliter
7. To become old
8. "All About Love" actress Sandra
9. 2001 Spielberg film
10. Invigorates
12. Atomic #37
13. Leaves eaten as vegetables
14. 2nd tone of the scale
15. Honorable title (Turkish)
18. Plexus
20. ___ Lanka
21. Children's game
22. Indian dresses
23. Italian textile city
25. Ultrahigh frequency
26. Hill (Celtic)
28. Lappland herders
29. Tiny specks or molecules
31. Personal holiday (abbr.)
32. Repeated tones
33. Skylighted central areas
34. Stirs up anger
37. Repented
38. "Little Dorrit" actress Claire
39. Droop
40. Former ruler of Iran
42. Father
43. Health Maintenance Organization
44. Not downers
47. A very large body of water
50. Of, French
52. Not new
53. River in NE Scotland
54. Canadian what
55. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
56. No (Scottish)
59. Expression of uncertainty
60. Atomic #56
61. Algerian dinar
62. Raised electrical railway

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Renovation series offered

A series of workshops on restoring and renovating your "old house."

The Steele County Historical Society is pleased to announce a new series, Restoration and Renovation, which started April 12, 7:00 PM at the Steele County History Center, 1700 Austin Road, Owatonna.

The series opened on April 12th with a Restoration Overview led by Pete Paulson, Home Depot. Mr. Paulson will discuss the importance of having a detailed plan to identify the work to be done, an approved budget and the expected quality level. All of which leads to the most successful home renovation.

"The goal behind this series is to give homeowners a starting point for their restoration project," said Stephanie Kibler, Manager of Meetings and Special Events at the Steele County Historical Society. "Our mission, preserving and sharing history today for tomorrow syncs perfectly with renovating the older homes in Steele County, ensuring these beautiful y crafted structures continue to shine."

Following the April 12th session, a new topic will be addressed each month. Topics to be covered are Windows and Exterior

Doors were covered on the May 3 session ; Exteriors and Porches – June 7; Electrical and Plumbing (Sponsored by R & K Electric) – July 12; Plaster and Lath – August 8; Woodwork and Trim – September 6; Flooring – October 4; Interior Décor – November 1. Each session will feature an experienced building professional from the Minnesota Preservation Alliance or a locally recognized expert that will lead attendees in step by step planning and process to restoring their home.

Attendees can register for the full series Members $60; Non-members $100; or for individual sessions Members

$10/session, Non-members $15/session. Registration is available at the History Center.

The History Center is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 am until 4 pm, Thursdays from 10 am until 8 pm, and Saturdays from 10 am until 3 pm. Admission to the History Center is free for SCHS members, $5 for adults, $3 for children 7-16, and children 6 and under are FREE. For more information, please call our office at 507-451-1420.

A series of workshops on restoring and renovating your "old house."

Series Rate: Member $60; Non-member $100

Individual Session: Member $10; Non-member $15

Exteriors & Porches – June 7

This session will cover all aspects of your historic homes exterior. We will focus on why and how to prepare the wood surfaces, prime, caulk and paint exterior clapboard/wood trim as well as specialized tool usage for the safe removal of paint. We will also examine different types of paint failure, highlight what to look for when hiring a painting contractor, review historic color schemes and provide tips on selecting and placing appropriate colors on older homes.

Few architectural features evoke more romantic notions or do more to define a building's historic character than the American porch. In addition, we will discuss the size, style, detailing, and location of a porch can tell volumes about the age and use of a building. We will discuss porch history and styles, as well as the ins and outs of restoring porches and front doors on historic homes. (MN Preservation Alliance)

Join a discussion a brief history of landscape design and explore traditional yards and gardens types for different architectural styles. Whether a country field or a manicured lawn, landscapes help define our sense of place.

Electrical & Plumbing – July 12—Sponsor R&K Electric

A house electrical service upgrade can be messy and expensive, but the cost to upgrade electrical service is necessary to protect the value of your home. This session will focus on potentially hazardous knob-and-tube wiring, planning not only for present needs but future electrical needs in your historic home. Old houses in need of restoration can easily have mismatched lighting that pre- or post-date the rest of the architectural details, this

Steele County Historical Society

Restoration & Renovation

A series of workshops on restoring and renovating your "old house." session will also cover lighing fixtures for your historic home.

Many plumbers will tell you old house plumbing repairs and improvements often present challenges not found in newer houses. The problems stem from age and outdated plumbing materials such as galvanized steel water supply lines, cast-iron drain pipes and clay sewer lines. This session will discuss updating the plumbing system in your historic home.

Plaster/Lath –include traditional paint color – August 9

Have you ever imagined what the interior of your house looked like originally? Maybe you would like to redecorate and be "sensitive" to your house's architectural style. This workshop will focus on historic interior plaster on wooden lath partitions. Participants will learn the importance of preparation, application and post care of the plastering. In addition, we will explore various trends of historic painting and take a look at different types of paint & finishes. (MN Preservation Alliance)

Woodwork & Trim – September 6

If you have an old house blessed with artful millwork, you can always breathe new life into it with proper cleaning or refinishing methods. The workshop will focus on how to restore wood trim in your historic home. The deterioration of wood, condition assessment, repair design, epoxy repair, maintenance, quoting jobs and contracting will all be covered. Avoiding common mistakes and costly pitfalls will be covered, too.

Flooring – October 4

Participants will learn what is involved in repairing and restoring a hardwood, tongue and grooved strip floor.

This class is not about aggressively drum sanding wood floors so they look new. Much like fine antiques we want to keep the character defining features and patina of the flooring. You will learn how to patch bad areas so they don't look patched, passively remove the damaged old finish, remove water and pet stains as well as how to apply a new finish. At the end of the seminar, participants will know from beginning to end, how to repair & passively restore any wooden, tongue & grooved strip floor.

Interior Décor – November 1

The session will cover everything from how to bring your historic home back to life in a sustainable and modern way. Guests will be handed the knowledge and resources that are most beneficial in preserving a historic home and are encouraged to bring any relevant or ongoing project with them for applied practice.



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Crossword Solution

Puzzle on Page 5C

■	■	O	C	H	O	A	■	D	A	N	A	E	■
■	■	F	O	O	T	D	R	A	G	G	I	N	G
R	A	F	■	■	C	A	B	L	E	■	■	E	R	R
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STEELE COUNTY ENDOWMENT

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

ConVault Above Ground Fuel Storage Tanks

Sealed Bids will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Steele County, MN until 11:00 a.m. on Thursday June 9, 2016 at the Office of the County Auditor, Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, P.O. Box 890, Owatonna, MN 55060 at which time all bids will be opened and read publicly for one 6,000 gallon ConVault AST diesel fuel tank and one 4,000 gallon ConVault AST gasoline fuel tank located at 828 Hoffman Drive in Owatonna. The bid proposal document is available at www.co.steele.mn.us or contact the Steele County Highway Department for bid documents at 507.444.7670. Contact the Highway Maintenance Manager, 507.444.7679, with any questions regarding the fuel tanks.

The County Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any technical defects and to award the bid to other than the highest bidder, or more than one bidder if, in their discretion, the interest of the County will be best served thereby.

STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: that on Tuesday, June 7th, 2016 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, Minnesota, the Steele County Board of Adjustment will hold Public Hearings on the following variance application:

Marie and Kevin Gallagher have requested to construct an addition onto their house 74 feet from the ordinary high water level of Maple Creek. Ordinances require structures to be 100 feet from the OHWL of rivers. The property's address is 3597 Dane Road, Owatonna, MN.

Lee Waage and Sam Owens III have requested variances to construct a 448 square feet deck as close as 2 feet from the ordinary high water level (OHWL) of Beaver Lake and as close as 4 feet from the side property line. Steele County ordinances and the Shoreland rules limits water oriented structures to 250 square feet, requires them to be 10 feet from the OHWL and requires them to be setback 10 feet from the side property line. The property is described as Block 1, Lot 6, Burnes Shores Acres Subdivision No. 2. and is located at 87 S. Beaver Lake Road.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or contact the planning and zoning office to be heard on this matter.

STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Dale Oolman
Steele County Zoning Director
630 Florence Ave. P.O. Box 890
Owatonna, MN 55060
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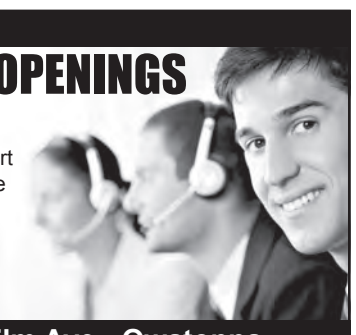
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Part-time Site Manager &/or Kitchen Helper at Owatonna Senior Place. Monday -Friday 2-5 hours/day. Some Benefits. For more information and application, visit Semcac's web site at www.semcac.org or contact Semcac Senior Nutrition, PO Box 549, Rushford, MN 55971, (507) 864-8231. Applications must be postmasrked by May 27, 2016. EOE.

