

Steele County Times



6A
Fair is here

$1 www.steeledodgenews.com Tuesday, August 16, 2016

Judge orders $3.5M award to gay banker

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

A fired banker who claimed the bank ousted him because of his sexual orientation has been awarded $3.5 million by a Steele County judge in what may be the largest judgment of its kind in state history.

In a 92-page ruling handed down late last month, District Court Judge Joseph Bueltel agreed that Stephen Habberstad, the former CEO of Country Bankers, Inc., was discriminated against and fired. Bueltel wrote, "The truth is: Stephen Habberstad was terminated because he is gay."

After a three and a half week trial in January, Judge Bueltel determined that Country Bankers, Farmers and Merchants Bank of Blooming Prairie and Citizens State Bank of Hayfield violated the anti-discrimination and retaliation provisions of the Minnesota Human Rights Act. The court also found that Habberstad's ex-wife,

BANKER
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RULING AT A GLANCE:

- *Judge ruled banks fired Stephen Habberstad because he is gay*
- *Country Bankers ordered to pay $3.5 million*
- *Award includes damages and lifetime payments to Habberstad*

Grow, sew and show it

State's largest county fair opens in Steele County

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

The best days of summer have arrived in Steele County as Minnesota's best county fair kicks into action today (Tuesday) in Owatonna.

The Steele County Free Fair officially opens its gates at 5 p.m. today and runs through Sunday. By the time the fair is over, more than 300,000 people are likely to attend what has become the state's largest county fair. Last year's estimated attendance was 307,403, down from the previous year of 339,000 and the record of 350,000 in 2013. Poor weather conditions on several of the days kept the crowds down last year.

This year's theme is "Grow, Sew and Show It in 2016."

"Hundreds of hours of preparation have been logged by fair board members and staff to make this the entertainment experience of the year for everyone," said Dan Deml, fair president. "We can guarantee you will have a great time."

The Steele fair makes a big push to do new things each year while at the same time keeping the same rich traditions alive, according to Jim Gleason, fair manager. "We try to do something new every year to keep it the best fair in Minnesota," Gleason said. "People want a variety," he added.

And there won't be a shortage of new twists this year. Fairgoers will find a wide range of new things from cosmetic changes and improvements to the fairgrounds to new displays, foods and entertainment.

FAIR
Continued on page 3A

BP graduate creates windows to the past

"I had a lot of pride, I spent my whole life there."
- *Sarah Langan*

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
Staff Writer

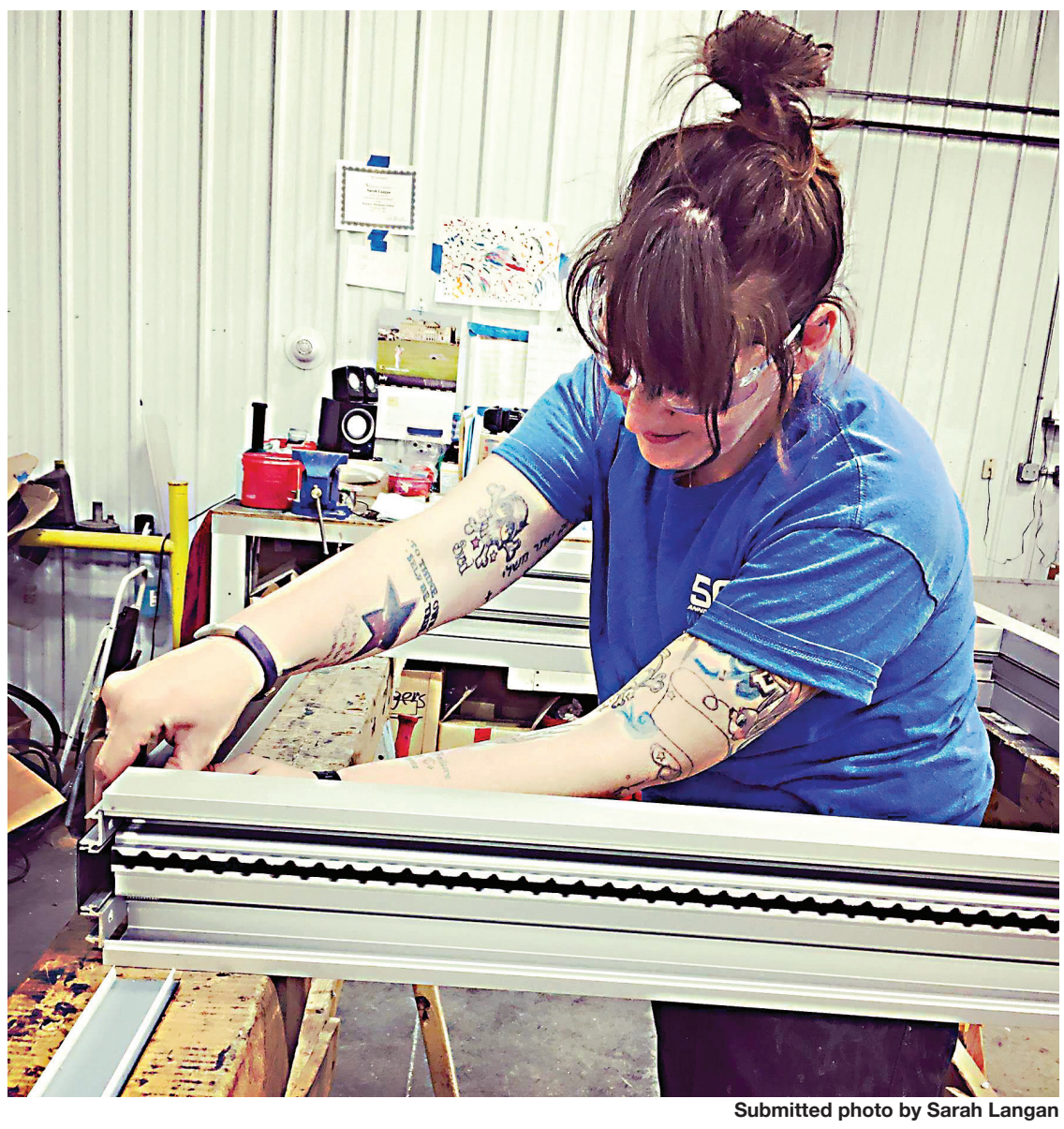
Blooming Prairie School has a brand new set of windows and it's thanks in no small part to one of its former students, Sarah Langan, who now works as a technician for Ford Metro Incorporated, the company who took the order.

Several months ago Langan was laid off from her job at Arkema, a local chemical plant in Blooming Prairie. Eager to get back to work Langan signed up with a temp agency that placed her at Ford Metro in Rochester. Langan says she fell in love with the work and ended up signing on full time. She's now been with the company nine months and is working on moving up to shop foreman.

Langan says she was walking around the shop looking for her next project when she noticed the work order for Blooming Prairie School. She asked her boss if she could be assigned to it. That week she was looking over the blueprints of the job and started doing measurements and laying out the glass.

"I had a lot of pride," Langan said when she talked about working on the project for her former school, "I spent my whole life there." Having

WINDOWS
Continued on page 3A



Submitted photo by Sarah Langan

Sarah Langan lays out the window frames for the glass at the Rochester shop. The windows' metal frames will help make them sturdy enough to last another 30 years.

Rollover cuts car in half, driver killed



Staff photos by Lori Wagner

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday evening, a lethal rollover claimed the life of Kassondra Sage, 19, of Delano, Minn. as she was making her way south down Interstate 35 in her PT cruiser. The crash happened around 5 p.m. at mile marker 27 near Ellendale.

According to a report released by the state patrol, Sage lost control of the vehicle after one of her rear tires blew out. The vehicle entered the median and the force of the roll split the vehicle into two pieces. A portion of the PT Cruiser came to rest in the northbound lane where it was then struck by a motorcycle and two other vehicles. Sage's airbags did not deploy. The force of the rollover is suspected to have killed her instantly, and county officials declared her dead on arrival.

CRASH
Continued on page 3A



BRING SOME HARMONY TO THE HOUSE

ELECT Bev CASHMAN
State Representative 24a



Prepared and paid for by Bev Cashman For Representative 628 E. Academy Street, Owatonna, MN 55060

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Opinion

Our view

Can a woman be in command?

Margaret Thatcher, Angela Merkel, Queen Elizabeth, Indira Ghandi, Mother Teresa and Golda Meir are examples of modern day women who rose to power and had greatness thrust upon them. If you want to go back through time, you will see that there were many influential women who took the challenge to lead. Some were successful. Some failed miserably.

Success and failure is sometimes as simple as their supporting cast and the wisdom to know the difference between being a trained puppet or a decisive and objective voice for the people. Leaders who lead for the wrong reasons wind up on the wrong side of history.

We are certainly not facing something in America that the world has never seen or experienced. True, if a woman would become the Commander-in-chief in America, it would be a first for the history books. The question is whether the country wants to be able to speak that fact or whether it's not yet America's time for that part of history to be written.

Many want to write the history, but if, in fact, Hillary Clinton is not the right choice and there is massive failure, is that really the story Americans want to be known by? And what kind of setback for women would there be if this does not work out favorably?

That's the challenge. Do we vote because it's never been done or because we are sure in our hearts that she's the right person for the job? We hear many arguments from the Christian community as to whether this one is Christian or non-Christian. We hear from political parties the questions as to whether the person is liberal or conservative. Democratic or republican.

And then we get those who say they are just voting for a lesser of two evils. Really. Is that what our country has come to? If we take our cars to a mechanic, we don't want to know which church he goes to, we just want to know if he can fix our car.

Voting against Clinton is not a vote against a woman for president, it is simply a vote against that woman for president. Voting against Trump is not a vote against a businessman for president, it's simply a vote against that businessman for president.

Last time anyone checked, we still live in a democracy. That means you have a vote and a voice, whether you tick a box that is on the ballot or you write in the name of the candidate of your choice.

Whether your candidate wins the election or not, the regrets you wake up with on the day following the election will not be because you voted majority or voted to "keep someone out." Your biggest regret would remain whether you didn't vote your conscience and you didn't vote your own voice.

Gender voting, race voting, party majority voting. If it's really not your heart and not your choice, you've sold out to a system. We must remain true to the principles that this country was founded upon. Some would say we're founded on violence and bloodshed. Freedom comes with a price. The will to stand for what you believe in is a freedom that will cost you.

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Fair president earns top service award

HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

Dan Deml's 35 years of service to the Steele County Free Fair is perhaps a bit deceiving.

On Sunday night at a ceremony kicking off fair week, he received a service award for 35 years of leadership with the fair. But he's actually been involved with the fair for more than a half century.

Deml's involvement dates back to his pre-teen years when he began showing cattle as a young 4-Her. Since then, he has filled many roles with the fair, including livestock superintendent, treasurer and most recently president.

"It's a real honor to represent the Steele County community," Deml said after accepting the award. "It's extremely humbling and satisfying to be a part of something that's so successful."

Successful may be an understatement. Try mind blowing or prosperous. No matter which characterization you want to use, one thing is certain: the Steele fair is the largest and best county fair in Minnesota if not the entire Midwest.

Asked about that success, Deml says he has traced it back to 1926. It was that year when fair board members hopped on a train and went to Missouri to tour a popular and thriving fair. They came back and a year later the concept of a free fair was born in Steele County.

"Other county fairs were upset with us and said it would never work," Deml found in his research.

Now 90 years later, the Steele fair remains free and who can argue with its success. The fair consistently attracts more than 300,000 visitors over its six-day run. It even set a record of 350,000 three years ago. The Steele County Agricultural Association, which operates the fair, brings in more than $1 million in revenue each year.

"There is something about free that gets people's attention," Deml said. "Free fair is what hooks them and keeps them coming back," he added.

Even Deml himself is amazed at what takes place in Steele County in regards to the fair. Steele is geographically one of the smallest counties in the state and it ranks as the 28th most populated out of 87 counties.

"It amazes me how big this fair is," Deml says. "It just amazes me. I don't know where everyone comes from."

Besides being free, Deml credits a rich history of entertainment and a long list of food vendors for making the fair what it has become. "Free, entertainment and food— it all ties together," he said.

As for his personal involvement, Deml laughs about how he usually stayed on "the east side" of the fairgrounds by the livestock buildings for years. He grew up on a dairy farm and showed cattle for many years. It wasn't until about 15 years ago that he ventured onto the "west side" and became involved with more administrative duties.

Deml, 66, became treasurer

AWARD

Continued on page 5A



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Steele County Fair president Dan Deml received a 35-year service award Sunday night at a recognition dinner on the fairgrounds.

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Letters to the Editor

Ellendale sheriff contract

To the Editor:

There has been a significant amount of discussion on the current Sheriff's contract in Ellendale. As a council member, I have visited with business owners, residents, ambulance crew members, fire fighters, clergy, and school staff. The majority (95%) are in support of continuing the contract with the Steele County Sheriff.

Let's look at the facts. The current cost for the contract is $42,760 annually. The city has 296 households, 691 residents (according to the 2010 census). If you break this down the cost per day, per household is .40(cents), per resident is .17 (cents). Most of us on a daily basis spend significantly more than that on our coffee, soda, cigarettes, candy, adult beverage, etc.

Some residents are under the assumption that discontinuing the contract will do one of two things. 1. Decrease taxes. 2. Pay for city roads and maintenance. This is not the case. 1. The money "saved" by discontinuing the contract will not be returned to the residents, it will reallocated to other areas. 2. The discontinuation of the contract will barely make a dent in road repair and maintenance of water treatment and wastewater/sewer replacement.

Another misconception out there is that the Sheriff will still need to respond to all of our requests. This is false. The Sheriff will respond to calls where there is eminent danger, however they are not "required" to respond. Over the summer, several residents have had encounters with strangers in the community in which the Sheriff responded quickly and took appropriate action to ensure the safety of the resident.

What is the solution? Why are we, as city leaders, not working harder to bring in new business? New residents? By increasing our tax base, we lower the per household cost of living. Leadership needs to start taking a proactive role in our community as opposed to continually reacting as issues arise. The city needs to have a comprehensive plan in place to ensure our financial stability, infrastructure and safety. Had the leadership 20 and 30 years ago taken this approach, the city would be in a stronger financial position than it is today.

My challenge to my fellow council members and the mayor is to join in this effort. Let's not cut our services to our residents, instead let's work with our local Economic Development Authority, the Steele County Economic Development Authority, our current business owners, and our builders and real estate agents to ensure our growth.

Stephanie Lageson Kibler
Resident and City Council Member, Ellendale

Two Flawed Candidates

Clinton and Trump are flawed candidates running for President.

Clinton has questionable scruples, and she has made significant mistakes. As Secretary of State she set up an unsecured private server in her home for government email communications and sent and received secret and top secret information. She had ultimate responsibility for the Benghazi debacle where our ambassador and other Americans were killed by Islamic terrorists. Her foundation accepted contributions from foreign entities.

Trump is the most unqualified person to ever run for President. He is a vile loudmouth with possible bigoted views who only cares about himself, and he does not respect our constitution and our institutions. Trump could have dictatorial tendencies. He has no knowledge of government operations and has no understanding of our domestic and world economies. His lack of knowledge in foreign affairs and military matters will hurt us in the world.

The choices are: vote for who you dislike the least, or vote for a third party candidate, or do not vote. How sad.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH

Great Article

What a great article written by Scott Rose in the Steele County Times - August 9th edition. We support his views and want to thank him and all law enforcement officers for their dedicated service.

Bob and Gloria Coulter

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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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LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

ETHICS

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Second Front

Discrimination comes with a huge price

BANKER: from page 1A

Kimberly Habberstad, and his sister and brother-in-law, Susan and Terry Boschetti, violated their fiduciary duties to him as shareholders in a closely held family corporation.

Country Bankers operates banks in three counties, including Steele, Dodge and Mower.

The court ordered the banks and family members to pay Habberstad back pay, future pay, and emotional anguish damages totaling more than $3.5 million, along with attorney fees to be determined, and ordered civil penalties to be paid to the state.

One of Habberstad's attorneys, Celeste Culberth of St. Paul, says to her knowledge this is the single largest judgment under the Minnesota Human Rights Act for discrimination to ever be awarded in the state.

Said attorney Leslie Lienemann, who also represented Habberstad: "This judgment fulfills the promise of the Minnesota Human Rights Act—to secure freedom from discrimination."

Habberstad says he is extremely grateful and humbled by the decision. "While it has been a long and difficult struggle, I am heartened by the insight and understanding that Judge Bueltel conveyed in his decision," he said.

Despite being removed from the banks, Habberstad continues to be a shareholder in the banks. He hopes that this decision will remind everyone that illegal discrimination in all forms exists and should be vigorously opposed.

Donald Savelkoul, who is one of the attorneys representing the banks from Albert Lea, said the banks disagree with the judge's findings.

"We agree discrimination has no place in the workplace," Savelkoul said, "But it didn't play a role in their decision making process with Mr. Habberstad."

Savelkoul said Habberstad's removal from the bank was strictly a business matter. "They were trying to deal with a situation where an employee was no longer living in the state, but drawing a high level of compensation that was out of line with his job performance," he said.

When Habberstad left the bank in early 2013, he was drawing a compensation package of $301,000. His highest salary package came in 2011 at $348,500, according to court documents. Savelkoul referred to Habberstad's salary as being "exorbitant" and inappropriate for someone just because they were one of the family members.

Habberstad, 61, is the son of Edward C. Habberstad and grandson of Oscar Habberstad, who was involved with the founding of Farmers and Merchants Bank in Blooming Prairie. He lives part-time in Florida.

Culberth found the most significant part of this case is the courage Habberstad showed to stand up for his rights and pursue this for as long as he did.

"It was heartbreaking for him to have this happen to him," Culberth said. "He was in the bank for three decades as captain of the ship. It was gut wrenching and devastating to have this happen."

Another of Habberstad's attorneys, Mark Sherinian, said some people believe that discrimination based on sexual orientation is justified on moral or religious grounds. "Each of us can believe whatever we want about the issue, but Judge Bueltel has reaffirmed that moral beliefs about sexual orientation can never motivate decisions in the workplace," he added.

Habberstad disclosed to his family and wife that he was gay in his 50s, though he testified he had known he was gay ever since he was a boy. After the revelation, he faced a bitter divorce, family conflicts and his own family ousting him from the banking business.

The judge's ruling offered a peek into a family dispute that had been going on for years before finally boiling over in 2013. And the judge took family members, including Habberstad himself, to task for the unhealthy dynamics of what took place within the family as well as the business.

"The human rights violations were intentional and calculated to financially ruin, stress out and embarrass Stephen Habberstad," Judge Bueltel wrote in his ruling. "With a discriminatory motive, defendants abused their power within a closely held business to punish Stephen Habberstad for his sexual orientation," he said, adding that Habberstad's sexual orientation had nothing to do with the running of the corporation.

