

Steele County Times



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Spill dumps raw sewage into Beaver Lake

Steele County lake remains closed indefinitely



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

The WCEC Emergency Spill Response team from Fridley shown in the process of removing over 3,500 gallons of lake water and contamination.

" I got really upset. Just the whole gag reflex goes into gear."

- Jan Sponberg
Beaver Lake Resident

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

"What a mess!"

That sentiment expressed by Jan Sponberg Sunday afternoon described the feeling of most every resident living around Beaver Lake outside of Ellendale after a raw sewage spill was discovered late Friday and closed down the popular recreational spot indefinitely.

Sponberg initially noticed a slimy build-up on the surface of the water. "I just thought it was August and the dog days of summer," she said, adding upon closer examination she found a build up of bacteria.

"People noticed waste in the water. That's what alarmed us," said Sponberg, who has lived on the northwest corner of the lake since 2008. She said residents began noticing waste and toilet paper in the lake Friday night.

Sponberg says the spill is embarrassing for those who take great pride in the popular recreational lake. "We've been proud of the fact that the lake has been very clean," she said. "I got really upset. Just the whole gag reflex goes into gear."

The Steele County lake, which encompasses 97 acres, is closed until state officials can remove all surface contamination and pinpoint the source of the leak. Early estimates said that there may be 5,000 gallons of contaminated water. The closure not only includes the beach and the rest of the lake, but also the county park shelter and playground located across from the lake. Barricades have been placed around the area to keep people away.

"We continue to urge citizens to keep humans and pets out of the water," said Chris Gannon, Steele County Deputy Emergency Management Director. "Humans and pets could get sick if they swallow contaminated water and potential bacteria," he

SEWAGE
Continued on page 3A



Fair Board approves protest policy

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

Anyone planning on staging a protest during the upcoming Steele County Free Fair will need to read the new policy approved by the Fair Board last week.

At the final meeting before the fair opens next week board members agreed to a new policy on protests that was prepared by Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele and Attorney Dan McIntosh. They

PROTEST
Continued on page 3A

Petition presented at Steele County board meeting

By JOSHUA ZIMMER
County Staff Writer

In Tuesday's board meeting, a petition was submitted to the council for the return of public funds and forfeiture of office for Mark Schultz, James Ebeling and Nina Huntington.

Rich Ludescher, an attorney from Northfield, Minn. presented the council with the petition. The document had over 300 signatures of Steele County residents pertaining to Per Diem taken by the three members named that were incomplete requests when submitted to the county to be paid. Ludescher mentioned that the petition is clear in what needs to be done by the council members. "The board or offices are authorized by law, plus auditing claims and that allows the claims until the person has paid it and reduces it to writing, in record and signs the declaration to the fact that such and account, claim or demand is just and correct," he said.

Ludescher continued that he did review some of the records and all the records that are included in the petition, none of the per diem requests had a declaration in there saying the account is just and correct and no amount of it has been paid. There was also information gathered from one of the members of the audience from the state auditor. The State Auditor stated that committee work may include information gathering as well as liaison activity, may be a part of the board's activity. It was also stated that when a per diem is claimed for a commissioners community work or service required by law, the county must make and preserve the records necessary to support the payment. "There is nothing in the records indicating that any of the per diem's you took were approved by the commissioners and nothing stating what you did as part of that



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

A member of the audience voices his frustration with the members of the board on August 2, 2016. The meeting was about a petition to have three members forfeit their positions.

Petition
Continued on page 3A

BRING SOME HARMONY TO THE HOUSE
ELECT Bev CASHMAN
State Representative 24a
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INSIDE
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Opinion

Our view

It's not a right to control

When the First Amendment's right to free speech comes up, everyone cheers. Unless. That free speech is contrary to your personal beliefs. And then we refer to the amendment to the first amendment that is personal in nature that we think, gives us a right to to argue, censor and complain.

It's the old adage. If you driving on a highway and someone passes you, he's a moron. If he's slower than you, he's an idiot. If he's doing the same speed, he's annoying.

The simple fact that freedom of speech was created for your opinion is one thing. What it wasn't created for was to make your opinion the only opinion or to give you a platform to control the masses. And there's the rub. When the failure to have all the control is in jeopardy, someone starts screaming.

What some people are saying in essence is, "I support freedom of speech as long as it lines up with my thinking, my point of view, my theology, my ideology, my desires." Additionally, it is wonderful when the whole world agrees with you – but the only free speech you want is your own.

Great corporations are built on healthy discussion and respect for the opinions of others. Change also comes when the common goal is for the team rather than the individual. When leaders quit listening to their employees, the workplace will become silent and stagnant.

Some of the best ideas we have are not our own, but those we choose to own. The right of free speech is alive and well and living in America. The gifts of listening and tolerating has been lost somewhere along the way.

The old cliché is wisdom for the life and times we are living in. "The biggest communication problem is that we do not listen to understand. We listen to reply."

If we can remember that it's the First Amendment and not the first debate, we would do well. And once you have exercised your right to speak, exercise your gift to listen and grant another person the same rights that you have. You don't have to agree with everything that is said, but in the same breath, their right doesn't grant you a right to go into a rage or stomp into violence.

You just need to be able to "agree to disagree." There is nothing weak about that. It's how we get things done in this country. How many years have you woken up on election morning and felt like the whole world was going to be destroyed?

We are all still here, folks and we will be for a long time. Republicans come and go, Democrats come and go – but the ministry of this nation doesn't die when a party dies. The work goes on. You can choose to live your life in turmoil or you can choose to live your life with hope. It's a choice.

Perhaps a great rule of thumb comes from something as simple as a line from the movie "Groundhog Day." Remember… "Don't drive angry."

Letters to the Editor

Comissioners must follow rules

I attended the Steele county commissioners committee of the whole, Tuesday August 2, as part of a large group that had signed a petition to request the refund of money given to commissioners Ebling, Schultz and Huntington for per diem pay.

Rules and requirements are in place to assure the public that funds are dispersed for meetings that the recipients attended.

This is done so people can quickly check on any fraudulent payments. The matter was kicked over to the county attorney and the attorney representing the petitioners. The county attorney felt it was a matter to be handled by the State Auditor and that is where it is going.

Commissioner Ebling made a statement as to why only three were named which was answeredthat the method of recording was changed to correctly request funds prior to the other two taking office. He also stated that as for himself he had always attended the meetings for which he had been paid. I can assure the commissioners named that most of the people signing the petition, myself included harbor no personal animosity toward them.

We only want them to dot the i's and cross the t's as required by the rules and laws. Most of us have probably experienced situations where we were penalized for not doing exactly what was required. Anyone dealing with the numerous bureaucracies can attest to that fact. In talking to many of the petitioners I found they were not happy with the board because they had not doted the i's or crossed the t's on other issues that have cost the taxpayers dearly. A couple examples come to mind and were the ones most mentioned.

Number one is without question the flooded county shop It was quickly condemned as unusable resulting in drastic devaluation of its worth and is now subject to review as to who can purchase. I's were not doted or T's crossed resulting in a battle with FEMA for funds. The same can be said about the purchase of several sites along the purposed east belt line. For instance big dollars were spent on approximately 20 acres, the electrical lines to house and well removed when only a metal shed was on proposed right of way.

Dollars have been wasted on fighting MnDot on old T.H.14. Far more study should have been done before constructing the detention center and CODA which have been losing money. Now we find MnPrarie is another costly mistake. What we witnessed at the meeting was a combination of frustrations.

I'm also concerned that our county attorney and State auditor do their jobs and represent the people of Steele co. not individuals. If they wish legal guidance they should hire just as the petitioners did.

David Nielson
Owatonna



Food-o-meter lights up at the fair

HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

Save up your appetites, the snacking party begins in just a few days.

Most of you are probably well aware of what I'm referring to. It's the Steele County Free Fair, or should we say the Taste of Steele County.

The fair will be loaded with fried foods, this and that on a stick, greasy items, candy and so much more.

For those who want to be a little adventurous with what they eat, there are some new foods this year. They include cream puffs, snitzel on pretzel buns, dynamite dogs, drink fruit from the fruit and west Indian dishes.

Fair officials always pride themselves on trying new things, and by the looks of it, this year will be no different.

As I reviewed the food vendor list this week, there are some other items that caught my attention and may require a closer look at during the fair. Bacon cheddar corn dogs, deep fried alligator, Chinese pancakes, cookie dough fondue, jalapeno poppers and piggy nachos are just a few that are making my food-o-meter go bananas.

The Times has come up with a little something that will lighten the load on the pocketbook when it comes to gobbling up all the great fair foods. In this week's newspaper, most readers will receive a coupon directory filled with special coupons to use at some of the fair vendors. The supplement contains roughly $50 in savings.

If you're like me, I'm always looking for a great bargain. Coupons are my friend. This is actually the sixth year already that we have published the food coupons. It must be such a great idea because another area daily newspaper decided to copy us with the project a few years ago. They always say imitation is the best form of flattery.

The fair means many different things to people. But one constant that seems to come up over and over again is the food.

What's my favorite? That's a hard one, but I'd have to say it's the dairy association's malts.

Just a word to the wise. If you're going to go in hot pursuit of new foods, and even the old stand-bys, it may not be a bad idea to bring a supply of Toms or Pepto-Bismol along for the action that your stomach will likely endure. Thankfully, this adventure only comes around once a year.



Submitted Photo

The SMIF Staff, Board and Partners on their 2nd Annual Bus Tour through Goodhue, Wabasha, and Wiona Counties.

SMIF boards the bus

By TIM PENNY
Contributing Writer

Again this year, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) Board, staff and regional partners set out on a regional bus tour. We serve a large area - 20 counties of south central and southeastern Minnesota, which houses 30 percent of Greater Minnesota's population - and this bus trip is a good opportunity for all of our stakeholders to get a better sense of what's happening in the region. I

t's a great chance for our Board and staff to see firsthand the impact of our Foundation's work.

Economically, geographically and demographically, southern Minnesota is quite diverse, and comparing this year's trip to our three easternmost counties (Goodhue, Wabasha and Winona) to last year's western counties (Brown, Faribault, Martin and Watonwan) highlighted some of those differences

When I was in Congress, I would often refer to southeastern Minnesota as the "New England of the Midwest." The rolling river bluffs, winding backroads and fall colors bring a range of tourists.

Our bus-ride was quite a contrast from last year's straight-lined farm fields on the prairie of our south central counties.

However, just like last year, we had a chance to hear about the challenges, opportunities, changing demographics as well as causes for celebrations in the eastern part of our region.

In all, SMIF has invested nearly $7.8 million in grants and loans in these three eastern counties. We were able to see some fruits of our investments along the way: ABA Water Systems in Plainview, our first loan client; a one-year recap of SE MN Together from Bill Spitzer, which was seeded by a SMIF One Big Thing grant; and barn murals along the Zumbro River and a chat with Red Wing Ignite on their new entrepreneurial efforts, both which were assisted by SMIF grants.

Here are some other takeaways from the day:

First, our Foundation's AmeriCorps members are making change beyond their early childhood placements. We heard from Sam Brown in Winona, who started the Midwest Music Festival as part of his summer AmeriCorps

SMIF

Continued on page 3A

CONTACT YOUR FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE

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

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

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

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

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

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

Toll Free Number:
1-888-224-9043

CONTACT YOUR AREA MAYORS

Blooming Prairie Mayor
H. Peterson
507-583-7573

Ellendale Mayor
Mark Skroch
507-688-9432

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

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

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

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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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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.

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Second Front

Fair officials beef up security efforts

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

With the fair less than a week away, officials are bracing to make the experience a safe one for fairgoers.

For the first time ever, Steele County Fair officials got a quick lesson in security and safety. Volunteers, grounds crew members and superintendents of various departments took part in the training at the Beer Garden on the fairgrounds Aug. 1.

Fair safety director Rick Ellingson, who is also a police officer and paramedic, provided a video from Homeland Security on active shooter situations in an effort to prepare the fair for the worst. The video outlined three major things that can make a difference in any dangerous situation, including run, hide and fight.

People faced with a shooting situation are urged to get out of the danger zone by running away and calling 911. If folks are unable to get out safely, they are then encouraged to find a place to hide by remaining very quiet. And in the worst case scenario, if their life is in jeopardy, they should fight by acting out with physical aggression.

Ellingson reminded the fair officials that it's not a question if a situation will happen, but rather when will it happen. "Things can happen, but hopefully, they never will," he said.

"We have an emergency plan for everything at the fair," Ellingson said.

In addition to active shooting situations, there are plans for medical emergencies, lost children, weather emergencies, food issues, fire prevention, disaster and others.

Ellingson urged fair officials to report suspicious behavior at the fair. "If you see something, say something. I can't stress that enough," he said.

Steele County Sheriff's deputies and posse members will be working throughout the fair to provide security.

SEWAGE: from page 1A

A hand full of sucker fish and thousands of gallons of lake water contaminated





A member of the WCEC response team works to remove contamination from Beaver Lake.

Staff photos by Rick Bussler

Response members are attempting to locate the source of the contamination, so residents can return to the water.

noted. He added no injuries have been reported so far.

On Saturday, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency began investigating the spill. The MPCA brought in a response team that has been working around the clock to remove all contamination and to contain the spill.

Donning rubber outfits and waders, workers meticulously removed contamination from various parts of the lake on a weekend that should have seen the waters filled with swimmers, boaters and water enthusiasts on paddle boards.

MPCA officials are collecting surface, underwater and lake silt samples that are being sent out for testing. Gannon hopes to have test results back by midweek. He said the test results will determine if the sewage is natural, human or agriculture related. The lab tests will also identify any associated bacteria strains in the water.

"Nothing has been ruled out," Gannon said Monday afternoon. "We're in a bit of a holding pattern until the test results come back."

Gannon also mentioned that a handful of suckerfish were killed by the contamination in the water.

As of Sunday, the team removed about 3,500 gallons of lake water and contamination, according to Gannon. He said since officials started containing the lake, no new sources of contamination have popped up. The original source of the leak still has not been pinpointed, he added.

The Steele County Sheriff's Office personally contacted homeowners around the lake to advise them of the potentially dangerous situation. When the lake is deemed safe again, the park will reopen and the public will be notified.

For lake residents like Sponberg, she can't wait to enjoy the natural beauty of the lake once again.

"It's a fun lake," she said. "It's so peaceful and quiet."

PROTEST: from page 1A

Steele County Fair board chooses protest area

also heard updates on preparations for the fair.

There will be no specific area set aside for protests, Fair Manager Jim Gleason said. Rather anyone wishing to protest will need to follow the guidelines developed.

The policy states that no person or group shall banner, picket, march, protest, demonstrate, distribute materials or caucus on the fairgrounds during the fair in any way that interferes with the safety of patrons, exhibitors or employees or interferes with the orderly movement of crowds.

The policy also says that nothing in it prohibits a group or individual from purchasing a booth in accordance with fair policy as long as the booth is operated and the material presented is not indecent and does not interfere with safety or orderly movement of crowds.

It was also pointed out that the sidewalks adjacent to the fairgrounds are public space and not part of the fair property.

Board members also agreed the policy should be posted at entrances and parking lots along with other fair rules.

With the fair less than a week away, preparations are on schedule, board members were told.

The concessions are almost filled, Gleason said, with many new vendors. There will be five or six new food vendors, he said, and altogether 70 to 80 new vendors.

The fairgrounds camping area is also filled, said Mike Hamilton. They are still getting inquiries, he said, and there is a waiting list.

Truck parking areas are also close to being filled said, Tim Arlt. Thirty-five to 40 truck parking permits have been issued and an equal number of permits for supply and delivery vehicles.

The board also agreed to officially turn over the former Paddock building by the race track to the Steele County Sheriff Posse. The county will maintain ownership of the building and continue to provide the insurance but the posse will be able to use it all year and will take over maintenance.

The arrangement was approved with provisions that some details still need to be be worked out.

The board also approved rates for security provided by the Sheriff's Office. It approved a two percent increase over 2014 and 2015 for a 2016 total of $23,269 for sheriff's deputies, posse members and special deputies.

PETITION: from page 1A

Frustrations spill over at Owatonna council meeting

stating what you did as part of that expect the blank statement saying you took the money to attend a particular meeting." the attorney said.

Attorney Ludescher continued that there should be documentation that states the requested per diem is part of a necessary payment as you performing part of your services. "I found no record that the board approved you going to those activities and getting a per diem as a part of going," he said. Ludescher reiterated that as council member they are not prevented from going, it's just a matter of if they were to be reimbursed for the time as part of their duty, then it has to be stated and documented as to why it was necessary.

After going through the petition with the council, Ludescher summed it up into three key points. First, the council must approve the request of a per diem. Secondly, it has to be necessary as part of your job. Lastly, that member must come back to the council and report what they did as payment. Before it was open for comment, Ludescher finished with by stating the 300 signatures on the petition are those in favor of council members returning the per diem payments and voluntarily resigning from their respected positions.

Dan McIntosh, the county attorney, stated that he was provided all the information within the packet and that the guidance from State Auditor is from 2010, making it outdated information. He also stated to the council that he doesn't believe they have any authority to take action on the petition due to the fact that items cannot be voted on if they carry personal interest. With that issue, he recommends that the issue is referred it to the state auditor for review as a course of action. "They will have access to annual audits and well as the individual records.

James "Corky" Ebeling, one of the board members, spoke on the issue. He stated, early in his career, he wasn't properly informed on how per diems were to be filed, leading to a few minor mistakes that were immediately resolved. Once the issues were resolved, Ebeling mentioned that he asked the auditor and the administrator to come up with policies to help alleviate the issue. "Since that time, I believe 100 percent that all per diems were done within the law," he said.

There were multiple members of the county that spoke on the matter. The people may have been different but the point they were trying to stress were the same. Every individual that spoke to the council spoke about the frustration that has been billowing over the issue. One member of the audience said that "This going to the State Auditor would be the best thing in the world. So I'm looking forward to it."

There were immediate notions about when this issue will be brought to the capital.

SMIF: from page 2A

Stockholders see foundation in action

project. Not only did he raise money for a tricycle course at the Winona Head Start, but the festival is now in its eighth year and draws 2,000-3,000 visitors annually. Sam also opened the Midwest Music Store to support local artists.

Second, workforce continues to be a top concern. We heard from city and county administrators and business owners alike that finding skilled workers is increasingly difficult. The Foundation gave a One Big Thing grant to SE MN Together, a collaborative process to address workforce issues. But, given the scale of the workforce issue, it's one that many regional partners must keep working on if we hope to attract new businesses to our region. Throughout the day, ideas from mentoring programs to closer collaboration with community colleges were discussed.

Third, in Plainview, the point was made that while there have been losses - businesses, jobs, older residents - there have also been gains. Judith Jordan, the EDA Director for Plainview, talked about how some businesses were lost in the recession, but how others such as Kwik Trip and Family Dollar have moved into town. "As Rochester goes, so Plainview goes," she said. This seems to be the case with many of our smaller communities surrounding the ever-growing Rochester and its Destination Medical Center. Towns recognize both the challenges and benefits of that proximity, and this dynamic is one that will continue to be explored.

Fourth, tourism along the river is a major factor for many of our eastern communities. Wabasha's National Eagle Center is a resounding success and a great example of what community members coming together can accomplish. It drew 83,000 visitors in 2015 from all over the world. We learned that the direct visitor spending of these visitors contributes more than $2.5 million to the Wabasha area.

I would be remiss not to mention that - in keeping with our support of local foods - we came home a little heavier and happier thanks to donuts from Bloedow's Bakery in Winona (an old college haunt of mine), lunch from Hanisch's Bakery in Red Wing, and ice cream at the end of the day from LARK Toys in Kellogg. Additionally, our partners at Renewing the Countryside joined us for the ride and spoke about all the exciting local foods activity in southeastern Minnesota.

Overall, everywhere we went we were greeted with a warm welcome and people happy to talk about their communities. We look forward to next year's bus trip!

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

Medicare coverage for non-working spouses



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 Medicare cover spouses who have not worked? I have worked all my life, but my spouse worked only for a few years when we first got married but then quit to take care of our children fulltime. Will she be eligible for Medicare?
Inquiring Husband

Dear Inquiring,
There are plenty of couples in your situation when it comes to applying for Medicare. The answer generally is yes, your spouse can qualify for Medicare on your work record. Here's how it works.

Eligibility Rules
Medicare, the government health insurance program for older adults, covers more than 55 million Americans age 65 and older, as well as those younger that have a qualifying disability or have End-Stage Renal Disease.

To be eligible, you must have worked and paid Medicare taxes for at least 10 years to qualify for premium-free Medicare Part A hospital coverage when you turn 65. If you qualify, then your non-working spouse will qualify too, based on your work record when she turns 65.

Divorced spouses are also eligible if they were married at least 10 years and are single, as are surviving spouses who are single and who were married for at least nine months before their spouse died.

In addition to Part A, both you and your spouse would also qualify for Medicare Part B, which covers doctor's visits and other outpatient services, but requires a monthly premium, not a work history. The premium for most Part B beneficiaries in 2016 is $104.90 per month, while new beneficiaries pay $121.80/month and higher earning couples – those with incomes over $170,000 per year – pay even more.

There are also a number of other caveats you should know about depending on your wife's age.

Older Spouse
If your wife is older than you, she can qualify for Medicare on your work record at age 65, even if you're not getting Medicare yourself, but you must be at least 62 years old. You also must have been married for at least one year for your wife to apply for Medicare on your work record.

If you are still working and your wife is covered by your employer's health insurance, she may want to enroll only in the premium-free Medicare Part A until you retire or your employer coverage ends. Part B – along with its premium – can be added later without penalty as long as your employer's group health plan is your "primary coverage." Check with your employers' human resources department to find out about this.

If your wife is more than three years older than you and has no health coverage, you can buy her Medicare Part A until you turn 62 and the premium-free benefit kicks in. The Part A monthly premium is $411 in 2016.

Younger Spouse
If your wife is younger than you, she will need health insurance until she turns 65 and becomes eligible for Medicare. This may be through your employer if you are still working, through COBRA (see dol.gov/ebsa/publications/cobraemployee.html), or through the Health Insurance Marketplace (see healthcare.gov) or outside the marketplace through a private insurance company.

Other Medicare Options
In addition to Medicare Part A and B, when you and your wife become Medicare eligible, each of you will also need to enroll in a Part D prescription drug plan if you don't have credible drug coverage from your employer or union. And, you may want to purchase a Medicare supplemental (Medigap) policy too, to help pay for things that aren't covered by Medicare like copayments, coinsurance and deductibles. Or, you may want to consider an all-in-one Medicare Advantage plan.

For more information on Medicare choices and enrollment rules visit Medicare.gov or call 800-633-4227. You can also get help through your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see shiptacenter.org), which provides free Medicare counseling.

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

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Tuesday, August 15, 2006
Dan Evans, Publisher

Robert Nahlovsky has been at the head of driving instruction in Blooming Prairie for the past 44 years. He is now mainly a behind-the-wheel instructor, and has taught thousands of kids how to drive in his career. Back when he first started in Blooming Prairie in 1964, becoming a Driver's Education teacher was as simple as taking one four-credit class at MSU. What now serves as a flexible retirement job gives Nahlovsky a smile, as he thoroughly enjoys interacting with the students he teaches. Since he no longer works as a teacher at school, being the Driver's Ed Instructor allows him to stay in touch with the youth of Blooming Prairie.

This past Friday night Mark Noble reached a personal milestone by earning his 600th career feature win at the Chateau Raceway in Lansing. The Blooming Prairie driver reached the feat by beating out Morristown's Jacob Dahle and BP's Doug Hillson in the Open Modified division. His first win came in 1973 in the Hobby Stock division.

The 7th annual Arkema Science Teacher Program was held last Monday, and two Blooming Prairie third grade teachers attended the four-day program. Mary Morem and Angie Avery each received a science experiment kit to use in their classroom after attending the session where they learned a great deal about measurement, like volume, weight, temperature, and length.

20 Years Ago
Tuesday, August 13, 1996
Elsie Slinger, Editor

Oscar Trevino has been named the outreach coordinator for Alliance for Building Center in Blooming Prairie. He looks forward to bridging the gap between Anglos and Hispanics in the area by using his personal experiences. In the past he has worked as a volunteer at ABC and as a part-time employee. His Hispanic heritage and community ties will help him to relate to the community's Hispanics.

Bernadine Peterson and Ione Cole journeyed to Ireland to attend the marriage of their grandson Chris Cole to Denise O'Callaghan of Roscrea, County Tipperary, Ireland. A party of thirty of the groom's family and friends attended and helped in the celebration while enjoying the beautiful countryside and rich culture of Ireland.

Families in the Steele County area are preparing to welcome nine exchange students from countries as different as Germany, Albania, and Brazil. The students will arrive as early as August 17, and will attend local high schools for the 1996/97 school year. The students are all between the ages of 15 and 18, and are a part of the Share! High School Exchange Program sponsored by Educational Resource Development Trust.

50 Years Ago
Thursday, August 11, 1966
Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors

The 14th annual American Legion Auxiliary Flower Show held last Wednesday was a big success despite the dry, hot weather this summer. There were 68 entries displayed at the show, and nearly 100 people were present to help in selecting the winners.

Plans are complete for the 1966-67 school year in Blooming Prairie. Advanced high school registration was conducted last week under the direction of Principal LeMar Nelson, with a total of 585 students enrolling in the upper six grades. LeMar anticipates that the final figure will exceed 640 pupils. That means an increase of 35 students will be seen in the district from last year.

Michael F. Linse, a 21-year-old native to Blooming Prairie, was promoted to Army Specialist Four on July 11 while assigned to the Medical Company, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Airman David R. Brandt, Blooming Prairie, has been selected for technical training at Keesler AFB as a U.S. Air Force communications-electronics specialist.

The 1966 Steele County Free Fair will open next Tuesday. It is expected that over 200,000 people will enter exhibits, watch the judging, listen to the "hawkers," circle the midway, watch the races and grandstand entertainment, and do all other things that are a part of the county fair. Nearly $14,000 in total will be awarded for prize winning entries, and entries are expected to be up in the open class and 4-H shows.

75 Years Ago
Thursday, August 14, 1941
Frank Krejci, Publisher

Five new teachers will join the faculty of the Blooming Prairie schools this fall. Three are high school instructors, one will teach the first and second grades and one will be a supplemental instructor in the junior high school.

A new water supply is soon to be tapped for Blooming Prairie, according to plans of the village Water, Light, Power & Building Commission. Arrangements are completed for the drilling of at least one, and possibly two, new deep wells to replace the present well which is too old for use.

Attendance records were smashed at the Mower County Fair as 50,000 people poured through the gates to attend the 59th exposition.

While on their way to visit his family in Blooming Prairie, Earnest Dennis was killed in an automobile accident. His wife is critically injured, and his daughter received injuries but will soon be released from the hospital. After being struck from the rear, the Dennis car was thrown into a deep ditch where it turned end over end twice and landed on its wheels. All three occupants were thrown clear of the car into a nearby field, and the car was completely demolished in the accident.


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Community

Obituaries

Dorothy E. Buecksler, 88, Owatonna



Dorothy E. Buecksler, 88, of Owatonna, died Monday, August 1, 2016 at her residence in Brookdale Assisted Living in Owatonna.

She was born April 17, 1928 in Waseca, Minnesota the daughter of William and Katherine (Krieger) Willnow. She graduated from Waseca High School, Class of 1946.

Following her schooling, she worked as a telephone operator for two years in Waseca.

She was united in marriage to Marvin Buecksler on August 8, 1948, at St. John Lutheran Church in Owatonna.

The couple farmed together in Steele County before moving to Rice County in 1976.

Following the death of her husband, she moved to Medford. Dorothy's employment outside the home included Green Giant, Ochs Department Store in Faribault and OTC Electronics Division until her retirement.

She enjoyed square dancing, traveling, reading, attending the Hometown Sampler every March and local hockey games and was an avid Minnesota Vikings fan. She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Dorothy was a 4H leader, a volunteer in the Medford School District, and a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

She is survived by her children, Kay (David) Wegner of Owatonna, Mark (Mary) Buecksler of Owatonna, David (Jeanne) Buecksler of Owatonna, Craig (Robyn) Buecksler of Owatonna and Joann (David) Granowski of West Plains, Missouri; sister, Marie Sullivan of Dayton, WA; sister-in-law, Lorraine Davies of Minneapolis; eight grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Katherine; husband, Marvin Buecksler (1991); brother and sister-in-law, Herman "Bud" and Frances Willnow and brother-in-law, Merle Sullivan.

A Funeral Service will be held at 10am on Saturday, August 6, 2016, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna with Reverend Amanda Weinkauf officiating. Visitation will be held from 4-7pm on Friday, August 5, 2016, at Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna and on Saturday at the church one hour prior to the service. Interment will be in the Owatonna Memorial Gardens in Owatonna.

Memorials preferred to Trinity Lutheran Church, Allina Health Home Care & Hospice or donor's choice.