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NOTICE

The City of Blooming Prairie would like to remind residents that depositing grass clippings and other vegetation on the public streets presents a danger to the water quality of our local watershed and is also a violation of city ordinance. Street sweeping can catch some of the debris, but it is not the most economical use of taxpayers' dollars. Lawn clippings, leaves and other debris often clump and clog catch basins, contributing to flooding in your neighborhood. Please collect and dispose of grass clippings properly or leave on your lawn.

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Community Calendar

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♦ ♦ ♦ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** ♦ ♦ ♦

BAR BINGO: MONDAY @ 6:30 P.M.
SUMMER: MAY 2, 9, 16, 23 • JUNE 6, 20
JULY 11, 25 • AUG 8, 22 SEPT 12, 9, 26

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 8PM-MIDNIGHT
"THE BLUE RINGERS" $5 Cover/21 and Over

RIDE DETAILS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR

JULY 4TH: OPEN 10 AM TO CLOSE

♦ ♦ ♦ **CRUISE FOR A CAUSE** ♦ ♦ ♦
CRUISE FOR CANCER RIDE: JUNE 25TH
REGISTRATION: 9-10:15 AT J&H
LEAVES: 10:30 SHARP • FEE: $15 PER RIDER
INCL: MEAL:5-6:30 PM - J&H - Taco Bar
Public Welcome
B.O.B RIDE "Toys for Tots" JULY 23RD
REG: 9-10:15 AM AT J&H
LEAVES: 10:30 SHARP! • FEE: $10 PER RIDER
MEAL: 5 P.M. AT J & H LIQUOR

Blooming Prairie

May 24:
BP Card Club & Luncheon
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
6 p.m. BPBL Book Club

May 25:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime

May 31:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime

June 1:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time

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 11am - 2 pm.

"BURGER NIGHT" SPECIAL:
#1 6 DRUMMIES & COLESLAW
#2 SHRIMP, FRIES & COLESLAW

LUNCH SPECIAL (5/26 & 5/27):
PULLED PORK HOAGIE & CHIPS

Ellendale/Geneva

May 24:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale

May 26:
5:30 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm

May 30:
6:20 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellendale

May 31:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale

June 1:
Hope Curbside Recycling N of 42nd Ave

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Medford

May 26:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
May 30:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
June 1:
7 p.m. Medford Park Board
(1st Wed even months)

Owatonna

May 24:
9:30 a.m. OPL It's TALE TIME!
4 p.m. OPU Utilities Commission, Utilities Plant Office, Owatonna
5:30 p.m. Owatonna Planning Commission, Council Chambers, City Hall, Owatonna
6 p.m. Autism Spectrum Disorder Parent Support Group, Associated Church, Owatonna

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

Austin/Mower County

May 24:
10 a.m. Austin ArtWorks Gallery - Cedar River Watershed in Art, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
10 a.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum, Mower County Historical Society
12 p.m. Tuesdays with Toastmasters, Hormel Foods Corporate Office, Austin
12 p.m. Zonta Program Meeting, Sterling State Bank - lower level, Austin
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
7 p.m. Author Visit: Jen Haugen, Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave NE, Austin
May 25:
10 a.m. Austin ArtWorks Gallery - Cedar River Watershed in Art, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
10 a.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum, Mower County Historical Society, Austin
11:30 a.m. SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, City of Lyle
12 p.m. Picnic in the Lot, Mower County Senior Center
7 p.m. Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness Peer Support Group, First Congregational Church, Austin
May 26:
Section 1A/1AA/1AAA/AAAA Softball Tournament, North Todd Complex, Todd Park, 11th Street and 21st Ave NE, Austin
10 a.m. Austin ArtWorks Gallery - Cedar River Watershed in Art, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
10 a.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum, Mower County Historical Society, Austin
12 p.m. Lunchbox History Series - After the Dakota War, Mower County Historical Society, 1303 6th Ave SW, Austin
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
4 p.m. Austin Farmers' Market, 501 Oakland Ave East, Austin
4 p.m. Farmers Market Place LLC, 18th Ave, in front of ShopKo, Austin
4 p.m. LeRoy Farmers' Market, Corner of Broadway and Main Street, Downtown LeRoy
6 p.m. Brownsdale PL Puzzle Night (subject to change)
6:30 p.m. Twilight Tales: Evening Storytime, Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave NE, Austin
May 27:
Section 1A/1AA/1AAA/AAAA Softball Tournament, North Todd Complex, Todd Park, 11th Street and 21st Ave NE, Austin
1A/AA West Sub-Section Softball Tournament, North Todd Complex, Todd Park, 11th Street and 21st Ave NE, Austin
9 a.m. Garden Spot Market, 106 W Main St, Brownsdale
9 a.m. St. Mark's Living - Blood Drive, St Mark's Living, 1401 4th St SW, Austin
10 a.m. Austin ArtWorks Gallery - Cedar River Watershed in Art, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin
10 a.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum, Mower County Historical Society, Austin

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SPOT LIGHT

Rene Gilormini, Steele County Veterans Service Officer, has announced his May 2016 Monthly Out-Reach Office Hours as follows:

❊ ❊ ❊ ❊ ❊ ❊ ❊

THURSDAY, MAY 26TH
Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 26TH
Ellendale Community Building
11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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Albert Lea/Freeborn Co

May 24:
8 a.m. Shell Rock Watershed Board Special Meeting, Albert Lea
6 pm Rock Gym, Community Education, 211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea

May 25:
7 p.m. Choir Concert, ALHS Auditorium, Albert Lea High School

May 26:
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story time
5:30 p.m. AL Council Workshop, City Council Chambers, Albert Lea

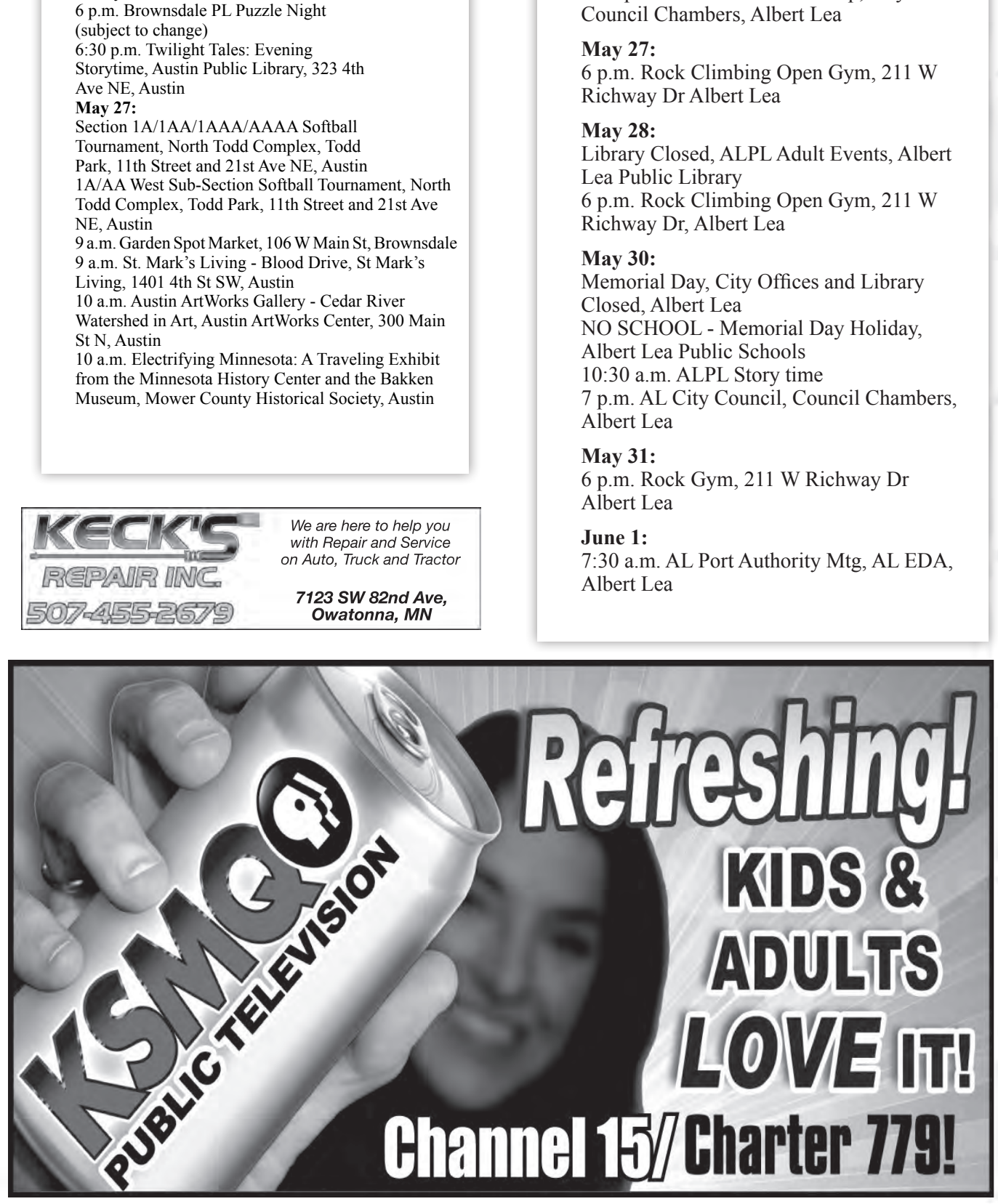
May 27:
6 p.m. Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Dr Albert Lea