Under the ruling, Habberstad was awarded $798,733 in back pay, $25,000 for emotional distress and at least $100,000 a year during a life expectancy of 21 years. Another 2.5 percent will be added each year to account for the inflation.

The judge appeared to have some sympathy with the banks as he did not order them to pay out the award in one lump sum. "The court does not want to damage the banks and stress the banks with paying for this court case," Bueltel wrote. "The court wants the banks to be profitable into the future and allow the fourth generation in the Habberstad family to run the banks," he said, adding the third generation has made a mess of it.

As part of the ruling, the judge ordered that a pair of judgments against Habberstad remain in force. Habberstad will be required to pay his sister Susan $184,548 and Farmers and Merchants Bank $169,370 for previous loans he took out.

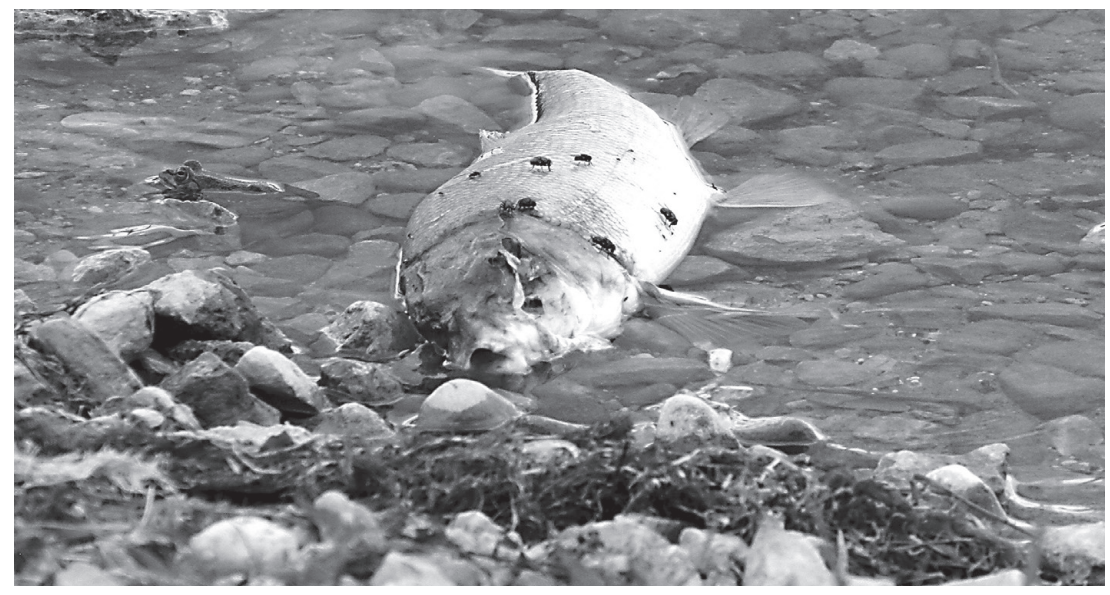
Judge Bueltel has also ordered that the parent company as well as the Blooming Prairie and Hayfield banks each pay $50,000 as a civil penalty to Minnesota.

"The civil penalty will specifically deter the banks from discriminating in the future and generally deter other banks and other closely held corporations from committing future human rights violations," Bueltel wrote.

The court observed that the banks thought having an openly gay chairman and CEO was bad for business, leading them to remove him from the business.

Country Bankers operates two separately chartered banks in Blooming Prairie and Hayfield. Each chartered bank has several locations, including F&M in BP and Austin and Citizens in Hayfield, Dodge Center and Mantorville.

Crisis at Beaver Lake ruled severe algae bloom



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

A fish that was affected by the severe and harmful algae bloom lays on the shoreline of Beaver Lake on August 11, 2016. Scientists at the MPCA are still unsure of what triggered the bloom.

By JOSH ZIMMER
County Staff Writer

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency recently released their lab results on the water from Beaver Lake.

The MPCA said that the results found toxins that indicate harmful algae blooms in the lake. They also stated that the severe blooms can pose health risks to both humans and their pets.

In a press release sent out this afternoon, the MPCA said they examined water samples as part of a response to a suspected severe algae bloom on the 98-acre lake near the city of Ellendale that was initially reported as a sewage spill.

Cathy Rofhus, the public information officer for the MPCA, stated that the initial reports of a possible sewage leak into the lake are now diminished.

"The samples were tested for possible bacteria that are found in feces as well as chemical compounds found in cleaners that are used," she added.

Rofhus explained officials say that the bloom is unusual for Beaver Lake which is popular for recreation because of its depth- 27 feet at the deepest- and the high water quality. The lake is a part of the Cannon River watershed.

Officials with the Cannon River watershed Partnership and the MPCA completed a study of the river, its tributaries and the surrounding drainage area.

Out of 45 lakes in the study, only five lakes, to include Beaver Lake met the water quality standards for fishing and other recreational use.

As for taking necessary precautions, Rofhus explained that it's difficult to completely close a beach.

"We don't close beaches. We don't close rivers. We don't close lakes. We try to educate people of the harmful blooms so that they can make their own decisions," she said.

The reason behind this she said was due to the cost of running tests to see if an algae bloom is harmful or not.

"There's special testing that can confirm or deny a harmful growth and we can't afford to do that to 10,000 lakes," he added.

Rofhus continued that the detected toxins in the lake's water sample must be swallowed in order to be harmful.

"People can develop skin rashes and upper respiratory problems," she added.

In extreme cases she said, there have been reports that dogs and other animals have died after drinking lake water contaminated by the toxins.

The MPCA stated that if people notice a severe algae bloom in the water or any scum on the shoreline, to avoid contact with the water and prevent their pets from both swimming and drinking the lake water.

She added saying that "If the water doesn't look good, stay out."

However, it doesn't just affect humans and pets. Rofhus said that other wildlife can be affected by the severe algae grow as well.

"The biggest impact is to fish. The growth makes it difficult for fish to find food," she said.

She also added that the growth affects the oxygen levels in the water because algae decompose at night and will bloom again in the morning-using up oxygen in the water.

Rofhus did add however that the fish do tend to migrate to a better part of the lake.

Scientists for the MPCA do not yet know what causes some blooms to produce and secrete toxins while others do not. Due to the Scientists not knowing what triggers the production of toxins; they state that the safest course of action is to avoid contact with all severe blooms.

Rofhus says there is no immediate short term solution for a severe bloom stating once a bloom occurs, the only solution is to wait for cooler weather, changes in the wind and significant rainfall to disrupt the growth.

She did mention however, that the key to solving algae problems long-term is to improve water quality by decreasing the amount of nutrients that runoff carries into lakes.

"Everyone needs to be a part of the solution. Farmers should be aware of not over fertilizing their crops," she said.

Phosphorous is known to be in many fertilizer products and could be one of the possible nutrients that are supplementing the growth.

The agency advises that citizens who own property on the lakeshore or use the lake for recreational use to educate themselves about the blooms and to take necessary safety precautions.

BP school has new windows

WINDOWS: from page 1A

graduated in 2004, she recalled that the windows she was replacing were the very ones she had looked out of in kindergarten almost 30 years ago.

The windows, 45 in total, were replacing glass in the old wing of the school that was badly in need of an upgrade. The windows have now been installed at the school and only a few cosmetic touches remain to be done.

They'll be ready in plenty of time for the new school year, which is good timing as this year Langan's daughter will be starting her own career at Blooming Prairie as a kindergartener.

Tire blowout claims a life

CRASH: from page 1A

In the aftermath of the incident, Sergeant Troy Christenson of the state patrol described the accident as "a very violent crash". He was not able to comment on why the vehicle split in half as it did or whether the blowout was a tire or manufacturer's error.

More information will be available after the patrol's crash reconstructionist team has completed their report.

Five people total were involved in the incident. Only one other individual sustained injuries. Richard Peters, 58, a motorcyclist who struck a piece of the PT cruiser in the northbound lane, crashed his 1998 Harley Davidson. He is now recovering in the Owatonna Hospital having sustained several non-life threatening injuries. The motorcycle needed to be towed away as the damage was severe.

Michael Songstad, 44, of Emmons, Minnesota with his passenger Kristen Lorenz, 38, of Bricelyn, Minnesota hit debris in the northbound lane in his Dodge Pickup. Their airbags did not deploy, and neither sustained any injuries. The damage to the vehicle, however, was severe.

The final vehicle, a Toyota Highlander, was driven by Gerald Wallis, 63, of Dellwood, Minnesota. Mr. Wallis's airbags deployed, and he received no injuries. His car, unfortunately, was totaled.

The incident temporarily closed the northbound portion of I-35 while the southbound side was reduced to one lane. The road has since fully reopened.

There was no alcohol detected in any of the persons involved in the incident and all of the individuals in cars were seat belted. On scene were Ellendale Fire, Ellendale Ambulance, Albert Lea Police, MnDOT, and sheriff's offices from Steele and Freeborn. The state patrol investigation is ongoing.

2016 Steele County Fair in progress

FAIR: from page 1A

"That's what it's about in the entertainment business—putting smiles on people's faces."

– Jim Gleason
Fair Manager

The fair will honor its longtime manager, Elmer Reseland, who died four years ago at the fair, by dedicating an entertainment stage in his memory. The stage is located in front of the 4-H Building and will be dedicated on opening night at 6 p.m.

During the fair, the stage will be home to several entertainment shows, including Enticing Entertainment, Thank A Farmer and Owatonna Gymnastics. The stage will be used at various times every day during the fair.

Cosmetic changes around the fairgrounds include a new cement pad for Dino's Gyro stand, new flooring in the Radel Livestock Pavilion, new windows and painting of Mother's Rest and a new metal roof on the fine arts building. A new shop was also constructed this year for the fair's grounds crew. The sheriff's posse is taking over the old shop building.

New stage acts at this year's fair will be Danika Portz, Snowy River Band Reunions, Walter's Wheelhouse and Adam Wayne Band.

There are several new bands performing in the beer garden. They are The Covers on Tuesday, Them Pesky Kids on Thursday, Zed Lepplin and Lizard King on Friday and Jacqueline Rose on Saturday.

The fair wouldn't be complete without some new foods, including cream puffs, schnitzel on pretzel buns, dynamite dog, drink fruit from the fruit and West Indian dishes.

There will be plenty of food choices as more than 100 food vendors will be on the grounds.

A climbing wall has been added this year on the north side of the race track.

The Wells Fargo Auto Museum will feature trucks from 1910-1970. In the past, the museum has primarily focused on cars.

One of the biggest attractions that will be making a repeat performance from previous years is the Human Cannonball. David Smith, Jr. will blast himself across a portion of the midway several times throughout the fair.

Smith shoots out of a 35-foot cannon and 150-feet into the air. His daring stunt will take place at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Sunday.

The cannonball man holds the "Guinness Book of World Records" for the longest cannonball shot at 194 feet and the highest height at 77.5 feet.

Seven shows will highlight the grandstand entertainment this year. The kickoff will be live bull riding at 7:30 p.m. tonight (Tuesday). The Battle of the Bands will take place at 5 p.m. Wednesday followed by Chris Brooks and the Silver City Boys at 7:30 p.m.

The popular Hairball band returns for yet another performance Thursday at 7:30 p.m. The band has gained huge popularity across the Midwest over the past few years.

Other grandstand shows include a NTPA tractor pull on Friday at 7:30 p.m., antique tractor pull on Saturday at 8:30 a.m., endure race on Saturday at 6 p.m. and the demolition derby closes out the fair on Sunday at 4 p.m.

Asked what makes the Steele fair one of the best in the state, Gleason said: "The wide variety of what we offer and the fact that it's free."

This will be Gleason's sixth year at the helm of the fair. "I'm trying to keep the fair as good as it has always been and helping to facilitate some new things," he said.

"I'm just looking forward to everything coming together after working on it for a full year," Gleason said. "That's what it's about in the entertainment business—putting smiles on people's faces."



First Lutheran Church, Blooming Prairie, MN

Pastor's corner

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find, knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." Luke 11:9-10

These words of Jesus to be "persistent" (Luke 11:8) in our prayer sometimes fall on skeptical ears. We know not all of our prayers are answered as we hope. Many people dying of cancer or other diseases plead with God for life to continue as it has but then feel unheard by God when their disease continues. Yet, Jesus does not shy away about calling for "persistence" in our prayers. The original Greek word we have translated into English as persistence is anaedeia. But a better translation to this difficult to understand Greek word might be "shameless." Have you been so persistent in your prayers that you are shameless in praying?

To be shameless in prayer indicates an action on our part. I must ask, "Does God ask for bold and shameless action on our part as we pray?" And do such acts move us into active participation within the matter for which we are praying? In other words, are we bold enough to act toward the positive outcomes we are praying for?

When Christ left this world to reside with His Father in heaven, Jesus sent is Holy Spirit to be our advocate and guide, so that we may act on behalf of God until Christ returns again. Yes, Jesus is with us always in Spirit, but we are here as humans to act in the Spirit of God. How are we doing with that? Are you bold on behalf of what God wishes for? I think our role is clear and we've got lots to do.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Methodist

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

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

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
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
Meeting in the Country Goods building across the freeway from Cabela's.
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

LERBERG'S FITNESS CENTER
118 5th Ave.
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507-684-2471
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Blooming Prairie

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322 East Main St.
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507-583-2276

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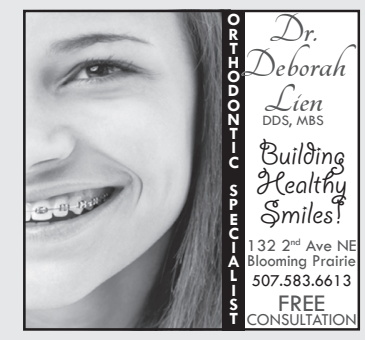
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Community

Are you ready for some paintball?

Little Thoughts on the Prairie



Mark DeLap

We are now two-thirds of the way through our favorite equinox here in the Midwest. As in each phase of our year, the last third of every equinox is filled with a flurry of activity in preparation for the season to come.

Football has begun, which is really, for most sports fanatics the end of summer. Although, this year summer was prolonged by a week, as football-starved fans flocked to Canton only to arrive at a table of hors d'oeuvres.

Perhaps it's the mystery that surrounds the Green Bay Packers playing in that game. This was the third time that Green Bay, playing in a hall of fame game was either suspended or cancelled. Perhaps it's as simple as the ire of the frozen tundra that recoils at the idea of playing a game in the dog days of summer.

I mean, paint congealing on field? Of all the forces of man and nature, it's the first time that a bad paint job caused heartache, financial disaster, cursing, tears, and an NFL cancellation on a grand and national scale. Sounds to me that they should have all gone back to revisit the Home Depot commercial. "Let's do this." In a few hours it seems to me that they could have ripped up that turf and either replaced it, or they could have brought in the grounds crew from the local high school to create and rake an infield.

I can't even imagine the costs this accrued to disappoint this many fans. It rivals all the money spent on disappointing the Patriot fans with deflate-gate.

All the ESPN personnel costs still had to be paid. Stadium vendor services still had to be paid. Stadium rental and costs had to be paid. And that is the tip of the iceberg. I can't assume the sponsors were overjoyed at the prospect of paying for a bunch of players at the 50-yard line in shorts and baseball caps, being fans instead of delighting them.

Cancelling a game due to paint. Vince Lombardi would be turning over in his grave and Bud Grant would have made his players rake the field so they could play. In today's version of spongeball… er, I mean, football any excuse is fair game for no game. Apparently.

And the game HAS changed. Blaming excuses on an ounce of air in a football, billion dollar salaries for Prima donna players, gold chains on the players… ON the playing field, retractable dome stadiums, half naked cheerleaders, quarterback fanny packs, sideline I-pods and coaches who never let the world see them from the nose down. All of these things have one common bond. They distract people from the task-at-hand, which is the game itself.

It used to be a game. I am waiting for the NFL to dress the quarterback in a tutu and make him wear flags. The Hall of Fame game was not played and that is not Hall of Fame integrity for the sport. I feel bad for those who were inducted and didn't get to see a game, or the thousands of fans who came cross county to enjoy the festivities. All they got, was a seat where they could watch the paint dry.

Deml back for yet another year as SCFF president

AWARD: from page 2A

by his own admission of "opening my big mouth." At the time, he suggested all the fair's financial business should be computerized. One week later he got the call requesting him to take over the treasurer's job. It was during this same time period that Deml's wife, Vicki, took over the office job, which she has been at ever since.

In 2013, Deml took over the reigns of fair president. He relishes the opportunity to work with others in his current role. "It's a lot of wonderful people to work with," he said. "They're all volunteers, people that are here because they enjoy it."

Deml is proud of the fair board, which he describes as a working board. "Every board member takes responsibility and ownership of the fair," he said.

The president also appreciates the support from residents of the entire county. "The people of Steele County take pride and ownership in the fair," Deml said. "Everybody is more than willing to do their part to make the fair great. There is a great sense of strong support from the whole county."

As another fair kicks off this week, Deml will be in the background watching folks from all over go in hot pursuit of "growing, sewing and showing it."

Death Notice

Dylan Johnson, 23, Cannon Falls

Dylan Patrick Johnson, 23, of Cannon Falls, died Friday, Aug. 12, 2016 as the result of a car accident.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, Aug. 19, 2016 at 2 p.m. at First English Lutheran Church (511 W Belle St., Cannon Falls). A visitation will be held Thursday, Aug. 18, 2016 at Lundberg Funeral Home (5839 Hwy 19 Blvd, Cannon Falls) from 5-8 p.m., and one hour prior to the service. Burial to follow the service at Cannon Falls Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred.

Arrangements by Lundberg Funeral Home, Cannon Falls. Online condolences may be directed to www.lundbergfuneral.com.

The complete obituary will run in the Aug. 23 issue of the Steele County Times.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

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

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

August 18
Lori Christian
Diane Vorlicek
Zackary Hein
Barb Blome
Allan Severson
Cameron Rask
Bekah Dennis
Denise Krell
Gregory Hein
Kristin Ehlers

August 19
Jaspher Doocy
Noel Tokko
Nick Nelson
Donna Gullickson
Jameson Smith
Cheri Krejci

August 20
Mary Morem
Branden Doyle

August 21
Ashley Garcia
Kollyn Alwes
Cletus Glynn

August 22
Carl Haflinger
Carol Ingvalson
Aubrie Brandt
Owen Davis

August 23
Darla Doocy

August 24
Braxton Lee
Samuel Wehner
Lanell Sunde

ANNIVERSARIES

August 16
Darrell & Naomi Erickson

August 17
Ken & Betty Behnken
Gene & Sylvia Myre

August 18
Justin & Kelly Peterson

August 20
Lee & Cara Ramsey
Denise & Chris Thompson

August 22
Cody & Taylor Schmeling

August 23
Mark & Bonnie Coughlin

August 24
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Trotman
David & Rita Goodnature

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VIETNAM VETERANS
and their families
Corn Feed, Barbeque & Ice Cream
Two Vietnam Vets are hosting an Agent Orange town hall informational meeting with a national speaker who has knowledge of the effects of dioxen exposure and how it has effected families.
Come and enjoy some good food and exchange information.
Saturday, Aug. 20 10AM - 3PM
SERVING 11-1
Veterans Memorial Park, 201 NW 7th St., Kasson
Any free will offering is accepted. Questions call 507-251-5704.