Cynthia A. Himle, 66, Blooming Prairie



Cynthia Ann Himle, 66, of Ellendale, formerly of Blooming Prairie, passed away Thursday, August 4, 2016 at Mayo Clinic Hospital-Rochester, Methodist Campus following a courageous 28 year battle with Multiple Sclerosis and other complications.

Cynthia was born August 6th, 1949 in Governor, New York, daughter of Vene Aubrey Kerr and Margaret Josephine Jancak. She attended high school in Kaiserslautern, Germany. She married Sterling Owen Himle at Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany July 1st, 1966.

She was proudly employed at Prairie Manor Nursing Home for over 10 years.

Cynthia enjoyed crocheting, reading and crafts.

She is survived by her husband, Sterling; son, Stephan; daughters, Candice (Brian Gunderson); Michelle (Randy) Krohnberg; Sheri (Jeff) Schroeder; grandchildren, Justin, Melissa, Andrew, Stephanie, Ashley, Alyssa, Allison, Hilary, Tyler, Kristine, Jacob and Hailey; four great grandchildren; step-father, Roderick K. Cremeans; sister, Frieda; brother, Charles. She was preceded in death by her mother, two sisters; one brother; grandmother, "Granny." She has touched the lives of so many family and friends. She will be deeply missed by all.

Funeral Services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, August 8, 2016 at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with The Reverend Heidi Heimgartner officiating. Visitation is from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., Sunday at Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home and at the church one hour prior to the service. Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral home is in charge of arrangements. Memorial gifts can be directed to First Lutheran Church or church of your choice.

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

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

August 9
Michael Hjelmen
Bonnie Coughlin
La Faye Farrow
Gloria Dennis
Wayne Williamson

August 10
Lloyd Prihoda
English Smith
Sue Swenson
Gloria Salinas
Lianna Doocy
Nina Mae Rogers

August 11
Ann Weedman
Lindsey Krejci
Rosie Ditlevson
Jesse Banton
Gwen Kubista
Kaden Anderson
Joyce Haflinger

August 12
Harlee Doocy
Robert P. Olson
Jeff Davis
Jeanie Konecne

August 13
Connie Trom
Natalie Sorenson
Landon Dahl
Darwin Peterson
Ryan Kubista

August 14
Brian Bowman
Luella Hatteberg
Naomi Smith
Larry Christianson
Joel Kubista
Efren Hernandez
Greg Thomas

August 15
Elena Salinas
Richard Kubista
Dahlia Nelson
Cole Bartlett
Merccaes Martieck

August 16
Eddie Haberman
Shirley Johnson
Marissa Block
Donald Shawback
Aaron Brandt

August 17
Ron Nelson
Nancy Farr
Melody Benson
Payton Simon
Greg Johnson

ANNIVERSARIES

August 10
David & Joan Hagen
Chad & Julie Eischens
Frank & Margaret Williamson
Roger & Sharon Anderson

August 11
Ann Weedman
Adam & Katie Dahl
Larry & Linda Knutson
Brandon & Lauren Doyle
Carl & Joyce Hoflinger

August 12
Clint & LuAnn Becker

August 13
Nick & Amanda Schiefert
Mike & Kris Alwes
Brad & Stephane Bruggeman

August 14
Jean & Jack Shaw

August 15
Roger & Leann Hanson

August 16
Darrell & Naomi Erickson

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SEMCAC senior menu

August 9
Beef Tips Over Mashed Potatoes, Oriental Blend Vegetables, Mixed Greens Salad, Fruit Cup

August 10:
Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Pudding

August 11:
Chicken ala King Over Biscuit, Peas, Cranberry Bog Salad, Fresh Fruit

August 12:
Sliced Ham w/Cheese, Alt: Turkey w/Cheese, Potato Salad, Melon Wedge, Dinner Roll, Cream Puff

August 15:
Baked Fish, Alt: Beef Pattie, Rice Pilaf, Orange Glazed Carrots, 3 Bean Salad, Flavored Ice Cream

August 16:
Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, BBQ Green Beans, Melon Wedge

August 17:
Meatballs, Sweet Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Pear & Grape Cup

National Night Out



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Hope Mikesell (age 8) smiles as she is lifted up in the gurney by members of the Ellendale EMTs on August 2, 2016. The EMTs were a part of the National Night Out event in the city.

When living in a small town, a sense of community is often an important factor. In Ellendale, a newly started event is hoping to strengthen that sense.

On Tuesday night, the city of Ellendale hosted their second annual National Night Out at the city's park. The event was coordinated by the city council and the Lions Club. Council member Stephanie Kibler said that it's a new event that will hopefully take a life of its own. "It's a great way for new members of the community to meet members of the council who will be in attendance," she said. She also said that for city staff, it's a great way to interact with the community and receive input on some of the topics or issues within the city. "I think a lot of time, people perceive the council as not approachable. This event tries to eliminate that," she said.

Prior to the first commencement of the event, Kibler said that the town didn't have anything that allowed the city and its personnel the opportunity to interact with members of the community. Kibler said that before she moved back to Ellendale, she was living in New Britain which is considered one of the best cities in the state for the event. Seeing the effect and the community feeling, she spoke with the city clerk about organizing a similar event in Ellendale. "We think it would be a great tradition to start and help people become more familiar with one another and our city," said Kibler.

Kibler did note that they were unaware of the possible turnout, saying that it could have ranged from five people to 200 people. Last year, the city's first National Night Out saw roughly 75 community members out to converse and enjoy some of the food that was served. She mentioned that this year they hoped to see a similar number in attendance. She also mentioned that this year the Lions Club cooked hotdogs and hamburgers as a free will donation. There were also root beer floats for members to enjoy.

The event gives everyone an opportunity to interact. For the children in attendance, they have a chance to run around on the playground equipment that is on the grounds of the park. Members of the Ellendale EMT's, the Fire Department and even a car from the Steele County Sheriff's Department were also on scene to show both children and adults some of the features of the vehicles they operate. The local EMT's brought the gurney out of the ambulance, giving community members an up close look at some of the instruments they utilize on a daily basis.

The kids on the other hand, weren't as interested in learning about the equipment as they were using it. First responders would strap the kids down in the gurney, properly displaying how they would do it in a real-life situation. Once they were strapped in, the EMT's would control the gurney's positioning by a battery powered switch, allowing the kids to move up or down depending on the position all while learning about the equipment. Local firefighters gave tours of their ladder and pumper trucks, showing where each piece of equipment is stored within the truck and even bringing some of them out for the kids to see. All three of the emergency vehicles on the scene would sound the sirens a few times, often sending waves of excitement and smiles to the kids' faces.

While there is various activities already in place for the event, Kibler said that in the future they look to continue to expand the attractions. "As we continue to grow, we will look to add entertainment or a bounce house. Eventually we hope it turns into a night long event of fun and games, she added.

BOOK NOOK



Nancy Vaillancourt

One of the goals of the Blooming Prairie Branch Library is to help people improve their lives. Fulfilling this goal can take many different forms and actions. Pamela Coyle, a former library director in Maryland, wrote:

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HometownLiving Community Calendar



LAST YEAR AROUND THIS TIME

Officer Dave Schroeder handed out "Police badge" FAIR TALK stickers to Will Frantesl and other children at National Night Out last August.

Albert Lea/Freeborn Co

Aug. 11th, 2016
10am Fountain Lake Readers Book Club, Albert Lea Public Library
10:30am Albert Lea Public Library Story time
Aug. 12th, 2016
6pm Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea
Aug. 13th, 2016
Albert Lea Public Library Closed
6pm Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea
Aug. 15th, 2016
10:30am Albert Lea Public Library Story time
6:30pm Author Talk: Habibo Haji "Conquering the Odds: Journey of a Shepherd Girl", Albert Lea Public Library
Aug. 16th, 2016
District Days, Albert Lea
8:30am Shell Rock Watershed Board Meeting, Albert Lea
5:30pm Parks and Recreation Board Meeting, Albert Lea
6pm Nonfiction Book Club, Albert Lea Public Library
6pm Rock Gym, 211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea
Aug. 17th, 2016
District Days, Albert Lea
11am Wind Down Wednesday, Albert Lea

Austin/Mower County

Aug. 9th, 2016
Lyle Volunteer Fire Dept. Meeting, City of Lyle
Mower County Free Fair, Mower County Fairgrounds
10am ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St
10am Electrifying Minnesota: Traveling Exhibit, Mower County Historical Society
11am Read Any Good Books Lately?, Austin Public Library
12pm American Red Cross Blood Drive, Austin Armory
12pm Tuesdays with Toastmasters, Hormel Foods Corporate Office
1pm Author Visit: Hope Jahren, Austin Public Library
3:30pm Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
6pm Grand Meadow City Council Meeting
6pm Urban Yoga, Bandshell Community Park, Austin
6:30pm Lion's Club Meeting, Lyle Community Center
Aug. 10th, 2016
Mower County Free Fair, Mower County Fairgrounds
Lyle City Council Meeting, City of Lyle
10am ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks Center
10am Electrifying Minnesota: Traveling Exhibit, Mower County Historical Society
11:30am SEMCAC Meal, Heritage, City of Lyle
12pm American Red Cross Blood Drive, Austin Armory
3pm Cedars Market, The Cedars of Austin
7pm National Alliance on Mental Illness Peer Support Group, First Congressional Church, Austin
Aug. 11th, 2016
Mower County Free Fair, Mower County Fairgrounds
10am ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks Center
10am Electrifying Minnesota: Traveling Exhibit, Mower County Historical Society
1pm Lauren Schwab Memorial Blood Drive, St. Olaf Church, Austin
3:30pm Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
4pm Austin Farmers' Market, 501 Oakland Ave East
4pm Farmer's Market Place LCC, 18th Ave, in front of Shopko
4pm Leroy's Farmers' Market, Corner of Broadway and Main Street
6pm Browndale PL Puzzle Night
6:30pm Twilight Tales, Austin Public Library
7pm How to Become a Film Friendly Community, Discover Austin
Aug. 12th, 2016
Mower County Free Fair, Mower County Fairgrounds
9am Defensive Driving Class, Mower County Senior Center
9am Garden Spot Market, 106 W Main St, Brownsdale
10am ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks
10am Electrifying Minnesota: Traveling Exhibit, Mower County Historical Society
11:30am SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, City of Lyle
6:30pm Chateau Raceway Points Night, Lansing
Aug. 13th, 2016
Mower County Free Fair, Mower County Fairgrounds
9am Austin Farmers' Market, 501 Oakland Ave E
9am Farmers' Market Place LLC, 18th Ave
10am ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks Center
11am Berenstain Bears Collection Official Opening, Sweet Reads Books, Austin
9pm Sola Fide Observatory Viewing, Sola Fide Observatory
Aug. 14th, 2016
Mower County Free fair, Mower County Fairgrounds
11am Enki's Early Grab Round-up, Austin Skate park
12pm ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks Center
1pm Grand Meadow Open Gym, Wrestling Room, Weight Room
Aug. 15th, 2016
EDA Meeting, City of Lyle
11:30am SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, City of Lyle
4pm Austin Farmer's Market, 501 Oakland Ave East
4pm Farmers Market Place LCC, 18th Ave
Aug. 16th, 2016
10am ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks
10am Electrifying Minnesota: Traveling Exhibit, Mower County Historical Society
12pm Tuesdays with Toastmasters, Hormel Foods Corporate Office
3:30pm Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
5:30pm Uncork and Create: Autumn Flowers, Austin ArtWorks Center
6pm Urban Yoga, Bandshell Community Park, Austin
Aug. 17th, 2016
9am & 9:45am Teddy Bear Tour, Hormel Historic Home, Austin
10am ArtWorks Gallery, Austin ArtWorks Center
10am Electrifying Minnesota: Traveling Exhibit, Mower County Historical Society
11:30 SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, City of Lyle
3pm Cedars Market, The Cedars of Austin
2016 World Music Series: Calan, Historic Paramount Theatre, Austin

Blooming Prairie

Aug. 9th, 2016
Card Club and Luncheon, Blooming Prairie
10:30am Blooming Prairie Public Library Story time
Aug. 10th, 2016
10:30am Blooming Prairie Public Library Story time
Aug. 16th, 2016
10:30am Blooming Prairie Public Library Story time
4:45pm Blooming Prairie Boys N Girls Club Board Meeting
Aug. 17th, 2016
10:30am Blooming Prairie Public Library Story time


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HOLIDAY DAZZLE WINE & BEER TASTING: THURS. NOV. 3RD
HOLIDAY DAZZLE DOWNTOWN FESTIVITIES: THURS. DEC. 2ND
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Ellendale/Geneva

Aug. 9th, 2016
7pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale
Aug. 11th, 2016
5:30pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm, Ellendale
7pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm, Ellendale
7pm NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm, Ellendale
Aug. 13th, 2016
7pm Shawn Larson, 2nd St Ellendale
Aug. 15th, 2016
6:20pm NRHEG Yoga, Media Center, Ellendale
Aug. 16th, 2016
Hope Curbside Recycling S of 42nd Ave, Ellendale
7pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale
Aug. 17th, 2016
Hope Curbside Recycling S of 42nd Ave, Ellendale

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Medford

Aug. 10th, 2016
4pm Medford Veterans Committee Meeting
Aug. 11th, 2016
2pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
Aug. 15th, 2016
2pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
Aug. 16th, 2016
6:30pm Court St. Anne Catholic Daughters Meeting, Medford
Aug. 17th, 2016
7pm Ft. Robert Carlin Knights of Columbus Council, Medford

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Owatonna

Aug. 9th, 2016
Steele County Commission
9:30am Owatonna Public Library It's Tale Time!
7pm Steele County Board Meeting, Admin Center, BR
7pm Veterans Open Roundtable, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Aug. 11th, 2016
2pm Owatonna Public Library Independent & World Films
5:30pm Owatonna Airport Commission, Airport Lounge
6:30pm Owatonna Public Library Story time
Aug. 16th, 2016
9:30am Owatonna Public Library It's Tale Time!
10am Owatonna Public Library So Many Books… So Little Time Book Club
7pm Owatonna City Council, Council Chambers, City Hall

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Austin, MN

Pastor's corner

In 2 Nephi 2:25, we learn that Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy in this life and eternal life with our familes and our Heavenly Father.

God our Heavenly Father provided a great plan for us we call the Plan of Happiness. The plan began with the creation of this beautiful earth. Our Heavenly Father created this earth so we His spirit children would have a place to come, obtain our bodies and then return to live with Heavenly Father forever.

The final act of creation was to place Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. They were created in the image of God, with bodies of flesh and bone. Created in the image of God and not yet mortal. The creation of Adam and Eve was an immortal creation, one that required a significant change before they could fulfill the commandment to have children and thus provide earthly bodies for the spirit sons and daughters of God.

The fall of Adam and Eve brought about mortality. If it hadn't been for Adam and Eve, we wouldn't be here. We would be waiting in heaven as spirits.

Adam and Eve were shut out from the presence of God. However, their children were innocent of the orginal sin because they had no part in it. It was therefore unfair for all of us to suffer eternally for the trangressions of our first parents, Adam and Eve. It became necessary to correct this injustice; therefore the need for the atoning sacrafice of Jesus Christ in His role as our Savior and Redeemer. Because of the infinite act of Atonement, it is possible for every one to obtain forgiveness of sins, to have them washed away and forgotten. Jesus Christ came to earth to take upon himself all of our sins and disappointments and discouragements so that we could find happiness. He gave his life that we might all one day be resurrected and have the oppurtunity to live with Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ and our own families forever.

In Moses 1:39, we read "For behold, this is my work and my glory – to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man." His whole work and glory is to bring eternal life and happiness to his children. Should not our whole purpose in this life, therefore, be made up of righteous service to one another? If not, how can we ever hope to be as he is?"

Death brings us closer to the final phase of the Plan of Happiness –Immortality– to live forever in the resurrected state with body and spirit inseparably connected. All of God's children who obtain mortal bodies will eventually be resurrected and obtain immortal physical bodies as we read in 1 Corinthians 15:22 "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Bishop Rick Bremner
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Austin, MN

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
Pastor Collin Duling
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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

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

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

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



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
Worship 8:15 AM

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

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

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

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

Catholic

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

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

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

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

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

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

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer
(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
Fr. Kevin Connolly
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
Fr. Kevin Connolly,
Parochial Administrator
Sunday Mass: Vigil Saturday 5 p.m.,
10 a.m. Sunday
Monday Mass: 8 a.m.

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

Christian

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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

Methodist

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Service: 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

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

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

Non-Denominational

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
130 East Bridge St, Owatonna,
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Sundays 10:00 AM
enter through Owatonna Fit Lab

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

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

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

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

SIMPLE CHURCH
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661
Sundays 9:30
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Other gatherings? Please call.

Streetfire Ministries

Mennonite

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

Mormon

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

Presbyterian

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

Seventh-Day Adventist

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

UCC

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

Assembly of God

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

Baptist

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

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Steele County Fair August 16-21, 2016

7 DAYS UNTIL FAIR

Rock Climbing Wall to Bring New, More Thrills to County Fair



Photo by Josh Zimmer

Members of the Steele County Fair Grounds crew map out the possibly placement of the rock wall. The fair will have the rock wall returing to the grounds after short hiatus.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

When the Steele County Free Fair comes to town in the second week of August, fairgoers, both children and adults alike, will have a new attraction to climb on this year… Literally!

The Steele County Fair will be featuring a rock wall as a part of this year's attractions. This will be the return of a hot item that has been missing from a lineup filled with wild games, rides and events. Jim Gleason, the secretary-manager for the Steele County Fair, said that with the outdoors growing more popular around the country, it will be a nice new addition to have.

Prior to its disappearance from the lineup, Gleason said that a member of the Armed Forces had a rock wall that allowed fairgoers to scale into the Minnesota sky. However, after the wall didn't return one year, committee members started keeping their eyes out to trying to expand and bring in a familiar item. "We're always eying. If an attraction leaves, we start looking to see if it can be replaced or if there is something similar," said Gleason. Last year, a vendor from Omaha, Neb. had what Gleason called a crazy maze. The big wooden maze that people could try and navigate through decided not to return, which prompted the process of trying to fill the void. In the event that an attraction or vendor does in fact not return, Gleason explained that there is a committee of five to six individuals that are key components to the search effort. "The committee looks at what we want to put in, what we need, what we have or don't have," he explained. While he couldn't give an exact date or quantity, Gleason mentioned that the acquisition of a rock wall to the fairgrounds has been something that came up very often in pre-planning meetings.

After Fantasy Concessions, a vendor from Foley, Minn. that had an operating rock wall, submitted an application for one of its food items to be present at the fair, Gleason noted that everything sort of fell into place afterward. "We knew we wanted a rock wall and it kind of popped up after this person knew that we were a good food vending event and wanted to apply," he said. Once the committee was finished with its review, it became a packaged deal and both items from the company were to be present at this year's fair. He also mentioned that the company had a bungee jump bounce apparatus that could have been selected, but due to the carnival having the same attraction, it was decided to just keep the packaged deal as it was. "They have about four or five different items that they book different places and they've done really well," said Gleason.

Gleason went on to add that while he hasn't seen the rock wall up close and personal, he has seen similar styled apparatus and even pictures of the attraction. He also added that the positioning and the location on the fairgrounds were formulated to provide sufficient room for the massive structure. "It's a structure that folds, so we wanted to make sure that we provided enough depth for it to be assembled," he said. The wall itself had three different sides or levels in which participants can try to conquer. There is a beginner level, which allows climbers the chance to easily scale the wall with multiple grips and footholds present. The third tier or expert level is designed for those who are common with rock climbing. Gleason also added that while he unsure of the exact height, his estimation is that it would allow those who are interested in climbing it the ability to scale an upwards to 30 feet from the ground.

Fairgoers can climb the rock wall throughout the fair which starts Aug. 16 and runs through Aug. 21.

The Unsung Heroes of the Steele County Fair

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

Every year, hundreds if not thousands of people parade around the grounds that house the Steele County Fair each day. From the Ag shows to the concerts and carnival rides to even the tasty treats, anything a fairgoer could possibly do is at their fingertips. With that immense foot traffic every day, that's when the unsung heroes of the fairgrounds spring into action.

Some of the duties that are tied into the job require tough and constant manual labor. Scott Seykora, the supervisor for the crew, said that they are really a master of all trades. He said it depends on what's going on with their schedules in terms of projects vary. He said,"We do new construction, remodeling, plumbing, electrical work, etc."

Most notable about the grounds crew staff is that none of them are year around full time. In fact, the grounds crew at the fairgrounds is a team built of nine members, ranging from high school to even middle age adults. Nevertheless, the staff that is put together for the summer months usually pull in 40 hour work weeks, sometimes taking on two or three projects at a time. He also added that there are a few more members on the staff that have other summer jobs, but come in during the evenings or on weekends to give the team more hands. Seykora recalled that a few years ago, the crew remodeled the Beer Garden at the fairgrounds. They put in some new beer coolers on the inside of the vendors, which helped the members of the Beer Garden keep a stronger flow of profit. To go along with the new coolers inside the garden, Seykora and his crew also added a long awning to the area to allow fairgoers and people at the garden to have a bit of cover from the tough heat brought by Minnesota summers.

This year, the main project is making upgrades to the new shop they recently moved into this summer. The new shop is the size of your average barn, allowing for the numerous heavy duty tools, such as power saws and front loaders, to be stored. However, there is no air conditioning in the new shop making it tough to escape the heat, which could become a matter of health safety. "We are building a new break room that will have a place for the guys to sit, unwind and cool off before the next stint of their shift starts," said Seykora. Even with the multiple projects that they face, they are also in the process of building their tool shed.

Despite being in the middle of moving their shop, Seykora added that during the off season of the fair, the buildings are used as storage and that they remain that way until the middle of July. This year's county fair starts on Aug. 16, giving the grounds crew just sixteen days to make sure that those buildings are set up. "Most of those buildings are used for Ag shows during the fair. So we have to make sure all the animals pens (rabbits, sheep, cattle barns) are set up are ready to go the first day of the fair," he said.

With the majority of their job being prep for the site, they are also tasked with the job of helping food vendors and other exhibits get their locations set up. "We're responsible for setting everything up," said Seykora. Just when you think that once the fair commences that their job is done, Seykora added that during the fair, they operate on an on call basis. "We will have some guys here full time just in case there is an issue or incident that needs to be taken care of, " he said. He added that their hours ranged anywhere from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Alex Green drives a screw into place on one of the benches being assembled.

FAIR TALK



Todd Hale

H. Peter Baxter of Owatonna and Barb Mrotz of Ellendale have been named as the 2016 Senior Citizen Volunteers of the Year by the Steele County Exchange Club.

"Pete" Baxter is the Curator of the Antique Print Shop at the Steele County Historical Society Village of Yesteryear. He acquired most of the antique equipment in the print shop. He developed the Interpreter program and delivered it to the public. Thousands of grade school children are given new insights into the historical significance of the printer in American society at the time the shop represents.

Barb Mrotz's volunteer work centers around the Ellendale Area Heritage Society. She has served as president of the organization since 1989. She centers her work on preserving the history of the Ellendale area. She makes Ellendale history come alive.

Trinity Lutheran Church of Owatonna will offer free shuttle service from their church parking lot to the fair on Thursday and Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. fair week. Drop off and pickup will be near the northwest entrance of the fair (Park Place and Senior Living lot). The shuttle will provide return trips to Trinity as needed. There will be no more than a 5-10 minute wait at the fair shuttle stop.

Some special guests will be coming to the fair. Visit Goldy the Gopher at the Federated Insurance booth in the Four Seasons Center on Wednesday from 11:15 to 1:30 p.m. Also, two Viking cheerleaders will be on the grounds on Friday from 5:30 to 7:30. They will be selling Viking Cheerleader calendars. Proceeds go to the Vikings Children's Fund.

Fair mega ride tickets are now being sold at Hy-Vee. The tickets and wrist band entitle the holder to unlimited rides on the Gold Star Midway all during the fair. Cost is $49.00.They must be purchased by 5:00 p.m. on August 16.

Those wishing for jobs at the fair at fair vendors should stop by the fair office and register your name. You will be contacted directly by the vendor.

Dates of the 2016 SCFF are August16-21. Check the fair website at www.scff.org" www.scff.org. The fair office phone number is 507-451-5305.

Volunteer at the Fair!

August 9-14, 2016

Tues-Sat: 1pm-4pm, 4pm-6pm, & 6pm-8pm
Sunday: 1pm-3pm, 3pm-5pm

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TISCH DISH



JOE TISCHLER

Vikings hall of famers

The Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio welcomed eight new members to its prestigious group Saturday night. Two of those enshrined have Vikings ties including Tony Dungy who was the team's defensive coordinator from 1992-95 and Brett Favre who quarterbacked the squad from 2009-10.

Favre's induction runs Minnesota's total numbers of players in the Pro Football Hall of Fame to 17, 11 of which played at least five seasons with the team.

This is certainly an impressive number. Here is my list of the five greatest Vikings' hall of famers

Note- Hall of fame coach Bud Grant is not in consideration for this list since I am keeping this to players.

Five greatest Vikings in the hall of fame:

1) Fran Tarkenton – Quarterback (1961-66, 72-78). Tarkenton's career took place before I was born, but Vikings' fans of all ages know his impact on the organization. He was the starting quarterback in the franchise's first game, a 37-13 win over the Chicago Bears – he would win plenty more games in purple throughout his career while setting many records along the way. He led the Vikings to three Super Bowl appearances, played in nine Pro Bowls, was a four-time All-NFL selection, and at the time of his retirement was the NFL's career leader in passing yards (47,003), touchdown passes (342), and completions (3,686).

2) Alan Page – Defensive Tackle (1967-78). The man born in Canton, Ohio was meant to spend eternity there. Despite his slender frame for his position, Page was a dominant presence on the "Purple People Eaters" defensive front which also featured fellow hall of famer, Carl Eller. The 1971 NFL MVP was also a four-time NFC Defensive Player of the Year, played in nine Pro Bowls, and was named All-NFL/NFC nine times. He recorded 148.5 sacks, blocked 28 kicks, and recovered 23 opponent fumbles. He remains active in the Twin Cities community by serving on the Minnesota Supreme Court.

3) Cris Carter – Wide Receiver (1990-2001). After three troubling seasons in Philadelphia, Carter turned his career – and life – around in Minnesota. He holds Vikings records for catches (1,004), receiving touchdowns (110), receiving yards (12,383), 100-yard receiving games (40), and consecutive games with a reception (111). He played in eight straight Pro Bowls and was named All-Pro four times.

4) John Randle – Defensive Tackle (1990-2000). Not many undrafted players reach the league's ultimate individual honor, but John Randle's fierce style of play and leadership qualities help earn him that prestigious rank. His play redefined the defensive tackle position during his era and his game-changing ability made pass rushing from that spot a premium. He ranks third in franchise history with 114 career sacks and earned starting spots in six straight Pro Bowls.

5) Randall McDaniel – Guard (1988-99). The Arizona State

DISH

Continued on page 2B

Vikings d-line looks to assert dominance in 2016



Submitted photo by: Vikefans.com's Jason Barum

Minnesota Vikings defensive end Everson Griffen strikes the sled while working on his technique on the practice field of Minnesota State-Mankato on August 4, 2016. The Vikings are currently in the middle of prepartions for the 2016 NFL season.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

In a division with Aaron Rodgers, Matthew Stafford and Jay Cutler, having the ability to get after the passer is critical for a team's defensive success in the NFC North. When your Head Coach is Mike Zimmer, pressure becomes synonymous with defense.

Last season, the Vikings showed flashes of their ability to be a dominating defense in both phases of the game until injuries within the defensive line depleted the interior depth of the unit late into the season. Nose tackle Linval Joseph battled a high ankle sprain for a good chunk of the season and Shamar Stephen suffered a season-ending toe injury against the Chiefs. Once Stephen was ruled out, the team signed former New York Jet Kendrick Ellis. 2016 seventh round pick B.J. Dubose started the season on injured reserve and never saw the field.

With both Joseph and Stephen fully healthy and participating in camp, the defensive line's depth has been shown throughout camp, practically dominating the line of scrimmage through the team and inside run sessions of practice. The first team line throughout camp has been Everson Griffen and Brian Robison at defensive end while Joseph and Sharrif Floyd have been manning the interior.

Inside, Joseph and Floyd will look to continue to build that chemistry with each other inside. Floyd has great tools that appeared in flashes last season. Thus far through camp, the fourth year pro out of Florida looks to be scratching the surface of his potential. He looks a bit faster this year in his get off and his technique is more polished. Joseph looks faster laterally, consistently generating penetration into the backfield.

Behind the two starters, Shamar Stephen and Tom Johnson showed that they can be dependable in providing pressure if either of the two starters would go down with injury. Johnson, who is the starting defensive tackle in Zimmer's pressure schemes, hit a few nice counter moves during the night practice on guard Joe Berger. Former defensive end Scott Crichton moved inside to try and help his case to make the team. However, he's struggled with the transition, often getting overpowered at the point of attack. Toby Johnson and Travis Raciti looked to be players that will end up on the practice squad.