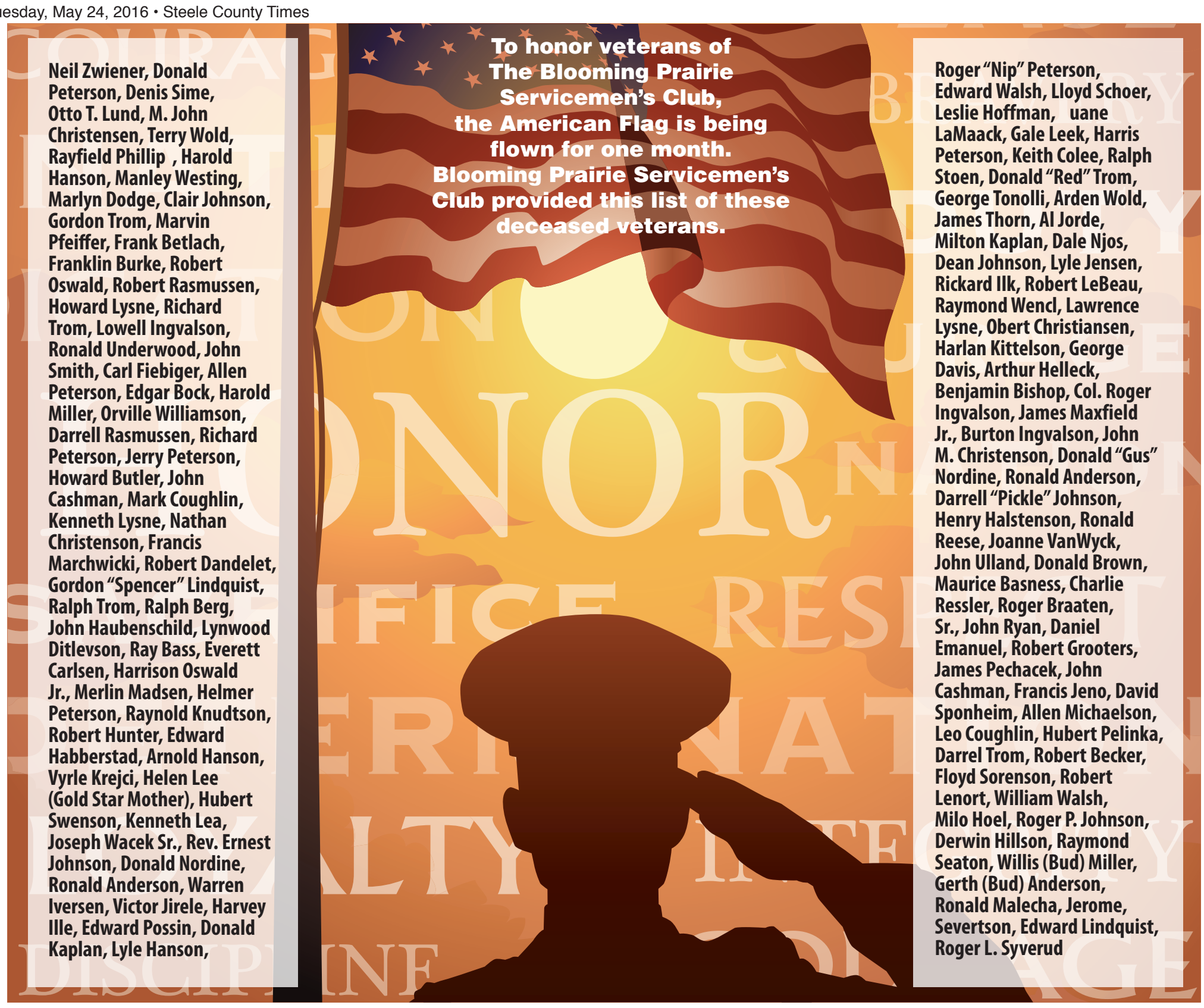
May 28:
Library Closed, ALPL Adult Events, Albert Lea Public Library
6 p.m. Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea

May 30:
Memorial Day, City Offices and Library Closed, Albert Lea
NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day Holiday, Albert Lea Public Schools
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story time
7 p.m. AL City Council, Council Chambers, Albert Lea

May 31:
6 p.m. Rock Gym, 211 W Richway Dr Albert Lea
6 p.m. Rock Gym, 211 W Richway Dr Albert Lea

June 1:
7:30 a.m. AL Port Authority Mtg, AL EDA, Albert Lea





First Lutheran Church
434 1st St. SW.
Blooming Prairie
Welcome • Come & Worship With Us!
Summer Worship
9 a.m. Sunday

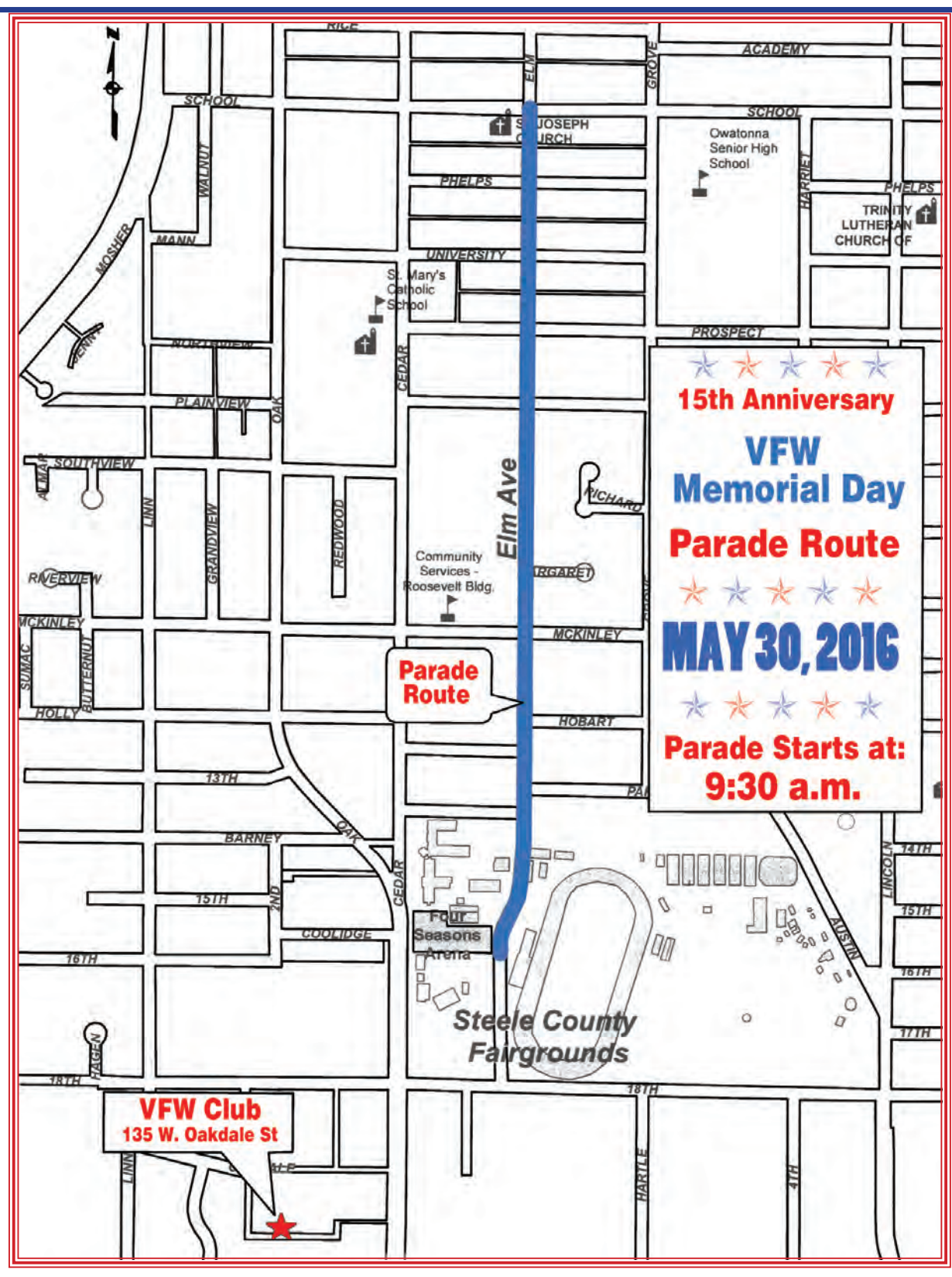
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PARADE ROUTE

Commences at the corner of South Elm Avenue & East School Street, moving South on Elm to the Four Seasons Building located at the Steele County Fairgrounds. Parade to start at approx. 9:30 a.m.