Cancer Corner

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

Blooming Prairie Cancer Group

Flag raising

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

They're all gone.

All 250 3 x 5 foot pink flags to be placed on property abutting Highway 218 near Main Street in Blooming Prairie have been sold. The promotion is part of Paint Blooming Prairie Pink sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group.

Cancer Group members plus members of the Blossoms football team and members of the National Honor Society will help put up the flags on Sunday, Aug. 28, beginning at 3 p.m.

Cheri Krejci, treasurer of the BP Cancer Group, said it will take three to four hours to pound in all of the posts and to mount the flags.

On the same day as the placement of pink flags in the Field of Flags area, sales begin for paper, pink flags that will be sold for $1 each at Casey's General Store in Blooming Prairie. Customers will be asked if they would like to purchase a paper flag in memory or in honor of a loved one. The flags will then be posted at the store for two weeks.

City residents and businesses are urged to get into the Paint the Town Pink drive by decorating their homes and businesses with a pink theme.

"This will show support for cancer victims and patients," Krejci said. Last year, residents put out flowers in pink pots and one family painted its garage door pink, accented by the cancer logo. Businesses also painted window displays.

Blooming Prairie High School athletic teams are also going to get into the Paint the Town movement. Pink will be dominant in the high school gym as the Blossoms volleyball team hosts New Richland Hartland Ellendale Geneva on Thursday, Sept. 1.

On Friday, Sept. 9, the Blossom football team will wear pink jersey warmups and pink shoe laces. The warmups have been provided by Prairie Chiropractic.

An extra warmup jersey will be signed by the entire Blossom football team and will be auctioned off at the gigantic BP Cancer Group Auction on Saturday, Sept. 10. The auction begins at 7 p.m. in the tent near The Cue Co.

Miscellaneous tidbits

• More than 100 items each night (Sept. 9 and 10) will be auctioned off. If you have an item you wish to donate for the auction, please contact any Cancer Group member or bring the item to Krejci Ford or to the Pizza Cellar after 4 p.m.

• The Cancer Group is looking for unique items, new and fun for the auctions. Canned goods and baked goods will be accepted as auction items.

• A framed (under glass) Ford Motor Co. flag has been signed by 11 Ford NASCAR drivers and was donated by the Ford Motor Co. Signing the flag were: Brad Keselowski, Trevor Bayne, Greg Biffle, Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ryan Blaney, Joey Logano, Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chris Buescher, Landon Cassill, Aric Almirola and Brian Scott.

• The BP Cancer Group sponsored Golfing for a Cure on Aug. 3. Over $1700 was raised at the event at the Blooming Prairie Country Club with 50 golfers participating. Lexi LaMontagne chaired the event.

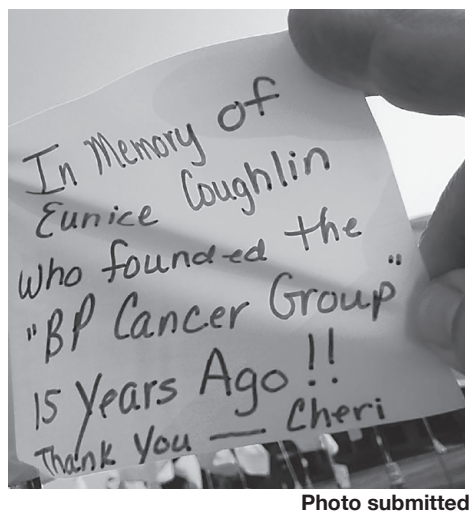


Photo submitted

Paint Blooming Prairie Pink is the theme for the Field of Flags which will be started on Sunday, Aug. 28. Here's a sample of some of the notes that will be affixed to flags. The note pays tribute to Eunice Coughlin, the founder of the BP Cancer Group.

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August 19:
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August 22:
Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli/Cauliflower, Molasses Cookie

August 23:
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August 24:
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Directionally challenged?

No worries, fair adds new street names, signs

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

For those fairgoers who are directionally challenged, don't despair. Street signs are now part of the Steele County Fair.

Fair staff members picked names for streets winding through the fairgrounds, and the Steele County Highway Department installed the street signs bearing those names. And the names have to do with what else, but the fair itself.

Four clever names were chosen for the streets, including Foundation Drive, Livestock Lane, Leisure Lane and Fairgrounds Drive. Elm Avenue, which cuts through the main portion of the fairgrounds, will remain as it has been for years.

"We came up with the names by ourselves," said Jim Gleason, fair manager. "It had been in the making for a while," he added.

Gleason noted the names reflect their use of the fairgrounds. For example, Livestock Lane was named for the street on the north end of the grounds where all the animal buildings are located.

Publicity director Todd Hale said the addition of street names was prompted by safety reasons for quick response of police, fire and EMS in handling emergencies.

In addition to the street signs, all the buildings on the fairgrounds have been numbered.

"If there is a 911 call, responders will know exactly where to go," said Anita Benson, county highway engineer.

But Benson said having street signs and exact addressing aren't only for emergency reasons. "I think it's a great thing to have for those who aren't familiar with the area," she said, adding assigning names and numbers are helpful for fairgoers to find their way around the fairgrounds.

Benson pointed out the Four Seasons Building, which is utilized throughout the year, attracts many visitors from out of town who often need help on where to go. She said having street names helps out in giving out directions.



Electricians keep the fair up and running

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

There's more to the Steele County Free Fair than what you see on the surface. Behind the food stands, the carnival rides, the vendors and the livestock barns is an army of support staff.

Among them are Jeff Koplen and the other electricians who keep the lights on, the animals watered, the cold drinks cold and the hot food hot.

Koplen took a break last week from his busy pre-fair activities to talk about his job.

The Janesville native has been an electrician for 43 years, for most of that time at R & K Electric in Owatonna. Since 1993 he has been the main electrician who works at the fair.

This year Troy Sommers of R & K is his partner and together they have been hard at work on the grounds starting about a week-and-half before the opening.

"For us the fair started last Monday," he said.

Most of the buildings on the grounds are used throughout the year so the electricity is always up and running in those, but they still have to be checked to make sure everything is running properly. There are also 187 lights on outside poles on the grounds, Koplen said. He knows because he counted them and has to make sure they all work.

Every vendor at the fair also has a need for electricity and it is up to Koplen and Sommers to see that their needs are met.

There are more than 100 food vendors alone, Koplen said, and most of them are located in individual stands outside the buildings. This means miles of electrical cables snaking across the grounds from electrical boxes to the stands, all providing the proper voltage for the vendors' needs with all of the setups meeting the national electric codes.

While meeting the vendors needs, he said, he also must be aware of how the cables are placed, trying to avoid crossing them over major pedestrian walkways whenever possible.

All of the vendors in the Four Seasons Building also have needs for individual outlets in their booths which requires more electrical cords properly placed.

The vendors move their supplies and equipment in at different times so their spaces must be ready well before the fair begins. By late last week several food vendors were already starting to move their trailers to the grounds although the actual food items will come later.

This year, Koplen said, many of vendors were at nearby county fairs such as Mower and Dakota Counties and would not be moving their stands to Owatonna until those fairs wrapped up Sunday.

When they arrive at the Steele County Fairgrounds, he said, the food vendors especially will need to be hooked up immediately.

From then on the work will continue non-stop until well after the fair ends on the next Sunday.

When the fair opens Tuesday evening, he said, he and Sommers will have made sure there is electrical power to every building and barn as well as every stage, grandstand show, beer cooler, fryer and show on the grounds. They also will have made sure that all the people who come to the campgrounds for the week have the electricity they need.

During fair week, Koplen said, they come to the grounds at 7 a.m., check everything and attend to any work that needs to be done during the "down time" before the fair officially opens at 11 a.m.

The workday will not end until after the last grandstand show has ended and lights are turned off.

The carnival, Koplen said, brings their own generators so they do not require regular assistance from the local staff but they are called to help when needed.

When the fair ends the next Sunday the shutdown process begins at 11:30 or midnight and can easily continue until 1 or 2 a.m. And then it's back at 7 a.m. the next morning.

Koplen said in the years he has been at the fair there have been relatively few problems related to the electricity although there have been times when he has been called out to the grounds in the middle of the night. They even kept the power on during the fair about five years ago, he said, when 10 inches of rain inundated the grounds.

He and Sommers do not do it without help, Koplen said, quick to point out that Owatonna Public Utilities and the city of Owatonna are very helpful.

"OPU really helps us," he said, supplying additional power points into the fair and checking all the transformers, he said.

The work does not really end when the last of the vendor trailers has left the grounds early next week, he said, as the fairgrounds are really operational all year.

"All year there are things when they rent the buildings," he said.

In addition to the ice arena activities at the Four Seasons there are several large shows held there throughout the year that require vendor set-ups similar to the fair.

There are other activities too. He remembered several years ago when a large camper group used the grounds and needed power for their campers.

"They liked it because we have a lot of power here," he said.

In the years he has worked at the fair, Koplen said he has seen a lot of changes. And he also remembers coming to the Steele County Fair when he was growing up in Janesville.

Does he ever get tired of the fair and the long hours of work there every year?

"You've got to love it, or you would hate it," he said. "I know most of the people here."



Photo by Karen Jorgensen

Troy Sommers, left, checks out an electrical box on the Steele County Fairgrounds as Jeff Koplen looks on. Koplen and Sommers have been working full time at the fairgrounds for several weeks getting everything ready for this year's edition of the Steele County Free Fair.

Zero Hour: final fair preparations underway



Staff photo by Joshua Zimmer

Marlyn Zacharias sprays the boundary for a vendor location on August 11, 2016. The fair has their opening ceremonies on August 16.

By JOSHUA ZIMMER
County Staff Writer

The calm before the storm has arrived to the Steele County Fairgrounds as final preparations are underway prior to the opening ceremonies of this year's free fair.

Todd Hale, the publicity and entertainment manager for the fair said that the primary focus for him right now is getting the entertainment squared away. "All of the press releases, brochures and advertising plans are completed and sent out to the media, so now it's time to get the entertainment in order," he added.

At this year's free fair, Hale said that 80 bands and musicians will be performing on the three stages throughout the weeklong event. Those stages being the fair square, the KFRO stage and the Elmer Reseland stage. The Reseland stage will be dedicated in the honor of former fair manager Elmer Reseland on Tuesday, August 16. Hale said that Reseland passed away four years ago during fair week. "We wanted to honor the leadership he provided during his time," he added.

Hale also added that thanks to Hy-Vee, bands and groups will be able to park their vehicles in the parking lot across from the administration building. "The groups will be able to unload their equipment in the back entrance then head over and park the vehicles," he explained. Hale said that he is in the process of touching base with each group to figure out the exact number of parking passes that will be needed. Another purpose of touching base with the performers is so they can follow up on any needs. "I'll call to make sure they don't have any questions, or that there aren't any problems that arise," he added.

Parking isn't the only place that the effort is being focused right now. Hale also explained that he has a very good crew that helps with the constant sound checks for each of the setups at the three stage locations. "We have our own crew that has been testing the boards and wiring, making sure they all work. I don't know much about the new board so I leave it all to them," he chuckled.

He did mention however that some bands bring not only their own speakers but their own sound person. Hale said he likes it because those individuals will know how the bands likes or needs things to be for a particular show.

While the concerts are loaded with numerous entertainers this year, Hale also said that due to the history of being a motor fair, the grandstands area is currently being prepped for the some of the attractions that can be seen this year. For some of the events, Hale said that they have to do some track work to get it set up for the demo derby or the rodeo. "It's a new track they have to prepare. The old one is not in use anymore," he explained.

He also mentioned that some of the bands that perform in the grandstand will set up their own stage. "We have Hairball again this year and they actually set up their stage and then we rent it from them for the week," he added.

Some of the other notable prep work that is ongoing is the vendor set up positioning and slots. "Dan and the girls have worked on the prep for that for weeks," he said. He said that they now have an aerial view map that has each of the vendor's location specifically marked, that way there isn't confusion for when set up takes place. Most vendors will come over the weekend to set up their stands. "Over the years, more and more vendors have come down early to set up their equipment," Hale said. The lone vendor that was set up on the grounds was Dole Whip, a type of ice cream cone based out of the Twin Cities.

As you roam around, most of the Ag houses are set up and ready to house the various types of animals that will storm the grounds. Grounds crew members have already placed the sanitation stations so that fair goers will be able to wash their hands after interacting with the animals. There are some minor electrical projects throughout the grounds too. Most of them have to do with the lamps that hover overhead.

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TISCH DISH



JOE TISCHLER

Football futility

With football programs all around the state and country now in preparation for the upcoming season, fans are filled with optimism and wonder if their favorite team has what it takes to win a championship.

For Minnesota football fans, that optimism wanes as that preseason hope dims to another offseason of woe.

This has been true for Vikings and Gophers fans since before I was born.

Never in my lifetime have I seen the Vikings play in the Super Bowl or the Gophers play in the Rose Bowl. The Vikings last reached the Super Bowl 40 years ago (Super Bowl XI loss to Oakland) and the Gophers last played in the Rose Bowl following the 1961 season (a 21-3 win over UCLA).

That got me thinking. . . will I ever see the Vikings play in the Super Bowl or see the Gophers play in the Rose Bowl in my lifetime? Let's take a brief look at the programs.

Vikings

Sure, they have been to four Super Bowls and lost those four Super Bowls, but I was unaffected by those losses since I was not born yet. In my lifetime though, the Vikings have been close to getting to the big game. Let's take a look at how close they've come:

1987 – The Vikings finished the strike-shortened season 8-7. Not much was expected of them in the playoffs. Two stunning road wins at New Orleans and at San Francisco resulted in an NFC Championship date at Washington. Minnesota trailed late, 17-10, driving for a potential game-tying touchdown. A fourth down pass from Wade Wilson was dropped by Darrin Nelson near the goal line. Game over. Oh, so close.

1998 – A magical year. The Vikings finished the season with a 15-1 record and scored a then-NFL record for points in a season with 556. Minnesota led Atlanta 27-20 late in the game with Gary Anderson, a kicker who had not missed all year, on to attempt a 38-yard field goal to put them up by ten and seemingly clinch a Super Bowl berth. He missed it. Atlanta then drove down to tie the game and would then win the game in overtime, 30-27. Oh, so close.

2000 – 41-0 loss to the New York Giants. Enough said. Not even close.

2009 – This one still hurts. Brett Favre is the quarterback. This was supposed to the year where it would all fall into place. Favre has one of his best seasons in his then 19-year career throwing 33 touchdown passes and just seven interceptions. In the championship game at New Orleans, the Vikings are driving late for the potential game-winning score. With two minutes remaining, they get to the Saints 33-yard line. Two runs gain no yards and then a 12-men in the huddle penalty send them back five yards. Favre then rolls out right, throws back to his left, and is intercepted by Tracy Porter. New Orleans wins the toss in overtime, drives down and kicks the game-winning field goal. Oh, so agonizingly close.

DISH

Continued on page 2B

Young receiving corps to add balance to offense



Staff photos by Joe Tischler

Second year receiver Stefon Diggs (left) and rookie Laquon Treadwell (right) are expected to be top receiving targets for quarterback Teddy Bridgewater this season.

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

When you have the league's leading rusher in the backfield, it is easy for defenses to know who the opposing offense's go-to-guy is.

In 2015, Adrian Peterson led the NFL with 1,485 rushing yards, the third time he has led the league in rushing in his nine seasons.

With many calling this a "make it or break it" season for third-year quarterback Teddy Bridgewater, he needs some talent at wide receiver to add some much needed balance to the offense.

"We had games where Adrian rushes for 200 yards, 190 yards, and those types of things, and then we had games where we struggled to run," said offensive coordinator Norv Turner. "We want to be good enough to be able to do it against the best teams, and if they're overloading the run, we want to be better in the passing game; we want to be more balanced."

It will be a very young receiving corps Bridgewater will be throwing to in 2016. The oldest of the group is 27-year old Charles Johnson and the receiver with the most NFL experience is Jarius Wright who enters his fifth year in the purple and gold.

After a promising 2014 with the Vikings, Charles Johnson had a disappointing 2015 catching only nine passes for 127 yards, a year after grabbing 31 balls for 475 yards and two touchdowns. He has been seeing first team reps in training camp and did catch a 49-yard touchdown pass from Bridgewater in the preseason opener at Cincinnati Friday.

"He had a rib issue that was a real issue," said Turner. "He's had a really good offseason and he looks ready to go. He is really running his routes well right now and catching the ball."

As for Wright, he was fourth in the team in receptions (34) and yards (442) a season ago. Being one of the oldest receivers on the roster could bring with it more pressure.

"The one thing I'll tell you about Jarius the last two years, any time he's been called on he's been productive and he's made plays," said Turner. "There's only one ball and there's only so many different balls you're going to throw. You're going to run the ball and all that and we're working a lot of guys in the slot, Jarius is one of them. I have a lot of confidence that when he gets an opportunity, he'll perform."

The pass catchers expected to receive the bulk of the throws from Bridgewater are two of the squads youngest in second year pro Stefon Diggs and rookie Laquon Treadwell.

Diggs, a 2015 fifth round selection, sat out the first three games last season. He was given a chance in the Vikings' fourth game at Denver and he ran with the opportunity leading Minnesota with 52 catches for 720 yards.

In the first round this season, the Vikings selected Mississippi wideout Laquon Treadwell who caught 82 passes for 1,153 yards and 11 touchdowns as a junior last season. He brings size and athleticism to a receiving corps that needs it.

"He's going to help us out a lot. There's a reason we drafted him in the first round," said Bridgewater. "He has good size and a big catch radius. If you look back at Coach Turner's track record from back in the day, he's had those big receivers that would go across the middle and do different things. Laquon will remain a student of the game and learn from guys in that room."

BP captains lead preseason conditioning drills



Staff photos by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie High School senior volleyballers are ready for the 2016 season and have been holding captain's practices. Shown from left to right are Leah Schiefert, Kylie Forystek, Leah Inwards, Courtney Wobschall, Marissa Larson, Alicia Ptacek and Rachel Kubicek. The Blossom volleyball team opens the season on Aug. 25 at home against Byron.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Respective coaches took the helm of the fall sports teams this week after the various teams spent last week on their own in conditioning for another grueling and exciting season. The process goes under the guise of captains' practice, but in truth, the three BPHS teams still have not named their permanent captains. Instead, senior leaders usually take the responsibility for directing workouts in the week of conditioning.