On the edge, Everson Griffen proved to the NFL in 2015 that he is one of the most underrated pass rushers in the NFL. His performance throughout camp was complete domination. He's been strong against the run and there weren't many snaps he was stopped on his pass rush. He is so fast with his get off and has a unique blend of moves. Perhaps the best move he hit in practice was when he threw a hard chop to offensive tackle Matt Kalil's arms then hit a spin move, practically landing in Teddy Bridgewater's lap. One thing is for certain, Kalil will be prepared come the start of the season thanks to having to defend Griffen's array of moves all camp.

10 year NFL vet Brian Robison appears to be the starter for another season. However there may be a wrinkle in his game this season. With second year player Danielle Hunter developing more with his fundamentals, Robison has been taking reps as a defensive tackle in Coach Zimmer's nickel package.

The package consists of Zimmer's patented double A gap pressures or stacking his two linebackers in each gap next to the center. As for the defensive line, rather than having Floyd and Joseph as his defensive tackles, Zimmer replaced them with pass rush specialists Tom Johnson and defensive end Danielle Hunter, kicking Robison inside. From the interior, the front four has shown an array of movements. One snap may have them show a true four man rush, giving the interior rushes the option of how they want to attack. Another snap could show some sort of twist or line game but the third option is what may have Vikings fans intrigued come opening day in the NFL. The final option the team showed at camp was having both linebackers –who were stacking the A gaps- fire as well as bringing a blitz from the edge; whether it would be the extra corner or a safety and drop Robison into coverage.

As for the rest of the position group, newly acquired defensive end Zach Moore has turned heads at camp, showing great size and strength. He also has been a fixture in the back up nickel package, bouncing from defensive tackle to the edge on any given snap. Justin Trattou, who recorded two interceptions last year, continued to show his worth as a player deserving an opportunity to develop into a specialist. Seventh round pick Stephen Weatherly and undrafted rookie Denzel Perine have not received a vast majority of snaps and appear to be a practice squad addition in the future.

The defensive line will have a chance to enforce their dominance on the Bengals this week as the Vikings are set to hold joint practices with the team in Cincinnati prior to their preseason matchup.

Walsh seeks redemption after long offseason



Staff photo by: Joe Tischler

Left: Vikings kicker Blair Walsh lines up for a field goal attempt during the team's night practice on August 6, 2016. Right: Walsh signs autographs as the team reports to camp. The Vikings are currently conducting training camp in Mankato.

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Thanks to three Blair Walsh field goals, the Minnesota Vikings led the two-time defending NFC champion Seattle Seahawks 9-0 after three quarters of the NFC Wild-Card Game at TCF Bank Stadium in Minneapolis last January.

Seattle scored ten unanswered points to take a 10-9 lead nearly halfway through the fourth quarter.

The score stayed that way until Teddy Bridgewater and the Vikings offense took the field for their final drive at their own 39-yard line with 1:42 left in the game.

A 19-yard pass interference penalty and a 24-yard completion to Kyle Rudolph brought the ball all the way down to the Seattle 18 with 1:34 remaining.

Three Adrian Peterson rushes netted nine yards and a 4th-and-1 from the Seattle 9 with 26 seconds left.

Walsh confidently took the field to attempt a chip-shot 27-yard field goal that would send the Vikings to Arizona and a date with the Cardinals in the divisional round.

He missed it. Wide left. Not really close.

You can place blame in so many areas; the laces were in rather than out, the ball was tilted, it was six degrees below zero. Point blankly, he missed it and just like that, the season was over.

It can be a long offseason having to deal with a miss that short in that type of situation. Some have not gotten over the miss, not even his coach.

"I don't think I've gotten over it," said special teams coach Mike Priefer. "I don't know if you ever get over something like that, but I've moved on from it.

"I think the one thing I can learn as a coach is to remind him, 'Hey man, let's just focus here,' because he knew the moment and the moment's not too big for a guy like Blair Walsh."

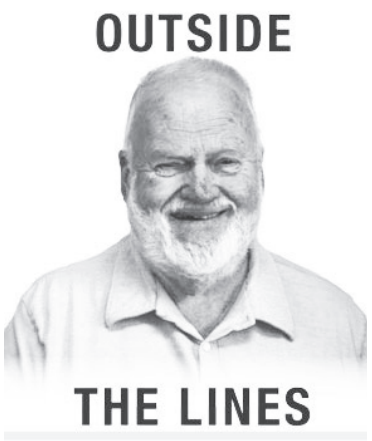
Walsh actually had a great season kicking outdoors in 2015. For the second time in his four-year career, he led the league in field goals made with 34. He was only 13th in field goal accuracy though at 87 percent (34-39) and missed four extra points as those kicks were from 33 yards out last season instead of 20 in previous seasons.

People do not remember, though, the 34 kicks he made in the regular season or those three he made in frigid conditions in the playoff game – they remember that miss. It can be easy to have that linger all offseason.

"I'm always anxious to get the season started," said Walsh. "The NFL has such a long offseason and you go almost eight months between your last kick in a game to your next kick in a game."

"For me, that process this year is definitely going to be even more amped up, but I'm confident in what I do and I've made a lot of kicks in this league. That first kick I'll have, I'll treat it like any other kick I've ever had."

The long and short of it



LeMar Nelson

Does anybody besides me have trouble when it comes to recounting how many years something has happened or is happening? When I sat down the other day to determine how many years I have been writing articles and sports for the Times, I actually had to write every year down on paper and then count them up. After due diligence, I have now determined that next spring I will have labored 25 years following the BPHS sports teams and their various season.

That translates to a lot of contests and a wide variety of successes and failures. But I guess the range and excitement of those contests are what has kept my interest high all of these years. Where else can one be so connected with athletes and their adventures so closely? It is certainly one of the main aspects that has piqued my enthusiasm for local high school sports after all of these years. That is the main reason that, although a number of years have passed, the time has seemed short and the interest high.

In those many years, I have followed the football team, as it has built a reputation as one of the strongest programs, won a record number of conference championships in a row, advanced to the section finals for seven straight years, and made three state playoff appearances, twice reaching the semi-finals.

I have seen a softball team that reached the state softball tournament four years in a row, culminating in a state championship on their fourth try. Outstanding pitching was a trademark during those banner years, and the teams also took pride in their hitting and their defense in the field.

I witnessed probably the best female golfer to graduate from BPHS, when Lisa Meshke capped off an amazing career with a state golf title, her fifth straight time at the state playoffs. Injuries curtailed her college golf career, but she accomplished much in her time at the high school and beyond. I had just written three years, when the girls' basketball topped a string of winning seasons by qualifying for the state tournament. A sore spot that still festers for local fans was that it was the only time in the history of the state tournament that first round games were played at out-state sites. The Blossoms lost in their first round game to Morris Area at Mankato State University.

Now we are watching some history-making golfers over the last few years. Taylor Christianson made her second straight state appearance, and the boys' golf team captured its first ever section championship in the sport. The team finished fifth at the state tournament, and both Tommy Braaten and Christianson made the top ten individually in the tournament.

I think readers can agree that the time of my writing has been interesting. I know that it has gone by swiftly, and I am hoping that my health will allow me to continue a craft that I thoroughly enjoy. I think maybe another 25 years is a little too much to ask, but the way times flies, who knows?

Forgotten Baseball

With the big soccer game at the new U.S. Bank Stadium last week, and most sports fans drooling over the prospects of the Minnesota Vikings, the Minnesota Twins have suddenly become just an afterthought in the minds of most. It is too bad that their season started off so woefully, and they have spent four months trying to right the ship.

Finally, July proved to be a winning month at 15-11, but the damage had been pretty well done. I confess to being one of the diehard fans, as I still watch every game that is televised, and I keep up with game accounts and statistics in the newspapers. It is just too bad that the first months of the season doomed them to one of their poorest records in their 65-year history.

It is hard to imagine that since July 1, the Twins have the most homeruns in the league and are on the way to the most home runs hit in a season in the last 10 years. That is a far cry from their production the first three months of the season, and with the emergence of slugger Max Kepler and the other big hitter offer the team a chance to salvage something from the season. Good luck with that.

We will continue to see a lot of young faces in the Twin lineup the rest of the year, but maybe the good recent play of the team will translate into the last two months being winning ones. We can dream, can't we?

Captains lead the way

This week, captains for the fall sports teams will lead the respective squads through conditioning drills in advance of the official practice start next week. Although it is labeled a captain's practice, in some cases captains have not yet been chosen, and the players pretty much organize and work out themselves.

I know that in football, the players do run plays, after their conditioning exercises; thus getting a start in learning plays and preparing for the rigors of organized practice when coaches take over the practices. The same situation exists for the volleyball, as upperclassmen take command of the practices and the conditioning. Good luck to the athletes, as they settle into the fall sports regime.

Another star gone

I suppose only a die-hard movie buff will recognize the latest celebrity to die, but Gloria De Haven passed away last week in Las Vegas at the age of 91. Although she had roles in many movies, she never became a big star, and her only real claim to fame came in that she was the first actress to give Frank Sinatra his first film kiss from the movie "Two Girls and a Sailor".

The actress/singer appeared in several films and also had roles in several TV programs, such as "Mannix," "Marcus Welby", and "Gunsmoke". Not too many fans remembered her, and she seldom appeared in public the last few years of her life.

Enjoy waning summer, and we'll talk again.

DISH: from page 1C

product was a stalwart on the offensive line for 12 seasons in purple. He set an NFL record with 12 consecutive Pro Bowl starts (1989-99 with Minnesota and 2000 with Tampa Bay). He started 202 straight games and blocked for five 1,000-yard rushers and protected for four 3,000-yard passers. His 190 games as a Viking is tied for seventh in team history.

Other Viking hall of famers include: Chris Doleman, Defensive End (1985-93, 99), Gary Zimmerman, Tackle (1986-92), Carl Eller, Defensive End (1964-78), Ron Yary, Tackle (1968-81), Mick Tingelhoff, Center (1962-78), and Paul Krause, Safety (1968-79).

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Michael Phelps wins gold medal No. 19 in Rio



Photo courtsey of Ian MacNicol (Getty Images)

Michael Phelps stands on the podium in Rio De Janiero at the 2016 Summer Olympics on August 7, 2016. Phelps was the second leg on the men's 4x100 relay team.

Michael Phelps won his 19 gold medal Sunday night in Rio after swimming the fastest split he's ever recorded. It was the first ever gold in the event for the men since 2008, when Jason Lezak beat France's Alain Bernard as part of Phelps' eight gold medal performace.

At 31 years old, Phelps swam 47.12 as the second leg on the men's 4x100 relay team.

As the best swimmer of all time entered the pool, the Americans were in second behind the French. However after the turn, Phelps surfaced with the lead and the Americans would continue to extend the lead.

Chateau Raceway recap

By MATTHEW GRAGE
Guest Writer

The 60th Anniversary Season of Racing Action continued Friday night at Chateau Raceway in Lansing. After a week of high humidity and temperatures near 90, the weatherman served up a perfect night for racing action with the temperatures dropping back into the low 70's. Fans and drivers alike must have been looking for some nicer weather. A good crowd and a nice field of cars filled the pits for the night's racing action which featured two heats in each class.

Repeat winners visited victory lane for the most part of the night with the exception being Nick Koehler of Bloomer Wisconsin who took home the feature win in his first visit to the track in the WISSOTA Midwest Modified Class. Koehler started outside of row three and made a quick move to third on the opening lap falling in behind Ryan Wetzstein of West Concord and Jeremy Misgen of New Richland. He moved into second on lap 4 and was taking the lead on lap seven when a caution came out. On the restart he fell back in line behind Wetzstein and patiently worked his line until moving back to the lead on lap ten. From there he drove off to the win with Wetzstein holding off Misgen for second, Robbie Franklin from Shakopee and Ryan Goergen of Stacyville Iowa rounded out the top five. In victory lane after the race Koehler remarked that it was his 13th feature win of the season. Franklin and Garitt Wytaske grabbed the classes heat wins.

In Pure Stock action Jason Newkirk of Austin Grabbed his sixth feature win of the season at the track. Newkirk along with Matt Brooks of Austin and Brandon Shaner of Owatonna were in a three way battle for the lead when the trio came up on slower traffic. Shaner and Brooks were actually running one and two, but as they got slowed by the slower car, Jason swept by them all to go to the front and race off to the win. Shaner held on for second. Newkirk also had a heat win on the night with the other heat win going to Daniel Guttormson of Austin.

Also chalking up his sixth feature win of the year was Kylie Kath of Owatonna in the USRA B Mod Class. For the second week in a row, a front row starting spot gave Kylie clean sailing as he road to the win. AJ Zvorak of Blooming Prairie had a solid run coming from a row five starting spot to the runnerup spot ahead of Taylor Ausrud of Hayfield who started along side AJ in the fifth row. Kadden Kath of Owatonna, who had a heat win on the night, came home fourth. The other heat win went to Zvorak.

Mike Blowers of Waseca racked up feature win number seven of the year as he paced the WISSOTA Street Stock class on the night with a pair of wins as he also grabbed his heat. Kory Adams of Stacyville Iowa came home in second ahead of Noah Grinstead of Austin, Kyle King of Hastings and Duran Peterson of Glenwood. Peterson got the classes other heat win.

Also getting feature win number seven of the year was Brandon Davis of Medford in the USRA A Mod Class. Davis started in row three and took five laps to move up to second behind Joe Horgdal of Kasson. Three laps later, he was on point and lead the rest of the way to score the victory. Jason Cummins came from row five to run down Horgdal for second. The two ran side by side for much of the second half of the race before Cummins took control of the spot. Steve Wetzstein of West Concord came home fourth ahead of Greg Pfeifer Junior of Brownsdale. Darwyn Karau of Kasson and Alex Hanson of Northwood Iowa took home heat wins for the class.

In the Hornet Division Bobby Blowers of Waseca scored feature win number four of the season at Lansing taking just four laps to come from outside row three to the front. Last week's feature winner Marissa Wolff of Janesville worked from the fourth row to finish second. Blowers also had a heat win on the night while the other heat belonged to Bailey Wolff of Janesville who picked up her first win of the season.

Racing action continues next Friday night with another full night of action with racing in six classes. Action scheduled to get underway at 7:00.

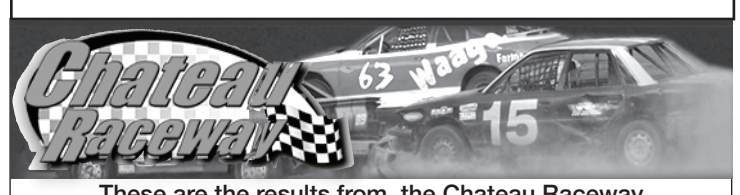
GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS

WEEK 10 - JULY 25

1	Braaten, Pirkl, Resler	82
2	Drexler, Zwiener, Klemmensen	68.5
3	R Skala, J Skala, Thiele	65.5
3	Hillberg, Wanous, Pfiefer	65.5
5	Larock, Iacovino, Schwartz	63.5
6	Morgan, R.Olson, R.Olson	63
6	Lea, Hansen, D.Johnson	63
6	Klemmensen, Klemmensen, Anderson	63
9	Doerhoefer, Olson, Worke	62
10	Hareid, Bartsch, Lewer	61.5
11	Glynn, Glynn, Esplan	60
12	Peterson, Behnken, Bishop	59.5
13	Ingvalson, Klemmensen, Bishop	57.5
13	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	57.5
15	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	57
16	Jenson, Glynn, Ebeling	56.5
17	White, Lysne, Johnson	56
18	Strunk, Farr, Ingvaldson	55
19	Clark, Blome, Skala	54.5
20	Johnson, Caldwell, Bulver	53
21	Grunklee, Evans, Possehl	52.5
22	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	51.5
22	Carlson, P Jones, M Jones	51.5
22	Kormann, Kormann, Kormann	51.5
25	Zwiener, Hinzmen, Wurst	48.5
26	Stangel, Mauseth, Schammel	48
27	Koster, Long, White	46.5
28	Myer, Motl, Tollefson	46
29	Haberman, Henefield, Nahlovsky	40

TOP SCORES

A	Braaten, Pirkl, Resler	29
B	Strunk, Farr, Ingvaldson	31
B	Myer, Motl, Tollefson	31
C	Drexler, Zwiener, Klemmensen	31
D	Hareid, Bartsch, Lewer	36



These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of July 29

Results

Pure Stock
Feature: Jason Newkirk-Austin, Brandon Shaner-Owatonna, Matt Brooks-Austin, Chris Hotovec-Dodge Center, Cole Kroneman-Austin, Jack Dunbar-Zumbrota, Josh Nelson-Albert Lea, Daniel Guttormson-Austin, Troy Maas-Faribault, Jim Briggs-Waseca (DNS: Zach Ehmke-Dexter)
Heat 1: Newkirk, Brooks, Maas, Nelson, Ehmke, Briggs
Heat 2: Guttormson, Hotovec, Shaner, Kroneman, Dunbar

WISSOTA Midwest Modified:
Feature: Garitt Wytaske-Lansing, Dustin Steinbrink-Austin, Brayten Cisneros-Blooming Prairie, Jason Born-Medford, Ryan Goergen-Stacyville IA, Billy Steinberg-Kasson, Jacob Toepper-Hugo, Tammy Soma Clark-Rochester, Matt Stark-Austin, Michael Wytaske-Lansing, Brad Minske-Northfield, Daryl Hainka-Wannamingo, Zach Sonnek-Apple Valley, Jason Hobbs-Ham Lake, Elizabeth Toepper-Hugo, Casey Trom-Zumbrota, Jesse Hernandez-Blooming Prairie, Jeremy Misgen-New Richland, Luke Hainka-Wannamingo
Heat 1: Goergen, Minske, Trom, J Toepper, Steinberg, L Hainka, Sonnek
Heat 2: G Wytaske, Cisneros, Steinbrink, Born, Misgen, Stark
Heat 3: M Wytaske, Hobbs, Clark, Hernandez, Minske, D Hainka

WISSTOA Street Stock:
Feature: Mike Blowers-Waseca, Kory Adams-Stacyville IA, Noah Grinstead-Austin, Kyle King-Hastings, Duran Peterson-Glenwood, Bernie Adams—Stacyville IA, Fred Prudoehl-Winona, Brent Holland-Glenville, James Connors-Waseca, Zach Elward-Hayfield, Blake Adams-Stacyville IA
Heat 1; Peterson, K Adams, Bl Adams, King, Prudoehl, Holland
Heat 2: Blowers, Grinstead, Elward, Be Adams, Connors

USRA A Mod:
Feature: Brandon Davis-Medford, Jason Cummins-New Richland, Joe Horgdahl-Kasson, Steve Wetzstein-West Concord, Greg Pfeifer JR-Brownsdale, Darwyn Karau-Kasson, Alex Hanson-Northwood IA, Mark Motl-Owatonna, Greg Jensen-Albert Lea, Dwaine Hanson-Lakefield, Jacob Stark-Austin, Aaron Benson-Clear Lake IA, Jim King-Hastings, Dustin Sorensen-Rochester
Heat 1: Karau, Pfeifer JR, Horgdal, Sorensen, D Hanson, King, Motl
Heat 2: A Hanson, Davis, Wetzstein, Jensen, Cummins, Benson, Stark

USRA B Mod:
Feature: Kylie Kath-Owatonna, AJ Zvorak-Blooming Prairie, Taylor Ausrud-Hayfield, Kadden Kath-Owatonna, Scott Demmer-Ellendale, Cole Lonergan-Dexter, Morgan Schrage-Cresco IA, Raey Hastings IV-Austin, Jayden Larson-Mankato, Mark Wytaske-Austin, Jesse Baer-Minnesota Lake, Nick Zago-Austin, Tim Gerber-Austin, Taylor Ovrebo-Wells, Kenny Wytaske-Lansing (DNS: Dave Henderson-Mason City IA)
Heat 1: Zvorak, Ky Kath, K Wytaske, M Wytaske, Lonergan, Schrage, Ovrebo, Gerber
Heat 2: Ka Kath, Demmer, Ausrud, Larson, Hastings, Baer, Zago

Hornets:
Feature: Bobby Blowers-Waseca, Marissa Wolff-Janesville, Ralph Hanks-Waseca, George Schrumpf-Rochester, Bailey Wolff-Janesville, Nick Silman-Minnesota Lake, Cody Hyatt-Waseca, Caylie Blowers-Waseca, Jacob Bennett-Austin (DNS: Ryan Timm-Austin)
Heat 1: B Blowers, Schrumpf, M Wolff, Hanks, CJ Blowers
Heat 2: B Wolff, Silman, Hyatt, Bennett, Timm

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NSIC brotherhood strong at Vikings Camp



Photo courtesy of Vikings.com

From left to right: Running back C.J. Ham (Augustana), defensive end Zach Moore (Concordia St. Paul), wide receiver Adam Thielen (Minnesota State-Mankato) and tight end Brian Leonhardt (Bemidji State) pose with thier respective college helmets after a practice at Vikings training camp.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference is known by many as the toughest conference in football for Division II. As a former student-athlete of the NSIC, I've seen firsthand the immense amount of talent that floods the conference. It's a rarity for small school prospects to make NFL rosters and contribute. However, there's a strong presence from the Division II powerhouse in Mankato this year for Vikings training camp.

The Northern Sun is represented by four former standouts attempting to secure a spot on the Vikings final 53 man roster. Division II standouts Adam Thielen, Brian Leonhardt, Zach Moore and rookie C.J. Ham are currently in the thick of training camp in Mankato trying to showcase their talents. While all had the path of Division II standout to professional football player, each player had their own journey that led them to Minnesota.

Wide receiver Adam Thielen played his college football at Minnesota State-Mankato, one of the division's powerhouse programs. As a senior in 2012, he hauled in 74 receptions for 1,176 yards and eight touchdowns to help lead the team to the semifinals of the NCAA Division II playoffs.

Thielen is currently in his third year as a Viking after signing as an undrafted free agent and spending the 2013 season on the practice squad. After spending a year on the practice squad, he made the Vikings regular season roster and developed into the team's best player of special teams.

In his rookie year, he was named NFC Special Teams Player of the Week after blocking a punt and returning it for a touchdown against the Carolina Panthers.

This season, he looks to break into the offensive game plan more. When asked about what he is focusing on most at camp, Thielen gave a quick answer.

"I'm just trying to improve on last season. Whatever the coaches think my role will be I'm going to make the most of it," he said.

During camp Thielen ran a majority of snaps with the first team offense as the third receiver.

Tight end Brain Leonhardt, who entered the league the same year as Thielen has had a more unique path that lead him to Minnesota. He played at Bemidji State University and was named an All-American in his final two seasons as a Beaver.

Just like Thielen, Leonhardt signed an undrafted free agent contract with the Oakland Raiders and would spend his first professional season on the practice squad.

In 2014, he was activated for the International Series game against the Miami Dolphins and caught his first career NFL touchdown. Unfortunately he was cut and would spend the 2015 on the Cleveland Browns practice squad until the San Francisco 49ers activated him to the roster.

In March, Leonhardt signed with the Vikings, bringing him back to Minnesota. "It's good to be out and competing for the home team. I grew up watching them (Vikings) my entire life," he added. Leonhardt is currently battling with rookie David Morgan as the third tight end.

Out of the four NSIC alums, Zach Moore was the only one to be drafted and play a significant impact as a rookie. Playing for the Golden Bears of Concordia St. Paul, Moore would receive numerous accolades, to include being named a three time All-American while working his way to the school record in sacks with 33.

He was invited to the NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis and excelled. The performance enticed the New England Patriots enough to select him with the 198 pick in the 2014 NFL draft.

As a rookie, he would play a crucial role in some of the team's defensive packages that guided them to a win in Super Bowl XLIV. Just a year removed from the superbowl, Moore was cut from the Patriots and was signed to the Vikings practice squad late in the year.

As for being back in Minnesota, he added that "It's a great feeling to have the ability to compete for a job here and showcase my talent." Showcase those talents he has. Moore has been making waves due to his sheer dominance thus far in camp. Head Coach Mike Zimmer reiterated his growth. "He's looked great. He's got length and great size. It looks like everything is coming together," Zimmer added. The third year veteran spent a majority of camp running on the second team defense.

Rookie C.J. Ham is currently battling fellow undrafted rookie Jurell Pressely and veteran Matt Asiata for third team reps on the offense. Ham joined the team as an undrafted free agent after he excelled at the Vikings rookie camp on a tryout basis.

Prior to becoming a Viking, he played his collegiately at Augustana College in South Dakota. As a senior, Ham rushed for a conference leading 16 touchdowns and 1,097 yards, becoming just the fourth player in school history. From the snaps he's received in camp, he's shown his ability to catch out of the backfield and even shows grit picking up the blitz.

Despite being behind the arguably the greatest running back in the history of the NFL and a gadget player like Jerrick McKinnon, Ham says that his goals for camp have remained simple. "My goal is to just come out here every day and work. I am going to try my best to do whatever I can for this team," he said.

While they all had different paths that led them to Minnesota, each player reiterated that having the bond of playing against each other in college and now being teammates are special.

Ham and Leonhardt both said that its great having that bond because of coming from the same conference. Zach Moore went a little deeper, saying that "It's pretty fun. When I first came in the league, I didn't have that college rivalry bond that some of my teammates had in New England."

Being the veteran Viking of the group, Thielen said that having them on the team is special. "It's really good to have them here. It's good for them to represent Division II football and the talent that comes out of the NSIC," he added.

The Vikings will be in Cincinnati this week conducting joint practices with the Bengals.

NFL weekly round up



Photo courtesy of Ben Leibenberg (AP)

Former NFL player Brett Favre receives his gold jacket from his wife, Deanna, at the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Aug. 6, 2016, in Canton, Ohio.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

Here are some quick hits around the NFL from this past week.

Most notably, the NFL Hall of Fame was this weekend. Below is the list of players who saw their bust enter the hallow halls of Canton:

Quarterback Brett Favre (1991-2010). He was drafted in the second round by the Atlanta Falcons in 1991. During his 20 year career, he also played for Green Bay Packers (1992-2007), the New York Jets (2008) and the Minnesota Vikings (2009-2010).

Favre played in two super bowls, winning Super Bowl XXXI for the Green Bay Packers.

Linebacker Kevin Greene (1985-1999). He was drafted in the fifth round by the Los Angeles Rams in 1985. During his career, he also played for the Pittsburgh Steelers (1993-1995), made two stops in Carolina with the Panthers (1996, 1998-1999) and the San Francisco 49ers (1997).

As the Packers outside linebackers coach, Greene was a part of the staff that won Super Bowl XLV.

Owner Edward DeBartolo Jr (1977-2000). As the team owner of the San Francisco 49ers, DeBartolo Jr won five superbowls (XVI, XIX, XXIII, XXIV, XXIX). He was named to the team's hall of fame in 2009.

Quarterback Kenny Stabler (1968-1984). Stabler was drafted in 1968 but spent the '68 and '69 season playing in the Continental Football League with the Spokane Shockers. He would play for the Oakland Raiders from 1970 to 1979. Stabler won Super Bowl XI. He also spent time with the Houston Oilers (1980-1981) and the New Orleans Saints (1982-1984). Former Raiders Head Coach John Madden inducted Stabler into the Hall of Fame. Stabler passed away July 5, 2015.

Offensive guard Dick Stanfel (As a player: 1952-1958; As a coach: 1964-1998). Stanfel was drafted in the second round of the 1951 NFL draft by the Detroit Lions. He would spend three years with the team and then two more with the Washington Redskins.

As an offensive line coach, he spent time with the Philadelphia Eagles (1964-1970), the San Francisco 49ers (1971-1974) and was an offensive coordinator for the team in 1975. He also had two stints in New Orleans (1980, 1997-1998) and the Chicago Bears in 1981-1992.

He was a two-time NFL champion and won Super Bowl XX as an offensive line coach with the Bears.

Offensive guard Orlando Pace (1997-2009). Pace becomes the 15 number one overall pick to enter the Hall of Fame. He was drafted by the St. Louis Rams and spent 11 seasons with the team, winning Super Bowl XXXIV. He spent one season in Chicago.

Coach Tony Dungy (As a player: 1976-1980; As a coach: 1981-2008). Dundy was undrafted out of Minnesota in 1976 and spent two years with the Pittsburgh Steelers, winning Super Bowl XIII as a member of the special teams unit. He would spend one season in San Francisco (1979) and the New York Giants (1980).

As a coach, Dungy started as the defensive backs coach in Pittsburgh from 1981 to 1983 and was promoted to defensive coordinator in 1984-spending four seasons at the position. He would also spend time as a defensive back coach in Kansas City (1989-1991).

He was Former Vikings Head Coach Dennis Green's defensive coordinator from 1992 to 1995. He left Minnesota to start his career as a head coach, first landing with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1996-2001) then moving to Indianapolis, winning Super Bowl XLI with future hall of famer Peyton Manning as his quarterback.

He holds an overall record of 148-79 as a head coach.

Wide receiver Marvin Harrison (1996-2008). Harrison was drafted out of Syracuse in the first round of the 1996 NFL draft.

He won Super Bowl XLI with fellow hall of famer Tony Dungy, was named to the Colts Ring of Honor and was an eight time Pro Bowl selection.