Questions:
If anyone has questions regarding the parade or program, call the VFW Monday morning between 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. 507-451-1001



MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

The Memorial Day program will commence at the Four Seasons Building following the parade, at approx 10:30 a.m. If the parade is cancelled due to weather, the program will still be held at 10:30 a.m. in the Four Seasons Building. Weather cancellation announcements for the parade will be made by 9:00 a.m. Monday morning of the 30th.

VFW Post 3723
135 W Oakdale Street • Owatonna MN
507-451-1001



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Triton FFA is Growing... Corn



SUBMITTED PHOTO

MN Ag Group of Kasson supplied a Case IH 290 and 26 foot digger to help the chapter plant its cornfield lab plot. A huge "thank you" for p oviding students an opportunity to utilize new technology.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Co-sentinel Jacob Klejeski checks the corn planter to make sure the seed is loaded correctly.

By MARTHA MOENNING
Triton FFA Reporter

On May 3 the Triton FFA Chapter planted five acres of corn in a field located along Highway 56, just north of Highway 14.

It is a "first" for the chapter with the land being subleased from Tom Besch.

The seed was donated by CHS of Claremont. They also donated fertilizer and will spray the crop for pests as needed. A tractor and digger were provided by MN Ag Group of Kasson to prepare the soil a planter was provided by Advisor Robert Ickler.

Jacob Klejeski, a member of the 2016-2017 Triton FFA Officer Team, is the manager of the acreage, and is being assisted by members Bailey Delzer, Cole Bergman, Jacob Blair, Nate Myers, Timothy Moenning and Tyler Thayer.

Triton FFA is excited for this new opportunity and appreciates the community's support.

The five acres will provide FFA members with hands-on learning opportunities. The chapter also hopes that any profits earned will help fund FFA programs, activities and scholarships for graduating seniors of the program.

A portion of the FFA motto is "Doing to Learn". The five acres of corn will definitely provide a field of learning for FFA members.















Minnesota Crop Report:

Limited precipitation allowed for 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 22, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, the most days so far this season. Producers took advantage of the conditions to wrap up corn planting and planted 23 percent of the soybean crop. The previous week's frost had little impact on the corn crop, with 65 percent rated in good to excellent condition. There were isolated reports of minimal replanting. Field activities for the week included planting, applying herbicides, and cutting hay.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 4 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 13 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. Reports in the southern parts of the state indicate that there are still some wet spots in the fields, but in many areas of the state, farmers are hoping for a good soaking rain to counter the rapidly drying conditions.

Corn reached 78 percent emerged, 11 days ahead of the 5-year average, but 3 days behind last year. Soybean planting was 86 percent complete, 16 days ahead of average and just ahead of last year. Thirty-three percent of the soybean crop had emerged, a week ahead of average, but 2 days behind last year. Spring wheat was 90 percent emerged, 17 days ahead of average, but 5 days behind last year. Ninety-one percent of the oat crop had emerged, with 45 percent of the oat acreage at or beyond the jointing stage. Oat condition rated 80 percent good to excellent.

The first cutting of alfalfa hay was 24 percent complete, two weeks ahead of average and 15 days ahead of last year. All hay condition rated 77 percent good to excellent. Pasture condition rated 70 percent good to excellent, up 2 percentage points from last week.

Minnesota Crop Report is sponsored by:
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U of M Extension offers beef home study course

ON THE FARM



Karen Anderson

Are you looking for a way to get additional education on how to manage the health and nutrition of your cow/calf herd? Well, look no further. The University of Minnesota Extension Beef team is offering two online, self-paced courses starting July 1st, 2016. The registration fee is $75 per course.

The first online course is "Health Management for the Cow/Calf Herd". This course is designed to offer an introduction to health management of the cow/calf herd through each phase of production. Materials will focus on practical information and strategies to promote the health and productivity of the cow/calf herd. Topics will include: common diseases of the cow herd, managing health pre-calving, managing the health of newborn calves, breeding management, and parasite control.

The second online course is an "Introduction to Cow/Calf Nutrition". This course is designed to offer an introduction to the principles of nutrition with a focus on application to cow/calf production. Practical strategies for feeding through all phases of cow/calf production are emphasized. Topics will include: principles of nutrition, feeds and feeding, grazing management, wintering cows, feeding for breeding, and pre-weaning nutrition.

Each online course includes opportunities for farmers to refine skills through targeted activities for each lesson. A certification of completion is offered with successful completion of all course activities. The first lesson for each course will become available on July 1, 2016 and the following courses will be posted every two weeks. Although both courses are self-paced, participants are encouraged to complete lessons as they are posted in order to participate in the online community. Course access will remain open until December 1, 2016. Participants will need to complete all course activities by this time in order to receive a certification of completion.

The registration fee is $75 for each course. Registration will remain open until July 15, 2016. To register, please visit the Beef Extension Website at www.extension.umn.edu/beef and click on the 'Home Study Course" icon for the topic that you would like to learn more about. For more information, contact Nicole Kenney Rambo at nmkenney@umn.edu or 320-235-0726 ext 2009.

Karen Anderson is the Agriculture Extension Educator with the University of Minnesota Extension in Rice and Steele Counties. She can be reached at 507-444-7685 or ande9495@umn.edu.

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Wanamingo, MN

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Main Requirements
✓ 1+ years of experience performing service repairs
✓ Ability to perform basic repairs and required maintenance using special tools and equipment following Technical Manual procedures
✓ Knowledge of mechanical, electrical and hydraulic systems used in the repair of agricultural equipment.
✓ Ability to operate equipment used for diagnostic purposes
✓ Ability to stand for long periods of time and be able to work longer hours in the busy seasons.
✓ High School Diploma or equivalent experience required
✓ Valid driver's license and clean driving record is required

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$68/MO
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• 4-Wheel Steering
• 4-Year Warranty
• 4.9% for 48 Months
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$111/MO
SAVE $250!

JOHN DEERE X580 TRACTOR
• 54" Mower Deck
• 24 hp
• Power Steering
• 4-Year Warranty
• 4.9% for 48 Months
~~$7,299~~
$6,749
$155/MO
SAVE $550!

JOHN DEERE Z335E ZERO TURN
• 42" Mower Deck
• 20 hp
• 7 mph
• 2-Year Warranty
• 4.9% for 48 Months
$2,249
$52/MO
SAVE $250!

JOHN DEERE Z535M ZERO TURN
• 54" Mower Deck
• 25 hp
• 8.5 mph
• 4-Year Warranty
• 4.9% for 48 Months
$4,349
$100/MO
SAVE $250!

JOHN DEERE Z540R ZERO TURN
• 60" Mower Deck
• 24 hp, Kawasaki Engine
• 9 mph
• 4-Year Warranty
• 4.9% for 48 Months
$6,249
$144/MO
SAVE $250!

JOHN DEERE Z915B ZERO TURN
• 25 hp
• 54" Mower Deck
• 3-Year Warranty
• NPNI Until January 2017!
~~$8,729~~
$7,899
$219/MO
SAVE $830!

JOHN DEERE Z925M ZERO TURN
• Stk #50897
• Demo Unit, 57 Hrs
• 60" Deck, EFI
• 3-Year Warranty
• NPNI Until January 2017!
~~$10,994~~
$8,749
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JOHN DEERE 1025R TRACTOR
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• 25hp
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$279/MO
6 YEAR WARRANTY
SAVE $4,600!

JOHN DEERE 2032R TRACTOR
TRACTOR, LOADER, REAR BLADE PACKAGE!
• Stk #50829
~~$25,949~~
$20,499
0% FOR 84 MO.
$256/MO
OR 0% FOR 60 MO.
$341/MO
6 YEAR WARRANTY
SAVE $5,450!