As volleyball player Kylie Forystek noted, "We don't name captains until the season schedule begins, which leaves it up to some of us senior leaders to take control of the practices. This is something we want to do, and we enjoyed the leadership opportunities." She, Leah Inwards, and Marissa Larson took the responsibility last week of organizing and leading the conditioning exercises, setting up the various drills of serving, plays at the net, and scrambling for balls on the floor.

If hard work and determination are any indicators of success, the volleyball team will spring some surprises this season. "We lost some good players," commented Kylie Forystek, "but I think we will be better than last year. We have worked hard already at the net setting up big blocks, and we also spent a lot of practice time serving and receiving serve. The conditioning that the senior leaders have directed hopefully will pay off as the season progresses.



Blooming Prairie High School cross country runners have been tuning up for the 2016 season by holding captain's practices last week. Shown from left to right are: Kyle Branstedt, Ethan Grant, Evan Doerhoefer, Jackie Hyland,Rose michaud and Bobbi Bruns. The opener will be Thursday, Sept. 1 against Stewartville.

"We started each practice session with a mile run" remarked Leah Inwards, "and then we came into the gym for conditioning and drills on the floor and at the net. We think Coach Kittelson wants to run a 6-2 offense this year, and we worked on that last week, as well." Inwards echoed the remarks of Forystek in that she thinks they will surprise some teams this season.

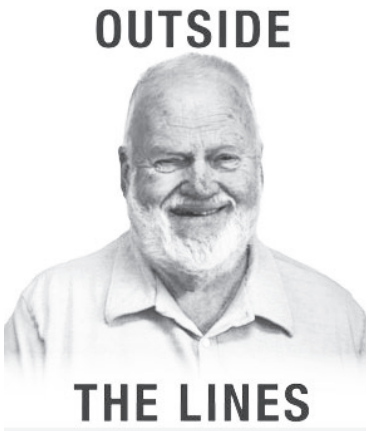
Although the cross country teams also practiced last week, their schedule was not much different than it is throughout the summer. The individual runners kept to a regimen of training devised by themselves, with some advice from Coach John Bruns. Captain's practice for the cross country runners is generally a little less traditional, as those athletes generally pursue the same regimen they follow all summer.

Meanwhile the football team also went through a strenuous week of conditioning, and a lot of younger athletes did some line blocking with dummies. Captains Zach Piller, Camden Heimerman and Wyatt Grundmeier led the varsity players through a variety of drills and conditioning exercises. Grundmeier expressed this idea of the workouts, 'I think we worked really hard, and we have done a lot of passing drills and dummy play calling. I think it went pretty well."

When asked about prospects for the season, Heimerman remarked, "I look for us to be respectable opponents in a tough district schedule. We travel to Rushford-Peterson for our opener and then face Bethlehem Academy in our first home game." Piller added, "We feel in pretty good condition and are eager to really get after it, now that coaches are on hand for our practices." Captains' practices are beneficial for conditioning, and all the fall athletes relish the opportunity to get a head start on the season. Now practice begins in earnest.

Now it begins

OUTSIDE



THE LINES

LeMar Nelson

After a week of conditioning drills by the athletes, fall coaches took charge this week as the real practice for the coming season began yesterday. Preparation will be strenuous and rigorous for the next couple of weeks, as the three fall sports teams get ready for competition. Volleyball and cross country teams start the season on Thursday, Sept.1, while football begins Friday, Sept. 2, with a trip to Rushford-Peterson.

Teams get a little break this year, as the MSHSL has pushed all athletic competition a week later. That means that only one or two contests will be played before Labor Day, rather than the two or three that were mandated a year ago; thus school will begin session again the day after Labor day, but only one athletic contest will be contested before that time..

Around and about

A week or so ago, Owatonna live reporter Todd Walkingstick interviewed BPHS pole vaulter Leah Schiefert for a segment of their weekly programming. Schiefert set a school record in the vault for the Blossom track team last spring and has ambitions to better that mark in the next track season in the spring.

In talking about her pole vault career so far, Schiefert commented, "I was a little afraid of jumping at first because of the height, but once I learned the technique better, I really enjoy vaulting." Schiefert, a BPHS senior this year, continues to work on her technique in hopes of setting another school record next spring.

In season she also gives advice and encouragement to a couple of underclassmen, who took up pole-vaulting last spring as 7th graders. In the meantime, Schiefert will concentrate on volleyball, where she has been a setter for the team. It was a good interview, and a tip of the hat this week goes to Schiefert for her success in a difficult track skill.

In past years, writing obligations have kept me from attending any reunions at the high school in South Dakota from which I graduated. Because of the later start in athletics this year, I will be able to attend an all-school reunion the last of this month. The high school I attended consolidated into a county school in 1968, which ultimately indicates that there are fewer alumni each year who are able to attend.

As a graduate from the Class of 1950, fewer of my classmates are still around, but I anticipate seeing some old friends that I haven't seen for years. I am sure that I will think to myself how old they look now compared to me. Ha! Kidding aside, it should be a lot of fun reliving some of our school escapades from way back then, and I look forward to the occasion

I confess that it has been a good thing that writing sports still has not occupied much of my time, as I have spent countless hours glued to the TV set watching the Olympics. I admit to being a sucker for all sports, and there have certainly been plenty of exciting events to watch in the last two weeks.

One can only marvel at the amazing agility of the gymnasts, particularly the women, as they dominated the action to earn the gold medal. And I don't think any of us will be around long enough to see anyone exceed the awesome record of Michael Phelps in the swimming pool. His total gold medal accumulation almost defies the imagination.

Several of the minor sports, such as Judo, fencing, badminton, and table tennis, have attracted my viewing, and the Minnesota Lynx basketball players have made us all proud with their play on the basketball court. All in all, the every four-year spectacle has interested and thrilled many viewers, and it makes me look with anticipation to the next winter Olympics as well.

Last week I made some comments about the Minnesota twins playing better ball in July and August. After the last week's play, I had better take back those kind comments. It was too bad, however, that they jumped to a 5-0 lead last Friday against Houston, only to have it washed out before it became an official. Add having bad luck to their bad pitching woes.

Preparations still continue for the annual "Paint the town pink" campaign. The week will culminate as usual with the big two-night auction on Sept. 7 and 8, and it promises to be a bigger event than ever. It should be fun and beneficial for all.

The new season of Broadway touring shows began for me last Saturday, with "Paint Your wagon at the St. Paul Ordway. I am not too enthralled with the story line, but the music was excellent, including the old favorite, "They Called the Wind Mariah." It was a good start to another theater season.

Musician dies

Many readers may wonder at my frequent items detailing deaths of celebrities. I confess that I am kind of an entertainment "junkie" and any news about those personalities catches my attention. Last week the world lost another noted musician with the death of noted jazz clarinetist Pete Fountain. Fountain, who was born and died in New Orleans, Louisiana, built a sterling reputation as one of the greatest jazz musicians of his era.

He played various jazz styles from Dixieland to pop and had several jazz bands during his lifetime. He received an honorary degree from Loyola University in 2006, was inducted into the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame in 2007, and was installed in the Delta Music Museum in 2008.

He started playing clarinet at the doctor's suggestion due to a weak lung problem, and the skill eventually cured his lung problem. Although he spent most of his career in New Orleans, he also gave several concerts in Los Angeles and appeared on the Johnny Carson TV show 56 times in his lifetime. Fountain died at the age of 86.

Let's close this week with another of those gaffes that crop up in church bulletins: Thursday night-Potluck supper. Prayer and medication will follow. Think that through, and we'll talk again.

No Chateau

Mother Nature won another round Friday Night as she brought on a full day of rain to wipe out any chances of getting in a night of racing action at Chateau Raceway in Lansing. It was the eighth night of scheduled racing lost to the weather this season compared to just 11 nights of action. Just three nights of racing are left on the schedule for the 60th Anniversary Season of racing at the track. Racing action is scheduled for 7:00 every Friday Night through Labor Day weekend.

DISH: from page 1B

Gophers

The University of Minnesota does have a rich football history. The program does have seven national championships to their credit with the last one coming in 1960.

Since then, there has not been much success.

Two seasons ago, the Gophers played in their first New Year's Day bowl game, a loss to Missouri in the Citrus Bowl, since that 1962 Rose Bowl Game win over UCLA.

If that 2014 team would have beaten Wisconsin in the regular season finale, they would have played Ohio State in the Big Ten Championship Game.

That team, along with the 1967 team that tied for the Big Ten crown, are the closest Gopher squads to reach the Rose Bowl in 55 years.

Things started to change for the better in 1999 when the Gophers, coached by Glen Mason, reached a bowl game for the first time since 1986. That was a trip to the Sun Bowl where they lost to Oregon. More trips to the Sun Bowl would follow as well as multiple times of playing in the Music City Bowl and the Insight Bowl.

Sure it is nice to see the Gophers playing in bowl games, but fans got tired of seeing trips to whatever "Who Cares Bowl."

Tim Brewster was hired before the 2007 season vowing he would lead Minnesota to the Rose Bowl. I have never heard a coach utter "Gophers" and "Rose Bowl" in the same sentence. Finally, some optimism.

The Gophers went 1-11 in his first season.

A new on-campus stadium came in 2009 which brought more optimism and enthusiasm. It didn't work on the field though and Brewster was fired midway through the 2010 season.

Jerry Kill took over and slowly led the program back to respectability. After a rough first year, he led the Gophers to three straight bowl appearances.

Tracy Claeys took over Kill, who retired due to health concerns, midway through last season and led the program to their first bowl game win in 11 years.

Both the Vikings and Gophers seem to be going in the right direction, but will I ever get to see my favorite football teams play in either the Super Bowl or the Rose Bowl?

The Vikings. . . I say yes. They have been close and one of these times, it's going to happen.

The Gophers. . . I doubt it. They have not come close, and with the likes of Ohio State, Michigan State, and Michigan in the conference, it does not appear to happen anytime soon.

Vikings Super Bowl appearances:

- Jan. 11, 1970 - 23-7 loss to Kansas City.
- Jan. 13, 1974 - 24-7 loss to Miami.
- Jan. 12, 1975 - 16-6 loss to Pittsburgh.
- Jan. 9, 1977 - 32-14 loss to Oakland.

Gophers Rose Bowl appearances:

- Jan. 2, 1961 - 17-7 loss to Washington.
- Jan. 1, 1962 - 21-3 win over UCLA.

Undrafted rookies shine for Vikes



Photo courtesy of Andy Kenutis of vikings.com

Rookie C.J. Ham had 12 carries for 35 yards and a touchdown against Cincinnati on Friday.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

In the Vikings 17-16 win over the Bengals in the preseason opener, there were two rookies that really stood out above the rest- given the roster battles they are in.

Running back C.J. Ham and cornerback Tre Roberson, who are both in the midst of battling for a roster spot, were two bright spots in the game in terms of the rookies.

For Ham, he is currently battling Matt Asiata and Jhurell Pressley for snaps as the team's third running back. Roberson, who's been stellar throughout camp, is fighting for one of the final cornerback spots with Jabari Price and Marcus Sherels.

While neither player saw a ton of snaps, if any during the first half, the second half was all about the two rookies.

Taking the majority of the second half snaps, Ham showed a comfort level not seen by many undrafted rookies. I was really impressed with his vision and his running style.

There were few tackles where he was stopped behind line. He ran with low pads and always kept his feet moving forward.

During camp, Ham talked about his style and how it fits.

"Obviously, getting to learn from Adrian (Peterson) is huge, just with how I can use my size, and how I can manipulate my pad level against defenders," he said.

Ham didn't have a lot of wasted movement, showing patience to allow his blocking to set up along with the vision to see a crease open up and get upfield. He didn't have a ton of snaps as a true blocker in the passing game as most of his opportunities came off chips in play action but showed soft hands out of the backfield.

His initial burst when his feet were stopped were nice as displayed on his touchdown run. There was pressure that shut down the first side of the play that made Ham stop his feet and work back upfield.

The rookie out of Augustana would finish the night with 35 yards on 12 carries and a touchdown. I spoke to Ham during our training camp coverage last week and he said that he's trying to do everything to make the team.

"In any aspect of the game, I'm going to give it my all and do whatever I can to not only make this team but help this team win games. That's why we play," he added.

As for Roberson, the former college quarterback continues to look like a natural at the position. He was in great position all evening. He displayed some really nice feet when turning out of his back pedal.

He also is starting to get a grasp of body position and how to position himself to the receiver when playing the ball in the air.

Watching his snaps, I came away impressed by just how much of a grasp he has on the position for learning it just this offseason. Roberson says that a lot of the early success is due watching film.

"I'm a film rat. I try to watch as much as possible and make notes of where I was wrong and how I can overcome it," he added.

There was one small communication error with Antone Exum, Jr. that resulted in a big play later in the fourth quarter-which comes with the territory of having a player who never played the position before.

I had a chance to talk to the young corner about his transition to corner at training camp last week and his biggest focus right now is to get with the veterans.

"I talked to Harry (Harrison Smith), Griff (Michael Griffen) and (Andrew) Sendejo on how where im supposed to fit and how to adjust with them playing on the top on some of the coverages," he added.

Roberson finished the night with three tackles and two pass deflections.

If both rookies continue to show signs of development in the remaining preseason, the coaching staff will have some tough decisions to make prior to the start of the regular season.

GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS

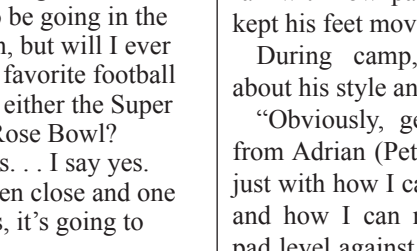
WEEK 12 - AUGUST 8

1	Braaten, Pirkl, Resler	87
2	Drexler, Zwiener, Klemmensen	76.5
3	R Skala, J Skala, Thiele	74.5
4	Larock, Iacovino, Schwartz	71.5
5	Morgan, R.Olson, R.Olson	71
6	Lea, Hansen, D.Johnson	70
7	Hillberg, Wanous, Pfiefer	69
7	Glynn, Ingvalson, Esplan	69
9	Hareid, Bartsch, Lewer	67.5
10	Klemmensen, Klemmensen, Anderson	64.5
10	Doerhoefer, Olson, Worke	64.5
10	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	64.5
13	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	62.5
15	Jenson, Glynn, Ebeling	62
15	Peterson, Behnken, Bishop	60.5
15	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	60.5
17	Strunk, Farr, Ingvaldson	60
18	White, Lynse, Johnson	59.5
19	Ingvalson, Klemmenson, Bishop	59
20	Clark, Blome, Skala	58.5
21	Carlson, P Jones, M Jones	57
22	Kormann, Kormann, Kormann	56.5
23	Johnson, Caldwell, Bulver	55
24	Grunklee, Evans, Possehl	54
24	Zwiener, Hinzmen, Wurst	54
26	Stangel, Mauseth, Schammel	53.5
26	Myer, Motl, Tollefson	53.5
28	Koster, Long, White	49
29	Haberman, Henefield, Nahlovsky	48

TOP SCORES

A	Larock, Iacovino, Schwartz	31
B	Morgan, R.Olson, R.Olson	31
B	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	31
C	R.Skala, J.Skala, Thiele	34
D	Glynn, Invalson, Esplan	35

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These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of August 12

No results due to being rained out

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Community Calendar

PHOTO MEMORY



LAST YEAR AROUND THIS TIME

Last summer, 20 people, including four NRHEG students, completed mission work in Accompong, Jamacia.

Albert Lea/Freeborn Co

August 16, 2016
District Days, Albert Lea
8:30am-9:30am Shell Rock Watershed Board Meeting
10am-3pm Schedule Pick-up/Picture Day, Tiger Door, Albert Lea High School
5:30- 6:30pm Parks and Rec. Board Meeting, Albert Lea
6-8:30pm 8th Grade Information Night, Albert Lea High School Auditorium
6-7pm Albert Lea Public Library Nonfiction Book Club
6-9pm Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Drive, Albert Lea

August 17, 2016
District Days, Albert Lea
11am-9pm Wind Down Wednesday, Albert Lea

August 18, 2016
District Days, Albert Lea
10:30-11:30am Albert Lea Public Library Story time
5:30-6:30pm Albert Lea Council Workshop, City Council Chamber

August 19, 2016
District Days, Albert Lea
6-9pm Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Drive, Albert Lea

August 20, 2016
Albert Lea Public Library closed
6-9pm Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Drive, Albert Lea

August 22, 2016
District Days, Albert Lea
10:30-11:30 Albert Lea Public Library Story time
7-8pm Albert Lea City Council, City Council Chamber

August 23, 2016
8am-2:50pm 8th Grade Orientation Day, Albert Lea Senior High School
5:30-7pm Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, Albert Lea
6-9pm Rock Climbing Open Gym, 211 W Richway Drive, Albert Lea

August 24, 2016
School Begins

Blooming Prairie

Aug. 16, 2016
10:30-11:30am Blooming Prairie Public Library Story time
4:45-5:45pm Blooming Prairie Boys N Girls Club Board Meeting

August 17, 2016
10:30-11:30am Blooming Prairie Public Library Story time

August 23, 2016
Card Club & Luncheon
10:30-11:30am Blooming Prairie Story time
6-7pm Blooming Prairie Public Library Book Club

August 24, 2016
10:30-11:30am Blooming Prairie Public Library Story time


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WINE + WOMEN: WED 6-10 P.M.
CRAZY DAYS: SEPT. 14-17 (OFF SALE)
BLOOMIN' GRAPEVINE WINE CLUB: SEPTEMBER-MAY - SCHED AVAIL 9/1
HOLIDAY DAZZLE WINE & BEER TASTING: THURS. NOV. 3RD
HOLIDAY DAZZLE DOWNTOWN FESTIVITIES: THURS. DEC. 2ND
HARVEY'S HOLIDAY CHEER: DEC 10TH
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Ellendale/Geneva

August 16, 2016
Hope Curbside Recycling, South of 42nd Ave, Ellendale
7-8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale

August 17, 2016
Hope Curbside Recycling, South of 42nd Ave, Ellendale

August 18, 2016
5:30-6:40pm NRHEG Yoga, Dape rm
7-8pm NRHEG Yoga, Dape rm

August 22, 2016
6:20-7:40pm NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellendale

August 23, 2016
7-8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellendale

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Medford

August 16, 2016
6:30-7:30pm Court St Anne Catholic Daughters Meeting
7-8pm Ft Robert Carlin Knights of Columbus Council

August 18, 2016
2-2:30pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner

August 22, 2016
2-2:30pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner

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Owatonna

August 16, 2016
9:30am-10:30am Public Library It's Tale Time!
10:30am-11:45am Owatonna Public Library So Many Books…So Little Time Book Club
4:30-5:30pm Owatonna Public Library Board Meeting, Gainey Room
7-8pm Owatonna City Council, Council Chamber, City Hall