Harrison finished his career with 1,102 receptions for 14,580 yards and 128 touchdowns.

In a special moment for the ceremony, ESPN NFL insider Chris Mortensen was honored by the Pro Football Writers of America with the Dick McCann award. The award represents a long and distinguished service on reporting pro football. Known as "Mort", he is currently battling throat cancer.

Other notable NFL news from this past week:

The NFL hall of fame game which was to kick off the start of the 2016 preseason was cancelled due to poor playing conditions.

The game was suppose to have the Green Bay Packers facing the Indianapolis Colts.

The Arizona Cardinals agreed to contract extensions with wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald and quarterback Carson Palmer.

Fitzgerald, who has spent his entire career with the team, signed a one year/$11 million extension. Palmer signed a $24.35 million extension with $6.75 million signing bonus. The star quarterback is now under contract until 2018.

Former 2012 second overall pick Robert Griffin III was named the Cleveland Browns starting quarterback Monday morning, per a team source.

2016 third overall pick Joey Bosa is still in the midst of a holdout with the San Diego Chargers. The former Ohio State defenive end has not spoken to team officals since July 28.

The Buffalo Bills have had a string of bad luck with rookies. 2016 first round pick Shaq Lawson has successful shoulder surgery. The time table for the former Clemson star defensive end is still unknown.

The Bills second round pick in 2016, linebacker Reggie Ragland, suffered a partically torn ACL according to ESPN's Adam Schefter.

As reported by Connor Orr of NFL.com, Denver Broncos starting cornerback Aqib Talib returned to practice for the first time since he suffered a gunshot wound to the leg earlier this offseason.

The Miami Dolphins have listed second year running back Jay Ajayi as the starter heading into the preseason over Arian Foster.

According to Rachel Wenzlaff of NFL.com, early reports out of Denver are stating that Mark Sanchez and Trevor Siemian are the co-starting quarterbacks heading into week one of the preseason.



Photo courtsey of David Dermer(AP)

Robert Griffin III attempts a pass in Browns OTA's this offseason. Griffin will look to ressurecte his career in Cleveland as the starter.

Public Safety

Blotter spotlight: Prowler. At 3:20 a.m., a peeper was found in the 100 block of Wilson Dr. NW.

Crime brief

Sex toy bandit caught in Kenyon

A man who allegedly stole some items from an Owatonna adult entertainment store is facing felony charges.

Manual Ramirez, 33, has been charged with simple robbery and motor vehicle theft in connection with the July 13 incident at Lion's Den in Owatonna.

According to police, a man allegedly tried walking out of the store with some adult merchandise. When he was confronted by an employee, the suspect told the clerk to let him walk out or he would punch her in the face, police said.

Police captured a video of the suspect and sent out photos to neighboring police agencies. A Faribault officer identified the suspect as Ramirez.

On July 28, Kenyon Police arrested Ramirez and he was transported to Steele County Jail. In a statement to police, Ramirez admitted to the incident and did it for someone else while driving a suspected stolen vehicle.



Manual Ramirez

Police blotter
Steele County

Blooming Prairie Police

Aug. 2

Bite. Officer issued a citation for an animal bite at 6:17 p.m.

Owatonna Police

July 29

Fraud. Fraud incidents occurred in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 12:36 p.m. and in the 800 block of Oak Ave. S. at 3:09 p.m.

Intoxication. At 12:51 p.m., officer responded to an intoxication incident in the 2600 block of 3rd Ave. NE. They made an arrest.

Warrants. Police made warrant arrests in the 300 block of Grove Ave. N. at 6:36 p.m. and at 28th St. NE and Cedar Ave. at 10 p.m.

July 30

DWI. Officer arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at 18th St. SE and Truman Ave. SE at 1:08 a.m.

Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to a personal injury crash at Bridge St. W. and Interstate 35 southbound at 5:08 p.m.

Thefts. Police took theft reports in the 500 block of Florence Ave. NW at 5:25 p.m. and in the 200 block of Phelps St. E. at 8:31 p.m.

Trespassing. At 9:54 p.m., police responded to a trespassing incident in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

July 31

Prowler. At 3:20 a.m., a peeper was found in the 100 block of Wilson Dr. NW.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 1900 block of 6th Ave. NE at 6:34 a.m. and in the 800 block of Lee St. NE at 4:27 p.m.

Crash. A personal injury crash occurred at Bridge St. W. and State Ave. NW at 7:40 a.m.

Burglary. Police began an investigation of a burglary in the 200 block of 18th St. SE at 11:17 a.m.

Restraining Order. At 1:24 p.m., officer arrested a subject for violating a restraining order in the 400 block of Flowervale St. NW.

Suspicion. Officers responded to a suspicious activity report in the 100 block of Phelps St. E. at 10:32 p.m. They made an arrest.

Aug. 2

Theft. A vehicle was reported stolen from the 400 block of Kim Lane SW at 7:15 a.m.

Drunken Driving. Officer made a DWI arrest at Bridge St. W. and Walnut Ave. N. at 12:57 p.m.

Shoplifting. A shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 3:20 p.m.

Warrant. At 9:08 p.m., officer arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 200 block of Pearl St. E.

Aug. 3

Juvenile. Police arrested a juvenile in the 300 block of 22nd St. SE at 12:53 p.m.

Trespassing. At 2:49 p.m., a subject trespassed in the 100 block of Elm Ave. N.

Warrant. Officer made a warrant arrest in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 11:09 p.m.

Aug. 4

Domestic. Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of 23rd St. NE at 2:38 a.m. They made an arrest.

Theft. A theft occurred in the 100 block of St. John Dr. NW at 7:07 a.m.

Warrant. A warrant arrest occurred in the 100 block of Pearl St. E. at 10:33 a.m.

Drug Court. At 10:26 p.m., police arrested a subject for a drug court violation at Cedar Ave. N. and Rose St. E.

Steele County Sheriff

July 30

Drunken Driving. Deputies made DWI arrests on Interstate 35 at 1:56 a.m. and at 6th Ave. E. and School St. at 5:04 p.m.

Aug. 2

Theft. Deputy took theft report in the 4300 block of 72nd Ave. SW at 1:58 p.m.

Aug. 3

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 500 block of 4th St. SW at 1:49 p.m.

DWI. Deputies arrested a motorist for drunken driving at 1st St. SW and 2nd Ave. SW at 10:53 p.m.

Aug. 4

Warrant. At 4:36 p.m., deputy arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 100 block of Main St. E.

Court news
Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of July 25 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Deanna C. Zak, 32, Blooming Prairie, previously appeared and was convicted of felony assault. She was sentenced to $2,414, 45 days in county jail – served as work release, no possession of firearms, domestic abuse counseling, mental health evaluation, no contact with victim and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of July 25 – 29:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Marissa R. Alcala, 23, Austin, revoked license and no insurance, $481; Antonio M. Ambriz Morales, 36, Austin, suspended license and no insurance, $481.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Kahtan A. Al-Kaissy, 27, Wayzata, speeding, $131; Nayelie Avalos, 18, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Jose O. Bahena, 44, Apple Valley, speeding, $141; Shayla J. Berkner, 19, Wanamingo, speeding and expired license, $221; Leif C. Borg, 37, Blooming Prairie, speeding, $121; Merton E. Burke, 50, Blooming Prairie, speeding and violation of restricted license, $191; Daniel E. Christianson, 52, Austin, seat belt, $106; Natasha D. Dunlap, 41, Burnsville, speeding, $221; James K. Ellingson, 52, Farmington, speeding, $121; Isidro M. Giron Henriquez, 20, Northfield, cancelled license, $281; Troy J. Gunderson, 37, Blooming Prairie, speeding, $121; Colby R. Karaidos, 33, Urbandale, IA, speeding, $131; Bryan R. Madsen, 52, Claremont, seat belt, $106; Barbara L. Mayberry, 37, Mason City, IA, suspended license, no insurance and seat belt, $506; Alfredo Mena, 54, Mankato, speeding, $121; Steven D. Mitchell, 21, Ankeny, IA, speeding, $141; Paw P. Moo, 28, Guymon, OK, no license, $181; Kirby A. Peterson, 51, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Carlos E. Rodriguez, 47, Des Moines, IA, no license, $181; River S. Roehrick, 19, Faribault, speeding, $121; Christopher Sandoval, 42, Waseca, no license, $181; Michael R. Savelkoul, 16, Albert Lea, speeding, $141; Hector U. Serrano Maldonado, 22, Austin, seat belt, $106; Jazlyn K. Smith, 19, Tyler, revoked license, no insurance and display cancelled plates, $781; Traci L. Sorensen, 31, Cedar Falls, IA, speeding, $141; Steven L. Weber, 49, Mantorville, speeding, $121; Aaron J. Wendorff, 32, Houston, TX, speeding, $121; Douglas W. Wenker, 43, Elysian, speeding, $121; Charles W. Whitcomb, 54, Faribault, seat belt, $106; Marcia K. Willcox, 45, Waseca, speeding, $121; Ann E. Wilson, 57, Owatonna, seat belt, $106; Miranda L. Wood, 18, Austin, seat belt, $106.

Owatonna Police Department

Jesse W. Baldus, 37, Owatonna, seat belt, $106; Randy E. Gedicke, 27, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Cheyenne D. Goodhart, 20, Fairmont, shoplifting, $131, 10 days in county jail; Charles V. Hamilton, 30, Waseca, seat belt, $106; Ryan M. Hanson, 25, Owatonna, suspended license, $281; Kathy J. Harr, 49, Duluth, give peace officer false information and DWI,

Motorist refers to deputy as racist

I had a deputy walk in my office last week and tell me, "I was called a racist today on a traffic stop!" With everything going on in our state and nationwide, that obviously got my attention. He continued to explain how he had done a traffic stop and wrote the gentleman a ticket for not having a valid driver's license. Apparently because of these actions, the driver (who was African American) accused him of being racist. Really?

For those of you that don't know my background, I grew up in Dodge County and attended K-12th grade in Kasson. My father was a career long teacher and a deputy while my mom stayed home and raised me and three brothers. Growing up here, the only non-white students I can really remember were the foreign exchange students. We weren't very diverse in the 70s and early 80s here in Dodge. As kids, we all really enjoyed these students – learning about their new culture while sharing ours. I still keep in contact with some today via Facebook.

When I went to broadcasting school in Phoenix, Arizona I met my first openly gay friend, a fellow broadcasting student. While I didn't pretend to understand what he was going through, I stuck up for him when others picked on him. When I moved to my first broadcasting job in southeast Nebraska in 1988, I became friends with the radio station's consultant who was from Memphis, Tennessee. Leon and I ended up being roommates there and have been lifelong friends since. Leon was a large black man with a big heart and even bigger smile. I learned so much from that man while working for that company, both about the radio business and about people.

As an adult I now have relatives that are African American, South African, Mexican, Chinese, Japanese, Canadian, European, and Australian. I have relatives that are straight, and I have relatives that are gay. In my career in law enforcement, I've had the opportunity to work with great people from all backgrounds – I've worked with deputies and officers that are Mexican, African American, Haitian, and Asian, male, female, homosexual, and lesbian. I love my family and my law enforcement family – and I enjoy the diversity we have. I love learning about history and of different cultures. I'm sure our deputies and other staff have stories very similar to mine.

The blanket label of racism that some groups are placing on law enforcement nationwide has proven dangerous and divisive. It frustrates me to no end that someone may assume that because I wear a badge, I'm racist? They couldn't be further from the truth, which is usually the case with career law enforcement officers – especially with our staff.

While I know there are many involved with good intentions, movements like Black Lives Matter lose any credibility with law enforcement when they stand silent while officers are murdered and groups riot cities and destroy businesses in the name of BLM. While their movement was started to address racism, when they turn a blind eye to violence against cops it does nothing more than fuel race tensions within the law enforcement community. With their actions, or lack of action in many instances, they've in essence become part of the problem, not the solution. For example, prior to BLM, I don't recall ever thinking about black people differently when dealing with them as a deputy. Today, I'm sad to say that I find myself being more guarded and cautious when dealing with someone who is African American while in uniform – not because they are black - but because I worry now that they now assume I am racist because of my badge. Is this the BLM affect? How is this helping race relations? Sadly, regardless of good intentions, I fear organizations like BLM are only making things worse. Shooting related deaths for law enforcement officers is up 78 percent compared to this same time last year. In the past few weeks we've suffered mass shootings in Dallas and Baton Rouge where officers were targeted simply because they were cops – five died in Dallas and three in Baton Rouge with many more injured.

I wish I could tell you I have the answers on how to fix this, but I don't. I get so frustrated watching the national news and seeing many of our leaders, state and national, choosing politics over peace officers. I can tell you that we have an amazing group of men and women serving in this county. While we've been fortunate enough not to have any issues since I've been here, we do not and will not tolerate any semblance of racism within our organization. That I can tell you with utmost confidence.

If you are stopped and get a ticket from one of our deputies for driving with an invalid driver's license, or any other crime for that matter – you got the ticket or were charged because you broke the law. Period. Not because of the color of your skin. That I can also tell you with utmost confidence.

Thanks to all who've shown our staff your support over these past weeks and months. Even the smallest gesture of appreciation means a lot to our men and women who serve.

Your Sheriff,
Scott

Scott Rose has been sheriff of Dodge County since January 2015. His column appears in this newspaper monthly and is also available on the sheriff's website in the sheriff's blog section.

Suspected drunken joyride lands man in jail facing felony charg

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

A car load of people needing a bathroom break led to their vehicle being stolen after they pulled into a local park for a pit stop.

Steele County prosecutors accuse Jonathan Antonio Aleman, 23, no known address, of stealing the vehicle and operating it under the influence of alcohol. Aleman was charged with felony motor vehicle theft and misdemeanor DWI Friday.

Owatonna Police responded to Morehouse Park Thursday for a stolen vehicle report. Upon arrival, officers spoke to the victim, who indicated he pulled into the park to use the bathroom and someone jumped into his vehicle and took off.

One of the victim's friends left a cell phone in the vehicle. The victim called it and Aleman allegedly answered. Aleman told the victim he took the car and could not come back because he was unaware where the park was.

While the victim spoke to Aleman, he heard two other people in the background screaming. After a joyride around town for about an hour, Aleman returned to the park with the vehicle, but not before it was "trashed," the complaint said.

Two people in the vehicle were sleeping when they awoke to Aleman hitting something like a pole in a Kwik Trip parking lot, court documents allege. They also said Alemen was traveling about 70 miles per hour and hitting curbs.

The victim told police the vehicle is ruined and it won't even drive any longer. The vehicle is valued at about $8,000.

In talking to Aleman, officers found him to be unsteady on his feet and swaying while he was standing. He also was found to have bloodshot and watery eyes and an odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from his breath. He failed some standard field sobriety tests. He later provided an urine test at the hospital.

If convicted on the felony, Aleman faces 10 years in prison and a $20,000 fine.

Aleman will be in court again Aug. 15.

Active Warrants

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

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

- Rickson Waguk – DWI - $12,000 bail
- Anthony Walker – controlled substance - $35,000 bail
- Ronald Waller – revoked license - $3,000 bail
- Joseph Walsh – open bottle - $500 bail
- Desmond Walton – traffic - $500 bail
- Joshua Watkins – drugs – no bail
- Tristan Watts – counterfeit currency - $6,000 bail
- William Waymire – theft by check - $10,000 bail
- Dennis Weber – no insurance - $6,000 bail
- Shaketio Webster – theft – no bail
- Paul Wechtuor – stalking - $3,000 bail
- Eric Weiser – theft by check - $3,000 bail
- Jeremy Werchowski – DWI – no bail
- Jimmy Wermter – cancelled license – no bail
- Charles West – theft - $20,000 bail
- Levi Westling – drugs - $20,000 bail
- Daniel White – registration violation - $500 bail
- Darnell Whitner – drug possession - $200 bail
- Joshua Wiedemann – drugs – no bail
- Danny Wiles – DWI - $12,000 bail



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COURT NEWS
Steele County

$231, 13 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel, submit to Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Jessica R. Heise, 34, Owatonna, theft, $761, 3 days in county jail, maintain employment, cognitive skill training and 1 year of supervised probation; Jessica R. Heise, 34, Claremont, assault, $281, 3 days in county jail, maintain employment, cognitive skill training and 1 year of supervised probation; Ashley A. Hernandez, 37, Owatonna, revoked license and seat belt, $306; Anthony M. Jackson, 34, Waseca, no MN license, $181; Vincent Johnny, 26, Owatonna, revoked license and speeding, $321; Laura A. Millar, 29, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Gary D. Mosley, 25, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, $481; Michael J. Nylund, 37, Owatonna, seat belt, $106; Keri J. Piepho, 46, Medford, theft, $75, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Tracy L. Rathai, 53, Wells, no insurance, $281; Gary S. Rousey, 46, Waterville, theft, $181 and 55 days in county jail; Brandy G. Schmitt, 19, Owatonna, possession of Marijuana and paraphernalia, $181; Venus S. Smith, 37, Owatonna, suspended license, $281; Zachary J. Valen, 18, Owatonna, permit violation and speeding, $171; Anthony E. Wadley, 41, Owatonna, domestic assault, $381, 3 days in county jail, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, no possession of firearms, complete mental health diagnostic assessment and 1 year of supervised probation; Johysses T. Zamora, 27, Faribault, DWI, $606, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, attend MADD impact panels and 1 year of supervised probation.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Stacy M. Amsrud, 46, Medford, speeding, $141; Katatrina N. Bakken, 21, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Cory M. Bang, 27, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Sandra J. Bell, 55, Austin, speeding, $131; Joshua G. Bertram, 38, Morristown, texting while driving, $131; Micayla E. Best, 22, Waseca, speeding, $221; Po D. De, 22, Albert Lea, speeding, $141; Dana B. Delbridge, 47, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Brandon M. Deshanne, 31, Ellendale, falsely reporting crime, $381 and 1 year of supervised probation; Riley K. Devenport, 21, Anchorage, AK, speeding, $221; Pamela M. Donkers, 50, Faribault, speeding, $121; Stacey J. Ferch, 40, Medford, speeding, $141; John A. Frensko, 59, Ivanhoe, speeding, $131; Jerry R. Gleason, 55, Waseca, speeding, $121; Nelson G. Guilloty, 18, Winona, careless driving, $131 and 27 days in county jail; Paula R. Hanson, 48, Clarks Grove, speeding, $121; Alejandro G. Jimenez Gonzalez, 33, Austin, cancelled license, $281; Corey A. Johnson, 35, New Richland, seat belt, $106; Daniel T. Keller, 62, Clarks Grove, seat belt, $106; Kevin J. Kelling, 51, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Thomas D. Knoepke, 49, Rochester, speeding, $121; Stephon C. Kunkel-Billig, 20, Rochester, use fictitious information, $181 and 9 days in county jail; Alvaro H. Laguna, 35, Rice Lake, WI, no license, $181; Ryan J. Lambert, 40, Morristown, revoked license and careless driving, $381; Jennika L. Lewer, 27, Waseca, speeding, $221; Robert M. Miller, 49, possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, $281; Victor D. Mrotz, 54, Ellendale, seat belt, $106; Paul J. Nelson, 47, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Jacob B. Newman, 29, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Nyilueth M. Ngor, 25, Austin, suspended license, $281; John A. Paine, 53, Medford, revoked license, $281; Danielle W. Peterson, 20, Eagle Lake, texting while driving, $131; Jade L. Posey, 17, Claremont, speeding, $141; Jessica A. Purdie, 29, Morristown, speeding, $141; Daniel N. Rongve, 28, Claremont, speeding, $121; Ku Say, 21, Albert Lea, permit violation and speeding, $181; Joseph J. Schramm, 45, Elysian, speeding, $121; Janice K. Schultz, 50, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Jodie M. Snyder, 97, St. Petersburg, FL, speeding, $121; Channing M. Sorensen, 29, Kasson, speeding, $141; Joseph J. Suchanek, 35, Blooming Prairie, speeding, $121; Jacob S. Sylvara, 18, Owatonna, minor consumption and seat belt, $206; Michael J. Ulschmid, 62, Waseca, speeding, $121; Robert M. Vaaler, 59, Minneapolis, speeding, $131; Juan R. Vera, 42, Faribault, revoked license, speeding and no insurance, $531; Eduardo F. Villarreal, 39, Palmview, TX, speeding, $141; Darius D. West, 22, Ames, IA, speeding, $131.

COURT NEWS
Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of July 25 – Aug. 1:

Dodge County Sheriff's Office

Jordan A. Abel, 21, Kasson, speeding, $140; Coty J. Allen, 23, Kasson, suspended license and failure to obtain new license after information change, stay of adjudication, $100 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Kenneth C. Anderson, 48, Lonsdale, speeding, $140; Vernell K. Anderson Jr., 24, Rochester, revoked license, $280; Ann M. Asprey Erdmann, 48, Mantorville, speeding, $120; Christopher M. Barker, 34, Pine Island, violation of restraining order, $180; David A. Bingham, 38, Dodge Center, speeding, $120; Kristyn S. Fredrickson, 35, Glenville, DWI-refusal, 90 days in county jail; Stewart M. Graves, 21, Kasson, revoked license, $280; Dondre L. Gullickson, 25, Hayfield, disorderly conduct, $255, 2 days in county jail, domestic abuse evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Michael J. Head, 18, Kasson, speeding, $140; Jose P. Hoy, 27, Owatonna, speeding, $120; Timothy A. Johnson, 54, Dodge Center, speeding, $140; Lucas M. Jordan, 19, Sargeant, speeding, $220; Jared N. July, 17, West Concord, speeding, $280; Chase C. Kubat, 24, Dodge Center, speeding, $120; Robert J. Leonard, 30, Mantorville, revoked license, $280 and 1 year of probation; Brian T. Maznio Jr., 25, Windom, speeding, $220; James E. Mechelke III, 34, Rochester, speeding, $140; Samuel W. Michog, 24, Rochester, DWI, $480, chemical assessment and 2 years of supervised probation; Jesse J. Newell, 18, Dodge Center, speeding, $140; Flabio Olmos, 18, Byron, speeding, $280; Arnold L. Olson, 73, Zumbro Falls, speeding, $120; Randall K. Palmer, 59, North Mankato, speeding, $220; Jacob K. Schandorff, 19, Hayfield, suspended license, $280; Lisa M. Shutt, 24, Hayfield, disorderly conduct, $255, domestic abuse evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Zachariah N. Tamez, 25, Dodge Center, possession of paraphernalia, $130; Zackery T. Wojahn, 21, Kasson, careless driving, domestic assault and speeding, $855, 3 days in county jail, domestic abuse evaluation, no uninvited contact with victim and 1 year of supervised probation.

Kasson Police Department

Juan M. Angulo, 29, Byron, no child passenger restraint system and revoked license, $330; Laurie T. Briggs, 62, Rochester, speeding, $130; Destry J. Brink, 37, St. Peter, seat belt, $105; Katy M. Clayton, 32, Owatonna, speeding, $130; Kerry E. Goetz, 35, Kenyon, texting while driving, $130; Damian H. Johnson, 22, Kasson, seat belt, $105; Cory J. Kasten, 26, Byron, seat belt, $105; Stephanie G. Pineda, 24, Owatonna, speeding, $120; Joseph W. Priebe, 71, Rochester, seat belt, $105; Gabrielle M. Suhr, 17, Kasson, seat belt, $105; Jeffery J. Ziegenhagen, 29, Stewartville, revoked license and no insurance, $480.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Coty J. Allen, 23, Kasson, speeding, stay of adjudication, $100 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Henry J. Distad, 18, Rochester, seat belt, $105; Jennifer L. Dobbs, 32, Dodge Center, possession of paraphernalia, $130; Sondra J. Feil, 77, Dodge Center, speeding, $140; Kenneh L. Hansen, 38, Pocahontas, IA, speeding, $130; Shelby L. Jacobson, 23, Waltham, stop sign, $130; Sandeep S. Khosa, 35, Rochester, speeding, $220; Dustin L. Lewis, 35, Delavan, seat belt, $105; Joshua J. Mitchell, 28, Dodge Center, seat belt, $105; Andrew R. Neseth, 34, Mantorville, speeding, $120; Ryan C. Pettey, 24, Rochester, speeding, $280; Blake J. Randall, 21, Dodge Center, speeding, $220; Jeffrey G. Reineke, 44, Faribault, speeding, $120; Jose A. Sanchez Reyes, 29, Faribault, speeding, $120; Thomas E. Schwarz, 20, Le Sueur, speeding, stay of adjudication, $140 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Chelsea A. Singelstad, 27, Owatonna, speeding, $140; Toni S. St. John, 44, Stewartville, speeding, $380; Nina A. Worrell, 34, Owatonna, speeding, $120; David R. Zahratka, 49, Montgomery, failure to yield to emergency vehicle, $180.

West Concord Police Department

Caleb C. Arendt, 20, Zumbrota, speeding, $130; Sophie Jakovich, 44, Mankato speeding, $140; Jacob D. Kaehler, 28, Kasson, suspended license, $280; Mario O. Lewis, 41, Maplewood, revoked license, $280; Michael J. Moeching, 26, West Concord, unreasonable acceleration and speeding, $170; Gregory A. Stangel, 57, Byron, speeding, $140; Nicholas C. Vincelli, 37, Owatonna, speeding, $140; Mohamed A. Warsame, 45, Dodest Center, speed

ARREST
Steele County

Owatonna Police

Diana Zambrano Villarreal, 33, arrested at 1:29 p.m. July 29, probation apprehension and detention, held for court.

Jennifer Ann Nahmens, 36, arrested at 10:09 p.m. July 30, warrant arrest, $1,000 bail.

Jacqueline Rae Jensen, 63, arrested at 1:51 p.m. July 31, restraining order violation, held for court.

Dean Donald Drager, 30, arrested at 10:49 p.m. July 31, warrant arrest, $20,000 bail.

Samuel Christian Bolton, 18, arrested at 3 p.m. Aug. 1, terroristic threats, held for court.

Reannon Lee Westra, 27, arrested at 9:04 p.m. Aug. 2, warrant arrest, $3,000 bail.

Benjamin Davis Fratzke, 38, arrested at 1:11 p.m. Aug. 2, DWI, held for court.

Raymond Michael Scovill, 33, arrested Aug. 3, drugs warrant arrest, held for court.

Ron Henry Lee Jaeger, 33, arrested at 3:19 a.m. Aug. 4, felony terroristic threats and domestic assault, held for court.

Jonathan Antonio Aleman, 23, arrested at 11:42 a.m. Aug. 4, felony possession of stolen vehicle and damage to property, held for court.

Jerry John Willcox, 49, arrested at 10:40 p.m. Aug. 4, drug court apprehension and detention, held for court.

Steele County

Heather Joy Marovich, 35, arrested at 7:07 p.m. July 28, probation apprehension and detention, held for court.

Jon Dorien Brown, 43, arrested at 1:27 p.m. Aug. 1, probation violation warrant, body only.

Joshua Lee Miller, 27, arrested at 8:16 p.m. Aug. 2, probation violation warrant, body only.

Jyl Noel Todd, 29, arrested at 2:16 p.m. Aug. 3, felony complaint warrant arrest, $10,000 bail.

Gary Lee Padilla, 36, arrested at 11:30 p.m. Aug. 3, DWI, cancelled license and DWI warrant arrest, held for court.

Project Lifesaver Aims to Help Disabled Citizens

By JOSHUA ZIMMER
County Staff Writer

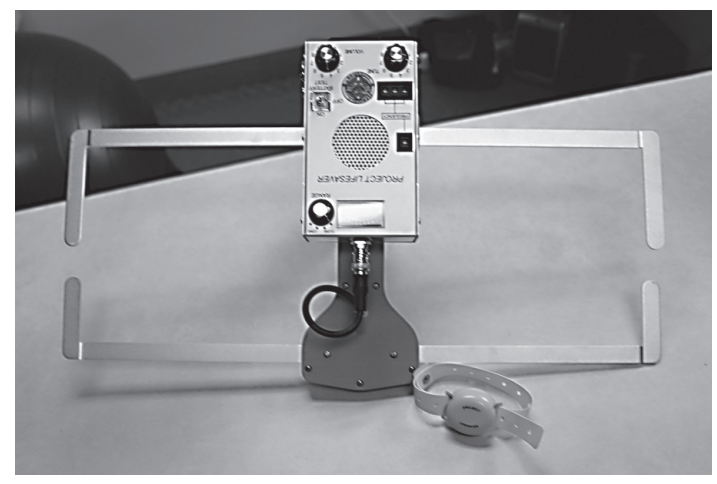
The Steele County Sheriff's office is implementing a new project into the community that should help reduce the amount of disabled citizens who have a tendency to wander.