JOHN DEERE 3039R TRACTOR
• 39 hp
• 4WD
~~$26,980~~
$23,449
0% FOR 84 MO.
$293/MO
OR 0% FOR 60 MO.
$390/MO
6 YEAR WARRANTY
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Legal Notices

Foreclosure

14-097891

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 25, 2010
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $158,494.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Adam M. Ramseth and Christina M. Ramseth, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100749500730077917
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Metlife Home Loans, a Division of Metlife Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed February 11, 2010, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000065519
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A.; Dated: December 28, 2011 filed: February 21, 2012, recorded as document number T000068278; Thereafter assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association dated June 13, 2013; recorded on November 19, 2013 as document number T000070968.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 11, Block 2, Mathews Addition, Owatonna
REGISTERED PROPERTY
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1805 6th Avenue NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-242-0211 COT# 17436
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $175,140.26
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 17, 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 17, 2016, or the next business day if December 17, 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 22, 2016

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31

Foreclosure

15-100469

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: April 30, 2014
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $142,500.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Paul A. Schweim and Amalia Schweim, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100397202125037268
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 7, 2014, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000396915
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 1, Block 1, Grace Addition
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 2595 3rd Ave NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-299-0101
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $155,088.23
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 24, 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 24, 2016, or the next business day if December 24, 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 28, 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

5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 6/7

Foreclosure

16-102793

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: April 25, 2012
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $108,314.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Eric Mullenmeister and Jennifer Mullenmeister, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 3, 2012, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000384444
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Federal National Mortgage Association
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
All that part of the Southeast Quarter Section 11, Township 108 North, Range 19 West, Steele County, Minnesota, Described by:
Beginning at the Northeast corner of said Southeast Quarter; thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes 13 seconds West, assumed bearing 374.00 feet along the East line of said Southeast Quarter; thence South 89 degrees 47 minutes 33 seconds West 574.00 feet along a line parallel with the North line of said Southeast Quarter; thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes 13 seconds East 374.00 feet to the North line of said Southeast Quarter; thence North 89 degrees 47 minutes 33 seconds East 574.00 feet to beginning Steele County, Minnesota.
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 8339 71st Street NE, West Concord, MN 55985
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 10-011-2102
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $114,353.57
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 28, 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 28, 2016, or the next business day if December 28, 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: May 6, 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

5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 6/7, 6/14

Order to Show Cause

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File Number: 74-CV-16-693

In the Matter of the Petition of Bank of America, National Association relating to Certificate of title No. 17635 for a new Certificate of Title after Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

To: NICHOLAS M. WERNER:

Upon receiving and filing the Report of examiner of Titles in the above entitled matter, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that you and all persons interested, appear before this Court on the 10th day of June, 2016 at 11:00 a.m., Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, and then, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be heard, show cause, if any there may be, why this Court should not enter an Order as follows:
That the Registrar of Titles, upon the filing with him of a certified copy of this Order cancel certificate of title no. 17635 and enter a new Certificate of Title for Lot Eight (8) in Block Three (3) in Kuether's Fourth Addition to the /city of Owatonna, Minnesota in favor of Bank of America, N.A. free of the memorial of the following documents: #T000065115; #T000065116; #T000069227; #T000071944; #T000072729; and #T000072966;

and free of the memorial of this Order, but subject to all other memorials and recitals, including the Public certificate Note, appearing on certificate of Title No. 17635.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this Order be served:
(a) at least 10 days prior to such hearing upon the above named parties residing in this State in the manner provided by law for the service of Summons in a civil action;

(b) it shall be served at least 14 days prior to such hearing upon any of the above named non-residents by sending a copy of this Order to such non-residents their post office address by registered or certified mail, with a return receipt requested;

(c) it shall be served upon any party who cannot be found by two weeks published notice and by sending a copy of this Order at lest 14 days prior to the hearing by first class mail to their address as stated on the Certificate of Title if an address is so stated.

(d) upon a dissolved, withdrawn or revoked business entity governed by Minn. Stat., Chp. 302A, 303, 317A, 322A, 322B, or 323 in the manner provided by Minn. Stat. 5.25. (Note: return date on the Order to Show cause must be at least 30 days after the date of mailing by the Secretary of State.)

YOU NEED NOT APPEAR IF YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED.

BY THE COURT,

Dated
2016.04.28
14:32:02-05'00'

Joseph /Bueltel
Judge of District Court

Attorney for Petitioner:
Adam Soczynski
Usset, Weingarden & Liebo PLLP
4500 Park Glen Road, Suite 300
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

5/17, 5/24

Foreclosure

15-101570

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: December 21, 2006
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $116,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Joseph L. Erler and Barbara R. Erler, Husband and Wife; Jeremy J. Erler and Brittany L. Erler, Husband and Wife and Jeff T. Evans, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100021278104668400
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Rochester Mortgage Company
SERVICER: Caliber Home Loans, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed December 22, 2006, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000346604, thereafter re-recorded March 28, 2007 as document number A000348663 to add additional mortgagors
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association; Dated: July 27, 2015 filed: August 3, 2015, recorded as document number A000403434
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 9 and the East 6 feet of Lot 8 in Block 23 of the Original Town (now City) of Owatonna, Minnesota; Excepting the South 55 feet to the above described premises.
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 404 Elm Ave S, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-100-2310
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $107,927.01
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 12, 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 July 12, 2016, or the next business day if July 12, 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: November 17, 2015

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

BY: SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for January 12, 2016, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to February 12, 2016, at 10:00 AM , and will be held at Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060, said County and State.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by August 12, 2016. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: January 8, 2016.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
15-101570
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for February 12, 2016, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to April 5, 2016, at 10:00 AM , and will be held at Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060, said County and State.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by October 5, 2016. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: February 16, 2016.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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
12550 West Frontage Road, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
15-101570
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for April 5, 2016, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to May 17, 2016, at 10:00 AM, and will be held at Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060, said County and State.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by November 17, 2016. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: March 31, 2016.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
15-101570
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for May 17, 2016, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to June 21, 2016, at 10:00 AM, and will be held at Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060, said County and State.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by December 21, 2016. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: May 17, 2016.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
15-101570
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

Foreclosure

15-102238

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: February 6, 2004
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $252,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Paul A. Beiser and Virginia Beiser, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100137510000066342
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Lakeland Mortgage Corporation
SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed February 25, 2004, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A 319624
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A.; thereafter assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association. Thereafter assigned to Federal National Mortgage Association.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 1, Block 3, Oakridge Bluffs Third Addition
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 555 Oakland Path SE, Medford, MN 55049
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 16-114-0301
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS

LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $217,369.50
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 11, 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 September 11, 2016, or the next business day if September 11, 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: January 7, 2016

Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA")
Assignee of Mortgagee

BY: SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for March 11, 2016, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to April 12, 2016, at 10:00 AM , and will be held at Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060, said County and State.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by October 12, 2016. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: March 11, 2016.

Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA")
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
15-102238
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for May 17, 2016, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to June 21, 2016, at 10:00 AM, and will be held at Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060, said County and State.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by December 21, 2016. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: May 16, 2016.

Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA")
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
15-102238
Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

Assumed Name

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.
ASSUMED NAME: MIZUKI FUSION
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 119 BRIDGE STREET OWATONNA MN 55060 USA
NAMEHOLDER(S):
Name: E & AZ SUSHI INC 119 W BRIDGE STREET, OWATONNA, MN 55060
If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.
By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.
SIGNED BY: YUKAI ZHANG
MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: CSCPAFAX@GMAIL.COM

5/24, 5/31

Work Session

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA April 14, 2016

A regular school board work session was held at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2016, in the Board Room at the High School.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michelle Vigeland, Jon Sunde, Steve Ille, Rodney Krell, Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jenny Thurnau

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools

DISCUSSION ITEMS:
General review and discussion was held on agenda items for the April 18, 2016, regular school board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

BP ISD #756 - Minutes 4.18.16

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA April 18, 2016

A regular school board meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #756, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, was held in the High School Media Center at 7:15 p.m. (Open Forum at 7:00 p.m.).

OPEN FORUM – No comments.

I. CALL TO ORDER –CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL - CLERK Michelle Vigeland, Jenny Thurnau, Jon Sunde, Rodney Krell, Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools; Members of the BPTA; Elementary Principal; High School Principal
MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Ille

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Reports given by Mr. Staloch and Mr. Worke.

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED

A. Minutes, Bills, Treasurer's Report
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the minutes, bills, and treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
B. Technology
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Michelle Vigeland to approve preliminary technology policy updates as reviewed by Mr. Olson. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Kelly Braaten to approve a purchase of technology equipment from Apple, Inc. plus cases shipping from CDW. Roll Call Vote: (6 Aye: Vigeland, Thurnau, Sunde, Krell, Braaten, Hameister/0 Nay). Motion carried.
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve a four year lease (contingent upon MDE operating capital guidelines) from American Capital. Other bids also received were from Baird and Apple. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Michelle Vigeland to approve a technology buy back from Diamond Assets. Another bid was also received from Cloud Blue. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
C. Wrestling Pairing
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the wrestling pairing with Hayfield ISD #203. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
D. Student Insurance Program
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Michelle Vigeland to approve voluntary student insurance coverage through "Student Assurance Services, Inc." for the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
E. MSHSL Membership Resolution
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve the MSHSL membership resolution. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
F. Title I Resolution
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Kelly Braaten to approve the 2016-17 Title I resolution . Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
G. Class Sections
Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve continuation of three sections for fourth grade which allows the administration to hire an additional teacher. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY
A. Committee Reports
A report update was given by the following committees: Education Foundation, Negotiations, Steele County Collaborative, Technology and ZED.
B. Enrollment Data
Enrollment for the 2015-16 school year as of April 13, 2016, was 408 at the elementary school and 304 at the high school (298 attending BPHS and 6 attending PSEO). The PSEO number consisted of 2 seniors and 4 juniors which will all attend full-time.
C. Dates to Note.
The Board noted dates of importance.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

1. Staff are doing a great job.
2. Community support at the Education Foundation Auction was amazing. Thank you!

IX. ADJOURNMENT
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Jon Sunde to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)
Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2016, at 6:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the High School. Tentatively, the next regular meeting of the School Board will be Monday, May 16, 2016, at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center (Open Forum begins at 7:00 p.m.).
A complete copy of the official minutes may be found in their entirety in the official minute book located in the superintendent's office at the high school; however, they will not be available until approved by the School Board.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