August 17, 2016
4-5pm Owatonna EDA, Council Chambers, City Hall

August 18, 2016
6:30-7:30pm Public Library Story time

August 22, 2016
Owatonna Housing & Redevelopment Authority, 2nd floor Conference Room, City Hall

August 23, 2016
9:30-10:30am Public Library It's Tale Time!
4-5pm Owatonna Public Utilities Commission, Utilities Plant Office
5:30-6:30pm Owatonna Planning Commission, Council Chambers, City Hall

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Austin/Mower County

August 16, 2016
10am-5pm Gallery – Beth Lowe/Krista Pumroy/Cassandra Buck, Austin Artworks Center
10am-4pm Electrifying Minnesota, Mower County Historical Society
12pm-1pm Tuesdays with Toastmasters, Hormel Foods Corporate Office, Austin
3:30pm-5pm Southland ISD: Open Gym
5:30-7:30pm Uncork and Create: Autumn Flowers, Austin ArtWorks Center
6-7pm Urban Yoga, Bandshell Community Park, Austin

August 17, 2016
9-9:40am Teddy Bear Tour, Hormel Historic Home
9:45-10:30am Teddy Bear Tour, Hormel Historic Home
10am-5pm Gallery – Beth Lowe/Krista Pumroy/Cassandra Buck, Austin Artworks Center
10am-4pm Electrifying Minnesota, Mower County Historical Society
11:30am-12:30pm SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, City of Lyle
3-6pm Cedars Market, The Cedars of Austin
6:30-7:30pm A Community Conversation on Poverty, Hormel Historic Homes, Austin
7-8pm 2016 World Music Series: Calan, Historic Paramount Theatre, Austin

August 18, 2016
10am-5pm Gallery – Beth Lowe/Krista Pumroy/Cassandra Buck, Austin Artworks Center
10am-4pm Electrifying Minnesota, Mower County Historical Society
12-1pm Tater Time, Mower County Senior Center
3:30pm-5pm Southland ISD: Open Gym
4-7pm Austin Farmer's Market, 501 Oakland Ave East
4-6pm Famers Market Place LLC, 18th Ave
4-7pm LeRoy Farmers' Market, Corner of Broadway and Main St, Downtown LeRoy
5:30-8:30pm More Than Pink 5k Fun Run/Walk, Todd Park, Austin
6-7pm Brownsdale Public Library Puzzle Night
6-7pm Austin Public Library LEGO Club
6:30-7pm Austin Public Library Twilight Tales

August 19, 2016
9am-12pm Garden Spot Market, 106 W Main St, Brownsdale
10am-5pm Gallery – Beth Lowe/Krista Pumroy/Cassandra Buck, Austin Artworks Center
10am-4pm Electrifying Minnesota, Mower County Historical Society
11:30am-12:30pm SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, City of Lyle
5-8pm Friday Night Cruise-In, Windrift Lounge, 2511 11th St NE, Austin
6-7:30pm 8th Annual Doggy Dip, Austin Municipal Pool
6:30-9:30pm Chateau Raceway Points Night
7-9pm Matchbox Children's Theatre Production: A Shakespeare Celebration, Historic Paramount Theatre



How to track down things you routinely misplace



THE SAVVY SENIOR

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Dear Savvy Senior,
Can you recommend any products or devices to help seniors track down lost or misplaced items, like car keys, wallet, cell phone, etc. My husband has become forgetful in his old age, so we spend a lot of wasted time looking for things.
Frustrated Spouse

Dear Frustrated,
There are actually a wide variety of tracking devices that can help you and your husband find items that are commonly misplaced or lost. Here are some top options to consider depending on how tech savvy you are.

Smartphone or Tablet Users

If you or your husband uses a smartphone or tablet, you can easily track down lost or misplaced items like keys, a purse, wallet, remote control, smartphone, tablet or laptop with a Bluetooth tracker like TrackR (thetrackr.com, $25 or $30 per tag) or Tile (thetileapp.com, $25 per tag). Both of these products pair with an Apple or Android smartphone or tablet app, which will help you locate the missing item.

All you do is attach a small TrackerR or Tile tag to the items you want to keep track of with an adhesive sticker, a key ring or you can just slip it inside the item.

Then, when a tagged item goes missing, you simply access the app on your smartphone or tablet to see how far away you are from the item or last known location on the map. If you're within 100 feet, you can make the tracking device ring so you can follow the sound.

Or, if you or your husband loses your phone or tablet, both TrackR and Tile work in reverse, allowing you to press a button on the device to make your phone or tablet ring (even if it's on silent) as long as it's nearby. And to help you avoid leaving items behind, TrackR can be set to sound an alarm when there's too much distance between your phone and device.

Low-Tech Finders

If, however, you or your husband don't have a smartphone or tablet, there are radio frequency devices like Click 'N Dig (clickndig.com) that can help you find lost/misplaced items. This device comes with one finder fob/remote and four or six tags for $26 or $39 respectively. Attach a tag to the items you want to keep track of with adhesive or a key ring. Each tag is color-coded and corresponds to a colored button on the finder.

When an item goes missing, you simply press the colored button on the finder fob and the tag will flash and beep. The signal will go through walls and cushions, but you'll need to be within at least 60 feet of your lost item. Make sure you keep the finder fob in a safe spot, because if you misplace it, you won't be able to find the tagged items.

Another good option, and one that doesn't require a finder fob, is Find One Find All or FOFA (findonefindall.com). This device can manage up to six items. It comes in a key-fob finder and/or a flat, credit card sized finder for your wallet, remote, phone, tablet, etc.

These finders can be attached to items you wish to keep track of, and because each finder is also a transmitter, as long as you can find one FOFA tagged item, you can locate the rest.

FOFA finders sound an alarm when signaled so you can follow the sound to locate the missing item, but the range for this device is only 30 feet. Cost: $25 for two finders.

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 22, 2006
Dan Evans, Publisher

On September 1st of this year, Dr. Richard Roberts will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his Chiropractic Office. Two and a half decades ago, Dr. Roberts opened up one office in Blooming Prairie and another in Dodge Center. He originally majored in journalism, but he wanted to work in a "more positive atmosphere." Margo, Dr. Robert's wife, works as the office manager and they both spend half their time at each office. Dr. Roberts loves what he does, and reports that he is always careful about dealing with patients.

Cindy Tyson who was born and raised in Blooming Prairie is the owner of Good Ol' Days Family Resort in Nisswa along with her husband Bob. He is from the Upper Gull area and the two always enjoyed vacationing up North, prompting them to purchase the resort in 1999. Undergoing renovation, the cabins will soon have state of the art appliances and good insulation. They will be able to stay open all year, housing snowmobilers and ice fishermen in the winter months. The $4 million project will give the cabins a needed update and still preserve the rustic cabin feel.

Krisi Lillie, a 1992 graduate of Blooming Prairie, recently opened up her own business in Rochester called Lillie le Chic Interior Decorating. After building and decorating her own home in Rochester, Lillie received positive feedback and requests for advice from her friends. Since then, she has assisted family and friends in decorating their spaces and now looks forward to expanding her clientele with her new business.

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

The Bakery is now open for business on Main Street. Eight months after the idea first took form, Gregg and Carol Fristedt are excited to see their bakery running. The Fristedts moved to Blooming Prairie a few months ago while renovations in the former Frist Bank building were going on, and although it was stressful the family says that the bakery was worth the wait. After taking training from Mankato's Vocational School following highs school and years of working for larger corporations, Gregg is excited to be behind the bakery counter, running his very own business.

The Blooming Prairie City Council passed a roller/skate/blade ordinance that makes it unlawful to operate on private property without permission, skate recklessly, or skate away from the right hand curb. The ordinance was brought to attention months ago following complaints and concerns about careless skaters.

Joe's repair, owned and operated by Joe Haberman, recently moved to Blooming Prairie. Haberman rents part of his business's building to Johnson Golf Cars, who recently moved their growing business to town also.

50 Years Ago
Thursday, August 18, 1966
Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors

The local school's Driver Education Program that began more than 12 years ago will train 114 students this summer. Two instructors lead area students through 6 hours of behind the wheel training using a school-owned car and one donated by a local dealership. New legislation effective January 1, 1967 will require all persons to complete Driver Education before applying for a license.

An ice cream social and brief ceremony turned over the park picnic shelter, built by the Lions Club, to the village last Friday evening. The shelter's 800 sq. feet of floor was filled with community members who turned out for a treat and to listen to the "Petal Tones."

4-H members will conclude the Steele County Fair with a new event this year. The Parade of Champions will take place on Sunday, and 4-H members who won special awards will show their exhibit in the dairy judging arena. Awards will be given at this program.

Blooming Prairie will have three teams competing in the 12th annual Gamehaven Council Canoe Derby this weekend. The 65-mile trip down the Mississippi will start in Red Wing and end in Winona.

75 Years Ago
Thursday, August 21, 1941
Frank Krejci, Publisher

Two people were killed and seven were injured in a two-car collision three miles south of here due to high weeds and shrubs in a nearby field. The overgrown greens obscured the drivers' vision, causing the deadly crash that left both vehicles totaled.

A railroad section worker stationed at Pratt has had his $200 stake stolen while he slept in his railway car bunk. An investigating officer discovered that a fellow worker suddenly disappeared, and it is expected that he took the mission money with him.

The fifth annual Northwest Championship Trapshoot and Hunters Special is all set to entertain scores of visiting shooters here this weekend at the Blooming Prairie Gun Club.

Both gate and grandstand attendance records were shattered at the Steele County Free Fair. As the fame of the nation's largest free fair continues to spread, the fair draws more people from further distances each year. The festivities were marred this year by two fatal crashes during the races. Both "Boots" Phearson, Ames, and Charles L. Larpenteur, Minneapolis, drove their cars through the fences and were killed instantly.

Arnelia Burtness was married to Phillip Hiller in a candlelight service at the First Lutheran Church on Saturday afternoon. The service was one of prettiest events this season and all in attendance were blown away by the beauty of the wedding and its bride.



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Public Safety

Blotter spotlight: Harassment. On Aug. 9, deputies took a report of a harassment incident in the 75600 block of 135th Ave. in Blooming Prairie at 2:03 p.m.

Thousands of lead-foot drivers nabbed across the state

During the two-week speed enforcement campaign across Minnesota in July, officers issued more than 13,000 citations, including 133 in Steele County.

The Steele County Sheriff's Office led the county with 105 speeding citations followed by Owatonna Police with 26 and Blooming Prairie Police with 2. The fastest speed recorded in the county was 103 in a 65 mph zone. Blooming Prairie's highest speed was 74.

More than 300 law enforcement agencies participated in the campaign July 8-22. This year's total of 13,2145 citations compares to 16,410 in 2015. Officers issued 1,543 seat belt citations.

Over the two week period, 19 police agencies reported speeds of 100 mph or more. The highest speed in the state came in Rosemount at 120 mph.

Some of the excuses officers heard during the campaign included: "Trying to get to McDonald's before it closed, " "My multiple boxes of frozen meat are melting in the back seat," and "I was going 55 in a 55, or whatever the speed limit is in the area."

There are many consequences of speeding. They include: greater potential for loss of vehicle control, increased stopping distance, less time for driver response for crash avoidance and increased crash severity leading to more severe injuries and death.

The Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety coordinated the enhanced effort.

Public safety brief

Distracted driving leads to crash

An Owatonna grandmother suffered minor injuries in a crash caused by distracted driving.

The woman was traveling on Vine Street in Owatonna with her granddaughter when her cell phone rang. She reportedly took her eyes off the road momentarily to check the phone and that was enough for her to drive right into a parked vehicle.

Police said this is just one example of how a distraction inside your car can take you from your primary task of driving and keeping everyone in the vehicle safe. Distracted driving continues to be a factor in one out of four crashes in the state. In 2015, there were 74 deaths attributed to distracted driving.

Police blotter
Steele County

Blooming Prairie Police
Aug. 7

Civil. Officers responded to a civil matter in the city at 2:05 a.m. They issued a citation.

Aug. 11

Criminal Sex. At 2:19 p.m., police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the city.

Owatonna Police

Theft. Officers took theft reports in the 100 block of Riverside Ave. NW at 3:04 a.m. and in the 1200 block of Austin Rd. SE at 6:21 a.m.

Threats. Police responded to a subject making threats in the 300 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 1:53 p.m.

Shoplifting. At 2:57 p.m., officer issued a citation for shoplifting in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.

Aug. 6

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 200 block of Rose St. E. at 1:23 p.m.

Burglary. Police began an investigation of a burglary in the 1000 block of Lincoln Ave. S. at 3:41 p.m.

Shoplifting. A shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 8:17 p.m.

Traffic. At 8:44 p.m., officer arrested a motorist following a traffic stop at 18th St. SE and Cornerstone Lane SE.

Aug. 7

Assault. Police responded to an assault in the 1100 block of School St. E. at 4:01 a.m.

Juvenile. At 9 a.m., officers responded to a juvenile complaint in the 100 block of Riverside Ave. NW. They issued a warning.

Theft. Officer took theft reports in the 1800 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 2:22 p.m. and in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 7:47 p.m.

Arrest. Police made a traffic arrest at Bridge St. W. and Interstate 35 northbound at 8:57 p.m.

Aug. 8

Shots. A weapon violation occurred in the 100 block of 18th Place NE at 1:54 a.m.

Burglaries. Police responded to burglaries in the 1700 block of Mosher Ave. SW at 4:11 a.m. and in the 200 block of Woodland Dr. SE at 10:06 a.m.

Warrant. Officer arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW at 9:38 a.m.

Thefts. Police took three theft reports throughout the day.

Vulnerable Adult. At 11:56 a.m., officer took a vulnerable adult report in the 600 block of El Dorado St. SE.

Mental Health. Police received a mental health report from the 300 block of Cedardale Dr. SE at 1:42 p.m.

Aug. 9

Thefts. Thefts occurred in the 300 block of Pine Ave. NE at 12:17 a.m. and in the 1200 block of 21st Ave. NW at 2:15 p.m.

Suspicion. Officers responded to a suspicious activity report in the 700 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 8:36 a.m.

Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to motor vehicle accidents with injuries in the 700 block of Bridge St. W. at 12:35 p.m. and at Pine Ave. NE and Vine St. E. at 1:17 p.m.

Intoxication. At 6:20 p.m., officer responded to a report of an intoxicated individual in the 500 block of Florence Ave. NW. They arrested a subject.

Aug. 10

Theft. Officer took a theft report in the 400 block of Oak Ave. N. at 1:10 p.m.

Shoplifting. Police issued a citation for shoplifting in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W. at 2:33 p.m.

Restraining Order. At 5:28 p.m., police arrested a subject for violating a restraining order in the 100 block of North St. E.

Warrant. Officer made a warrant arrest in the 900 block of Elm Ave. N. at 7:33 p.m.

Aug. 11

Fraud. A fraud incident occurred in the 100 block of Rice St. E. at 8:05 a.m.

Theft. A vehicle was reported stolen from the 3900 block of Cabela Dr. NW at 12:10 p.m.

Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to a personal injury crash in the 400 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 3:53 p.m.

Steele County Sheriff
Aug. 5

Theft. A citizen reported that his or her identity had been stolen from the 400 block of 8th Ave. W. at 10:57 a.m.

Drunken Driving. Deputy made a DWI arrest in the 4000 block of Crane Creek Rd. at 10:53 a.m.

Aug. 6

DWI. Deputy arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at 54th Ave. SE and Hwy. 14 E. at 11:42 p.m.

Aug. 7

Welfare. At 8:08 p.m., deputy completed a welfare check in the 900 block of Simplicity Dr.

Aug. 8

Traffic. Deputies arrested a motorist following a traffic stop on Interstate 35 northbound at 12:55 a.m.

Warrant. At 2:38 p.m., officer made a warrant arrest in the 100 block of Main St. E.

Aug. 10

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 2700 block of 52nd Ave. SW at 8:15 a.m.

Aug. 11

Drugs. Drug activity was reported in the 100 block of Main St. E. at 8:05 a.m.

Criminal Sex. At 8:28 p.m., police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 4700 block of County Rd. 45 S.

Court news
Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Aug. 1 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Shaninth M. Ray, 28, Austin, previously appeared and was convicted of felony violation of domestic abuse no contact order. Ray was sentenced to $1,112.90 and 21 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

Cabbott J. Weyker, 38, Eagan, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of controlled substance crime and gross misdemeanor ineligible to possess a firearm. The defendant was sentenced to $381, 61 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, chemical dependency evaluation, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training and 3 years of supervised probation.

Alexander J. Brown, 21, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance crime. He was sentenced to $381, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, chemical dependency evaluation and 3 years of supervised probation.

Kirsten A. McKee, 22, Hayfield, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance crime. She was sentenced to $381, 31 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain employment and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Aug. 1 – 5:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Rodney N. Goodwin, 64, Ames, IA, expired tabs, $111; Victor A. Rodriquez-Alberto, 27, Minneapolis, no MN license, $181; Eric L. Starnes, 20, Austin, prohibited passing and no insurance, $331; Paul E. Walter, 56, Lyle, no front plate, $111.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Randolph A. Alston, 52, Rochester, speeding, $221; Randy D. Anderson, 54, Glenville, DWI, $281, 30 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 224 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Thomas E. Archer, 36, Aurora, IL, speeding, $121; William L. Barrett, 49, Belmont, NC, speeding, $121; Abby M. Barrone, 30, Rochester, speeding, $131; Jordan D. Cirksena, 23, Des Moines, IA, speeding, $131; Dylan T. Crow, 35, Dodge Center, cancelled license and speeding, $341; Joseph C. Elton, 18, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Nancy E. Ewert, 56, Janesville, speeding, $121; James M. Fenton, 38, Salt Lake City, UT, speeding, $121; Michael E. Fitzgerald, 51, Ames, IA, speeding, $121; Paul R. Ganz, 35, Brooklyn Center, move over law violation, $131; Zachary A. George, 18, Pocahontas, IA, speeding, $131; Troy D. Greensalde, 27, Owatonna, speeding, $100; Karissa M. Gregory, 17, Owatonna, seat belt, $106; Brittney A. Halverson, 28, Mankato, speeding, $141; Vickie K. Hurd, 64, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Brian S. Kasper, 31, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Brady L. Kliewer, 24, Waseca, speeding, $131; Justin R. Kremmin, 28, Owatonna, revoked license, $281; Derrick P. Malone, 34, Rochester, speeding, $131; Emily C. Marshall, 25, St. Louis Park, speeding, $221; Aaron M. McIsaac, 39, Farmington, speeding, $131; Riley C. Meyer, 19, Austin, speeding, $121; Daniel W. Miller, 54, Owatonna, seat belt, $106; Kymmberly D. Moore, 44, Perham, seat belt, $106; Marlon A. Moore Jr., 25, St. Paul, domestic abuse – violation of order for protection, $181, domestic abuse evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Doma Morris, 18, Edina, speeding, $100; Sarah R. Orsatti, 22, Litchfield, speeding, $121; Brenda L. Pepera, 46, Lakeville, stop/stand or park vehicle, $121; Haylee R. Peterson, 26, Pasadena, TX, speeding, $131; Juan J. Rivera, 30, Rochester, revoked license and seat belt, $306; Nancy G. Rodriguez, 22, Eagan, seat belt, $106; Keith M. Schwartzwald, 64, Mendota Heights, speeding, $121; Nicole E. Sjostrom, 33, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Htoo Wah, 56, St. Paul, failure to use designated lane and permit violation, $181; Brooke R. Wanous, 19, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Tyler O. White, 97, Palm Harbor, FL, speeding, $121; Chad L. Willette, 49, Owatonna, inspection decal violation, $181.