Project Lifesaver is in its first full month of operation here in Steele County. The organization was found in 1998 and originated in Chesapeake, Virginia by Sheriff Gene Saunders. Sheriff Saunders is regarded as the father of electronically tracking persons at risk. The clients for this project are people who suffer from autism, Down syndrome, Alzheimer's and other various illnesses that can cause them to wander. Mary Ulrich, an investigator for the Steele County Sheriff's department mentioned that the age groups can vary from children to 5 years old to senior citizens in their 70's or 80's. "One of our clients, his brother who is three, has severe ADHD and will also become part of the project". She also mentioned that this project is going to give officers and other EMS personnel not only a fast response time but a quicker search process. Ulrich said that before, search parties could have had a search process of two to four hours. With people now monitored by a bracelet, search times could go down to roughly 30 minutes.

The clients are fitted with a waterproof bracelet that can be worn around their wrist as a watch. Inside the bracelet there is a specific three-digit frequency number on the locator for client. Ulrich said that despite what people may believe, the bracelets are not monitored by a GPS but rather a radio frequency. "The reason why we don't use GPS is that you can lose a signal if someone were to go into a building whereas radio frequencies stay about the same," Said Ulrich. Aside from the locator, there is also a battery and the caregiver is provided with extra bands on the off chance that it is cut off. Investigator Ulrich said that the batteries tend to last roughly 60 days and so usually around day 55, she will personally travel to each client to change the batteries and check to see if anything with the device needs to be replaced or repaired. While it may be a business venture, she said that visiting the clients personally also gives her opportunity to connect with not only the family but the client. "The program is set up to not only make the family feel safe but to build a relationship with us".

When a call is placed and the information passed, Ulrich said that the locator that the department uses is a receiver of some sort. She went on the described a hypothetical situation as to how to use the device if there was an actual search taking place. The receiver its self is similar to a metal detector but more compact, having a pistol grip and its receiver flaring out on the edges. "Once a search is in place, we can dial in the client specific three-digit frequency code and there is a meter at the top of the device that will deliver us a ping. From that ping we now know how we'd have to properly adjust." After Ulrich explained as to how to use to receiver, she went on to say that the longest search they had in training was just slightly over 30 minutes. She did say however that sometimes that train tracks and high voltage power lines can affect the receiver but that as long as you know they are in the area it can be calculated. "The ping we receive from a locator is very distinct, so even with interference; we know that they will give off softer hits."

The next step in the process is to start sending out letters to businesses in the community to help with starting a fund for those who may desperately need the service but cannot afford it. "The bracelet is a one-time fee of $300 with $10 maintance charges monthly. We know that there may be some people in the community who need this and we don't want to turn them away.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

The Receiver that the Sheriff's Office will use to help reduce the search process time for finding a wandering client. The Two wings on the edges are the receivers.

OWATONNA FIRE

July 29

Public Service. At 10:15 p.m., fire personnel responded to a public service matter in the 2300 block of 26th St. NW.

July 30

Elevator. Fire rescue removed victims from a stalled elevator in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW at 5:26 a.m.

Cooking Fire. At 11:02 a.m., a confined cooking fire occurred in the 400 block of 13th St. NE.

Crash. Fire fighters responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Interstate 35 at 5:11 p.m.

July 31

Crash. At 7:42 a.m., a motor vehicle accident with a pedestrian occurred on Bridge St.

Week of August 7, 2016

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- Married to wife Susan, eight children
- Lifelong area resident, lives in Waseca
- Employed as church administrator at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna
- Elected State Representative, 2012, 2014
- Past member, Minnesota School Board Association Board of Directors
- Past member, Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric Advisory Board
- Vice-Chair State Transportation Committee

Prepared and paid for by Petersburg Campaign Committee, 700 19th Ave. NE, Waseca, MN 56093

OWATONNA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST SPECIAL

BEAT THE HEAT!! Summer Fitness Pass (Memorial Day to Labor Day) Individual pass is $60; Couple or Family Pass is $75. No additional discounts apply

AUGUST '16

August 9: Aviation Exploration
August 10: Volleyball and Football Deadline to register
August 10: Therapeutic Recreation trip: Outdoor Concert in Berne, MN
August 12: Movie in the Park-Central Park
August 12-14: VFW State Golf Tournament
August 14: River Springs Water Park Pre-Steele County Free Fair Special!
August 16: SMRPA Golf Tournament
August 17-19: Therapeutic Recreation SCFF Fair Cleanup Crew
August 18: River Springs Water Park-Last day for evening water aerobics
August 20-21: Brooktree Club Championship for Men's, Women's, and Juniors
August 21: River Springs Water Park Customer Appreciation Day Special!
August 23: Learn to Skate Hockey Registration @ Four Season's Center
August 24: Learn to Skate Hockey Registration @ Four Season's Center
August 25: 3rd-6th Grade Youth Football Begins @ OHS Football Field
August 25: SeniorPlace Trip: MN Twins Game
August 26: Woofstock @ Lake Chase Dog Park
August 27: Big Cup Tournament at Brooktree
August 28: BGA Big Cup Tournament at Brooktree
August 28: Cardboard Boat Race @ River Springs Water Park
August 29: Elks Tournament at Brooktree
August 29: Therapeutic Recreation Trip: Diamond Jo's Casino, Northwoods, IA
August 31: Volleyball Coaches Meeting @ OHS Small Group Forum
August 31: Volleyball Clinic @ OHS Gym
September 5: River Springs Water Park Last Day Special!
September 6: Youth Volleyball begins
September 6: Adult Volleyball Registration Deadline
September 7: SeniorPlace Trip: Treasure Island Resort & Casino
September 8: Brooktree Club Championship: Senior and Super Senior
September 9: Brooktree Golf Course Music on the Patio-Piano Bar with Backy and Muriah 6-9pm
September 10: 1st & 2nd Grade Youth Football Begins @ OHS Practice Field
September 14: SeniorPlace Inc. Annual Meeting
September 16: Brooktree Golf Course Music on the Patio
September 21: Men/Women Volleyball Schedules available
September 23: SeniorPlace Trip: Post Town Winery Tour and Tasting
September 24: Brooktree Golf Course Music on the Patio
September 26: Co-Rec Volleyball Schedules available
September 28: Winter Registration begins
October 1: Brooktree Golf Course Music on the Patio
October 4: Brooktree Golf Course "National Golf Lovers Day"
October 7: 3rd-6th Grade Basketball Deadline
October 8: Brooktree Golf Course Music on the Patio
October 14: Brooktree Golf Course "Tin Cup Night"
October 21: Calendar Photo Contests Submissions deadline
October 29: Trick or Treat Trail @ Manthey Park
October 31: 1st-2nd Grade Basketball Deadline

Parks & Recreation

OWATONNA PARKS AND RECREATION
WWW.CI.OWATONNA.MN.US
507-444-4321 EXT. 3

RIVER SPRINGS WATER PARK OPENS JUNE 8!

PASSBOOKS AND MEMBERSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OWATONNA PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE

Passbooks: 10 passes: $65; 20 passes: $120; 30 passes: $165
Daily Admission: June 10-August 14: *$7.00/person *$5.00 under 48" tall *Kids under two, free with paid adult *$4.50 Twilight Fee (5:00pm-Close) *$2.50 Last Hour Special (7:00 pm-Close)
WEEKLY SPECIALS: Monday: Grandparents Day-Grandparents get into River Springs for free with a paid grandchild (at normal facility rate) Tuesday: Twilight Day-$4.50 twilight admission rate ALL day Wednesday: Family Night-June 8-August 10: 5:00 pm-Close & August 17: 4:00pm-Close. $4.50 per individual or $13.50 per family up to 6 people ($2.25 charge for each additional person over 6) Thursday: Facebook Special- Like River Springs on Facebook. There will be a posting with a special each Thursday.

SCHA

Members of South Country Health Alliance can now receive $15 off Parks & Recreation youth activities and classes. Therapeutic Recreation activities are also included. Maximum of 3 classes per calendar year. A Scholarship form must be completed and current SCHA membership card must be presented at the time of registration.

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund helps support programs for all youth in Steele County and Adult Therapeutic Recreation Programs. Forms are available at the Park & Rec Office. Participants must pay 25% of program fees, any late fees, and must show verification of one of the qualifications:

*Current recipients of Free or Reduced Lunch Program
*Current recipients of SSI or Social Security Benefits
*Current recipients of Medical Assistance Program
*Other circumstances (will need to explain)

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED

VOLUNTEER COACHES PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE YOUTH SPORTS EXPERIENCE.

Volunteers are trained in our philosophy of youth sports, first aid, concussions and how to teach skills for their sport. All volunteers must complete a background check each year.

YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

accommodations to assist the child will allow them to participate with equal advantage. Coaches and staff receive pertinent information regarding the child's needs prior to their first meeting.

Owatonna Parks and Recreation is giving you the opportunity to rent a variety of recreation equipment year round that will be perfect for you! We've got baseball/softball gloves, footballs, GPS units, picnic packs, fishing rods, backyard games and a NEW bounce house rental! Call our office for more information!



RENTALS

* **Pavilions** are available - reserve anytime with Fireplaces at Gainey & Mineral Springs Park.

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Tuesdays with Minnesota



Staff photo by Tawni Hammer

Tuesday in the southern portion of Minnesota was pleasant, but warm. The sun was getting ready for a bake-off that brought a heat index of well over 100 again this week. Winds were gusting at times which kept the temperatures tolerable.

I spy with my little eye

Little Thoughts on the Prairie



Mark DeLap

The adventures of the elderly in Minnesota continued this past weekend as I had to be at the mercy of the health care system. It's the little things in the health care of this country that seem to fall through the cracks. Perhaps that was the reason that my grandfather always just told me to "rub dirt on it" for anything that ailed me.

Now, I understand that for the big things, the crushing diagnosis, the broken bone, the failing organs, the health care system is pretty darn good. It's the small things, I've found, where there is just not as much empathy.

I guess, but nevertheless – sometimes it is the little things that can raise the blood pressure to unhealthy levels. At which point you can scream, "Sick? I'll show you sick!"

All kidding aside, I watched my mom dwindle after she had a stroke, and it was the little fail that did her in. The brain sensor that controlled her swallowing had been damaged. She couldn't swallow.

Such a little thing. But when you can't swallow, they won't let you eat due to the fact that the food goes into the lungs rather than the stomach. That was the cruelest. She didn't lose her hunger and her craving for food, but she lost her ability to swallow.

They prolonged her life – slightly and temporarily with a feeding tube. It provided nutrition but not satisfaction and after a while she gave up. A sad story about how, sometimes, it's the little things we take for granted.

So, carrying that baggage and for the most part, being very healthy, I was hit this week with a "sty." Not a pig sty, but a sty on my eyelid. Oh, I know how I got it – I am not one to have time to take my contacts out when my eyes get tired. Also, running and wiping the sweat from your eyes with your hands is never a good thing.

As a writer and an editor, my eyes are my livelihood and it is one of the worst possible injuries for my profession. Well, other than having a writing hand amputated, but again… little things. Little thoughts.

The problem was, getting this sty on the weekend. The clinics are closed, the doctors are gone, and there is not much help unless you want to go to the loansharking of the medical profession which is a quick care clinic. Their motto should be, "We can help… but it'll cost ya."

I was panicking at the onset. I went to Walmart and that doctor wasn't in. They suggested the pharmacist who said, "Hmmmm. We can give you something called 'sty' which you can apply, but it won't heal your eye. It will just make it feel more comfortable."

Isn't that what they told Tom Hanks just before he bit it in Saving Private Ryan?

They also gave me an idea for an app to "call a doctor" who can prescribe via Skype. First of all, I don't have a smart phone; secondly, I don't want to put my credit card on line and pay something I could pay for at a 'Smart Clinic' where I don't have to talk to a doctor via television screen.

The trail then went to voice mailing my doctor's clinic to no avail. If I heard, "If this is an emergency, hang up and dial 911," one more time, I was going to throw my phone somewhere inconvenient. Why not just, "If this is an emergency and you know it's an emergency and you haven't called 911 then you are a moron."

Long story short. Two days later, I am still playing phone tag with my doctor, the phone transfer promise from the switchboard (their pants were on fire… I don't think they ever sent my messages through) and 48 hours into this fiasco I finally get an actual, honest-to-goodness RN who tells me that she has to talk to the doctor.

The next day. I get a call. They are finally going to call in a prescription for medicated eye drops. I breathe a sigh of relief, and by this time, I have tried Carmex and hydrogen peroxide which has pretty much swollen my eye shut.

The next step in that parade was a call from the pharmacy. Oh goodie. A call from the pharmacy. That's never a good thing. They tell me the good news is that they can "order" the medication for me because they don't have it in stock. My bad eye starts twitching letting me know that rage is knocking at my door.

The bad news is that for a little tube of ointment it will cost $86. I can feel better at a nice restaurant for that price. I politely decline as I lose my cherub-like demeanor. Fast forward to the next day and I am realizing that it's easier to get illegal drugs than it is to get a prescription for eye drops.

Finally. I get a call. Breakthrough. SCORE! I pick up a tube of prescription salve for $15. Ah, it's the little things. I should have just rubbed dirt in it.

Be careful out there.

SCHA CFO Hicks retires

After nearly seven years working devotedly as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for South Country Health Alliance (SCHA), Brian Hicks is set to retire in August, bringing an accomplished 43-year career in business and finance to a close.

"Brian's stewardship, dedication and integrity have played an integral role in the success of our organization," said SCHA CEO Leota Lind. "He has worked tirelessly on behalf of our members, providers, counties and staff and viewed each new challenge as an opportunity to make improvements."

Hicks joined SCHA as CFO in 2009, in the midst of a particularly challenging few years for the organization, as SCHA faced financial loss and uncertainty as a viable health plan. During his first year, Hicks worked with the Joint Powers Board, Finance Committee and SCHA staff to help redirect the organization's business goals and strategy. At the same time, he was responsible for reporting financial plans and forecasts to state and federal regulatory agencies and to some county boards.

"Several of the counties had lost confidence in South Country and were close to withdrawing," said Hicks. "By working together with leadership within the company and within the counties, we were able to rebuild South Country's financial strength. South Country has



since enjoyed six straight years of financial gains."

Before SCHA, Hicks worked 25 years at Allianz Life, where he began as an entry-level accountant and progressed to corporate controller and treasurer, claim director and CEO of the company's non-insurance subsidiaries. He then spent three years as CFO for Minnesota Visiting Nurses and four years as director of the Central Business Office for Medical Advanced Pain Specialists.

Hicks held many responsibilities as SCHA's CFO, including financial statement preparation and analysis, reporting, budgeting, audit coordination, general ledger, project management and contract bidding, as well as serving on several executive committees and overseeing the Human Resources and Provider Network Management departments.

"I'm very proud of my time spent at South Country and have enjoyed being able to work with our excellent board and staff," said Hicks. "It's a great organization with a great team of people."

"On behalf of our board and staff, I would like to express our gratitude to Brian for his many contributions to South Country Health Alliance," said Lind. "We are sad to see him leave but are excited for him to have more time to spend with his family and enjoy retirement."

Schufman named new CFO

South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Scott Schufman as Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Schufman comes to the company with an extensive background in finance and business operations and experience in health care and Managed Care Organizations.

"South Country Health Alliance is very fortunate that we were able to find someone of Scott's caliber to fulfill this role," said SCHA CEO Leota Lind. "Scott's vast experience and industry knowledge will make him a great addition to our team. We welcome him and look forward to his contributions to South Country."

Schufman has more than 35 years of financial management experience, previously working as director of business risk management for UnitedHealth Group and CFO for organizations including Metropolitan Health Plan and Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys. He brings with him knowledge and experience in strategic and operational planning, financial analysis and projections, leadership and management, along with an appreciation for SCHA and its community-based mission.



"I'm excited to be here at South Country and do my part to help the company thrive," said Schufman. "There's a real need for the type of health care delivery that we offer, especially to our members in rural areas of the state. South Country's local connection to its communities goes a long way in getting them the services they need."

As CFO, Schufman will be responsible for leading SCHA's financial operation, developing strategic plans and corporate policy, analyzing financial reports and managing and reviewing budgets, regulatory requirements and contract negotiations. Additionally, Schufman will directly supervise SCHA finance staff and participate on internal and external committees and task forces.

Schufman succeeds SCHA's current CFO, Brian Hicks, who recently announced his plans to retire. Hicks will remain with SCHA on a consulting basis until the end of the year.

"Scott will be a great addition to South Country," said Hicks. "His background in health care organizations similar to ours will be especially beneficial, and we're happy to have him on board."

HomeTown Credit makes donation

HomeTown Credit recently presented a check for $500.00 to the Owatonna Foundation.

The Owatonna Foundation, now in its 59th year of serving the Owatonna community, provides capital grants in Owatonna and its environs in four areas: Community, Arts, Recreation, and Education.

The Foundation was established in 1957 with the goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations of Owatonna residents. Since then, the Owatonna Foundation has committed more than $11.7 million dollars in grants to Owatonna projects and annually awards $30,000 in scholarships for both traditional and non-traditional students.

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



Submitted photo

Pictured left to right: Foundation Trustees: Bill Beer, Jay Johnson, Jerry Deetz, Betsy Lindgren, Dale Gandrud, HomeTown Credit Manager, Kim Westphal, and Trustees: Denny Meillier, Dave Einhaus, Ray Stawarz, and Kent Kienholz.

Blooming Prairie Living

J.R. foundation continues to leave legacy



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Top: The kids hold up the "Hook 'em Horns" sign before the 5th annual JR Foundation Golf Event on July 25, 2016. Middle: Karson Vigeland follows through on his drive on the opening hole of the event. Bottom: Kolby Vigeland watches his put glide toward the cup on the final hole.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

Sometimes the greatest thing in life is being able to give back to your community. For Mike Ressler and Melissa Meixner, having a community like Blooming Prairie-that is there for anyone who needs it- is what is allowing for their son's legacy to live on through them.

This past Friday at the Blooming Prairie Country Club, The JR foundation held its 5th annual junior golf tournament which is a tournament strictly for kids.

The JR foundation was established in 2011 to honor the life of Jordan Ressler, son of Mike and Melissa Meixner. Jordan was 16 when he passed away from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. Their mission statement which can be found on their website is "to support aid and promote youth, athletic, and educational programs in and around the surrounding community of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota."

Their mission is to also provide charity, support, aid and outreach to parents who have experienced a tragic loss of a child due to a motor vehicle accident or brain injury. Melissa Meixner said that her son's love of golf is what drove the annual event. "Our son just loved golf and so this is one of things we wanted to do for the charity we created."

Mike Ressler said that prior to the foundation hosting a junior tournament; they held a big 3 person tournament as well as both live and silent auctions.

However, due to the amount of organizations looking for donations, it became more difficult to receive donations.

Ressler mentioned that it became a lot of door knocking, getting things in order and it started to dwindle a bit "We decided to leave it alone and do our junior tournament which is kind of what we wanted to focus on anyway with keeping the kids involved."

This year's turnout brought out twenty kids, ranging from 8 to 16 who, with clubs in hand attacked the course early Friday morning. Both Meixner and Ressler said that the entry fees are covered by the foundation, allowing for kids to be involved in golf one way or another.

Prior to hitting the links, all the kids who were to participate in the event got together so that a group photo could be taken. As the final shot before the start, the kids held up the "Hook 'em" sign with their hands, a nod to Jordan's favorite school, the University of Texas.

Meixner said the turnout has been strong since the inception of the event. "The community of Blooming Prairie has been very supportive of everything we've done.

As a sign of support, Mike's broMeixner said that the money that is raised during the event all finds its way back to the community. They both also mentioned that they donate money to families that had either lost a family member or had life altering injuries from motor vehicle accidents.







Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Blooming Prairie first grade teacher Rachel Harberts explains the LEGO lesson plan she presented with second grade teacher Kim Lea on Tuesday August 2, 2016.

ARKEMA
INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY

Teaming with teachers to make science fun

By JOE TISCHLER
Staff Editor

The 2016-17 school year is right around corner and some teachers in the area are getting a head start on their lesson plans with the help from a team of scientists.

Teachers from Blooming Prairie Elementary School, Willow Creek Intermediate School in Owatonna, and McKinley STEM Elementary in Owatonna partnered with scientists from the Arkema plant in Blooming Prairie for their annual Science Teacher Program, August 1-4.

"There's a perception that there aren't enough kids getting interested in science early," said Arkema site manager David Price. "We expect there will be a shortage of engineers and scientists unless we get kids excited about it. Our job is to get them more interested early on in science and there's no better way to do it than hands-on."

Tuesday, August 2, the six teachers split into three groups to present lesson plans to help make elementary science come to life through hands-on tasks, real-world projects, and relevant technology that engages students.

First grade teacher Rachel Harberts and second grade teacher Kim Lea from Blooming Prairie Elementary School gave a presentation called LEGO Education WeDo 2.0.

The objective of the lesson plan is that students' skills are enhanced across science, engineering, technology, and coding. The unique combination of the LEGO brick, classroom-friendly software, and inspiring, standards-based science projects will result in a resource that builds students' confidence.

"We're finding that without the building blocks of first and second grade teaching science, it's really hard for the upper grades to teach what they need to teach," said Lea. "This LEGO robotics is focusing on the engineering of the component of science which is really problem solving and critical thinking and that's something all kids need to get better at."

Arkema has been hosting Science Teacher programs for 20 years with the Blooming Prairie site hosting the event for 16 years.

The experiment kits used in the program contain enough hands-on material for a class of 30 students, as well as eight weeks of curriculum. Arkema donates $500 to participating teachers, as well as a $500 donation to the school to replenish kit materials.

There is a big emphasis on getting students to reach the necessary standards in reading and math. Those standards can still be focused on through other subjects like those lessons the teachers learned through this program.

"I think the first thing that we need to do is make sure that we're getting kids excited about learning," said Blooming Prairie Elementary School principal Chris Staloch. "When you're doing hands-on stuff with science or social studies or other things like that, you can incorporate that reading and that math into it and then it makes it worthwhile to them. We have to make sure we don't just focus on reading and math."

Other events of the Science Teacher Program including deeper looks at the kits provided and collaborating other program attendees and a trip to the Science Museum of Minnesota.

Blooming Prairie Cancer Group

Cancer Corner

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

Cruise for cancer



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Left to right: Pam Folkens, Jennifer and Phillip Milton with the owner of J&H Liquor Harvey Farr, presenting the canver group with a $750 donation from the Claremont Chamber Gambling Fund. Bottom: 25 dedicated riders braved the weather for the annual Biker's of Blooming ride.

The seventh annual cruise for cancer ride was held on June 25. A group of fourty-four riders enjoyed a 120 mile benefit ride for the B.P. cancer group.

Stopping at participatiing establishmenets in Lyle, Manly, I.A. Glenvile, Hollandale and back to J&H Liquors' for the meal. A donation of $1,712 was raised for the B.P. cancer group.

A Harley Davidson pet carrier bag, valued at $180 was auctioned off. The winner was Steve McCamy.



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"B.O.B." Correction

In the July 26 edition of our publication, there was a miss print with J&H Liquor owner Harvey Farr's name in the Bikers of Blooming article about the annual charity ride for Toys for Tots.

We deeply and sincerly apologize for the mistake that was printed in that issue.

We strive to be able to provide both accuracy and dilgence in our reporting.

We will take the necessary extra steps in the future to prevent an issue like this from happening again.

Ellendale Living

Big risk, big reward: The Gym opens in Geneva

By JESSICA NAFE
Staff Intern

When the risk involves starting a gym in a town of about 550 people, the reward better be pretty large. And it has been for Tim Krohn, co-owner of The Gym in Geneva.

"To drive by and see people using The Gym and to hear positive feedback makes all the hard work and preparation worth it," he said.

Tim Krohn and his wife Brooke own the new workout facility with Dak Sorenson and his wife Lydia, who also own Sorenson's Appliance & TV located across from The Gym. Dak had been trying for years to get Tim involved in starting a gym in the area, and this past year he finally gave in.

"We just kind of jumped for it," Tim said. "Jumped and went!"

The pair was able to buy a building on Main Street from the owner of Commerce Bank. The building had sat vacant for many years, creating a mess for the entrepreneurs to sort through.

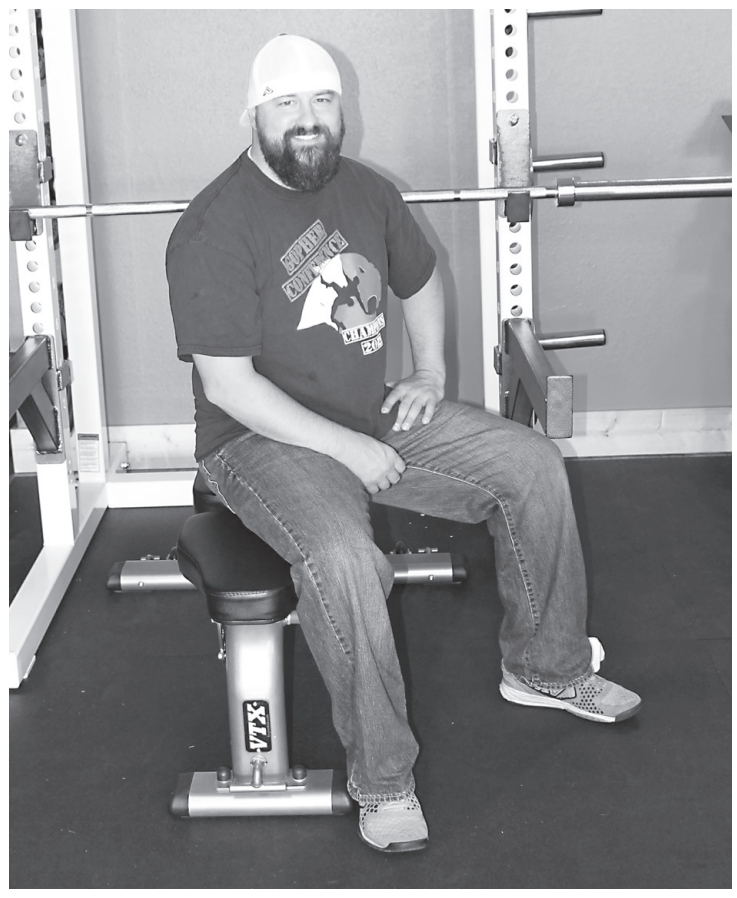
With no heat to keep the cold Minnesota winter away, Tim started doing demolition work on the interior, trying to preserve some of the architecture of the old building, including sections of the brick walls. The brick work got Tim wondering about the building's history, but so far he has only discovered that it served as a hardware store and C&C Liquidators in its time.

"I wanted to keep it original and give it an industrial feel," Tim stated. "Once I got the demo stuff done and the dust cleared out of there, I could start to see it coming together."

A lot of the work on The Gym was done by businesses from Geneva, from framing walls to installing heat and air. Tim said that working together is important for small-town businesses, and he was thankful for the good services the businesses provided.

By the time May rolled around, the building was filled with state-of-the-art equipment, ready to be used by the community. The Grand Opening was on May 14. Community members were welcome to use The Gym for free until June 1, in order to get a feel for the new facility.

Since it opened, business has been booming and positive feedback has been rolling in.



Staff photo by Jessica Nafe

Tim Krohn is co-owner of The Gym, and he plans to help members get the most out of their time at the facility by offering instruction and starting classes like "Insanity" in the fall.

"The numbers that we have had and the interest that we have seen has been pretty impressive, especially for summer," Tim said. Summers tend to be a slow time for gyms in Minnesota, since residents opt to soak up the nice weather instead of being indoors.

Things are looking good for the young business in Geneva, but its owners aren't ready to coast yet.

Tim plans to start offering classes in the back of the gym this fall and winter. Members can look forward to Insanity classes, circuit training, chair exercises for older generations, and possibly some yoga or Zumba sessions. Tim wants to make The Gym more than just a building filled with equipment, but a place that offers a wide range of activities for multiple age groups.

"It's only going to improve," he commented.

Having a gym located in town means people in Geneva and the surrounding towns can get a good workout without having to drive to a larger city. Giving that accessibility to the community is a major reason Tim loves his job, but owning a business wasn't always on his radar.

Tim graduated from MSU with a physical education degree and a corporate business minor. He has held many positions within the fitness world at Northwest Athletic Club, Federated Insurance, and the Faribault Hospital before coming back to NRHEG around 2005.

Back then, having a gym in a small town was unheard of, but eventually gyms started popping up in many cities and the idea of a gym in Geneva wasn't as crazy. Fast forward a few years, and now Tim is co-owner of his own gym.

"It doesn't feel like work when it's all your own," he said. "However it preforms or how it looks like is up to you, and there can be a lot of pride in that if you do it well."

The pride that goes along with owning his own business and the opportunities that the facility is providing for the community makes all the risk of starting The Gym worth it, according to Tim.

"Having a gym or anything in a small town is a gamble," Tim stated. "But we saw a need, and now we're seeing the hard work pay off. There's always things to do and improve on, but we have a good start. I'm excited to see where this will go."

For more details on The Gym or to sign up for a membership, check out their website at www.thegymgeneva.com.

Teens embark on mission trip to Kansas City

By JESSICA NAFE
Staff Intern

Vista Evangelical Covenant Church, New Richland, sent 11 teens to Kansas City, Mo. last week for a six-day mission trip.