Steele County - Synopsis 4.12.16

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 4/12/2016
Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
1. Glynn/Huntington to approve the agenda. Ayes all.
2. Huntington/Glynn to place on file the correspondence from DHS commending staff for meeting Financial Reporting requirements in 2015. Ayes all.
3. Huntington/Brady to approve the following consent agenda items. Ayes all.
A. Approve the minutes of March 22, 2016.
B. Approve the Bills.
C. Approve the Personnel Report.
D. Approve the Management Agreement with Life Style, Inc. for management of 121 E. Mill St and 315 S. Cedar from12/3/15 to 5/31/16 and 121 E. Mill from 6/1/16 to 12/31/16.
E. Approve the Contract for Typing & Transcription Services with Janet Fandel at the County Attorney's office.
F. Accept the Community Services Policy Committee – Minutes
G. Accept Public Safety Policy Committee – Minutes
H. Approve Interpreter Contract Agreement with Julie Yearling to provide services at Public Health Nurse.
I. Accept Probation Services Dashboard
4. Brady/Schultz to approve the On-Sale Liquor License for Spurgy's Bar & Grill in Hope, MN. Ayes all.
5. Glynn/Huntington to approve CUP #402 for Nicole & Chris Kilanowski to operate as a Commercial Dog Breeder for up to 20 adult dogs to be located in Section 1-107-21 of Meriden Township with conditions per the Planning Commission and to accept the Findings of Fact. Ayes all.
6. Glynn/Schultz to approve the IUP #2016-03 for PCIRoads LLC for a Temporary Concrete Plant in the Jirele Gravel Pit located in Section 28-107-20 of Owatonna Township with conditions per the Planning Commission and to accept the Findings of Fact. Ayes all.
7. Huntington/Brady offered a Resolution that the Steele County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim April 2016 as National County Government Month and encourage all county officials, employees, and residents to participate in county government celebration activities. Upon the vote being taken five commissioners vote in favor thereof, none absent not voting.
8. Schultz/Huntington to approve the Performance Evaluation Summary for Administrator Elvebak. Ayes all.
9. Glynn/Schultz to approve the Water Committee Appointments. Ayes all.
10. Huntington/Glynn offered a Resolution to Support Watershed-Scale Planning efforts known as One Watershed, One Plan. Steele County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future. Upon the vote being taken five commissioners vote in favor thereof, none absent not voting.
11. Commissioner Reports:
Glynn reported on his attendance at the Community Corrections Act meeting in Waseca and the Workforce meeting.
Huntington reported on her attendance at the SMART, Annual Township meeting, SCHA and the SCCL Board meeting.
Brady reported on his attendance at the South Central Human Relations, Highway funding meeting in Freeborn County and Community Corrections Act meeting.
Schultz reported on his attendance at SCHS, Annual Township meeting, South Central Human Relations, 911 Joint Dispatch, Fair Board and the SEMCAC meeting.
Ebeling reported on his attendance at the EDA meeting, Annual Township, 911 Jt Dispatch meeting, South Country Health Alliance and the KODA meeting.
12. Huntington/Brady to approve the following listing of bills. Ayes all.

LISTING OF BILLS
4/12/2016

A'viands, LLC	5,309.28
Access Tonna Lock Service	2,044.00
Anoka County Secure	11,542.00
Briggs & Morgan, PA	9,700.50
Businessware Solutions Corporation	2,106.18
Computer Professionals Unlimited, Inc.	4,299.72
Dunham Associates, Inc.	2,900.00
Freeborn County Auditor-Treasurer	6,725.82
Information Systems Corp.	2,775.00
Innovative Office Solutions, LLC	5,973.47
Integra Telecom	2,806.32
Kronos Incorporated	2,340.00
Kwik Trip, Inc.	3,503.58
Local Government Information Systems	27,980.40
Loken Excavating & Drainage	3,435.12
Metro Sales, Inc.	6,425.53
MN Dept. of Natural Resources	2,256.47
Northern Safety Technology, Inc.	3,863.10
Olmsted County Community Svcs.	8,510.00
Owatonna Groundsmasters, Inc.	2,340.79
Owatonna Heating & Cooling, Inc.	85,625.00
Owatonna Hospital	2,855.50
Owatonna Public Utilities	13,041.31
Ratwik Roszak & Maloney, PA	2,010.38
Roger & Sons, LLC	48,146.32
Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc.	3,903.15
Steele County Central Services	8,221.12
Steele County Highway Dept.	2,859.95
Steele County Treasurer	16,016.24
Stewart Sanitation	3,323.96
Turnkey Corrections	5,819.98
University of MN Regents	42,875.28
Verizon Wireless	3,274.58
Waste Management of WI-MN	53,606.20
WSB & Associates, Inc.	3,098.00
154 Warrants under $2,000	57,467.94
Total:	**$468,982.19**

13. Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Huntington to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 6:03 p.m. Ayes all.

Steele County - Synopsis 4.26.16

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 4/26/2016
Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
1. Glynn/Huntington to appoint Brenda Blood as Clerk of the County Board. Ayes all.
2. Glynn/Huntington to approve the agenda. Ayes all.
3. Huntington/Brady to approve the following consent agenda items. Ayes all.
A. Approve the minutes of April 12, 2016.
B. Approve the Bills.
C. Approve the Personnel Report.
D. Approve the On Sale Liquor License & Dance Permit for Monterey Ballroom.
E. Approve the purchase of a DS200 Scanner and Tabulator for Elections in the amount of $4,935.
F. Approve the purchase of Audio/Video equipment for Conference Room 10 in the amount of $2,698.38.
G. Approve a 6 month unpaid Personal Leave of Absence for Cheryl Kruckeberg in the Recorder's Office.
H. Approve the quote from Traffic Marking Services for crosswalk striping in the amount of $16,970.25.
I. Award the low quote for CP 74-016-003 to Doyle Conner Company in the amount of $71,622 for concrete repairs.
J. Award the low quote for CP 74-016-005 to Ulland Brothers Inc. in the amount of $41,154.32 for maintenance overlay.
K. Award bid for lawn mowing at the Parks and Landfill to Aug's All Home in the amount of $450.00/per time.
L. Approve purchase of ½ Ton 2016 Chevrolet Silverado Truck for park maintenance in the amount of $30,672.00.
M. Approve the Technical and Engineering Assistance Agreement with Clinton Falls Township for the Replacement of Township Bridge No. 74516.
N. Accept Internal Central Services Minutes.
O. Accept the Land Use and Records Policy Committee Minutes.
P. Accept the PWPC Minutes
Q. Accept IT Dashboard.
R. Accept Recorder Dashboard Q1.
S. Accept March Building Permits.
4. Schultz/Brady offered a Resolution that the Steele County Board of Commissioners approves the proposed labor agreement effective January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016 between Steele County and the Law Enforcement Labor Services, Sheriff's Department – Certified Peace Officers Unit. Upon the vote being taken, five Commissioners voted in favor thereof, none absent and not voting.
5. Huntington/Glynn to approve the Temporary Event Body Art Establishment Permit for Katie Bissell of Kat's Tat's. Ayes all.
6. Brady/Glynn to appoint Lesa Hullopeter as the temporary Tech Clerk Lead in the Recorder's Office. Ayes all.
7. Huntington/Glynn to approve the GIS Summer Intern at a cost not to exceed $7,900.00 with funds provided from the Compliance Fund. Ayes all.
8. Brady/Schultz to authorize advertising to refill the position of Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Specialist position in Planning & Zoning. Ayes all.
9. Schultz/Brady to accept the Economic Development Creation Committee Recommendations and set a date for the public hearing on May 24th at 5:45 p.m. Ayes all.
10. Glynn/Huntington to approve the Service Agreement with Waseca County regarding enforcement of the Aquatic Invasive Species Grant. Ayes all.
11. Brady/Glynn to approve the PR-003 Stoltz Access Variance request on CSAH 30. Ayes all.
12. Glynn/Huntington to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Evergreen Land Services to appraise the following properties with and without the house for purposes of establishing a minimum sale price and advertise the property for bids both with and without the houses on the properties. Property addresses: 1796 44th Ave. SE (Kath property) and 1123 44th Ave. SE (former Gangelhoff property). Ayes all.
13. Schultz/Brady to approve the low quote for CP 74-016-004 to Crane Creek Asphalt in the amount of $59,903.05 for a maintenance mill and overlay on two segments of CSAH 45. Ayes all.
14. Huntington/Schultz to approve the Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement in the amount of $2,144. Ayes all.
15. Glynn/Huntington to move forward on the transition and service delivery of Probation Services and the creation of a Community Corrections Act (CCA) probation system with a recommendation to be made to the County Board by May 30th for final approval at the June 30th meeting. Commissioner Glynn is appointed to the CCA Committee with Commissioner Huntington as alternate. Ayes all.
16. Huntington/Schultz to move forward with the intent to bid and to sell the old highway building as is with the details to come forth at the next meeting. Ayes all.
17. Huntington/Glynn to award the PFM Group the contract for Municipal Advisory Services. Ayes all.
18. Commissioner Reports:
Glynn reported on his attendance at MNPrairie, Board of Health and Ripley Ditch meetings.
Huntington reported on her attendance at MNPrairie and Board of Health meetings, participated in the Road Tour and attended the MnDOT Court of Appeals hearing.
Brady reported on his attendance at Drug Court, Ripley Ditch, Extension and South Central Human Relations Center meetings.
Schultz reported on his attendance at South Central Human Relations Center meeting and requested a head count for the upcoming Fair Board meeting.
Ebeling reported on his attendance at Extension and Board of Health meetings and participated in the Road Tour.
19. Huntington/Brady to approve the following listing of bills. Ayes all.