Owatonna Police Department

Charity A. Bosshart-Knutson, 40, Owatonna, expired tabs, $111; Amanda R. Carlson, 35, St. Cloud, speeding, $121; Martin D. Carter, 32, Owatonna, DWI, $381, 3 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Gabriel A. Dahle, 16, Ellendale, failure to stop for traffic control signal, $131; John C. Eppel, 48, Owatonna, theft, $181 and 30 days of unsupervised probation; Lisa L. Fisher, 48, Owatonna, collision with bicycle, $131; Conrad J. Francisco, 31, Oxford, IA, harassment restraining order violation, $181 and 1 year of supervised probation; Alfredo Garza Jr., 35, Owatonna, domestic assault, stay of adjudication, $81, diversion program, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 2 years of supervised probation; Faye A. Goldammer, 66, Kenyon, failure to yield to pedestrian, $101; Kainoa M. Hart, 18, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Matthew D. Johnson, 35, Owatonna, expired tabs, $111; Mitchell J. Knauf Jr., 58, Boone, IA, seat belt, $106; Kelsey A. Koziolek, 24, speeding, $121; Michael W. Martin, 47, Owatonna, controlled substance crime and revoked license, stay of adjudication, $381, 33 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 3 years of supervised probation; Heron N. Martinez, 25, Owatonna, damage to property, $131 and 6 months of supervised probation; Ahmed N. Munye, 21, Owatonna, stop sign and no insurance, $331; Jennifer A. Nahmens, 36, Owatonna, theft, $131 and 24 days in county jail; Katherine M. Nelson, 36, Blooming Prairie, theft, $131 and 1 year of supervised probation; Raul A. Reyes-Xala, 45, Medford, suspended license, $131; Robin A. Robinson, 45, Waterville, assault, $381, 79 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation and 2 years of supervised probation; Tiffany A. Sanchez, 27, Waseca, no license, no insurance and speeding, $431; Kade E. Serbus, 16, Owatonna, expired tabs, $111; Helena A. Shaw, 30, Owatonna, theft, $75, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Antonio O. Singleton, 36, Ellendale, cancelled license, $281; Alex D. Stewart, 30, Owatonna, theft, $131; Cyrus N. Trevino, 24, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, $481; Ashley I. Von Ruden, 28, Owatonna, revoked license, $281; Barbara A. Young, 53, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Kevin J. Zimny, 26, Waseca, revoked license and speeding, $331.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Ana C. Amunrud, 17, Dodge Center, speeding, $121; Martin Ayala, 24, Owatonna, no license and speeding, $241; Katie M. Beardsley, 32, Owatonna, speeding, $141; David K. Bottin, 50, Waldorft, speeding, $121; Elizabeth M. Brostrom, 46, Shakopee, registration violation, $111; Chloe L. Buscho, 19, Kilkenny, speeding, $131; Samuel J. Callen, 18, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Delfino Coronado Jr., 25, Weslaco, TX, speeding, $141; Erica M. Dahlin, 42, Andover, speeding, $121; Cynthia R. Darbro, 55, possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, $181; Santino M. Deng, 46, Austin, speeding, $141; Karen S. Draheim, 73, Waterville, speeding, $121; Blake S. Gatzke, 21, Byron, speeding, $121; Diane S. Grosso, 51, Eagan, stop sign, $131; Larry D. Haberman, 44, Blooming Prairie, $131, 7 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Christopher J. Johnson, 51, Blooming Prairie, criminal damage to property, $161 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Gregg A. Johnson, 52, Waseca, speeding, $121; Martin C. Johnson, 64, Geneva, speeding, $121; Victoria R. Jones, 18, Spring Valley, speeding, $121; Kylie D. Kaplan, 17, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Steven A. Lamotte, 47, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Becky A. Lovgren, 34, Owatonna, revoked license, $281; Heather J. Marovich, 35, Montgomery, disorderly conduct, $131 and 9 days in county jail; Brendan J. McIntyre, 30, St. Paul, speeding, $141; Adam J. Michel, 29, Mankato, speeding, $121; Cassandra L. Miller, 26, Janesville, speeding, $121; Faith M. Mokuah, 22, New Hope, speeding, $281; Thomas P. Nelson, 56, Apple Valley, speeding, $121; Tyler A. Nelson, 24, Ellendale, DWI, $381, attend MADD impact panel, submit to Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Loring O. Neumann, 45, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Cody D. Olson, 22, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Dieter V. Parker, 25, Winona, speeding, $121; Shayne M. Persing, 19, Claremont, speeding, $221; Celsey L. Peterson, 19, Wells, speeding, $141; Eliseo M. Pimentel Moreno, 21, Faribault, speeding, $141; Mayra Rivera, 41, Faribault, speeding, $221; Vanessa Rodriguez, 29, suspended license, $281; Louis R. Sand, 24, Moorhead, speeding, $141; John M. Schroeder, 50, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Keith A. Sexter, 57, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Glenn G. Shemon, 50, Hastings, speeding, $121; Gregory E. Spence, 52, Rochester, keeping to the right on roadway and permit violation, $181; William A. Sumic, 25, Anchorage, AK, speeding, $121; Sunil K. Vagavala, 39, Eagan, speeding, $121; Keith W. Vollbrecht, 71, Waseca, speeding, $121; Carmen J. Vonruden, 53, Claremont, speeding, $121; Robert D. Wesley, 69, Waterville, speeding, $121; Deborah K. Youngblood, 56, St. Paul, speeding, $121.

Police blotter
Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office handled 211 complaints during the week of Aug. 3 – 9. Some of them include:

Aug. 3

Larceny. Deputy took a report of a larceny incident in the 800 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield at 7:24 p.m.

Juvenile. At 9:55 p.m., deputies received a report of kids in the pool after hours on 2nd St. SE in Hayfield.

Welfare. Deputies completed a welfare check in the 18600 block of State Hwy. 30 in Hayfield at 11:22 p.m.

Aug. 4

Restraining Order. At 12:48 p.m., deputies received a report of a restraining order violation in the 53400 block of 160th Ave. in West Concord.

Animal. Deputies received an animal complaint from the 200 block of Oak St. N. in Claremont at 7:01 p.m.

Narcotics. Deputies found drugs after making a traffic stop in the 100 block of Center Ave. N. in Hayfield at 7:13 p.m.

Child Abuse. Deputies began an investigation of child neglect in the 200 block of 4th Ave. NW in Hayfield at 7:51 p.m.

Crash. At 8:45 p.m., a vehicle roll over occurred at 120th Ave. and County Hwy. 24 in West Concord. One subject was transported to St. Mary's Hospital by West Concord Ambulance.

Aug. 5

Fraud. A citizen reported identity theft in the 100 block of 3rd St. in Claremont at 4:34 p.m.

Aug. 6

Vandalism. At 8:57 a.m., deputy took a report of graffiti and damage in a bathroom at 1st Ave.

The following individuals as they have active warrants in Steele County.

The sheriff makes this information available as a public service.

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

- Bernice Williams – driving without license - $1,000 bail
- Danyelle Williams – contempt of court - $1,000 bail
- Deangelo Williams – suspended license - $500 bail
- Erika Williams – theft, shoplifting - $500 bail
- Kelly Williams – theft - $500 bail
- Rudolph Williams – invalid license - $500 bail
- Theodore Wilson – DWI, no license - $3,000 bail
- Darryl Winford – DWI - $750 bail
- William Winters – violation of conditions of release – no bail
- Jefrey Wolf – motor vehicle theft – no bail
- Tyler Woodruff – drugs – no bail
- Terry Yanzer – DWI – no bail
- Lovely Young – theft – no bail
- Dionte Younger – false name - $6,000 bail
- Jose Zamarripa – revoked license, no insurance – no bail
- Isaias Zamorano-Mina – no insurance - $500 bail
- Octavio Zapata – DWI, speeding - $1,000 bail
- Terry Zoller – DWI - $3,000 bail
- Joseph Zulker – dishonored check - $6,000 bail
- Veronica Adame – disorderly conduct - $1,000 bail

Police Blotter
Dodge County

NE and Hwy. St. in Dodge Center.

Suspicion. Deputies responded to a suspicious activity report in the 63100 block of 140th Ave. in Claremont at 11:41 a.m.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 63500 block of 130th Ave. in Claremont at 8:30 p.m.

Aug. 7

Suspicion. A Dodge Center resident reported that she found a phone charger by her garage in the 300 block of 6th Ave. NW at 4:17 p.m.

Aug. 8

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance involving a verbal argument between a woman and her intoxicated husband in the 700 block of 3rd St. SE in Dodge Center at 4:44 p.m.

Aug. 9

Counterfeit. At 1:55 p.m., deputy took a report of a counterfeit $10 bill on Main St. W. in Dodge Center.

Larceny. A Dodge Center resident reported that a kayak was stolen out of his backyard in the 500 block of 10th Ave. NW at 7:40 p.m.

Court News
Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Aug. 1 – 8:

Dodge County
Sheriff's Office

Joshua R. Hamm, 26, Natchitoches, LA, suspended license, $280; Cushmeeer Moore, 45, Rochester, speeding, $120; Atziri Perez, 19, Dodge Center, invalid license and speeding, $240.

Kasson Police
Department

Elias J. Bergen, 17, Spring Valley, seat belt, $105; Joanne L. Langer, 54, Owatonna, speeding, $130; Daryl L. Swanson, 52, Kasson, invalid license, stay of adjudication, $100 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring with conviction; Judy M. Thiemann, 61, Mantorville, failure to yield to pedestrian, $180; Jace S. Wohlfiel, 18, Mantorville, texting while driving, $130.

MN State Patrol
Rochester

Terry S. Benda, 52, West Concord, seat belt, $105; Gilbert A. Danz, 59, Prairie Du Sac, WI, speeding, $130; Jean M. Dohery-Greenberg, 64, Rochester, speeding, $220; John R. Fritsch, 58, Oronoco, seat belt, $105; Jerry D. Hall, 33, Stewartville, speeding, $130; Jamie W. Kahler, 38, Rochester, speeding, $130; Benjamin B. Larson, 31, Byron, speeding, $130; Todd R. Omberg, 38, Pine Island, speeding, $120; Beth A. Sageng, 64, Mankato, speeding, $120; Twila S. Smith, 51, Hayfield, speeding, $130; Sharon M. Weaver, 35, Shakopee, revoked license and speeding, 90 days in county jail.

West Concord
Police Department

Justine N. Boulton, 29, Wanamingo, speeding, $120; Gregory C. Zierath, 54, Kasson, seat belt, $105.

Arrest
Steele County

Owatonna Police

Ronald James Dean Heard Jr., 24, arrested at 8:53 a.m. Aug. 6, Danco violation and revoked license, held for court.

Dustin David Craft, 24, arrested at 9:06 p.m. Aug. 7, warrants arrest, body only.

Brandon Mark Oreskovick, 30, arrested at 6:36 p.m. Aug. 9, apprehension and detention arrest, held for court.

Chantel Ariel Smith, 18, arrested at 1:47 p.m. Aug. 10, warrant arrest, $500 bail.

Jesse George Klecker, 32, arrested at 6:45 p.m. Aug. 10, order for protection violation, held for court.

Mark Anthony Sheidler, 46, arrested at 12:20 a.m. Aug. 11, felony probation violation warrant arrest, body only.

Steele County Sheriff

Christopher Owen Neegaard, 45, arrested at 7 a.m. Aug. 6, no insurance, $5,000 bail.

Mark Allen Marsolek, 55, arrested at 11:52 p.m. Aug. 6, DWI, B card violation and over fog line, held for court.

Davion Marquis Frazier, 26, arrested at 1:17 a.m. Aug. 8, extradition hearing, body only.

Michael Steven Lehnertz, 28, arrested at 7:08 p.m. Aug. 9, drugs warrant arrest, held for court.

Jonah Michael Deml, 19, arrested at 9:08 a.m. Aug. 10, warrant arrest, $500 bail.

Jordan David Lindeman, 19, arrested at 4 p.m. Aug. 10, warrant arrest, $10,000 bail.

Owatonna Fire

Aug. 5

Gas Leak. At 8:26 p.m., a gas leak occurred in the 2200 block of 50th St. NW in Clinton Falls.

Aug. 9

Crash. Fire rescue responded to motor vehicle accidents with injuries in the 700 block of Bridge St. W. at 12:38 p.m. and on Pine Ave. at 1:19 p.m.

Aug. 10

Accident. At 3:43 p.m., fire fighters assisted with a personal injury crash on Oak Ave.

Aug. 11

Crash. A motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred in the 400 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 3:55 p.m.

Power Line. At 5:09 p.m., a power line was reported down in the 800 block of 15th St. SE.

Steele County Food Shelf accepts donation

The Steele County food shelf accepted a donation of $1,000 from the Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric Executive Debby Eby. The company recently participated in in CoBank's "Sharing Success" program. The national bank, based out of Colorado, would match contributions from their cooperative customers to the non-profit organizations of the co-op's choice. CoBank is a national cooperative bank that provides loans and other financial resources to rural power, water, and communications providers along with agricultural businesses in the U.S.

City Archery Hunt applications available

The City Archery Deer Hunt will take place November 1 through December 20. The registration deadline is September 15 and not August as previously noted in the DNR guide. Registration forms may be found at the Parks & Recreation Office as well as on the website. A $10 non-refundable application fee is due at the time of registration.

Applicants will be assigned a number and fifty will be randomly drawn to test. Those applicants must pass the proficiency test using the same equipment with which they will be hunting. Of those successful applicants, 28 will be randomly drawn and awarded permits.

Only antlerless deer may be harvested in Hamman Park, Kaplan's Woods, Kaplan's Woods Parkway, North Straight River Trail Area, Leo Rudolph Nature Reserve, Manthey Park, Maple Creek Parkway and Kriesel Park. If a hunter harvests an antlerless deer, they may Earn-A-Buck.

All DNR hunting regulations apply to this special hunt. The bag limit is five deer. Special requirements for the hunt include all hunters being at least 18 years old and no crossbows are allowed. A list of rules is included in the application and must be agreed to by the hunter at the time of application.

Detour in Blooming Prairie

A detour on Highway 218 in Blooming Prairie is in effect this week.

Crews began roadway repairs between First Street SE and Main Street on Monday. The detour will end Friday, or sooner if the work is completed earlier.

The detour for northbound motorists will follow east on Second Street SE, north on Mill Avenue, follow Fifth Street NE at the split and west on Main Street. It is reverse for motorists traveling south.

MnDOT urges motorists to always drive with caution, slow down in work zones and never enter a road blocked with barriers or cones.

For real-time traffic and travel information in Minnesota, visit www.511mn.org or get the free smartphone app at Goggle Play or the App Store.

Tuesdays with Minnesota



Photo by Tawni Hammer

Tuesday the temperature hovered around 86 degrees with intense humidity.

Steele County resident rewarded with free fuel

Jolene Sherrts of Owatonna has received a special thank you for paying it forward in her community. Sherrts was selected to receive free fuel from Tanks of Thanks, a program that recognizes people who go the extra mile for others.

Recently, Sherrts was presented with a $50 Tanks of Thanks gift card, which is redeemable at any Cenex location, for running the Hospital House, a homeless shelter for men.

The Tanks of Thanks program from CHS and Cenex retailers encourages people to nominate neighbors, family and friends for free fuel as a way to thank them for doing good deeds, both large and small. Each month, more than $5,000 in free fuel is given away through the Tanks of Thanks program.

"Tanks of Thanks does more than give away free fuel. It empowers people to continue doing good things for their communities," explains Akhtar Hussain, CHS refined fuels brand marketing manager. "Our Cenex retailers are proud of the communities they serve and the people who make those communities so special."

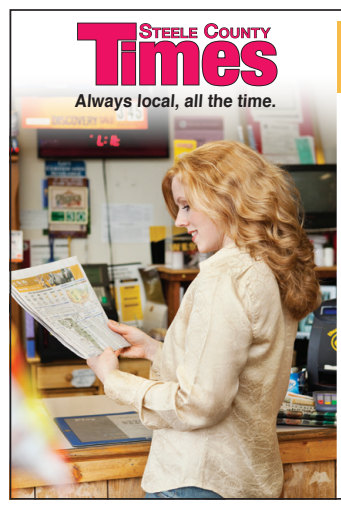
According to Hussain, nominating someone for Tanks of Thanks is easy, and anyone can nominate or be nominated for any act of kindness. "Congratulations to Jolene Sherrts, and thank you for your contributions to the community," he says. To make a nomination, visit TanksofThanks.com and briefly describe why someone deserves a Tank of Thanks.

Olson-Anderson Owatonna Clinic Foundation awarded 20 scholarships

Olson-Anderson Owatonna Clinic scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding students who intend to enroll in an undergraduate or graduate medical-related education program at an accredited college, university, or vocational-technical school. Recipients of Olson-Anderson Owatonna Clinic scholarships are selected competitively on the basis of their academic records and personal achievements. The Olson-Anderson Owatonna Clinic Scholarship Program began in 2011.

Recipients of the 2016 Olson-Anderson Owatonna Clinic Scholarship Program are:

- Haley Benjamin, Owatonna, MN
- Elena Bueltel, Owatonna, MN
- Kathryn DuFrene, Owatonna, MN
- Emily Gebur, Owatonna, MN
- Sean Grubish, Owatonna, MN
- Ryann Hagen, New Richland, MN
- Timon Higgins, Owatonna, MN
- Samantha Hiller, Waseca, MN
- Carter McCauley, Owatonna, MN
- Anna Moe, Owatonna, MN
- Jacob Mundale, Owatonna, MN
- Katie Nosbush, Owatonna, MN
- Meagan Nowariak, Owatonna, MN
- Anna Rahrick, Owatonna, MN
- Katelyn Rypka, Owatonna, MN
- Jennifer Schroepfer, Owatonna, MN
- Larissa Voss, Owatonna, MN
- Millie Wanous, Owatonna, MN
- Aliyah Waypa, Owatonna, MN
- Nathan Zimmermann, Owatonna, MN



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GEAR UP 4 FALL

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JOHN DEERE | AgPower ENTERPRISES

Farmers question representatives at local expo



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Sen. David Senjem, Sen. Daniel Sparks, Assistant Commissioner Rebecca Flood, Sen. Vicki Jensen, Rep. Jeanne Poppe, and Rep. Peggy Bennett sit on a question and answer panel at the Southern Minnesota Land Use Expo. The legislators fielded questions for 2 hours on topics from estate taxes to transportation legislation.