With the heat index nearing 130 degrees, the week may have been warm, but a good time was had by all in attendance.

"I had an amazing time on the trip," Kyra Possin, 16, said. "It was a great way to express my love for God outside of my community."

Kylie Rice, Jessica Nafe, Sam Prigge, Brook Thompson, Autumn Thompson, Katey Rice, Kyra Possin, Ethan Thompson, Alyssa Homeier, Kennedy Rice, and Paige Peterson went on the mission trip along with chaperons Julie Knutson, Karen Nafe, and Pastor Steve Thompson. There were four other churches with the Vista crew, for a total of approximately 70 volunteers.

Youth Works, an organization that plans Christ-centered mission trips for teenagers, was in charge of the trip. They set up morning and afternoon service projects, shower sites, sleeping sites, and meals.

Each day began with breakfast and a devotional time, focused on the theme of "First Love" and the passages from 1 John. Groups of about 10 people spent the mornings at different Upper Rooms, learning sites where elementary and middle schoolers advanced their reading skills. The graduation rate in Kansas City is 40 percent, so summer reading programs are important for the community.

The Youth Works teams let students read to them and cleaned up around the churches, community centers, and other buildings that served as Upper Rooms.

"We heard a lot about the kids' home lives while we read," Possin stated. "The Upper Rooms were a big part of our week!"

Some of the Upper Rooms were in rough neighborhoods, like the one that Jessica Nafe was in.

"Duct tape covered cracks on the stairs, there was no air conditioning, and a lot of the kids' toys were broken," she said. "It was a tough neighborhood, and the kids there just craved our love and attention."

Afternoons were spent at a variety of locations. A few work sites that students spent time at were Della Lamb, a community organization offering help to refugees and low-income families; Switzer Community Gardens, a raised-bed garden ran by locals; Harvester's, the largest food bank in the Kansas City area; and Sheffield Neighborhood.

A number of Vista kids worked at the Switzer Community Gardens, fighting to stay cool in the heat while shoveling compost, weeding beds, water plants, and collecting seeds.

"The garden work was a little hard in the heat, but something told me I didn't need to worry about myself; I just needed to help Marcella," Possin said, referring to the woman in charge of the gardens. "We learned a lot about seed saving there!"

One group with a few Vista teens worked at Della Lamb, wrapping Christmas presents for students in Della Lamb's charter school. While they worked, an employee told a handful of stories about some of the refugees that have received aid from Della Lamb.

"A lot of the volunteers at Della Lamb were once refugees themselves," said Nafe. "It was inspiring to see them giving back and heartbreaking to hear the stories of what their lives were like before coming to America."

Another group of Vista members met a woman from the church they slept at that made sleeping mats for the homeless out of plastic bags. It takes 1,500 bags and at least two weeks to make one sleeping mat.

"We were able to get one mat done in a couple days with all of us helping," Sam Prigge, 18, said.

"Weaving the sleeping mats was very inspiring," Brook Thompson, 17, stated.

As the local teens worked throughout the week in Kansas City, they were each impacted in some way by the poverty-stricken city and its people.

"I learned that I can always help people, even if I'm not on a mission trip," Possin said.

Thompson walked away from the trip with a newfound realization. "God loves everyone, no matter race, sex, knowledge, age, or living matters," she said.

No matter what they took away from the trip, it's safe to say that the mission team from Vista Covenant Church had an unforgettable experience serving the people of Kansas City.

"It impacted my faith in so many ways. It was a trip I will never forget," Thompson stated.

Panther Power-Up

By JESSICA NAFE
Staff Intern

For the past three weeks, 58 New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva students have participated in Panther Power-Up, a morning learning program at the Ellendale Elementary School.

Panther Power-Up grows students' science, social studies, math, and literacy skills through hands-on learning activities and was initiated in 2013. "We want kids to have a love of learning," Diana Foster, program coordinator, said. "Learning should be beyond the classroom."

This year's theme was "The Sky's the Limit" and lessons focused around a book entitled "The Boy Who Talked to Loons." The imaginative tale about fishing was written by the late Gary Nordlie, a retired NRHEG High School English Teacher. Going along with the book, many of the program's activities related to birds, specifically those native to Minnesota.

Third grade teacher Megan Wimer led the students going into third grade, and taught the children about quails.

Those going into kindergarten and first grade were led by Shelly Mangskau, a first grade teacher, and Angela Talamantes, a fourth grade teacher.

In addition to daily learning activities, all of the Panther Power-Up students went on a bird-watching expedition on the Pelican Breeze Cruise. Al Batt, a Hartland native and bird enthusiast, guided the students on the adventure that focused on nature and Minnesota birds.

A closing celebration for students and parents was held on July 28 at the Ellendale Elementary School in recognition of a successful three weeks. Each of the teachers presented a few activities that their classes enjoyed, and the students shared a song about loons with the audience members.

Heads filled with bird knowledge, literacy abilities, and learning skills and hearts filled with a newfound love of learning, the students from Panther Power-Up are fully equipped for a successful school year.



Staff photo by Jessica Nafe

Thomas Cliff and Braley Wobschall display their new books. Every student received a copy of "The Boy Who Talked To Loons," from which many of the program's activities were based on.

GRIEF RELIEF



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

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A Simple Eulogy

Transporting the Amish who transported a friend

Story and photos by Mark DeLap

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

I got to meet and learn about Jim Belyou as he was writing the last chapter of his life. I was deeply touched by his life and by his passing. As a basketball coach I would always tell my players, there is an important choice to be made when the clock starts.

You can choose to make an appearance or you can choose to make a difference. I not only live with that choice on the basketball court, but in all of life's pulpit. When you choose to just appear, you count the moments until you are finished with the task at hand and your journey can be a cruel taskmaster. But when you choose to make a difference, you summon the courage and the strength to alter life itself, and lives can be changed all around you. Perhaps a word of encouragement and a small boy doesn't give up.

Perhaps a loaf of bread and a family doesn't go hungry. Perhaps a ride in a red van and a family is transported to a new home. This was a man with an unusual ministry. He provided rides to the Amish. Whether they had to go to the store or relocate to another state, this man and his wife provided the transportation.

When he spoke about his ministry, his eyes would just light up. He not only had a fascination for the Amish, but a love for their simple and dedicated way of life. He didn't adhere to or worship their ways, but here was a man of a different world, permeating the closed culture of these separated people.

He didn't care which culture they embraced, or that their clothing and their ways were different, Jim had a gospel that he didn't preach, but that he lived. The Bible says that God doesn't look upon the outward appearance, but that He looks upon the heart. That's the Father's business.

And Jim was all about his Father's business. No fanfare, no motivation for fortune or fame, he just had that special gift. The gift to be able to look past the differences and see the needs. And see the hearts. The hearts of people that would become close friends and who had a need.

Friends with their proud horses pulling humble carriages and precious cargo. Jim and his wife, Sue didn't make an appearance in this life, they truly made a difference. Especially in the lives of those people you never hear about until one of their buggies is going to slow on a main highway on a Sunday morning.

Now Jim didn't always have the role of "driving Miss Yoder." He made a difference in every endeavor that he encountered and touched lives at every fold on his map. There was a Friday in April about six years ago that I will remember as if it were yesterday. On one hand, Jim won his battle over cancer and death. He made a proclamation there at 8:15 p.m. "I am still alive."

He said. "I am no longer on planet earth, but I am still and now eternally alive. Cancer can't hurt me anymore. I have no pain. Death can't embalm me with fear or stop me, because I've found my path to the other side. I can look death in the eye and say boldly, "Where is your sting?"

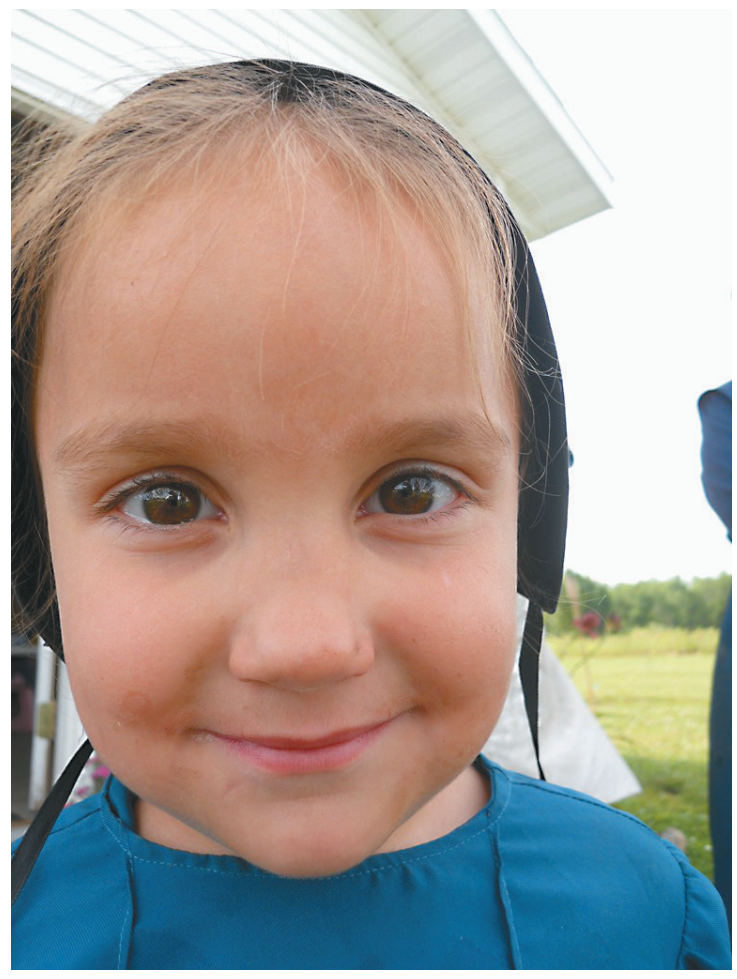
On the other hand, he was ripped too soon from the hearts of those who loved him and were just about to begin the grieving process. The funeral that was held for Jim seemed anticlimactic in light of the dimly lit ICU where the final service was held at his bedside in the moments of his departure.

Let me share with you just a little of what could not have been scripted by Hollywood, but was indeed scripted by the divine. As Robin and I arrived at Saginaw Veteran's Hospital at noon, we felt as if something very powerful was going to happen. Now, I've seen people at death's door, turn around and come back.

Twice I've witnessed people go through that door and come back. Perhaps this was going to be one of those days. Perhaps God would let Jim recover and come back for a little while longer… perhaps to transport just one more Amish family to a new homestead. We were told by Jim's wife that the doctor's update was not good, nor was the prognosis for life, explaining that his kidneys had shut down and his liver was also heading in that same direction.

Soon the body cavity would fill with fluid and he would be gone. As we entered the room, it was a veritable "who's who"







"You provided purpose and vision. There is something so profound about the gift of purpose, and what it can do for another man."

-Mark DeLap



of angels and ministering spirits. Although there were only a handful of family present, we felt crowded in a realm that could only be seen with the human heart. During the day we fellowshipped with family in and out of the room, we sang together, we interceded, we talked about poems, prayers and promises. We even found a time to laugh together. One of Jim's favorite things to do was laugh and we offered it as one of our final gifts.

He told me once, "I love jokes. But I just can't seem to remember how they go the next day." The day had many facets to it. The story I will share with you here and now is simply so powerful, that it too can only fully be appreciated with the heart. We noticed that Jim's breathing had become more and more labored as the day wore on.

Although he had been heavily medicated, we felt that his connection was still with us. By 6 p.m. the "death rattle" was growing louder and more intense, and we knew that like a flood, the bodily fluids were beginning to submerge his lungs. Many visitors had come and gone in the two days that he had spent there, but on this day, people came and didn't want to leave. Somehow, we wanted to be standing at the shore when his ship sailed. And what an honor and a privilege to be anointed and appointed to walk someone to that door.

That our faces will be forever remembered as the last faces he would see on this side of eternity. Even that Amish family that Jim had driven on so many occasions were supposed to be coming up later in the evening to say their good-byes. I kept encouraging family members to talk with Jim and speak with him while his spirit was still listening. Listening, they say, is the last to go.

I heard Sue tell Jim on more than one occasion, "I love you honey. Melvin's Amish family... they're coming to see you tonight. They'll be here in just a little while. By 7:50 the labored breathing had gone to shallow breaths, pushed out like contractions every few minutes.

As if he were birthing his own death. With the lengthening shadows outside, the room seemed to grow dark and quiet. I went quickly to the lounge and found scattered family members and told them, "His breathing is weak. It's close to the end." At 7:55 there was a muffled but bustling procession in the hallway, and suddenly there were bonnets and long dark dresses, hand-made quilts, men with beards and simple black hats.

Jim's precious Amish family had arrived to say "good-bye." There we stood in a circle around the bed. I had Jim's left hand in my right hand and his wife, Sue as next to me. She looked tired and worn as the events of the past few months had started to take a toll, and the reality of the moment had come to rest in those weary eyes. Melvin was directly across from me holding Jim's other hand and completing the sphere.

The circle we created around Jim was unbroken as his breathing seemed to stop and start without any rhyme or rhythm. I asked Sue if it would be alright to sing him home. She welcomed it in the midst of that heavy silence. We started to sing the song "Amazing Grace."

Amidst the tears and broken voices, it seemed as if that music spilled out of that room and down the hallway into other rooms in that Hospice corridor. What a sight it must have been. The Amish clothed in their simplicity, interspersed with those of us who seemed to be from another place and time.

Hand in hand, all singing boldly, loudly – the same words. The same song. All of us on the same spiritual hymnal page of this day. All saying "good-bye" this one last time to this man who was already at that moment waving from afar and disappearing from our eyes.

I realized that it was Jim's life that brought even different cultures hand in hand unified in song and purpose. I remember starting that first stanza, and when we came to the end of it, the song was continued by an Amish gentleman on the other side of the bed as he began the second verse, "Twas grace that taught my heart to fear…"

When we got to the very end of the second verse, with that final word, we knew that was as far as we would go with Jim still with us. With the words, "the hour I first believed," there was a last gasp as his spirit lifted gently from his body.

One last squeeze from his hand and he was gone. I didn't know if anyone else had felt it, but I knew that everyone continued to hold on tightly to this moment. There was silence. A peaceful silence, and then through the darkness, I heard Robin begin to sing the Lord's Prayer as others began to join in. I reached down to feel for the pulse of his life but knew that I wouldn't feel it.

I kissed him gently on the forehead and left quietly for the nurse. Jim didn't lose a battle with cancer, he won a battle over hell, death and the grave. As I ministered to those embracing and in tears, I realized something very special. That these people that Jim transported were his ministry. I told them that.

"You were his ministry." I said and continued, "You provided purpose and vision. There is something so profound about the gift of purpose, and what it can do for another man." And what a beautiful ending to life here on earth that to be fully surrounded in death by his ministry that he loved so much. It was an almost surreal night.

Certainly a humbling night to stand at the crossroads of one who, with one blink of the eye… is home. To suddenly be able to feel the life in your hands, release and go forth to a place where those who believe it and live their belief will one day call home. There are no more comforting quotes from the book, at a time like that, than this quote from Jesus Himself. "I will see you again."

For a Christian, these words are a balm of peace for a wounded soul. Jim had the ability to bring people together. Perhaps you reading this today is just another way with bringing you face to face with someone you've never met or a culture you've never embraced. I think Jim would enjoy knowing that. Knowing he had a hand in it. And just maybe, your love for him, or your desire to see him or perhaps another loved one who has passed, will cause you to seek out the only one who knows the way home. As a proper finish to the story, Jim's body was transported to the grave site by way of Amish horse and wagon specially fashioned for just such an occasion.

A reaping in death of what was sown in life. Jim Belyou didn't just make an appearance on this earth. He made a difference. And if all of us are touched in some way by the courage he had and the life he lived, then truly that life is still making a difference long after his passing.

For a video look at Jim's funeral and the Amish procession to the gravesite, please visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivK6Vcqp9Gs"



Captions clockwise: 1 - Lisa Yoder of Vestaburg, Michigan. 2 - The hand crafted Amish buggy created to carry Jim Belyou's coffin. 3 - Sue and Jim Belyou of Vestaburg, Michigan 4 - Melvin and Daniel Yoder discuss a very special funeral procession. 5 - Amish funeral for the English. 6 - Amish road sign.

OwatonnaLiving

New dock installed at Lake Chase by way of Cabela's

By JOSH ZIMMER
County Staff Writer



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

The dock at Lake Chase allows for people who go to fish a larger casting range. The dock was opened to the public on July 26, 2016 thanks to the Cabela's fun grant.

For local fishermen of the Owatonna area, Lake Chase may provide the new lucky spot to catch the big one, thanks to a Cabela's grant.

The Park and Recreation Department of Owatonna recently installed a new dock at the lake. The installation marked a pivotal moment in the continued upgrades that have been ongoing at the location for the last four years. Tim Truelson, an assistant director at the department, said that this should allow the lake to be more accessible for a variety of fishers. "We wanted the lake to be more handicap accessible for people in wheelchairs or disabilities," he said.

Truelson also mentioned that the project was something that they have been imagining since receiving the land roughly five years ago. Prior to the lake being public property, the lake was within the boundaries of private land. It was donated by a family who chose to name the lake after one of their sons, Chase. Once the department received the lake and the surrounding land, Truelson noticed that it wasn't very fishing friendly. "It was pretty natural. There wasn't a beach, and the people who were fishing there had to stand on uneven rocks because there wasn't a shoreline," he added.

However, once the land became public, Cabela's, a nationally recognized hunting and fishing store, started a project called "Friends of Lake Chase." Truelson said that in the beginning, the store held fundraisers and even did some preservation work. "They put in some sand and helped make a shoreline along the accessible points of the lake," he said. He also noted that, along with building a shoreline for people fishing to stand on, they also planted trees in the area.

As for the fundraisers the store held, the department received roughly $4,000 from their efforts. Not a bad sum. However, Truelson said that when he found out from an employee at the store that they have a "Cabela's Fun Grant", the department started to follow up for details. The Cabela's fun grant is a particular sum of money out of the budget that can be used by the store for an outdoor venture. "Each store is allotted so much money, although I'm not sure of how the particulars are sorted out," Truelson added.

In efforts to secure more money for the upgrade, the department applied for the grant and was notified that they would receive a sum of roughly $4,000 to go toward Lake Chase. Matching that with the previous $4,000 the department received from the store's fundraisers, Truelson said they dipped into another project, making 50 percent of the funds needed. "We took it to the city council, and the council approved the other 50 percent needed," he said. With the funds now equal, the next step was to order the dock.

Truelson said that MinnCorp, a company that they are familiar with, constructed the all the sections for the dock. The dock was constructed in a T-shape and is more than 30 feet long and eight to 10 feet wide. The end of the dock splits roughly 10 feet on each side. Because docks are ordered and constructed in sections, once they all arrived the department's staff constructed and installed it into the water at Lake Chase. Truelson noted that with the dock now open for public use, people who go to Lake Chase to fish will have the chance to have better opportunities for reeling in the monster. "The length of the dock allows for people fishing the ability to reach the deepest part of the lake," he said. He added that the lake is stocked every so often with various fish, with walleyes and bass being the most prominent. Some of the fish, such as walleye, have an array of feeding grounds but prefer open water during the day, the most notable time for people to be fishing.

Despite a major chunk of the project being finished, the department is now in the process of continuing to make the fishing hole accessible for everyone. Truelson added that there are still some areas that are being completed. "We leveled off the area but we still have some grass that needs to be planted," he said. He also noted that they're in the process of leveling off gravel paths around the shoreline.

In the future, the Owatonna Park and Recreation Department hopes to add an area that will allow small boats access to the water. "It's not a big lake so they're won't be any motor-propelled boats but we are hoping to create access for canoes and kayaks," he said.

As the finishing touches continue to be added to the lake, Truelson said that the project would probably still be in the beginning stages if not for the businesses and community support. "Cabela's is a company that hasn't been in the area too long, and it's great that they are giving back to the community and trying to enhance the outdoors," he said.

Feel the heat: hot yoga studio now open in Owatonna

By JESSICA NAFE
Staff Intern

Owatonna's first ever hot yoga studio, Sollid Yoga, opened on July 1. Yoga participants, both novice and experienced, enjoy the heated activity and all its benefits to body and mind.

"I've had so many people come up to me after class and say it felt so good and that they are glad we are here in the community," said Katie Sollid, Sollid Yoga owner and teacher.

Hot yoga is a form of yoga characterized by hot and humid conditions. Sollid Yoga's studio is kept between 85 and 90 degrees and 30 to 60 percent humidity. Yoga in its self has a plethora of physical and mental benefits, but the high temperatures of hot yoga lead to even more merit.

The warm conditions allow yoga participants' muscles to heat up, making stretching easier and harder poses more obtainable and safe. High levels of sweating promote healthy skin and rids the body of toxins. Hot yoga can help heal injuries, as it allows the muscles to stretch further in a safe way.

Sollid admits that she is not a flexible person, but she found that the heat in hot yoga allows her to do poses with ease that would otherwise be difficult.

"I think people just need to try it because even if you don't like the heat outside, it's much different when you are in here," Sollid stated.

She fell in love with hot yoga a few years back after undergoing back surgery. The doctors told Sollid that she would never be able to do physical activity again, but after one and half years she was miserable and needed an active outlet. The deep stretching that a hot yoga studio in Austin offered was her answer, and it was there that Sollid found her calling.

"I just felt so much better, and I wanted to share that with people," she said.

Leaving her job at a large marketing corporation, Sollid began taking classes in Austin through a program out of Devanadi Yoga, a nationally renowned school of yoga and wellness located in Minneapolis. She will graduate from the program in November and receive her Registered Yoga Teacher 200, or RYT 200.

A building on West Bridge Street underwent a transformation, going from gutted walls to a tranquil studio. Sollid worked hard to turn the building into a peaceful and friendly environment.

"I wanted everyone to feel welcome and just feel good," she stated. "Not like they have to look or be a certain way."

One way that Sollid accomplished that wish was by forgoing mirrors in the yoga studio. She did not want people to see reflections and worry about appearances and external factors, as yoga focuses on inward awareness.

With one month of successful business down, Sollid is excited to see what the future holds. She hopes eventually to outgrow her current studio and possibly open up a second location. With 150 customers in the last three weeks alone, expansion is looking likely.

"You always have to have goals," Sollid commented.

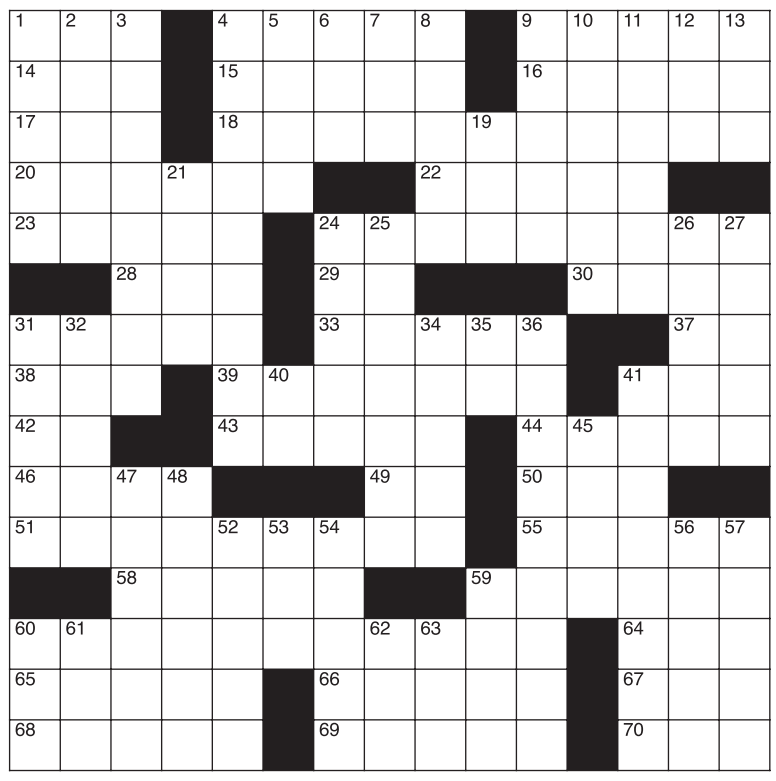
Since she now owns her own business and is about to graduate, her next goal is obtaining her RYT 500. Opening up her own business may have been a scary venture in the beginning, but Sollid is thankful for taking the chance and wouldn't trade it for the world.

"Every day I walk in here, and it's still a shock," she said. "I can't believe it's really happening."

She is thankful for the other teachers at her studio, as well. Three other certified yoga instructors work at Sollid Yoga, and Sollid feels lucky to have them on board.

YOGA
Continued on page 6C

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS
1. Greenwich Time
4. English sailor missionary
9. Type of wheat
14. Wreath
15. Hesitate
16. Hollyhocks
17. Not even
18. Former talk show host
20. Rugged mountain range
22. Greek muse
23. Ancient Greek comedy
24. Jeopardizes
28. Singer DiFranco
29. Calcium
30. Employee stock ownership plan
31. Gemstones
33. Got the job
37. Tantalum
38. Red deer
39. Not a pro
41. Coffee alternative
42. Aluminum
43. Northern Italian language
44. Smart __: Wiseacre
46. Sanskrit rulers (pl.)
49. __ hoc
50. Mousse
51. Closures
55. Russian lake
58. Small lunar crater
59. Appear with
60. Beginning
64. Type of Chinese language
65. Jewish composer
66. Sensation of flavor
67. Payment (abbr.)
68. High-class
69. Clocked
70. Midway between east and southeast

CLUES DOWN
1. Shine
2. They spread the news
3. Indicates water limits
4. Determines value
5. Capital of Okinawa
6. Chinese river
7. Sign language
8. Passover feast and ceremony
9. Yemen capital
10. A tributary of the Missouri River
11. Sounds
12. Andorra-La Seu d'Urgell Airport
13. Korean name
19. A metal-bearing mineral valuable enough to be mined
21. Outer layer
24. African nation (Fr.)
25. From Haiti
26. Polish river
27. Paul Henri __, Belgian statesman
31. Retailer
32. Supreme being
34. Tears into pieces
35. European Union
36. Coerced
40. She ran the Barker gang
41. Send wire
45. Optical device
47. __ Bond, civil rights leader
48. Cigar
52. Spiritual being
53. Possess
54. Thomas __, English poet
56. Dials
57. Sharp mountain ridge
59. Pigeon shelter
60. Month
61. Letter of the Greek alphabet
62. A citizen of Thailand
63. Suffix

Frank Joseph Wencl immigrated from Bohemia to Litomysl in 1871, Blooming Prairie Township, where he bough land, farmed & raised 11 children.

His decendents are all invited to this

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Bring your own dishes & silver, lawn chairs, beverages, pictures, memorabilia, old cars, etc

Bring an item for Silent Auction
(goody basket, homemade item, baked goods, wine, etc)

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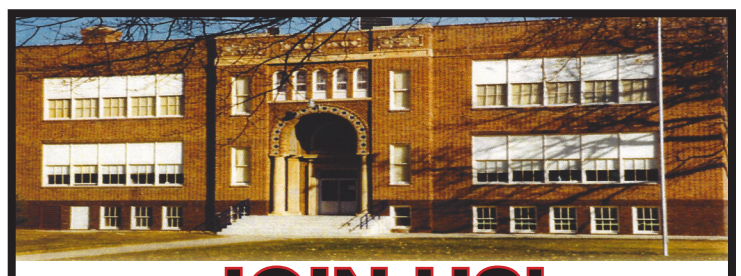
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Roosevelt School is hosting a Meet & Greet of past Staff, Students, Families & Friends!

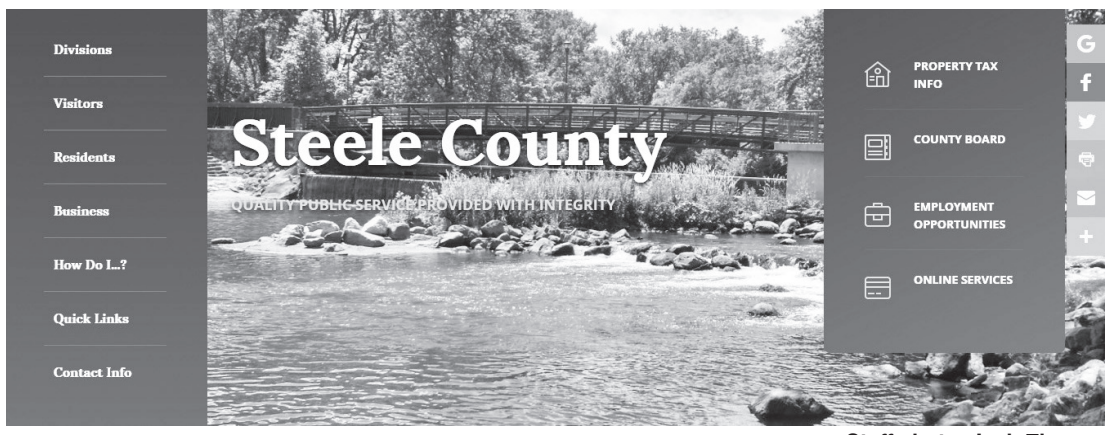
Sat., Aug.20th • 3 - 5 p.m.