LISTING OF BILLS
4/26/2016

A'viands, LLC	16,124.50
Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc.	8,149.26
Bob Barker Company, Inc.	2,810.00
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension	9,975.00
Central Farm Services	5,038.42
Compass Minerals America	13,498.30
Dakota County Financial, Svc	15,921.17
Emergency Automotive Technology, Inc.	8,727.25
Erickson Engineering, Co.	4,414.00
John C. Hosfield	3,888.00
Innovative Office Solutions, LLC.	8,806.46
Jones Haugh & Smith, Inc.	3,516.50
Leo A. Hoffmann Center, Inc.	14,752.00
Local Government Information Systems	27,262.00
Mayo Clinic	3,736.50
Marriott Wardman Pk	2,987.73
MCCC MN 33	5,511.53
MN Dept of Transportation	25,497.21
MVTL Laboratories, Inc.	6,935.95
Napa Auto Parts	16,473.18
Oertel Architects	21,358.27
Project Lifesaver International	3,992.00
Ratwik Roszak & Maloney PA.	3,002.16
Reliance Telephone, Inc.	2,000.00
Rochester Sand & Gravel	2,800.00
South Central College	2,240.32
South Central Drug Investigation Unit	13,000.00
Steele County Highway Dept.	2,274.20
Steele County Revenue	3,807.25
Steele County Treasurer	9,323.49
Stonebrooke Engineering Inc.	3,915.57
Turnkey Corrections	18,329.62
Waste Management of WI-MN	53,616.30
WatchGuard Video	15,060.00
134 Warrants under $2,000	55,587.58
Total:	**$371,593.77**

20. Huntington/Glynn to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 5:57 p.m. Ayes all.

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

Concrete/cement workers needed: 1 concrete laborer, $16-17/hr., and 1 experienced cement finisher, $20/hr., K-M area, start immediately. Call or text Steve at 507-272-6292 21-23c

Hair stylist/ Esthetician/ Nail Tech, hourly wage plus commission. Call to set up interview, 507-440-4654 21,22,23c

Milkers needed for moderate size dairy, weekend and holidays required, double 8 parlor, 2 part time openings 20-25 hrs. per pay period, extra hours available. Contact Heather at schwinglehm@gmail.com 21,22,23p

Chiropractic office needs multitasking, energetic front desk person, 30 hours a week, training provided, accuracy, customer service, phone skills a must, call 507-634-6677. 22,23,24c

PT help wanted milking cows, evenings and some weekends, call 507-634-4308. 22-24c

PT work available for family run hog farm, call 507-374-2210. 23-25c

Caregiver position available at Wellington Adult Care, working with elderly clients. Experience preferred, but will train. Must love elderly people and enjoy working in a home setting. Applicants must be 18 yrs. old, have a valid drivers license, and pass a background check, if Interested please call Janie or Bill at 507-374-2198 or 507-319-4821. 23p

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Nick's Lawn Mowing Service, weekly or vacation, residential or commercial, yard cleanup, mowing and trimming, satisfaction guaranteed, seven yrs. exp., free estimates. 507-696-3849 leave a message. 21tfc

Brianna's Lawn Care Services, mowing, trimming, complete yard cleanup, weekly or on call. Free estimates. Satisfaction guaranteed 507-421-7945. 21tfc

College student looking for yard jobs; lawn mowing, gutter cleaning, junk removal, landscaping, and window washing, many years of experience, provide quality workmanship at a fair price! Call/text Ryan at 507-259-2860 References available, FREE estimates. 22tfc

WANTED

65-year-old mild mannered gentleman wishes to rent a room ASAP in the Kasson/Hayfield/Dodge County area. 507-440-3976-leave message 21,22,23c

PT COOK/WAITSTAFF
needed at
Prairie Meadows in Kasson.
Apply in person.
Ask for Kabrie.
EOE.
13-23c
Prairie Meadows SENIOR LIVING
Kasson

FOR RENT

Large 3 bdrm apartment on Main Street in Kasson, call Pat 507-319-6762. 21,22,23c

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

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

You deserve to come home to a clean house! For housecleaning needs/ FREE estimate Call 507-269-4147. 22,23,24p

FOUND

Young b/w nursing mother cat struck by car near 6th St. and Mantorville Ave. She was taken to Carriage House to check for a chip, did not have one so she was taken to a friend's house in the country and buried. Printing this for sake of her kittens. For more information call 634-6767 or 990-1818. 23p

MCAN

Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

EXHIBITORS WANTED

SEEKING CRAFTERS/ARTISTS
for the Heritage Days on Saturday, Aug. 20 in Crosby, MN. You provide canopy, table, etc. Must have valid tax ID. 218/232-5442 email: lv3814@yahoo.com

HELP WANTED - DRIVERS

CDL A DRIVERS
$7,500 sign-on-bonus. Medical benefits on day 1 & earn $65k+ your first year!!! Guaranteed pay. 401k with company match & more! Apply online driveformclane.com/goto/minnesota or call Hollie now! 507/664-3038

NOW HIRING
company OTR drivers. $2,000 sign on bonus, flexible home time, extensive benefits. Call now! Hibb's & Co. 763/389-0610

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of 3 million readers!!!
1-800-279-2979

EMPLOYMENT

KMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
elementary music teaching position available fall 2016. Current MN Licensure required. Apply at EdPost or www.kms.k12.mn.us, job postings with letter of interest, resume, transcripts, license and three letters of recommendation.

RAILROAD VEGETATION CONTROL:
Full-time traveling opportunity, 60-80 hours/week, $12-$15/hour starting, meal allowance, paid lodging & benefit package. RAW, Inc. in Cooperstown, ND 888/700-0292 info@rawapplicators.com www.rawapplicators.com

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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

GARAGE SALES

300 4th St NE Kasson, May 26, 27, 28, 29, & 30, 8-4, Estate/Yard Sale. Everything must go in house and garage, kitchen items, refrigerator, washer/dryer, wall unit, sleeper couch, recliner, clothing and tools. 22,23c

62739 160th Ave, Dodge Center, May 28 & 29, 10-7. Moving Sale. New items added daily, 2014 utility electric Club cart, hand and power tools, household and yard items, kitchen items, 2 DVD payers, surround sound , ramps, black leather couch, Lazy Boy recliner, lift chair, clothing 22,23,24c

303 7th Ave. NW Kasson, Wednesday 3-7, Thursday 2-6, Friday 12-6- Moving Sale, everything must go! Furniture, baby items, womens, juniors and mens clothing. 23p

103 3rd Ave NW (Hwy 56) Dodge Center, Thursday 6-8 and Friday 9-3, Neighborhood Garage Sale- Clothes: infant to 5 girls, infant to 12 boys, adults, womens size 16/18, queen size log bedroom set with dresser, hutch, Epson color printer, entertainment center speakers with subwoofer, vacuum, small appliances, misc. kitchen and housewares, high chair, Diaper Genie, rocking horse, Lego table, wagon, LT playhouse, girls bikes, outside LT/Step 2 toys, tool bench, tons of infant/toddler toys and equipment, books, games, quilt rack, home décor and much misc. 23p

201 10th ave SE, Thursday 3-7 and Friday 8-4- Boys clothing (18m-up), lots of misc. baby items and toys, misc. household items. 23p

404 12th Ave NW Kasson, Thursday 3-7, Friday 8-7, Saturday 8-1, Antique/ Collectable & Multi-Family Garage Sale- Dolls, owls, Lennox, Avon, Christmas misc., glassware, ostrich egg and stand, clothes size 10 through 16, furniture, microwave, TV stand, and lots of misc. old and used, 23p

FAIRVIEW CARE CENTER
Fairview Care Center in Dodge Center is seeking a Part-time Housekeeping Aide.
- Day Shifts & Every Third Weekend/Holiday
- 40 hours/Pay period
- Benefits for part-time: 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
23c

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.
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Excellent Location
At **Cleary Building Corp.**
702 7th St. Circle SE
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(507)634-6640
35tfc

WHEN A NURSING HOME IS NOT FOR YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONE...
Wellington adult care has trained staff who work 24 hrs. a day to provide you with services such as prepared meals, medication management, 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 diets are not a problem. We also arrange transportation to and from medical appointments accompanied by staff or family. We supply laundry services, and housekeeping. Our home is wheelchair accessible. We have a 1 to 5 staff to client ratio. All rooms are private. We serve a variety of clients over the age 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

The Kasson-Mantorville School District is seeking an experienced and innovative **Chief Information Officer** who plans, organizes and directs the overall management of technology and data functions to assure the well being of the District and efficiently and effectively provides technical services necessary to support the District's mission and goals.