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday local farmers met with their state representatives for a 2-hour question and answer session at the Southern Minnesota Land Use Expo.

The panel of representatives included Senators Vicki Jensen, David Senjem, and Daniel Sparks, and Representatives Peggy Bennett, Rod Hamilton, and Jeanne Poppe, as well as Rebecca Flood, an assistant commissioner from The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

The legislators opened with remarks about how agriculture had personally touched their lives, as Jensen recalled the joy of growing up on her family's farm and sadly remembered how finances had prompted a move and not allowed her to raise her own children there.

Hamilton struck a more optimistic note commenting on the future of agriculture for today's young people and saying, "there has never been more opportunity in agriculture than there is today."

All of the panelists expressed a shared love for the agricultural backbone of their region: the family farm. Senjem went so far as to say, "the idea of the family farm is almost sacred."

When the session was turned over to the public for questions, estate taxes and how to pass on that "sacred" family farm was a pressing issue. One farmer lamented that his own farm had been in his family since 1858 and as he was getting older, he was afraid of losing up to a third of the land's value in taxes when it came time for his children to inherit it.

The panelists agreed this a was a pressing issue and some proposed adjusting current "death taxes" to bring them in line with a lower federal standard.

There was more than just agriculture on people's minds at the session. Disappointment was expressed by several members of the crowd that so many major pieces of legislation had failed to pass in the last session.

One bill discussed was the transportation funding overhaul that had failed to make it through the legislature. Jensen cited disagreements by legislators from different regions over what side projects should be funded, with the metro light rail being a point of contention between metro and rural lawmakers. Metro legislators refused to vote for the bill unless it funded their transit project, and rural lawmakers wouldn't back a bill with such an expense project attached. Jensen said this led to an impasse with each group trying to do right by their constitutes.

When one member of the crowd asked the panel what they intended to do about the impasse in the future, Hamilton turned the question back to the audience. He asked what instructions the crowd had for their legislators. Would they prefer them to compromise with the metro lawmakers and pass the bill with the expensive light rail attached? Or would they have them dig in their heels and refuse to pass a bill with the project attached even if it meant endangering the passage of the transportation bill as a whole? The crowd gave a mixed response, but ultimately seemed in favor of the compromise.

Bennett on the other hand advocated for a third option. She expressed her concern over the common practice of both political parties attaching controversial pieces of legislation, like the light rail, onto larger bills as a means of forcing other legislators to vote for projects they normally wouldn't. She called for a more open approach to legislation where controversial projects were their own bills to be passed or failed on their own merit saying, "get the controversial stuff out, so we can stuff done."

Latching onto Bennet's theme of reform, one audience member asked if shortening the legislative session would help put pressure on legislators to come to compromises faster. Poppe answered in the negative. Shortening the session would simply cut out the time for citizens to give testimonies in committees and for legislators to consult with their constituents back home.

Assistant Commissioner Flood also disagreed with the idea saying that a cut down would remove department like her's ability to assess all of the possible consequences of different legislation.

At the end of the session each legislator was invited to make a closing statement. As Hamilton looked out over the small crowd of farmers who had come out for two hours in the heat and flies to talk with their representatives about the issues, he closed with, "Agriculture is an honorable profession."

Shoe Away Hunger attempts to stretch to Steele County



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

O&B Shoes owner Anthony Verderame stands in front of his store with the Shoe Away Hunger donation bin on August 9, 2016. The store is still currently accepting donations until the event on August 26.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

"All of god's children need good shoes."

That's what Anthony Verderame's grandfather always tells him. Now, the owner of a Rochester shoe store is finding a way to give back to the community.

O&B shoes stores are located at two separate locations in Rochester and have been in the community for more than 80 years.

The store's owners, Anthony Verderame and his grandfather Don Hadley have partnered with the Shoe Away Hunger campaign to help members of the community have an adequate pair of shoes to wear around the city.

"I thought it was a great cause for the community," he said.

This is the first year that the local shoe store has joined the effort to help feed 3,000 Minnesotans that go without food. Verderame said that the reasoning for getting behind and supporting an event like this is simple.

"We wanted to make sure we are giving back to the community."

He also mentioned that the Twin Cities currently have a big reach with the event, having a warehouse solely for storing the donated shoes.

"We are ultimately trying to mimic the model that the Cities operate with," he added.

He stated that the goal is to create a large presence in southern Minnesota that reaches into Steele County.

"It would be great because they really aren't hitting that demographic yet," he said.

Verderame said that his store teams with Schuler Shoes to collect and separate the immense amount of donated shoes they receive.

He also mentioned that Schuler Shoes helped with the purchase of the traveling bus, which is where they will sell or donate the shoes.

"They're great family friends and have really had a good relationship with us," he added.

Shoes can be purchased for two to five dollars if the person is able to afford that. If the person is unable to, they will be fitted for shoes that properly fit and are stable to wear.

"They will be walking around in $100-$200 shoes, so we want to make sure people have a good fitting shoe," he said.

Verderame said that they want to try and make this a quarterly event with Fair for All, who will be providing food from the money raised.

To help build the inventory, Verderame is handing out a five dollar coupon for every shoe donated.

"We had one guy call saying that he has 13 shoes he's willing to donate and asked about the coupon," he added.

He also mentioned that a shoe company from Israel, NAOT, will donate 100 pairs of shoes to be put up for selection or purchase on the bus. Verderame went on to add that the shoes will be inspected prior to separation.

Shoes that have a stable sole and appear relatively fit to wear will be added to the bus. The ones that show more wear and tear will be donated to Sole for Souls.

On the day of the event, O&B Shoes will have a tent sent up to accept any donations on the day of the event.

He also added that NAOT will have a booth set up so people can learn about their company, get fitted properly for a pair they like and even receive them as part of the event.

Verderame reiterated that throughout the event, his staff will be on hand to fit people who come to receive a pair of shoes.

Back to School - Successful Transition



CAROLYN WHEELER

While the start of the new school year holds excitement for most kids, anxiety is very common.

In fact, children can have both feelings and parents are key to helping nervous kids have a successful transition back to school. This is a familiar topic to therapists at South Central Human Relations Center. Several clinicians who regularly work with families and children offered recommendations.

Kasey Bishman, MSW, LICSW, advises validating the child's feelings. "It is normal to feel nervous about school starting. The parent could offer an example of a time they were nervous about something and it turned out OK. Reading books with your child on a similar topic can be helpful. She identified a book by Audrey Penn, The Kissing Hand as helpful for parents and children facing school or facing separation.

Amazon.com has a brief editorial review of the book on the website:

"Chester Raccoon doesn't want to go to school--he wants to stay home with his mother. She assures him that he'll love school--with its promise of new friends, new toys, and new books. Even better, she has a special secret that's been in the family for years--the Kissing Hand. This secret, she tells him, will make school seem as cozy as home. She takes her son's hand, spreads his tiny fingers into a fan and kisses his palm--smack dab in the middle. Whenever he feels lonely at school, all he has to do is press his hand to his cheek to feel the warmth of his mother's kiss. Chester is so pleased with his Kissing Hand that he--in a genuinely touching moment--gives his mom a Kissing Hand, too, to comfort her when he is away. "

Sandi Guggisberg, MA, LMFT advises parents of young children to be excited and upbeat about the start of school: "The morning routine could include saying to your child -'I'll be excited to hear at the end of your school day how it went.'" She notes parents may be nervous themselves and cautions parents from communicating negativity to the child. Sandy also acknowledges that being anxious with something new or unknown is normal.

Renee Lips-Bush, MSW, LICSW has suggestions for parents with children of junior high age and older. "It really helps kids for parents to check in daily about how school is going for them. And particularly for kids who have struggled with school or mental health, it helps if they can find resources at school, for example someone at school that they can trust. Renee highlights the importance of getting the day at home started well and referenced a plaque in her office, "One small positive thing in the morning can change your whole day."

Childmind.org is a resource for more information on the topic. Caroline Miller is the editor and recently offered advice in the website newsletter. She shares her observations as well as those of Dr. Rachel Busman, clinical psychologist at the Child Mind Institute:

Do some test runs. If you anticipate that your child will be seriously nervous on the first day, it helps to give her time to get used to the new school or new classroom in advance. Go to the school several times before school starts, and do as much walking the halls as you can, to locate her classroom, the lavatory, the cafeteria, the playground. Repetition is good; going by again just to ask a question at the office, or drop off a form, gives her more chances to get comfortable being there.

Let someone know. If your child needs extra support to make a successful transition, let someone at school know — his teacher, an aide, the school psychologist or the school nurse. You want to communicate that your child is looking forward to school and is excited — you're sure he'll be fine — but he will be much more comfortable if he can meet the teacher briefly and see the classroom before the crowded, chaotic first day, when all the other kids will be there. You're not asking for a lot — just a little exposure that will set him up to succeed. And you'd like the staff to be alert to signs that he might need an assist.

Arrange for a hand-off. If you think your child will be reluctant to separate, it's very helpful to have someone primed to meet and engage her when you arrive. The teacher may be too overwhelmed to pay special attention to your child, but may be she has a buddy in the class, or you could ask an aide, the nurse, the school psychologist, to plan for a handoff.

When separation problems persist. Leaving a child who is crying or whining at school is a tough thing for any parent to do. "But most kids are pretty resilient," Dr. Busman notes, "and we don't want to underestimate their ability to cope. Most kids recover quickly once mom or dad leaves." If your child's teacher reports that she bounces back and participates enthusiastically in activities during the day, the best way to help her get more confident about separating from you is not worrying too much about her complaints.

"It's not being a bad parent to ignore a little bit of whining or reluctance," says Dr. Busman. "It will actually help a child move beyond it if you give more attention to things that you do want to see her do."

If kids continue to have full-blown separation problems, and fears that something bad will happen to their parents interfere with their ability to function in school, they should be evaluated by a mental health professional. Those interested in an evaluation at our agency can call 507-451-2630 and ask for Intake staff for Outpatient services.

Editor's Note: Carolyn Wheeler is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker, and Executive Director at South Central Human Relations Center.

Blooming Prairie Living

Southern MN Land Use Expo educates farmers



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Farm machinery is lined up along an empty field for a live demonstration. The Southern Minnesota Land Use Expo is one of the few farm expos that can boast such live demonstrations.

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Tuesday and Wednesday saw local farmers turning out for The Southern MN Land Use Expo in a field 1 mile east of Blooming Prairie for the chance to see the latest in farm equipment and hear speakers on a variety of agricultural issues.

This was the expo's 12th official year, but it is only in the last year the expo became a sponsored event and swelled in size. The Southern MN Land Use Expo Board with Jim Masching as president puts the expo together. Masching, a local farmer, organizes the event with fellow farmers Jim O'Connor, TJ Kartes, Ashley Schmeling, and Jerry Koflin, as well as Dennis Himmerman of Metal Services and Dan Verimya, CFO officer. The expo caters to a breadth of farmers from dairy and pork producers to crop farmers.

Masching remarked that live demonstrations are something that makes their expo unique from many. People need to see how these things work to see if they need one, he said. The machines are filled with water in lieu of chemical and run up and down the field a few times, so people can see them in action.

The Expo, in addition to being an opportunity to buy equipment, is a chance for education about pressing issues in agricultural. The second day of the expo opened with a panel on estate and succession planning with Dan Hoffman, Tamzen Johnson, and Lisa Pluto speaking on the panel. Later in the day, Steve Schmidt off Minnesota Pollution Control Agency briefly addressed the crowd on proper manure application emphasizing the need to keep contaminants out of the water.

While the expo has no official theme, Masching said every year has its own topic that naturally comes to the center. This year water quality and cover crops were the big items. TJ Kartes closed out the expo by hosting a panel on cover crops in hopes of encouraging other farmers to adopt the practice that can help revitalize soil and combat erosion. Addressing ideas like cover crops is the board's way of trying to be proactive about natural resources. According to Masching this is their attempt to address problems on their own terms before the government mandates specific action.

When there wasn't a panel going on, attendees had multiple booths to survey. While major brands like Dodge and Kuhn equipment were there, several local businesses were also present. Dutch Friendship Stables was encouraging people to take advantage of their English riding classes offered just outside of Blooming Prairie. A plethora of feed and manure companies were also informing local farmers about their brand's particular benefits. The expo was well attended and proves to be a continuing success with community.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Represenatives from French's Repair and Fabrication out of Didge Center demonstarte the design of several of their products. A variety of local vendors gathered at the expo to sell their services to regoinal farmers.

Minimizer territory manager wins award

Minimizer
TESTED AND TORTURED

Longtime Minimizer Territory Manager Bud Breau has been named Fleet Brake's 2016 Manufacturer Representative of the Year.

"To us, Bud is Minimizer," Fleet Brake VP of Sales Tim Douglas said. "We would feel guilty now if we were to sell any other line of poly fender."

"I am truly honored to have received such a prestigious award," Breau said. "The folks at Fleet Brake are some of the best in the industry, and I am truly humbled by this honor."

Fleet Brake's executive team as well as all 14 branch managers vote on the award, which has been issued the last four years. "Our criteria are a rep who is a true expert in their field, as well as a guy who is passionate about customer service, the industry and their products," Douglas said.

"We couldn't be happier for Bud, who deserves this award and all the accolades that go along with it," Minimizer CEO and Chief Visionary Craig Kruckeberg said. "He really is one of the good guys."

"Bud is an industry icon who is well respected by everyone, has a wicked sense of humor and is genuinely fun to work with," Douglas said.

Minimizer is an aftermarket solution for quality and dependable Truck Parts, including everything from Poly Truck Fenders, Toolboxes, Custom Molded Floor Mats, Mud Flaps, Truck Maintenance Products and other truck accessories. They use durable materials and robotic production technology to create an industry standard that allows them to offer the longest guarantee in the industry.

Minimizer manufactures its products in the heart of the USA, and has been an American family owned and operated company for three generations.

All their products can be checked out at Minimizer.com or by emailing info@minimizer.com.

Search for Mrs. Steele County announced

Applications are now being accepted for the title of Mrs. Steele County.

Mrs. Steele County will have the honor of representing her county at the Mrs. Minnesota pageant, which will be held at The Wellstone Center on April 29, 2017 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The woman chosen as Mrs. Steele County will become an ambassador for Steele County and will receive the official title and sash. If Mrs. Steele County goes on to win Mrs. Minnesota, she will receive a prize package worth $7,000 and the chance to represent Minnesota at the 2017 Mrs. International Pageant next July.

The competition includes personal interviews, fitness wear, and an evening gown portion. Contestants will not have to compete in a swimsuit or talent portion.

The current reigning 2016 Mrs. Minnesota is Morgan Bredde of Woodbury, Minnesota. Traveling all across the state, Bredde speaks on her platform "No Matter the Minutes: Hospice Care for Children" on behalf of the over 700 children who have died annually in Minnesota, who will now have the safe haven that they deserve through Crescent Cove's child-based hospice care.

Anyone wanting to know more about their work can go to www.CrescentCove.org. Every winner has a chance to select their own platform and make a difference for a cause they care about. The American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" is the official charity of the Mrs. Minnesota pageant. More information on the charity can be found at www.goredforwomen.org.

For married women living in Steele County that are interested in applying, they can apply online at www.mrsminnesota.com, call information at 1-800-262-0097 or email mnpageants@frontier.net.

F & M State Bank gives huge helping hand to BP Veterans Memorial

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

It all started with a blank piece of paper and it has developed into an energetic campaign to build a veterans memorial in Blooming Prairie.

The campaign, which is seeking $250,000 in funds, received a huge shot in the arm recently when it was announced that Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie is donating $25,000 to the cause.

"This generous contribution not only shows the bank's commitment to making the Memorial a reality, but it is a strong statement about the bank's commitment to the Blooming Prairie community," said Tom Peterson, chairman of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee.

The bank contribution pays tribute to the military service of former bank president Ed Habberstad. He was a decorated World War II veteran, a pilot.

"Their heart is in this and the bank saw a real need for a veterans memorial," Peterson remarked.

Memorial contributions to date total $62,500, including the Farmers & Merchants State Bank donation of $25,000 which represents 25 percent of the goal.

A special check presentation is planned for 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26 at the F & M State Bank. Bank officials and representatives of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee (of seven) and of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Corporation will participate in the check ceremony on August 26.

James Fiebiger, president of Farmers & Merchants State Bank, will make the check presentation. A gigantic check will be on display during the ceremony.

Eighty-five pavers have already been sold at $350 each. If interested in a wall paver, contact Tom Peterson, 6731 158th St. SE, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917. Call him at 507-456-2017. Wall paver forms are available at the Servicemen's Club.

The Blooming Prairie Veterans Committee consists of Tom Walters, Ken Vermilyea, Marilyn Meshke, Sandy Jones, Doug Miner, Fred Vokoun and Tom Peterson. Directors of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Corporation are: Kurtis Blome, Keith Holman, Jaclyn Schlichter, Doug Miner and Tom Peterson.

All five local service organizations are represented on the memorial committees. They include American Legion Post 52 and Auxiliary, VFW Post 878 and Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion. Commanders of each post have been invited to participate in the check ceremony.

The first meeting of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee was May 15, 2014.

Who is the BP Veterans Memorial for? A mission statement reads: "It is the purpose of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial to honor ALL the men and women throughout our nation who have served, are currently serving, and will serve in the armed forces of the United States of America. We are dedicated to encourage and foster patriotism and provide recognition to all veterans for their courage and willingness to give all for their country."

It is very exciting, comforting and heart warming to see communities around the country pay tribute to their local veterans by constructing a memorial for them, Peterson said. The local Sons of the American Legion, Squadron #52, ignited the ideas by creating a committee to work on the project. The committee has representation from the various military service posts.

The memorial will be located to the east of the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club. Peterson said the Servicemen's Club has given property to the BP Veterans Memorial Corporation.

The wall pavers will measure 3.5 inches tall by 11 inches wide. A named person must be a veteran, living or deceased, of any branch of the U.S. military, serving during peacetime or wartime in any conflict. Cost will be $350 for each paver.

The Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial was designed by the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee in collaboration with John Heerema of Owatonna Granite and Monument.

The memorial will include the following design:

• Granite archway to the memorial

• Solid granite pedestal with adorning bald eagle. Language on the pedestal recognizes the POW/MIA veteran.

• Single flagpole adorned with the United States flag and POW/MIA flag

• At the base of the flagpole are five solid granite tablets recognizing five branches of service.

• Surrounding the flags and granite tablets are three walls with wall pavers to recognize the veterans.