WEEKEND OF STEELE COUNTY FAIR
Dartts Park Pavilion • Use Cherry Street entrance

Please Spread the Word!

If you have mementos for Show and Tell, we'd love to see them and hear your stories.
No refreshments will be served.

Steele County website receives a fresh,new look.



Staff photo: Josh Zimmer

The new county website is up and running for community members to utilize. The site was a project six months in the making to allow users easier accessibility to information.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

For the citizens of Steele County, looking for information on the county website may not be as difficult as it's previously been thanks to a recently received upgrade.

The Steele County website received an upgrade that Laura Elvebak, a county administrator, says was long overdue. "It needed a fresher look and be more current," she said.

Prior to the redesign, Elvebak said that the website wasn't updated in many years and that the information wasn't always the most accessible.

While she has only held the position for roughly two years, Elvebak said that talks of an upgrade were in the making far before she arrived. "There were rumblings of it needing an upgrade and when I took over the plan started to fall into place," she added.

In a process that took roughly six months to complete, Elvebak said that they initially had created a committee comprised of some of their top user departments. She noted that the reason behind this is because some departments update their pages more frequently than others creating more familiarity with both the possible problems and the solutions to alleviate the issues. "Getting representatives from those departments involved early and throughout the process was crucial," she said. Elvebak so mentioned that once the committee was set up, the ability to get the board involved in the process to move the process along was also a factor.

The county spent a total of $10,000 on the redesign of the site which is now up and running for the public to use. Elvebak said that users will be able to find all of the same information that they could on the previous design but that it is a much smoother layout. "They will still be able to see the jail roster, council meeting schedules and budget plans," she said.

The front of the page is set to a slideshow feature which circulates photos of some of the landscape of the area. Laid in front of the photos is the lettering Steele County with "Quality public service provided with integrity" laid underneath it.

On the right hand side of the page, users will be able to find all of their social media icons that have embedded hyperlinks.

Elvebak also mentioned that users will now the ability to subscribe for notifications. "They will be able to receive a real time notice on things or events uploaded to the site," she explained.

Elvebak added to that by saying the notification will be delivered through an email or a text message to the user's phone.

While the site is up and running, Elvebak said that it's still a work in progress. "We're still in the process of organizing the site, putting information on there for the public," she said.

With the site being fairly new, Elvebak said that they haven't heard a ton of feedback but are certainly looking forward to more. "We're interested in hearing folk's perceptions and reactions to the page," she continued. She also added that they would like to the community feedback that way if there's information that isn't on there that should be, the staff can immediately adjust to implement the needed information.

Gym offers a variety of classes

YOGA: from page 5C

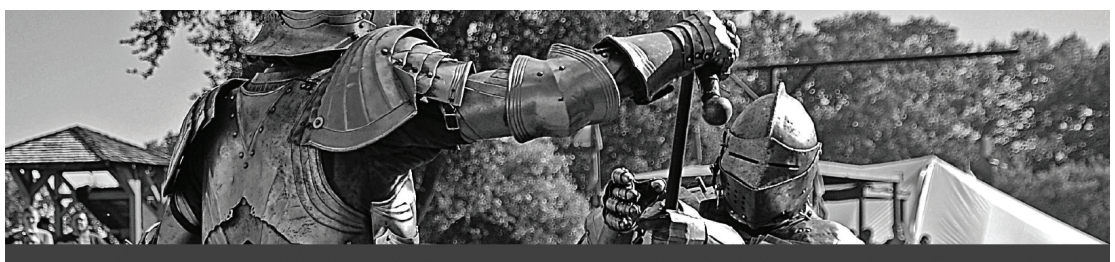
Having four instructors allows for a wide variety of classes. Sollid Yoga offers Vinyasa, Hatha, Flow, Sculpt, Barre, Yin, Restorative, and Gentle classes. She wants to make sure that each customer feels comfortable in the class that they are in.

"You may think that yoga is yoga, but it's so much more than that." she said.

Not only does yoga have depth in its types, but in its focus. "You feel like you are leaving everything on the floor here when you leave," she said.

It can be mental or spiritual, but it is completely their choice, according to Sollid.

Whether you can touch your toes or not, Sollid urges people



Steele County Public Records

Steele County • May 2016

Births

Muntaha Isack Hassan, Parents: Fadumo Ali and Isack Hussein, June 1
Aqsa Mohamed Ahmed, Parents: Mulyun Amin and Mohamed Warsame, June 2
Saylah Jane Rolloff, Parents: Jane and Brandon, June 3
Adam Joseph Furch, Parents: Sydney and Jacob, June 3
Elliott Jayne Schroeder, Parents: Ashley and Dane, June 3
Soren Todd Andrix, Parents: Kristen and Todd, June 3
Charleigh Ruth Saufferer, Parents: Emily and Jeremy, June 7
Thomas Gary Mohr, Parents: Rebecca and Jeremy, June 7
Maci Marie Anderson, Parents: Elizabeth and Travis, June 8
Riley Renee Kohn, Parents: Cassandra and Jonathan, June 9
Nolan Martin Monson, Parents: Emily and Andrew, June 9
Asher William Pederson, Parents: Stephanie and Nicholas, June 10
Hunter James Anderson, Parents: Kristin and James, June 11
Aveline Marcelina Westphall, Parents: Aileen Gutierrez and Dylan Westphall, June 14
Marwan Abdikadir Mohamed, Parents: Habiba Mohamed and Abdikadir Abdi, June 14
Adalynn Marie Christofferson, Parent: Danielle Evans, June 14
Camden John Koenig, Parents: Kady and Thomas, June 15
Deegan Markus Seykora, Parents: Heidi and Steven, June 15
Braiden Konner McFarland, Parents: Alissa and Sean, June 16
Drew Frederick Johnson, Parents: Megan and Theodore, June 18
Levi Alexander Mundt, Parents: Jessica and Bryant, June 20
Hudson James Prondzinski, Parents: Melissa and Jason, June 21
Cayden Anthony Lee Tanner, Parent: Scarlett, June 22
Fynn James Mason, Parent: Olivia Jensen, June 22
Gusley Charles Johnson, Parent: Nicole, June 23
Tre'sure Trinae Foreist, Parent: Shadunna Davis, June 23
James Allen Lopez, Parents: Jennifer and Ruben, June 23
Easton Ward Gedicke, Parents: Christine and Matthew, June 25
Oliver Benjamin Jewison, Parents: Dominique and Benjamin, June 27
Maida Abdirashid Jama, Parents: Fatuma Ahmed and Abdirashid Muse, June 28
Ethan David Gendron, Parents: Lauren and Nathaniel, June 30

Deaths

Kenneth Charles Ginter, 52, Owatonna	June 1
Debra Lea Van Cleave, 54, Owatonna	June 3
Charles Francis Fuller, 76, Owatonna	June 4
Helen Virginia Campbell, 79, Dexter	June 6
Arlene Frances Wacholz, 82, Owatonna	June 8
David Leroy Jensen, 81, Owatonna	June 10
Clair Norman Dahl, 87, Ellendale	June 12
Robert Kenneth Campbell, 83, Owatonna	June 12
Joeann Beverly Salzwedel, 82, Owatonna	June 14
Donna Mae Gedicke, 80, Owatonn	June 14
John Lee Hartle, 83, Owatonna	June 15
Nadeane Faye Dulas, 83, Blooming Prairie	June 16
Beverly Jane Hanners, 85, Owatonna	June 17
Mary Ann Janous, 90, Owatonna	June 17
Bernadette Cecelia Anderson, 86, Owatonna	June 18
Nathan Lee McFarland, 32, Austin	June 22
Kenneth Wayne Jones, 86, Owatonna	June 22
Todd Eugene Karaus, 50, Owatonna	June 22
Terry Ronald Johnson, 68, Owatonna	June 24
Darrell Don Slack, 56, Owatonna	June 24
Joshua Donald Prodoehl, 42, Faribault	June 24
Richard William Jurgensen, 22, Minneapolis	June 26
Joyce Ann Kilness, 55, Medford	June 26
Scott Charles Borchardt, 57, Owatonna	June 29

Marriages

Jeremy Scott Underdahl & Erin Nichole Schwering, June 4
Michael David Ressler & Alysa Joy Alwes, June 4
Michael Gerald Haglund & Ashley Marie Jurek, June 4
Wesley Patrick Johnson & Molly Jean Penny, June 5
Gregory Fitzgerald Crawford & Charlena Marie Lewis, June 5
Joseph Alan Curry & Sarah Dawn Zasoski, June 9
Timothy Rodney Johnson & Margaret Steyn, June 10
Paige Elizabeth Vanzuilen & Alex Allan Hohertz, June 10
Caryn Camille Yankoviak & John Philip Iacovino, June 10
Daniel Everett Miner & Rebecca Jean Barber, June 11
Aaron Donald Olson & Alysia Alexandria Stephan, June 11
Rachel Lynn Miller & Jon Steven Krejci, June 11
Jerry Dean Shouse & Phyllis Lee Shouse, June 14
Daniel Lee Nielsen & Elizabeth Marie Ventry, June 15
Christian Augusto Ornelas & Chelsea Jo Einerwold, June 17
Ashley Irene Rye & Charles Michael Marquardt, June 18
Robert Lawrence Spear & Debra Lynn Caldrone, June 18
Mark Lewis Kilgore& Brandie Ann Klingus, June 18
Garrett Tracy Samson & Heidi Marie Hope, June 18
Gabriel Kona Hart& Amber Lynn Seljeseth, June 18
Devon Kenneth Tapp & Charity Lynn Titus, June 20
Parker Christian Butler& McKinzy Faith Lohberger, June 24
Brent William Glende & Ashley Michelle Jensen, June 25
Caleb Jon Kottke & Madeline Lee Statlander, June 25
Kathryn Jeanne Simon & Daniel William Glaser, June 25
Matthew Dee Chandler & Kristen Lee Ramirez, June 28

Divorces

Tara Lynn Miller and Ryan Anthony Miller
Holly Marie Drennan and Jeffrey Steven Drennan
Troy J. Gunderson and Tracy Jo Gunderson
Amity Kay Torres and Mario Alberto Torres
Sarah Renee Houdek and Ronald James Houdek
Matthew Aaron Clark and Jacqueline L. Clark
Ian Kent Kleeberger and Megan Lea Kleeberger
Jesse John Lemm and Whitney Nicole Wood
Alex William Diel and Sara Ann Diel
Jeffrey Dale Pratt and Teresa Marie Pratt

Solution from 5C

G	M	T	■	A	N	G	A	S	■	S	P	E	L	T
L	E	I	■	P	A	U	S	E	■	A	L	C	E	A
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S	I	E	R	R	A	■	■	E	R	A	T	O	■	■
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■	■	A	N	I	■	C	A	■	■	■	E	S	O	P
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T	O	N	E	Y	■	T	I	M	E	D	■	E	S	E

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(2) GE ELEC-TRAK LAWN TRACTORS

ANTIQUES
HOUSEHOLD
TOOLS

LOCATION:1695 Crestview Ln., Owatonna, MN 55060.

Sat., August 13, 2016
10 A.M.

HOUSEHOLD
Maytag top load washer and electric dryer (white) – Frigidaire 14.8 cu. ft. upright refrigerator, top freezer (white) – 52" Oak "S" top roll-top desk (like new) – Lots of games and puzzles – Sewing table – Buttons – Lace – Quilting fabric – Lots of thread and Serger thread – Yarn – Christmas ornaments – Cross-stitch books – Card making books – Card making supplies – Large card stamping collection – Ironing board – Hoover upright vacuum (3 months old) – Yard statues – Patio set w/6 chairs and lounge swing – Small oak table (nice) – Stereo system w/speakers – (2) Card tables – Suitcases – Twin bed w/bolsters – 2-piece bedroom set w/bookcase headboard – More on auction day.

(2) ELECTRIC LAWN TRACTORS
General Electric-Trak E12 w/48" front deck, 42" dozer blade – General Electric-Trak E15 w/42" front deck, 42" snowblower – Neuton electric push mower.

TOOLS - MISCELLANEOUS
Sears 3' lawn roller, pull-type – Estate 4' yard rake – 36" Lawn sweeper – Dobbins power lawn sprayer – Craftsman 5 hp shredder (like new) – Yard cart – B/D 3½ hp string trimmer, push – LawnBoy push mower – Toro power shovel – Remington electric chain saw – Black Cat air compressor – 2-wheel lawn fertilizer cart – Workmate 500 22" hedge trimmer – Sears 1/2 hp bench grinder – 6' Windmill – Lots of forks and shovels – Electric cords – Large mailbox – Electric fencer – Metal gas cans – Large bolt cutter – Small vise – Sears 12" band saw and sander – Craftsman 2/3 hp belt and disc sander – Craftsman 16" scroll saw – 1/2" Junior drill – Craftsman radial arm saw – 6" Pro-Tech bench grinder – Makita drill and grinder – Metal 10-drawer bolt bin – 40-piece tap & die set – Health Kit battery eliminator 6 and 12 – 3-M Tic-6 circuit tracer kit – 3M WI 116 multi wire identifier kit – Lots of fuses and capacitors – Large drill bit set – Uniden 40-channel CB – Lawn and garden tools. Many items not listed.

ANTIQUES
Oak 3-drawer dresser – Cosco stepstool – Hobnail table lamp – Oak bookcase – Red and white enamel coffeepot – Hercules floor safe – EZ corn popper – Gilbert chemistry outfit – Vinyl 33 records – White oak desk and chair – Singer 6-drawer treadle sewing machine – Barn lantern – Oak desk out of Owatonna Hospital – Washtub – 1939 Monarch bike (nice) – Milk cooler – Slate bottom rocker – Pattern area rug – Union stoneware 4 gal. butter churn – (2) Stone jugs – Westinghouse table fan – Kerosene lanterns – (2) Shot cans – Youth chair – Ingraham mantel clock – Hand carved birds – (6) Oak chairs, 1 captain's – (10) Rockwell collector plates – Cow bells – Platform rocker w/wooden arms (nice) – Old globe – Cast-iron kids stove – (2) Softball mitts – (2) Tractor seat chairs – Cane fishing pole – Milk can, 10 gal. – Reel mower – Kid's sand shovels – Set of linemen spikes – Old pictures and frames.

AUCTIONEER'S COMMENT: Don and Maxine are moving to Park Place and selling their beautiful home. Don worked over 45 years at Steele Waseca Co-op Electric. Maxine has a special talent for crafts, and that's what she loves doing. Please come for the day and check out all the beautiful items. Lunch and portable toilet available. Thank you, Dennis.

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

Don & Maxine Larson
OWNERS
1695 Crestview Ln. • Owatonna, MN 55060

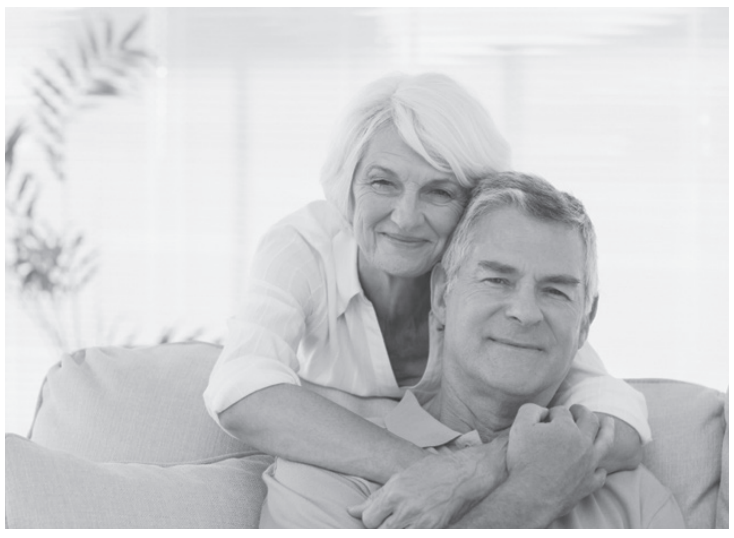
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How to determine if downsizing is for you



As men and women retire or approach retirement age, many opt to downsize their homes. Such a decision can save older adults substantial amounts of money while also liberating them from the hassle of maintaining large homes they no longer need.

Downsizing to smaller homes or apartments is a significant step, one that homeowners should give ample consideration before making their final decisions. The following are a handful of tips to help homeowners determine if downsizing to smaller homes is the right move.

• Get a grip on the real estate market. Downsizing is not solely about money, but it's important that homeowners consider the real estate market before putting their homes up for sale. Speak with a local realtor or your financial advisor about the current state of your real estate market. Downsizing can help homeowners save money on utilities, taxes and mortgage payments, but those savings may be negated if you sell your house in a buyer's market instead of a seller's market. If you think the current market won't get you the price you are hoping for, delay your downsize until the market rebounds.

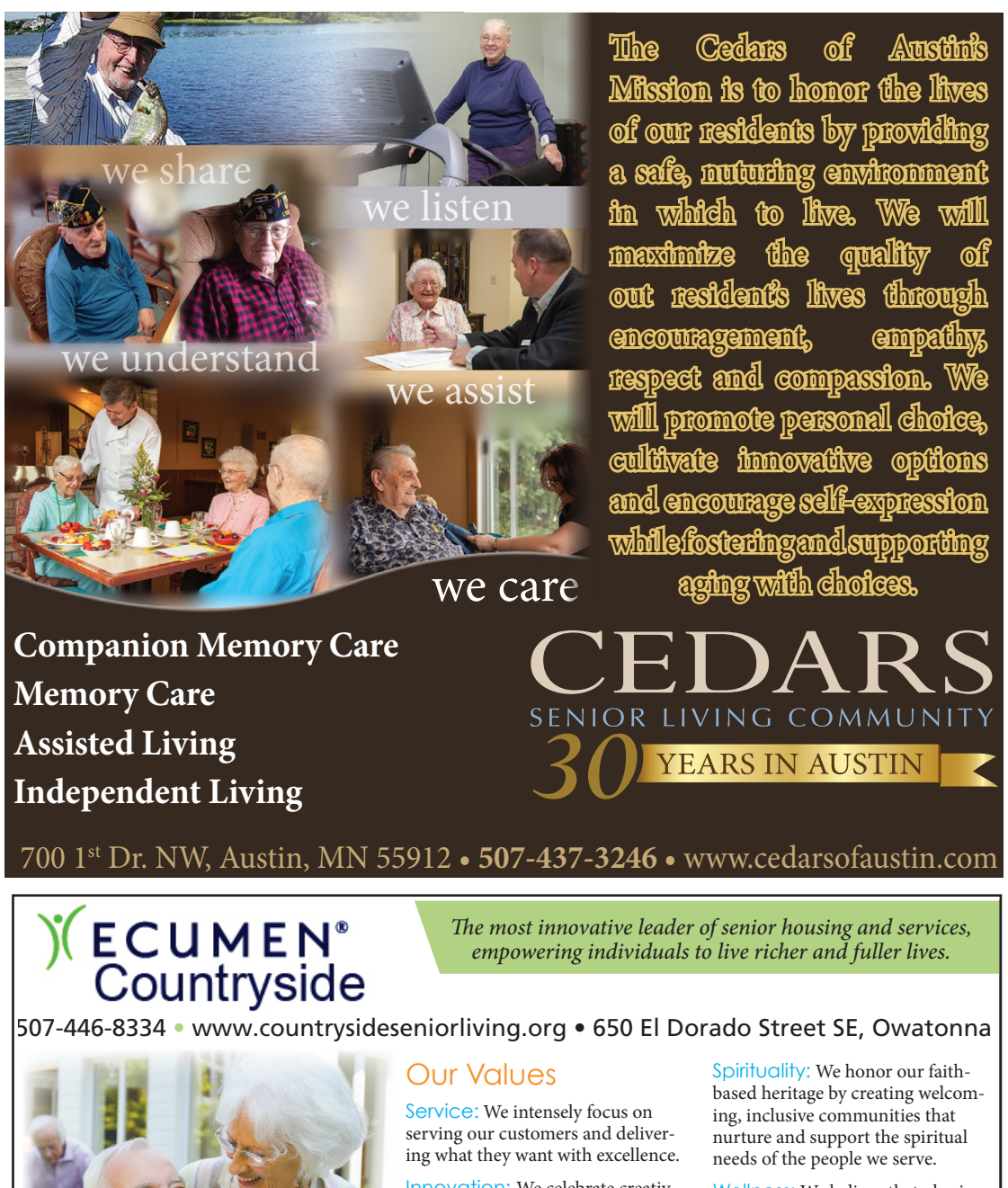
• Take inventory of what's in your house. Empty nesters often find that their homes are still filled with their children's possessions, even long after those children have entered adulthood and left home. If the storage in your home is dominated by items that belong to your children and not you, then downsizing might be right for you. Tell your children you are thinking of downsizing and invite them over to pick through any items still in your home. Once they have done so and taken what they want, you can host a yard sale, ultimately donating or discarding what you cannot sell. Once all of the items are gone, you may realize that moving into a smaller place is the financially prudent decision.

• Examine your own items as well. Your children's items are likely not the only items taking up space in your home. Take inventory of your own possessions as well, making note of items you can live without and those you want to keep. If the list of items you can live without is extensive, then you probably won't have a problem moving into a smaller home. If you aren't quite ready to say goodbye to many of your possessions, then you might benefit from staying put for a little while longer.

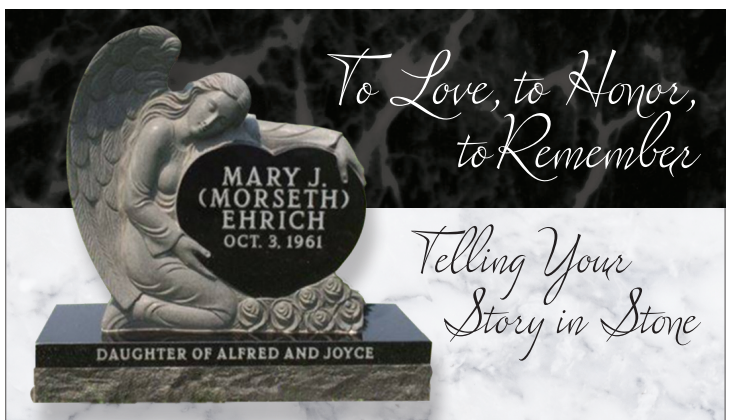
• Consider your retirement lifestyle. If you have already retired or on the verge of retirement and plan to spend lots of time traveling, then downsizing to a smaller home may free up money you can spend on trips. And if you really do see yourself as a silver-haired jetsetter, then you likely won't miss your current home because you won't be home frequently enough to enjoy it. If travel is not high on your retirement to-do list but you have a hobby, such as crafting, restoring classic cars or woodworking, that you hope to turn into a second profession, then you might benefit from staying put and converting your existing space into a workshop.

Many retirees downsize their homes, but this decision requires careful consideration of a variety of factors.


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HOMETOWN EXTRA
OWATONNA

From meth to miracle to mentor



Photo by Mark DeLap



Submitted photo

Ray Snesrud



Submitted photo

Justin Lindgren 2012

Justin Lindgren today

...And then the voices that convinced him that to overdose was the way of escape. It's a very convincing voice as proven by tens of thousands who believe that lie every year. And. They simply. Check. Out.

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

Many are the excuses for drug use. Some are valid, some are bogus. While there is no excuse that is good enough to justify the use of illegal or the abuse of any drug, certainly there are some who have a story to tell as to how they arrived to that place of torment.

Over 47,000 people have died from drug overdoses in the most recent statistical information given out by the CDC (Center for Disease Control). Coffins are where many people go to escape the pain that the drug could not stop.

In the midst of the horrific, there are a few bright spots. Interspersed among the meth and the mess and the mire are miracles.

Justin Lindgren has been given one of those. But to receive a miracle, you need to find yourself in an impossible situation where every option has been exhausted and all reasonable explanation is fruitless. A miracle.

Lindgren's key to unlocking his prison, ironically, came while he was literally in prison. The road that led him there was long and winding and filled with a lot of pain. "I wouldn't have changed a thing," Lindgren said. "I made my mistakes, paid the price, and every moment made me who I am today."

Incredible sage and outlook from one who ingested an unhealthy diet as a child. Although he was born in Owatonna into a parental warzone, that war eventually ended and his parents divorced. He stayed with perhaps the greater of two evils and lived with an alcoholic mother and her abusive boyfriend.

"I would go to visit my dad in Owatonna on weekends, but had a lot of rage," Lindgren said. "I was angry all the time. My mom's boyfriend would abuse me and I didn't tell my dad." That pent up anger fueled his rage and his acting out for attention turned into many fights in school. The south metro region of the Twin Cities was a scary place and rather than be scared, he became the scary one.

By the time he was 10 years old he had already tried marijuana. "I used to steal pot from my mom and sell it so I could buy cigarettes and baseball cards," Lindgren said. "I was trying to be the cool kid, but really, I was all about the rebellion."

In his teens when other kids were learning to drive and shopping for prom, Lindgren had begun his career selling drugs. From selling weed he moved on to selling coke at 16 years of age. The rage had begun to escalate to violence and the abused began to lash out as he assaulted his father. His step-mom tried to intervene and offer help, to no avail and Lindgren found himself in the Owatonna boys home. Not wanting to live with an alcoholic mother and unable to hold his temper with his dad, he found himself on the streets at 16. "I couldn't go home," said Lindgren, "I just didn't get along."

The story gets darker. Much darker. As he turns 17 he finds the drug of choice is also a money maker and begins to sell meth and coke. Not only selling, but also using. He sold drugs to feed a habit that he had to try to numb the years of pain.

"I would mix heroin and coke," he said. "It's kind of like amping yourself up and then bringing yourself down all at the same time. Kind of like having your foot on the brake and the gas at the same time."

He rode that accelerator and brake pedal until he ran himself into the ground. He found himself more hooked on the using than the selling and after a while the nightmare escalated to a point where all he could focus on was trying to get enough quick cash for instant scores.

By 2006 he had moved to a life of burglary to help support his habit and was sentenced to 18 months in prison for 1st degree burglary and assault. The assault charge is for surprising a victim and then picking up a vacuum cleaner hose to try to beat him with it.

"It's kind of humorous looking back on it now," said Lindgren, "and obviously the topic of many stories since then. But it wasn't funny at the time."

By 2012 Lindgren had quite the reputation in the Owatonna area as not only a notorious drug dealer, but as someone you wanted to steer clear from. His temper had preceded him.

"I found myself just wanting to be alone," Lindgren said. "The more drugs I did, the more I wanted and it seemed as if I never had enough money for the thing that took me away from people. Which is what I wanted."

He totally withdrew from everything and everyone. He would come out of his drug induced coma of a life only to steal. And pawn. And purchase. And again get high. Rinse and repeat. The drugs took him to exactly where they take everyone that chooses that path.

Inside. A prison of his own making. And then the voices that convinced him that to overdose was the way of escape. It's a very convincing voice as proven by tens of thousands who believe that lie every year. And. They simply. Check. Out.

There was an intervention in the life of Justin Lindgren. It came as a result of his rage. A temper flare prompted him to go to a Bible study to assault someone who was actually "at" the Bible study. He had planned the assault, but was ambushed by the divine.

Ray Snesrud was the man in charge of that meeting who has been publicized as a hero to the addicted. Snesrud is the founder of "Men of Integrity" which is a non-profit ministry in Faribault. The "sober house" as Lindgren calls it is a center created by Snesrud to assist men in their recovery by providing a sober living environment and a mentoring program.

It was there that something other than hatred and anger and addiction rang true in Lindgren's life. It was as if a compass was placed in his hand and all of a sudden the explorer came to terms with his true north.

Lindgren met a man that didn't just talk a good game. In Snesrud, he found a friend, a confidant and a future employer. The damage done with a conviction of burglary, Lindgren was sentenced to 57 months in prison back in 2012.

While in prison, he experienced two life changing events. First, a friend who not only presented a practical, but a personal God. And second, a military style boot camp which was an intense 6-month structured military program. It seems to work for those who didn't get attention as a child as it afforded them all the attention they could possibly ask for.

"I didn't have all of my life ruined by things," Lindgren concluded. "It just ruined a part of my life. But that's not who I am now. People who knew me won't believe I've changed, but I have.

"My relationship with my dad has been restored and I have a good job working for Ray (Snesrud) as a plumber. I also have kept myself busy with sports and am looking forward to being a mentor at the center when a spot opens up."

As he rushed out the door to a softball game, he commented with a wry grin, "It's my new addiction and I think it's more expensive than drugs." Obviously the price he's paying today for a wholesome passion is going to pay great investments for his future.

Lindgren lost everything to gain everything. Instead of talking about drugs and scores and who made the weekly list to "beat up," he talks about God. He talks about change. He talks about his future with a tone that brings miracles to all the other lives in need of a miracle. He makes you a believer not by his words, but by his life.