Please complete application on-line at:
www.komets.k12.mn.us
and include a resume, application letter, transcripts and 3 reference letters.
23c



Freerksen ENTERPRISES INC.
TECHNICIANS WANTED
20-23c
- Experienced Diesel Technician
- Experienced Auto Technician
- Light Trailer Maintenance
- Welder/Fabricator

COMPETITIVE WAGES
BASED ON EXPERIENCE
45-50 HOURS WORKED PER WEEK
Contact Brent or Steve at:
507-374-6288

FOR SALE TO BE MOVED
Minnesota Department of Transportation owned buildings located at four sites near Claremont, MN.

Buildings include:
- Four houses
- Five pole sheds
- Garage
- Outdoor wood furnace
- Retaining wall

Buildings to be sold individually by sealed bid on **Thursday, June 16, at 10:00 A.M.** at the MnDOT Office in Rochester.

Buildings will be open for inspection on Thursday, June 2 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Call Brandon Marsh at (507) 286-7612, or visit www.dot.state.mn.us/row/propsales.html for more information.



22-23c
Semcac Transportation is hiring for a **Full Time Dispatcher** for the Dispatch Center located in Kasson, MN. M-F, 40 hours per week.
POSITION REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:
- **Excellent computer skills**
- **Experience with Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word**
- **Ability to multitask in a very fast paced, team environment**
- **Customer service experience preferred**

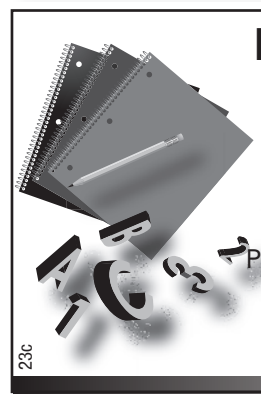
More information & application available at **www.semcac.org** or contact Barb Thompson at **507-864-8202** or **barb.thompson@semcac.org**
Applications must be received by **May 31, 2016**. EOE

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

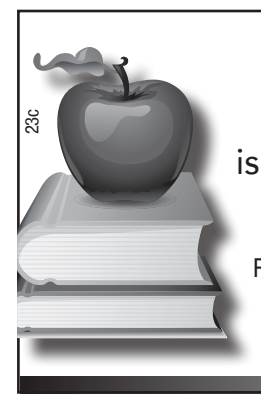
Head Teller
PINE ISLAND BANK

Pine Island Bank is seeking a Head Teller for our office in Pine Island, MN. This individual will be responsible for directing all sales and service functions, including maintaining existing and developing new customer relationships. Responsibilities will include retail staff supervision. Ideal candidate will have leadership and sales experience in a financial services environment, proficient in Fiserv & EZTeller software, cash management skills, knowledge in opening bank accounts, and bank compliance. Must possess strong communication and problem solving skills, with an ability to manage a team focused on delivering quality customer service.

Submit resume and cover letter by June 5, 2016, to Pine Island Bank Attn: Human Resource Manager, PO Box 68, Pine Island, MN 55963 or email barndt@pineislandbank.com.
EOE/minorities/females/disabled/veterans
23-24c
Pine Island Bank
Expanded services for a growing community
Member FDIC



Kasson-Mantorville Elementary School
is seeking a **Reading/ Math Interventionist**
to begin August, 2016.
Please complete application on-line at:
www.komets.k12.mn.us
include a resume, application letter, transcripts and 3 reference letters.
23c



Kasson-Mantorville Elementary School
is seeking a **Media Specialist**
to begin August, 2016.
Please complete application on-line at:
www.komets.k12.mn.us
include a resume, application letter, transcripts and 3 reference letters.
23c

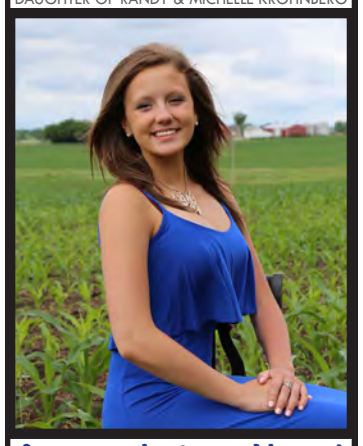
MOWER COUNTY
FEMALE DETENTION DEPUTY

Starting wage is $17.35 - $19.25 - based on training and experience. (Full-time union position/position primarily 2nd shift 2pm-10pm, required to work overtime). Responsibilities include supervising inmates in the jail and ensuring the safety and well-being of the inmate population and other jail staff: conducting booking in and release of inmates, maintaining order and safety in the jail; performing clerical duties and basic maintenance of the jail. An interest, schooling or experience in law enforcement or corrections is desired. Minimum qualifications are a High School Diploma or G.E.D and at least one year of general work experience. A pre-employment criminal back ground check is required.

Mower County offers full-time employees an excellent benefit package including health, life, disability, retirement and paid time off.
Application, supplemental questions and a complete job description detailing the position are available at www.co.mower.mn.us or at Mower County Human Resources
201 1st Street NE, Suite 12, Austin, MN 55912.
Resumes will not be accepted in place of application forms.
Open until filled with a priority deadline of 3:00 p.m. May 31, 2016.
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CONGRATULATIONS GRADS

CONGRATULATIONS!
Alyssa Krohnberg
Class of 2016 Graduate
DAUGHTER OF RANDY & MICHELLE KROHNBERG



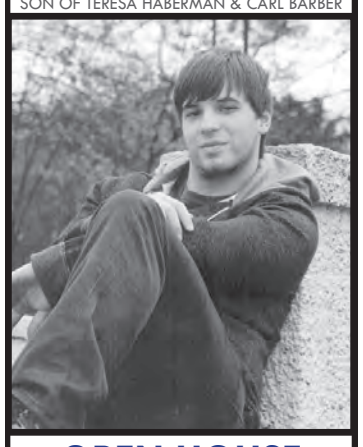
Congratulations, Alyssa!
We are excited for your next adventure in life!
Love, Mom, Dad, Ashley & Allison

CONGRATULATIONS!
Kevin Eischens
Class of 2016 Graduate
SON OF CHAD & JULIE EISCHENS



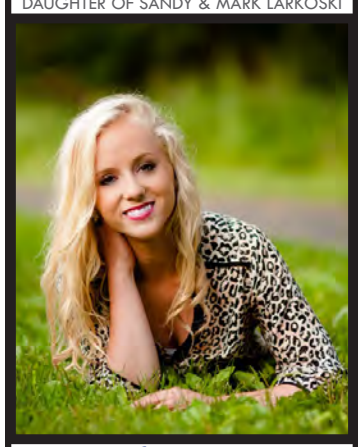
Congratulations, Kevin!
We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad & Katelyn

CONGRATULATIONS!
Trevor Barber
Class of 2016 Graduate
SON OF TERESA HABERMAN & CARL BARBER



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CONGRATULATIONS!
Lauren Larkoski
Class of 2016 Graduate
DAUGHTER OF SANDY & MARK LARKOSKI



We are so proud of all of your accomplishments!
Congratulations, Lauren!
Love, Mom, Dad & Luke

Tuesdays With Minnesota



Staff photo by Howa d Lestrud

The Steele County Times is going to provide a pictorial history to our community each week of what the weather was like on the day the paper comes out. May 17 was a sunny day, coming out of an unusually cold weekend. The nights are still in the 40's but the temperature spiked into the high sixties with an abundance of prairie wind.

Find us on Facebook
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HILLTOP GREENHOUSE & FARM

Gardening Tip of the week:

Tips for your Memorial Day Planter:

1. Use a large enough container for the plants, and don't over fill.
2. Choose plants that will withstand the sun and wind.
3. Remember less is more when it comes to a pot that will only be watered once a week.
4. Don't forget to feed you container, too. healthy plants like to eat every week.

Now it's time to enjoy the weekend with family and friends If you have any questions, we will be open the entire weekend.

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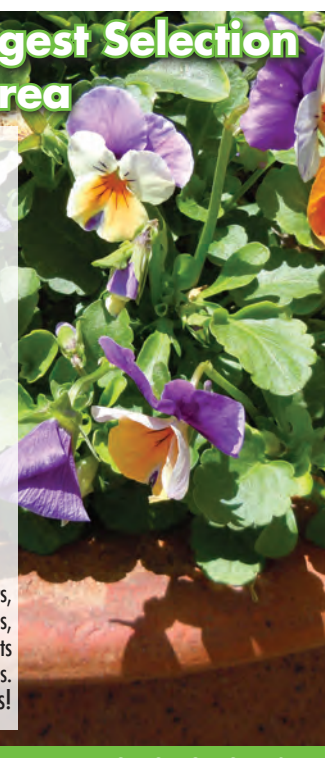
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