I know the plans that I have for you, declares the LORD. They are plans for peace and not disaster, plans to give you a future filled with hope. – Jeremiah 29:11



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Al-Corn Clean Fuel celebrates 20 year anniversary

By TIM RUDNICKI
Executive Director
Minnesota Bio-Fuels Assoc.

Al-Corn was established in 1994 by local farmers who were looking for new opportunities to add value to their corn corp. In 1996, Al-Corn commenced operations producing 10 million gallons of ethanol a year.

In 1998, Al-Corn expanded its capacity to 15 million gallons a year and three years later, it doubled its production to 30 million gallons a year. In 2007, it raised its output once more to 45 million gallons a year.

Doyal said a majority of Al-Corn's shareholders today still live within a 20-mile radius of the plant. Even some of its board members like its current chairman, Rodney Jorgenson, have been with Al-Corn since 1994.

"When I think back over the last 20 years, I'm reminded of what can be accomplished when people band together with common purpose. As farmers, our goal was to increase the price of our corn through processing. I doubt any of us could have imagined the success we would have," Jorgenson said.

In the last few years, Al-Corn's has been producing 50 million gallons of ethanol annually and it recently announced it will expand its capacity in 2017 to produce 120 million gallons a year, which will make Al-Corn one of the largest ethanol producers in the state.

In conjunction with Al-Corn's 20-year anniversary, it sponsored E85 promotions at two Kwik Trips in Owatonna and hosted a celebratory dinner with shareholders, industry partners, local and state government officials at the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna yesterday.

Al-Corn is a member of the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association, a non-profit trade association that represents Minnesota's renewable fuels industry.

"For 20 years, Al-Corn has played an active role in reducing prices at the pump, giving consumers access to cleaner fuels and reducing our nation's dependency on foreign oil," said Tim Rudnicki, executive director at the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association.

In the past 20 years, Al-Corn has processed over 226 million bushels of corn and supported the corn farmers in Claremont and its surrounding areas.

During its two decades of operations, Al-Corn has increased its ethanol yield per bushel to 2.85 gallons per bushel and reduced its energy usage by over 35 percent.

"It took courage and energy to create the organization that stands today as Al-Corn Clean Fuel; everyone played a significant role," said Randall Doyal, CEO of Al-Corn.

"As the membership of Al-Corn looks to the future, the standard that guides the cooperative is the same as it has always been: dynamic growth to protect and enhance the value of processing so that all members benefit," Doyal said.

MINNESOTA BIO-FUELS ASSOCIATION
Minnesota Grown Energy For Today And Tomorrow

About The Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association

The Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association is a non-profit organization that represents and promotes the renewable fuels industry in Minnesota. We work closely with industry stakeholders to achieve our collective goal of a greener future, a stronger economy in Minnesota, consumer savings at the pump and a more energy-independent America.



INDEPENDENT | SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Al-Corn Clean Fuel celebrated its 20th anniversary of producing clean renewable fuel and supporting Minnesota's rural economy.



Pictured above at left is Tim Rudnicki, executive director of the Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association and on the right, Randall Doyal, CEO of Al-Corn at the later's 20-year anniversary celebrations at the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna Aug 2.









Minnesota Crop Report:

Minnesota farmers made substantial progress on small grain harvest during the week ending August 7, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Field activities for the week included cutting and baling hay, harvesting small grains, and scouting and spraying for aphids.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus.

Fifty-four percent of Minnesota's corn acreage was in or beyond the dough stage, 9 days ahead of the five-year average and 3 days ahead of last year. Corn condition rated 85 percent good to excellent. Seventy-nine percent of the soybean crop was setting pods, 6 days ahead of average, but 4 days behind last year. Soybean condition rated 80 percent good to excellent. Forty-two percent of the spring wheat acreage had been harvested, 8 days ahead of the five-year average. Spring wheat condition rated 70 percent good to excellent, up 1 percentage point from last week. Fifty-seven percent of the oat crop was harvested for grain, 5 days ahead of average and 3 days ahead of last year. Oat condition rated 77 percent good to excellent. Forty-two percent of the barley acreage had been harvested, 3 days ahead of average. Barley condition rated 63 percent good to excellent. Sunflower condition rated 57 percent good to excellent. Six percent of the potato acreage had been harvested. Potato condition rated 92 percent good to excellent. Sugarbeet condition rated 87 percent good to excellent.

The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 92 percent complete. The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 49 percent complete, 8 days ahead of last year. All hay condition rated 81 percent good to excellent. Pasture condition rated 76 percent good to excellent, down 4 percentage points from the previous week. With temperatures around average, livestock were described as being in good condition.

Minnesota Crop Report is sponsored by:

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Legal Notices

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That Default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: 12/11/2009
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $81,400.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Gary A. Starkson, A Single Person
MORTGAGEE: Bank of America, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: 12/29/2009 as Doc#: 185344 in the Office of the County Recorder, Dodge County, Minnesota
The mortgage was assigned for value as follows:
Assignee: Bank of America, N.A., Successor by Merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP FKA Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP
Assignment dated: 09/23/2011
Assignment recorded: 10/24/2011
Assignment recording information: Doc#: 193630
Assignee: The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Assignment dated: 9/18/2014
Assignment recorded: 2/20/2015
Assignment recording information: Doc#: 209990
Assignee: U.S. Bank Trust N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust
Assignment dated: 1/30/2015
Assignment recorded: 2/20/2015
Assignment recording information: Doc#: 209991
All in the records of the County Recorder in and for Dodge County, Minnesota.
TAX PARCEL I.D. NO.: 25.426.1730
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 6, Block 24, Frank Mantor's Addition, in the city of Mantorville, Dodge County, Minnesota.
Abstract Property
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 715 7th Street W, Mantorville, MN 55955
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Dodge
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Bank of America, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: Caliber Home Loans Inc.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE $94,073.52 AS OF 7/22/2016.
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes.
Pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Dodge, Minnesota at public auction as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: 9/1/2016 at 11:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Dodge Sheriff's Office, 22 6th Street East, Dept. 201, Mantorville, MN 55955 to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law.
The time allowed by law for redemption by said Mortgagor(s) or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is 6 Months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the mortgagor must vacate the mortgaged property by 11:59 p.m. on 2/10/2017, or the next business day if 2/10/2017 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

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

Dated: 07/06/2016
U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust, Mortgagee/Mortgage Assignee
Klatt, Augustine, Sayer, Treinen & Rastede, P.C.,
By Brian G. Sayer, Attorney for Mortgagee/ Mortgage Assignee
925 E 4th St., Waterloo, IA 50703

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
7/5, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
MORTGAGOR(S): William H Etherton, a/k/a William H. Etherton Jr. and Janet L Etherton, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA, a National Banking Association
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Federal National Mortgage Association by assignment recorded on April 15, 2016 as Document Number T000073604 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $99,867.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 16, 2011
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 24, 2011 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 10399 as Document Number T000067096 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $98,941.20
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 7, Block 2, Brooktree, (an addition to the City of Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota)
REGISTERED PROPERTY
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1262 EDGEWOOD PL, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA, a National Banking Association
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 174-272-0207
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: August 23, 2016 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on February 23, 2017.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: June 27, 2016

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION
Mortgagee
7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16

Foreclosure

15-101317

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: October 19, 2012
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $127,281.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Brian Wocelka and Rhonda Sorenson, unmarried
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 1000730-0085873727-3
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Freedom Mortgage Corporation
SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed October 30, 2012, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000387628
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Lot 9, Block 1, Northview Addition
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 245 21st St NW, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-258-0109
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $120,468.32
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: September 8, 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 March 8, 2017, or the next business day if March 8, 2017 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: July 13, 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
7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
MORTGAGOR(S): Timothy P. White, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $164,000.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: August 28, 2006
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on September 11, 2006 as Document Number A000344185 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $139,733.66
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 21, Block 2, Roever Addition, Owatonna, Steel County, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 625 22ND ST NE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-1477
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-293-0221
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 27, 2016 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on March 27, 2017.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: July 22, 2016
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.
By: Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(16-1014-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
In Re: Estate of
William A. Hildebrandt,
Decedent.
NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on August 23, 2016 at 10:45 , a hearing will be held in this Court at Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street , Owatonna, Minnesota, on a petition for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the decedent's Will dated November 4, 1993, and for the appointment of Tiffany J. Conner , whose address is 211 North Elm Avenue, Owatonna, MN 55060 as personal representative of the decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.
Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; sell real and personal property; and do all necessary acts for the decedent's estate.
Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.
BY THE COURT
Dated: 7.26.16
Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court

Sonia Kocher
Court Administrator

SMITH, TOLLEFSON, RAHRICK & CASS
Mark J. Rahrick (#252402)
108 W Park Sq., Ste. A
P.O. Box 271
Owatonna, MN 55060
Telephone: (507) 451-6540
Facsimile: (507) 451-1846
8/2, 8/9

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF STEELE
PROBATE DIVISION
COURT FILE NO 74-PR-16-1475
ESTATE OF
BERNADETTE C. ANDERSON,
DECEDENT

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

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on September 20, 2016, at 10:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated November 23, 1998, and codicil to the will dated March 27, 2008, ("WILL"), and for the appointment of Glenda K. Zufall Hanson and Mark E. Anderson, whose addresses are 2154 Hill Drive, Owatonna, MN 55060 and 1450 Springwood Place NE, Owatonna, MN 55060, respectively, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of the Decedent in an Unsupervised administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to admisister the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all neccessary acts for the Estate,.
Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statuetes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.
by the court

Dated
2016.07.18
BY THE COURT
Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court
Sonia Kocher
Court Administrator
Attorney of Petitioner
David L. Einhaus
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue, P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN 55060
Attorney License No: 26190
Telephone: 507-451-3580
FAX: 507-451-3532
Email: einahaus@owatonnalawyers.com
8/2, 8/9

Order For Issuance

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FAMILY DIVISION
ESMERALDA REYES VS
EDDIE SHERDEN,
KARLA SHERDEN
NOTICE OF MOTION, MOTION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR ORDER DIRECTING ISSUANCE IF TITLE TO A MOTOR VEHICLE
District Court File No.: 74-CV-16-1383

To: Eddie Sherden, Karla Sherden
A Notice of Motion, Motion and Affidavit for Order Directing Issuance of Title to a Motor Vehicle was filed with this Court on July 5, 2016. A copy of said Notice of Motion, Motion and Affidavit for Order Directing Issuance of Title to a Motor Vehicle is on file with the District Court, Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060 and is available for inspection. Please take note that a hearing on the above said matter will take place at the Steele County District Court, 111 East Main St. Owatonna, MN 55060 on August 17, 2016 at 9 am.

Dated: July 22, 2016
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
7/26, 8/2, 8/9

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
MORTGAGOR(S): Bonnie L. Petersen, an unmarried person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $330,000.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 23, 2009
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 27, 2009 as Document Number 362972 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $192,677.36
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North Range 20 West, Change North 1312.97 feet along the East line of Section 28 to the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter of said Section; thence West at right angles 50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence West along the South line of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter, a distance of 205.75 feet; thence North 190.0 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid road No. 1; thence South 190.0 feet to the point of beginning. And Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North, Range 20 West, thence North 1502.97 feet along the East line of Section 28, thence West at right angles 50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence continuing West 205.75 feet; thence North 214.35 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1, thence South 214.35 feet to the point of beginning.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 3890 N CEDAR AVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 12-028-1206 and 12-028-2105
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 27, 2016 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on September 27, 2016.
THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: August 1, 2016

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.
By:Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(16-1087-FC01)
8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30, 9/6, 9/13

BP ISD#756 Work Session

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN
June 16, 2016

A regular school board work session was held at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2016, in the Board Room at the High School.
MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jon Sunde, Steve Ille, Rodney Krell, Pam Hameister, Jenny Thurnau
MEMBERS ABSENT:
Kelly Braaten and Michelle Vigeland
ALSO PRESENT:
Superintendent of Schools
DISCUSSION ITEMS:
General review and discussion was held on agenda items for the June 20, 2016, regular school board meeting.
Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota
8/9

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
COUNTY OF STEELE
Court File No. 74-PR-16-1518
NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of
Dorothy L. Turtness,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on September 20, 2016 at 10:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated October 2, 2014, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Joan M. Wehner, whose address is 400 East Oakland Place, Condo #2, Austin, MN 55912 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all the necessary acts for the Estate.

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

Dated: July 20,2016

Joseph Bueltel
Judge of District Court
Sonia Kocher
Court Administrator
Attorney for Petitioner
David L. Einhaus
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver
& Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 0268045
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email:
einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com
8/9, 8/16

WANTED
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Whole or Parts
507-451-2909

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Six 15,000 Bushel
GRAIN BINS
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Located 3 mi N of Blooming Prairie
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BP ISD #756 - Minutes 4.18.16

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA
June 20, 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 Steve Ille, Rodney Krell, Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister, Michelle Vigeland
ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools; High School Principal
MEMBERS ABSENT:Jon Sunde, Jenny Thurnau
IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Steve Ille to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)
V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS
Reports given by Mr. Worke on behalf of Mr. Staloch, Ms. Mach, and himself.
VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED
A. Minutes, Bills, Treasurer's Report, Resignations, Employment, Donations
Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Kelly Braaten to approve the minutes, bills, treasurer's report, resignation, and employment. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)
B. District Audit FY 16
Motion by Steve Ille and seconded by Michelle Vigeland to approve CliftonLarsonAllen LLP as the firm to conduct the district's fiscal year 2016 audit. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)
C. 2016-18 Principals' Contract
This item was tabled until the July meeting due to the inability to cooperatively meet.
D. 2016-18 Noncertified Salaries/Grids
Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Steve Ille to approve salaries/grids for noncertified staff. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)
E. Extended Days
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve three extended days for Bill Rinkenberger for the 2015-16 year and six extended days for the 2016-17 year. These extended days cover FFA/greenhouse activities. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)
F. Language Club Stipend
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Steve Ille to approve the "Langugage Club" stipend for Jennifer Thomas for those years when an abroad trip is taken with students. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)
G. Preliminary Budget FY 17
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the preliminary budget for FY '17 as presented. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)
H. Boys' Hockey
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Steve Ille to approve the dissolution of cooperative sponsorship of boys' hockey due to lack of interest. Motion carried. (5 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, and ZED.
B. Enrollment Data
Enrollment for the 2015-16 school year as of June 3, 2016, was 411 at the elementary school and 303 at the high school (297 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. Update on technology purchase and buy-back
2. Superintendent will be out of the office over the 4th of July
IX. ADJOURNMENT
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Kelly Braaten to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Motion carried. (5 Aye/0 Nay)

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, July 14, 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, July 18, 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
8/9

City of Blooming Prairie

2015 ANNUAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
TIF Authority: City of Blooming Prairie

Pine View Acres TIF District 4-1
City of Blooming Prairie

The following information represents the Annual Disclosure of Tax Increment Districts for the Year Ended December 31, 2015

TIF District Name	TIF District 4-1
Current net tax capacity	$ 11,117.00
Original net tax capacity	$ 776.00
Captured net tax capacity	$ 10,341.00
Current principal & interest due	$ 13,429.00
Tax increment received	$ 15,420.00
Tax increment expended	$ 13,774.00
Month & year of first tax increment receipt	Jun-02
Date of required decertification	12/31/2027
Increased property tax imposed on other properties as a result of fiscal disparities contribution	0

Additional information regarding the district may be obtained from:
TIF Representive- Michael G Jones City Administrator
138 Hwy 218 South
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
(507)-583-7573

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

AMENDED NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND INFORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re:
Estate of P Dean Olson,
aka Dean Olson
aka Percy Dean Olson,
Decedent

Notice is given that an Application for Informal Probate of Will and Informal Appointment of Personal Representative was filed with the Registrar, along with a Will dated February 25, 2015. The Registrar accepted the application and appointed Julie Ann Olson, whose address is 1985 4th Street, White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110, to serve as the personal representative of the decedent's estate.

Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Any objection to the appointment of the personal representative must be filed with the Court, and any properly filed objection will be heard by the Court after notice is provided to interested persons of the date of hearing on the objection.

Unless objections are filed, and unless the Court orders otherwise, there personal representative has full power to administer the estate, including, after thirty (30) days from the issuance of letters testamentary, the power to sell, encumber, lease, or distribute any interest in real estate owned by the decedent.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. §524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

Virginia A. Dwyer (MN# 123651)
Grannis & Hauge, P.A.
1260 Yankee Doodle Road,
Suite 200
Eagan, Minnesota 55121
Telephone: (651) 456-9000
Facsimile: (651) 454-4232
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
8/9, 8/16

NEW RICHLAND CARE CENTER
New Richland Care Center
Is looking for a
FULL-TIME CHARGE NURSE
We are city owned and offer great benefits
And a great working environment.
Please call Marnie or Lavonne at 507-465-3292 for more information.
EOE/Affirmative Action

Zumbro River Brand, Inc.
Albert Lea and Owatonna, MN
are currently seeking applications for
MACHINE OPERATORS
QUALITY CONTROL
WAREHOUSE
MAINTENANCE POSITIONS
DIRECT HIRE IS POSSIBLE WITH EXPERIENCE
We specialize in agglomeration and extrusion technologies for the food industry
We offer $15 - $16 starting wage
WITH LITTLE OR NO EXPERIENCE,
ALONG WITH AN ABOVE INDUSTRY STANDARDS BENEFITS PACKAGE.
All interested applicants can apply directly at our plant located at 1215 Hershey St. Albert Lea, MN 56007 or 138 West Front St. Owatonna, MN 56007 or send a resume to jobs@zumbroriverbrand.com



NOW HIRING FOR:
• Resident Assistant
• A Part-Time Van Driver to take residents to appointments
• A Part-Time Custodian/ Maintenance Worker
For more Information call 507-684-3026
Whispering Oak
Assisted Living Community
903 Calverly Court • Ellendale
Check out our website at www.thewhisperingoak.com



HomeTown Credit Union has an opening in Owatonna for a
FULL-TIME CONSUMER LOAN OFFICER
Applicants will:
• Act as the main point of contact for members both by phone and in person
• Identify their needs, considering their best interests, and providing them with personalized financial solutions.
• Deliver a friendly HomeTown experience for members by consistently providing exceptional service, asking them for the business and proactively following up with them on future opportunities
• Applicant must possess the ability to communicate proficiently and effectively, strong decision making skills and proven sales experience
HomeTown CREDIT UNION
Your trusted partner for financial success
HomeTown offers a competitive wage and benefit package.
We are an equal opportunity employer.
Please submit resume and letter of interest to yblum@hometowncu.coop Attn: Human Resources or call 507-455-6720 for more information.

Prairie Manor Care Center
"Quality Care with a Small Town Touch"
Prairie Manor Care Center has an Immediate Openings for:
❖ DIETARY AIDE ❖
Part-time, days, evenings & weekends
Apply in person or call Pam Doerhoefer, CDM at 507-583-5181
220 3rd St NW Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Prairie Manor Care Center
"Quality Care with a Small Town Touch"
Prairie Manor Care Center has an Immediate Openings for:
❖ HOUSEKEEPING ❖
Part Time Weekdays, Some Weekends, and Some Holidays!
To apply, contact George Snyder at 507-572-6194
gsnyder@prairiemanorinc.com • fax 507-583-2401, or in person
220 3rd St NW Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

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: 507-634-7503, E-mail: dci@kmtel.com, Mail: 121 West Main St., Kasson, MN 55944

EMPLOYMENT

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

Weber, Leth & Woessner, PLC, a full service law firm in Dodge County, Minnesota is seeking a full time Legal Administrative Assistant, with at least two years experience, who would perform essential administrative duties, including typing dictation, filing, client interfacing and general office work. Organizational skills, computer skills and customer relation skills are a requirement. Submit cover letter and resume to wlw@kmtel.com 32-34c

Christ Lutheran Church in Byron is looking to file a part time office staff position. Computer and customer service experience a must, accounting experience preferred, 20-25 hours a week, year round. Great opportunity for someone who wants to work weekdays. Needs to be available during church office hours. If interested email your resume to Randy Holz at 507-475-2620 or drop off at the church office between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday. 33-35c

Job opening at Kasson Mantorville Elementary school as Kitchen manager. Position is 7.0 hours 6:45 AM to 1:45 M-F on school days. Job responsibilities are cooking, ordering, inventory, occasional catering and managing a team of 7. Previous food experience is preferred. Please contact Wendy Sellers at Taher Food Service 507-634-4462 34-36c

Millennium Seamless Gutters needs installers & helpers, full & part-time positions, no experience, will train. 507-259-1264. 34-36c

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

Can I help? Lawn mowing service. Responsible high school student looking for Kasson-Mantorville area mowing jobs, please call Nic 507-884-5212. 30tfc

Caleb Kern would like to sit for your cats and dogs. Please call 507-634-7907 32tfc

SERVICES

FT daycare openings for all ages immediately! 2 Byron providers with over 40 yrs. combined experience. Our days include, but are not limited to, cooking, arts, crafts, reading, storytime, pre-school learning, outside fun, dramatic and free play! Great benefits for everyone having 2 providers to care for your children! Contact Denise 202-3704 or Tiffany 271-1321 for more info 34-37p

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

Have you taken Invokana and suffered any serious side effects? Call 507-573-4551 to speak with a lawyer. You may be entitled to compensation. .tfc

FOR SALE

FRESH VEGETABLES- tomatoes, canning or eating, gourmet garlic, kohlrabi, candy onions, cabbage, green peppers, call 507-477-3337 or 507-421-1466, Hayfield. 34-36p

If you or a loved one have taken Xarelto and suffered any serious side effects, call 507-573-4430 to speak with a lawyer. You may be entitled to compensation. tfc

Beer signs, cast iron banks, horse pictures. 633-6310. 34-36p

For Sale! Floral love seat muted blues, mauves rust. Excellent condition. $100 OBO 507-374-2113

GARAGE SALES

Riverside Park, Tuesday 11-5 through October, Farmers and Artisans Market, Arts and crafts, Watkins products, baked goods, plants, produce and flea market, vendor fee $5/wk. 507-635-5554, www.mantorvilletourism.com 25tfc

612 Golfview Ct., Mantorville (Golf Course Road) Thurs. 4-7, Fri. 1-5, Sat. 8-Noon HUGE 5 family garage sale! Boys/Girls Tween to college-age clothes (lots of sizes), Toys, Household, Outdoor items, remodeling treasures. 3 sets bi-fold doors, Polaris Indy XLT 600 Snowmobile, Fire Pit, Wine Fridge, much misc. Something for everyone!!! 34p.

311 W. Main St. Fri. 5-9, Sat. 8-2 4 Generation Garage Sale. Clothing: women M-4XL, mens, boys, crafts, 31 gifts, vintage items, chairs, dish ware, windows, household items, holiday decor, lots of misc items. 34p

406 13th Ave NW, Kasson Thurs. Aug. 11: 2-6 & Fri. Aug. 12: 8-4 Simplifying and getting ready to move!! A like new couch, dishes, girls/women clothing size 2-8, boys/mens clothing in variety of sizes, antique metal doll house, coffee maker and many miscellaneous kitchen items, stereo speakers, 2 DOT approved snowmobile helmets. Too many items to list. Come and check it out!! 34p

606 4th Ave. NW Kasson. Sat. 8-4. Multifamily Garage Sale: Mens, womens, and juniors name brand clothing, toys, household goods, some furniture. 34p

577 High Point Drive NE, Byron. Fri. 7:30-6, Sat. 8-4. HUGE ESTATE SALE- sign up sheet offered Friday morning and reductions on Saturday. Don't miss this one- sale held indoors rain or shine. Collectibles-collections of Longaberger, Department 56, Fitz and Floyd, Lenox, Dale Earnhardt items; tons of household items and decor; crafting supplies (beading, paper, etc); furniture including Homecrest Patio furniture; designer purses; antiques; toys and puzzles- large doll house, many new items; large selection of shop and outdoor items; simply far too much to list. 34p

905 Jefferson St., Mantorville. Fri. 8-6, Sat. 8-12. Garage Sale with lots of variety, no clothing. 34c

20339 650th Street, Dodge Center Thu-Sat 9-6. Estate/garage sale. Household, garden-farm-construction tools, antiques, collector cars & other toys, snowmobile trailer, enclosed car trailer, cube van.

Holy Family Church, 1904 Mantorville Ave. N., Kasson. Fri. 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sat. 7 a.m. – Noon. HUGE RELAY FOR LIFE RUMMAGE SALE! Nearly all items freewill donation. Huge selection of furniture and household; adult, children's and infant's clothing; books; bikes, toys and knick-knacks. Breakfast biscuits and gravy, and lunch BBQ sandwich, chips and drink for $5.

104 1st St. N.E., Dodge Center , Fri. 4:15-7 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-noon. Coach purses, household, furniture, toys, Innotabs w/games for boys and girls, footlocker, luggage, Christmas Tree & ornaments, totes, tools, birdhouse, shop vac, stamps for crafting, coolers, wheelbarrow, books, cat tower and toys, large dog kennel, gargoyle statue, and 2 toy kitchens.

MISCELLANEOUS

The annual meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Southeastern Minnesota Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (SEMMCHRA) will be held at the SEMMCHRA Main Office, 134 East Second Street, Wabasha, MN 55981 on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. The public is welcome to attend. 34c

WANTED:
DIRECT CARE STAFF
Immediate openings for Direct Care Staff for 4 bed group home in West Concord. FT and PT PM positions available. Must have current MN driv lic & pass background check. Paid training provided! $11.00 – $11.25. Full Benefits Package for FT positions. Call Heidi or Karla at 507-527-2456 or apply at 205 Southview Street, West Concord. "EOE" 33-36c

Kasson-Mantorville Schools
is seeking substitute teachers, secretaries, nurses, paraprofessionals, custodians and bus drivers.
Please complete an application on-line at
www.komets.k12.mn.us
and include a resume, application letter, and reference letters.
34c

Kasson-Mantorville Middle School
has an immediate opening for an
instructional paraprofessional.
Please complete an application on-line at
www.komets.k12.mn.us
and include a resume, application letter, and reference letters.
34c

Kasson-Mantorville Middle School
is seeking a Grade 5 Math and a Grade 8 Science Teacher.
Please complete an application on-line at
www.komets.k12.mn.us
and include a resume, application letter, transcripts and reference letters.
34c

WAITSTAFF
needed at Prairie Meadows in Kasson.
Split shift, 11-2 & 4-7, every other weekend.
Apply in person.
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Prairie Meadows SENIOR LIVING
Kasson EOE.
30-39c

Zumbro Valley Golf Course
is looking for part-time cooks, bartenders & servers.
If interested please contact the clubhouse or stop out and apply in person.
ZVRC
25202 615th St., Mantorville
507.635.2821



Part Time help wanted. No nights or Sundays. Please apply in person, HWY. 57 in Mantorville. 507-635-5507
34.35c



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DODGE COUNTY POSITION
PUBLIC HEALTH ACCOUNT TECHNICIAN

Dodge County vacancy for Account Technician (32 hrs/wk). Duties include administrative accounting functions specializing in accounts receivable. Visit our website at www.co.dodge.mn.us or contact Employee Relations at the Government Services Building at 507-635-6239 for application materials. Application deadline 4:00 p.m. 8/22/16. EOE. 34,35c

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TRITON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
will be hiring a
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for the 2016 – 2017 school year.
All postings and applications for Triton Public Schools can be found at: **www.triton.k12.mn.us** - under the District Office menu. EOE
33c



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If you have any questions contact Greg (Kasson) at 507-634-7545 or stop by the CHS Office at 107 8th Ave. SW, Kasson.
33-37c

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

QUONSETS TO BE REMOVED FROM PROPERTIES

Close August 24, 2016
Steele County, MN

Sealed Bids will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Steele County, MN until 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at the Office of the County Auditor, Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, MN 55060 for the contract listed below at which time the bids will be opened and read publicly:

LOCATION:
1123 44 Ave SE & 1903 SE 44 Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060

TYPE OF WORK:
QUONSETS TO BE REMOVED FROM PROPERTIES

CONTACT:
Steele County Highway Department
for bid documents at 507.444.7670
or online at www.co.steele.mn.us.

8/9, 8/16

PART TIME HELP WANTED

General Plant Help
2-3 Days per week
6-8 Hrs per day
- Set-Up
- Packaging
- Clean-Up
- 40# Lift

Truck Driver
1-3 days per week
6-8 hrs per day
- Pallet Jack
- Two Wheel Cart
- Straight Truck-Under 26,000# No Special License Required
- 50# Lift

COMPETATIVE PAY BASED ON EXPERIENCE & ABILITIES
Contact Victor Mrotz @ Hope Creamery
507-456-7451

STEELE COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF

The Steele County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for a full-time Deputy Sheriff. General duties consist of patrol, service of civil process, warrant service, court bailiff, and response to requests for service. Shifts may vary according to schedule needs.

Applicant must possess or be eligible for a Minnesota Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) License and must possess a current Minnesota driver's license.

Applications may be obtained through the Steele County Sheriff's Office - 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna; phone 507-444-3805 or visit www.co.steele.mn.us.
APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, BY 3:00 PM LOCAL TIME ON THE CLOSING DATE OF AUG 18, 2016.
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