Ground breaking for the memorial will hopefully be scheduled for the near future, Peterson said. He explained that the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee will make a determination to start construction when they believe enough money has been raised to sizably fund the project.

"It's really a thrill to see all this activity" Peterson said.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

The future site of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial is located just east of the Servicemen"s Club in Blooming Prairie. Farmers & Merchants State Bank recently announced the donation of $25,000 to the project. (Sketch prepared by Owatonna Granite and Mounument)

Ellendale Living



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Two members of the Ellendale Fire Department talk through the logistics of purchasing a new truck with city council members. There were concerns raised about where a new truck might be stored that the firefighters responded to by saying they would sell one of their current older trucks to make room.

Ellendale Water Woes

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
Staff Writer

The Ellendale City Council convened Thursday night, and citizens brought forward four new pieces of council meeting business.

One local woman brought forth a complaint against the city after her water was unjustly cut off. According to her, her landlord called the city clerk's office and got a hold of the city clerk's assistant who agreed to turn off the water to her apartment. The woman was behind on her water bill but made a good faith payment of $125. The rest of her bill wasn't due till August 20. She claimed the action is illegal and the city was legally obligated to give her 10 days notice.

The council apologized and acknowledged that a mistake had been made in the clerk's office. In the future to avoid the problem, the council will look into establishing a single person who will be in charge of making the final decision on having someone's water shut off.

In addition, the council also hopes by the end of the year to create an online means of paying water bills to help citizens makes their payments on time.

One Ellendale man asked for an update on the status of The Muni, a local bar and restaurant run by the city. There are currently plans in place to hire additional bartenders, so the bar can remain open on Saturdays and during the evening for games once NFL season starts.

Another resident was a returning petitioner who wanted to know why the city had yet to resolve the water saturation problem in town, despite previous agreements to act. The council responded that the earlier plan to fix a water tile line might not be cost effective. After consulting the city engineer, the council had reason to believe the repair could cost up to $10,000 and still would likely not fix the problem.

One council member said that if he could be certain repairing the line would solve the problem, he would be completely in favor of spending the money. Current recommendations, however, could not even guarantee them a 50/50 chance, and they could not in good conscience spend the money with so little reassurance.

The resident reminded the council this has been a constant problem for over five years and said some action needed to be taken. The council agreed and said they would consult again with the city engineer to see if he had any alternative suggestions for addressing the problem.

The final piece of business introduced to the council was by two members of the Ellendale Fire Department. They requested the city allocate $5,000 dollars more a year to the fire department for savings and an additional $5,000 a year for the department's retirement fund.

They do not currently have the funds to cover all of the people who are eligible to ask for retirement, and the city is already obligated to make up the difference. The additional money to the retirement fund would allow for a more stable means of paying retirement. When asked about the $5,000 for savings.

The firefighters responded that the department has plans to buy another truck and wants to have the necessary funds should the opportunity to purchase one at a fair price arise.

The council appreciated the department giving them hard number to evaluate and agreed to make a decision at the next meeting when the budget is set to be discussed.

The council also reviewed the state of the upcoming city elections. There is one mayor position open and two council positions. Two people have filed so far, one for mayor and the other for council. The deadline to file is August 16.

GRIEF RELIEF



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

Direction with dignity from Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna.



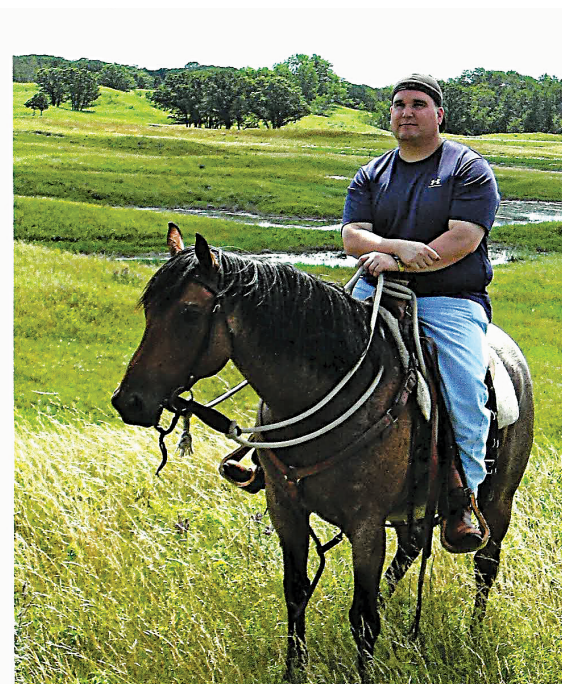
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Walking by faith, not by sight

Legally Blind man to run for MN Supreme Court





Submitted photos by Craig Foss

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

For Craig Foss, securing a seat on the Minnesota Supreme Court would have allowed him to do something he hasn't been able to do since 2012… work in the field he loves.

Craig Foss, who is legally blind, grew up on a farm in southwest Minnesota and raised horses, cows and pigs. When he was two, he was hit by a car and had significant eye damage.

Throughout high school, he competed in football and the school's 4-H.

Foss would graduate in 1988 from Redwood Falls High School and enroll at St. Olaf's College the following semester.

Foss studied American Government, International Relations and Political Thought, graduating with honors in 1992.

After graduating from Hamline University School of Law, Foss started a solo practice in criminal cases in Ramsey County for a year.

Shortly thereafter, he moved to Alexandria as a Staff attorney at Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota. During his time with L.S.N.M., he provided consulting for social security claims, family law, unemployment law, housing law and consumer law practices.

However, after four years of providing services and excelling at the position, Foss was abruptly let go.

"I wasn't given an exact answer, I mean they're not going to tell me it was because I was blind, because that would be against the law, but I think it's safe to say that I was laid off because of my disability," he added.

For three years, Foss would work in a solo practice as a court appointed attorney. However, work was scarce he said. "There isn't a huge calling for legally blind attorney's at the moment," he said.

After struggling to secure a consistent base of income, Foss had an idea that could surely help his need. He was going to run for a seat on the Minnesota Supreme Court.

"I learned that I wasn't going to get hired traditionally in the legal field so why not try to get elected," he said.

As for why he was going to run for a seat on the Supreme Court and not a district, Foss stated that it wouldn't be a wise decision.

"I'm fairly new to the St. Paul area and don't have a lot of ties here. I do however have strong ties across the state," he added.

Foss stated that his ties throughout the state of Minnesota were an asset for him during the election process.

The biggest reason why Foss wanted to pursue a place on the Supreme Court was the emotional factor.

"I want to work, I don't want to struggle for the rest of my life," he added.

If he'd won, Foss said that he'd be relieved. "If I win, I would be happy because I'm finally employed," he said.

The primary was August 9, and unfortunately, Foss lost out to incumbent Natalie Hudson and runner-up Michelle McDonald.

Foss will not be on the general ballot in November.

Primary results come in despite turnout

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
Staff Writer

When the polls closed last Tuesday night, the election this November took on a more definite form as each party has now selected its candidates for the general elections.

In the race to represent Minnesota in the U.S. House of Representatives, Jim Hagedorn won out over Steve Williams in the Republican primary. Democrat incumbent Tim Walz ran unopposed in the primary.

Hagedorn credits his success in large part to the high number of Republican volunteers and activists who campaigned on his behalf. In the 13 weeks that remain before the general election, Hagedorn plans to attend every parade and county fair he is physically able, in order to meet face-to-face as many voters he can.

There was little shake-up in the district 24 state senate race. Incumbent Vicki Jensen took a hardy win over challenger Rich Bailey. She is running for her third term in the senate. Her real contest will come in November when she faces of against republican challenger John Jasinski, who won an uncontested primary.

The contest to be the district 27 senator saw republican challengers Gene Dornik and Cynthia Gail go head to head. Gene Dornik took the victory running on a platform of moving the legislature's focus away from the Twin Cities to focus more on the state as a whole. Dornik, a small business owner himself, has emphasized the need for more business friendly practices in Minnesota. Incumbent Dan Sparks ran unopposed in the democrat primary.

The races for state representatives in districts 24A, 24B, and 27A had no primaries, as candidates on both sides were the only person running from their party. In all three races the incumbent is republican and the challenger a democrat.

In the only statewide race on the primary ballot, the race to be associate justice for the Supreme Court was the major judicial contest. Governor-appointed incumbent Natalie Hudson ran away with votes in her first election. In the general election, she will face off against Michelle L MacDonald, who took the second most votes in the primary. This knocked former attorney Craig Foss out of the race.

The only people possibly of more pressing concern than the candidates this year are the voters themselves. Voter turnout was incredibly low with only six percent of registered voters in Steele County turning out. In Blooming Prairie, only 60 people out of the registered 995 voters cast a ballot. This continues a trend of voter turnout steadily declining. Regardless of any individual voter's party, concern might be warranted for how any candidate can represent the will of the people when so many aren't letting their will be known.

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BOOK NOOK



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Friends of the Library

Have you ever driven past the Blooming Prairie Branch Library after closing hour and noticed lights on inside? It could be our dedicated custodians, Jeff Zwiener, Becky Noble, or Mark Noble. Or it could be one of these group meetings:

Friends of the Library – Usually held at 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month during the school year, this meeting is open to all Friends members. (And if you aren't a member of the Friends group, please consider joining!)

Topics we discuss include upcoming events at the library, volunteer opportunities, and needsw of the library. The Friends group has raised funds for the Summer Rewading Program, furniture, and our Blossoms Grow Here play area.

Library Book Club: Held the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. Want to get involved in a Book Club? While this group has been meeting for many years, we always welcome new members with enthusiasm.

The book for this month is The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd. Just ask at the desk for your copy.

Mower County Fair

Mower County Fair breeds young farmers

By JESSICA NAFE
Staff intern

The Mower County Fair is much more than a place to get mini donuts or ride the Ferris wheel for the Riley Family. For them, the fair is a time for family, friends, and 4-H fun.

Michelle and Shawn Riley's children are in the Windom 4-H Club and show at the Mower County Fair. Rachael (13), Alex (11), and Ben (9) are involved in the poultry and rabbit livestock projects, and each of them took two non-livestock projects to the fair this year. The Blooming Prairie natives also participate in dog obedience.

At their hobby farm between Austin and Blooming Prairie, the Riley family spends the entire year preparing for the Mower County Fair. It may be hard work, but it is rewarding.

"All of the kids in 4-H are super responsible and respectful because of what they learn in the program," Michelle Riley said.

The children must take care of their chickens, ducks, rabbits, and dogs at home. This includes giving food and water, washing, walking, and training the animals. They each pitch in and help one another when needed, working together to get the chores done.

"I learn to trust my brothers when they take care of my animals sometimes," Rachael said with a smile.

The Riley kids' labor pays off in the long run, though, as Rachel and Alex earned Reserve Showmanship placings in poultry this year. Most of the other animals received blues throughout the fair, and many of the Riley's rabbits placed held top places both the 4-H and open class shows.

Alex shows Flemish Giants, a large breed of rabbit. "I like a little more challenge," he commented regarding the humungous animals. One of Alex's favorite parts of the fair is taking his rabbits and chickens out of their pens. He holds his animals and lets visitors pet them, sharing his passion for the animals with each person he meets.

Rachael shows Dutch rabbits and Ben shows Holland Lops. All of the kids show a variety of poultry including market chickens, silkie chickens, and ducks. "I like the hands-on of the livestock projects," Rachael said. "It's nice to learn and know more about the animals."

"I like how my chickens and rabbits are calm," Ben stated, explaining why he enjoys his livestock projects.

The Riley children brought a variety of non-livestock projects to the county fair. Each of them brought an Animals Science poster to the fair about their respective rabbit breed, with Alex earning a grand champion ribbon in that area. Rachael entered a Self-Determined project, a 3-D puzzle. Alex brought a Plants project, and Ben submitted a grand champion Wildlife Biology project. All of their non-livestock fair entries earned blue ribbons.

"My favorite project this year was the 3-D puzzle," Rachel said, "Because it was fun and challenging."

The ribbons and high placings are great, but the Rileys make sure to put more emphasis on learning throughout their 4-H experience.

"An important skill that the kids learn is determination," Michelle said. "When you get disappointed you have to pick yourself back up and smile."

4-Hers also learn responsibility, leadership skills, and respect. In addition, 4-H participants make many friends through the program and build on communication skills.

"There's a wide variety of people in 4-H, and I hope I'm teaching my kids to respect others," Michelle said.

The Mower County Fair is a big highlight for the Riley family, but many other activities go on throughout the entire year. The Windom 4-H Club is celebrating its 75th year of existence, and the club continues to keep its members busy with a wide variety of events.

Rachel's favorite part of 4-H is the club activities, from pizza parties and sledding to making a difference in the community by planting flowers and making tie-blankets for soldiers.

"It's a lot of fun," Rachel stated. "It shows that 4-H isn't just for the country folk. You can do club activities, only do dog or just bring projects."

No matter if the Riley's are attending a club event, working hard on the farm, or spending time at the fair, one thing is for certain: 4-H brings the family together, teaches them valuable lessons, and provides them with hours of fun, both now and for many years to come.



Staff photo by Jessica Nafe

Alex Riley displays his Flemish Giant rabbit. Alex loves working with the large animals because it is challenging at times.



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Blooming Prairie's Weston Johnson took first place at the Kids Pedal Pull Sunday at the Mower County Fair in Austin.



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Grand Meadow's Alex Benson is taking his dog Daisy through a round of the Pre-Novice Dog Rally Sunday at the Mower County Fair in Austin.

RECIPE CORNER

Million Dollar Sugar Cookies

- 1 c. shortening
- 1 c. white sugar
- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 1 beaten egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 c. flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt

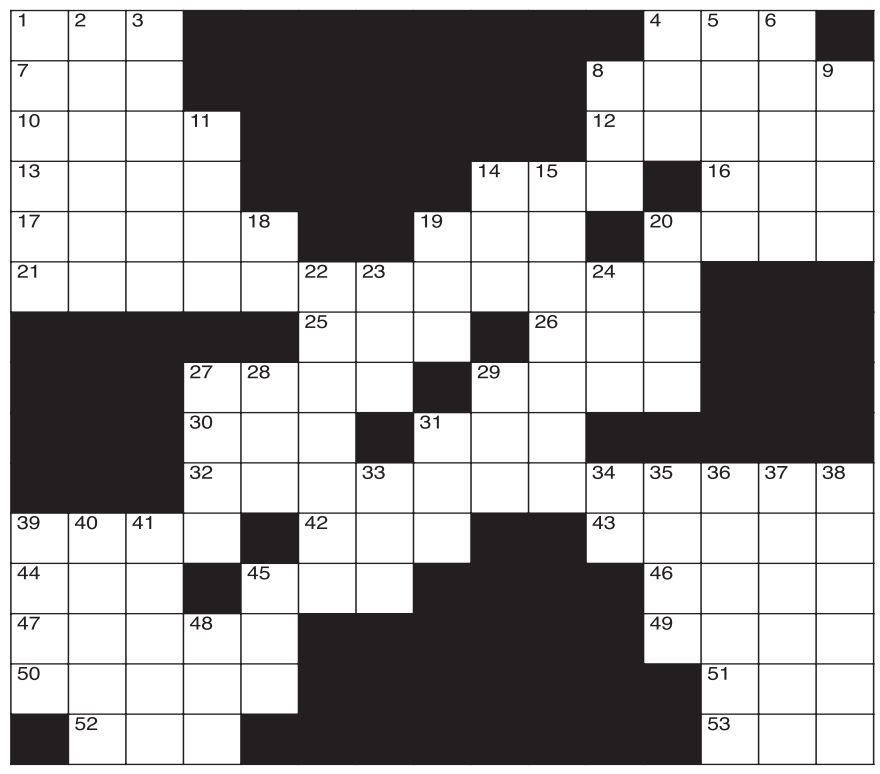
By Mrs. E. O. Habberstad

Roll in balls. Dip tops in sugar and press with a glass. Bake at 350° to 375° for 10 to 12 minutes.

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Solution on page 4D



CLUES ACROSS

1. Austrian river
4. Type of lunar crater
7. Taoism
8. German landscape painter
10. Big players do this
12. Nose cone
13. Islamic republic
14. Press against
16. Where you find corn
17. Battery cell
19. Score
20. Swiss river
21. The Babe's real name
25. Use it to clean
26. Supervises flying
27. Surfboard fin
29. Aggressive dogs
30. Makes computers
31. Buddy
32. Existing everywhere
39. Cheek
42. Comes in bags
43. British hip hop artist
44. Resinous substance
45. Pitcher Dillon
46. Preceded Galba
47. Not behind
49. Students dread this
50. Pasta
51. Northeast and east
52. Begetter
53. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo to name a few

CLUES DOWN

1. Incorporating
2. Piper __, actress
3. Principality
4. Famous bounty hunter
5. Chilean seaport
6. Relish
8. Throng
9. One point east of southeast
11 Knot in a tree
14. Revolutionary women (abbr.)
15. Containerfuls
18. Unit of weight
19. Al Bundy's wife
20. Genus of ducks
22. Christian hermit
23. Witch
24. Average accounting return
27. Type of chef
28. Barbie's pal
29. Ford makes this
31. Goes with carrot
33. "Orange is the New Black" character
34. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
35. Unaccompanied
36. Wild goats
37. National capital
38. Freeholders
39. Smack
40. Expressed pleasure
41. Italian opera set
45. Gode Airport
48. Not or

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OwatonnaLiving

Aspiring Owatonna artist displays work at local art center



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna artist Kevin Ihrke stands next to his painting, Reflective Geology No. 2 during the showing of his work at the Owatonna Arts Center on August 14, 2016. Irhke had 24 pieces on display for the public.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

For Kevin Ihrke, art has always been a part of his life in some sort of fashion. As his experience grew, it became more of his passion.

Now, the Winona State graduate has his art on display at the Owatonna Arts Center for everyone to enjoy. Although, the journey that Irhke discovered along the way helped shape some of the art he does today.

As a young child, Ihrke recalled that he always liked to draw as a young child. As he continued to draw, he said his passion for art continued to grow.

Ihrke said that his reasoning to pursue becoming a studio artist was fairly simple.

"I always thought that you only get one life so you might as well do something that you're passionate about and enjoy," he said.

While studying Studio Art and Arts Administration at Winona State University, Ihrke said that while in the process of completing an internship, he learned of a possibly opportunity.

"The man who was running the internship had a building downtown that he wanted to turn into an art gallery but it never really took off," he said.

After asking the man if he could use the space, Ihrke held his first show.

"It seemingly went very well and just took off from there," he added.

Over the next year and a half, he would live in an apartment behind the studio and coordinate shows with some of the community's local artists.

Ihrke came back to Owatonna to paint with his father at Kendall's painting while also continuing to pursue his art career.

"I enjoy doing it. I get a chance to really practice my painting skills," he added. Shortly after coming back though, he started to develop the urge to get in the studio again. "I didn't do a ton of painting in 2015 and decided that I needed to get back into the studio. I needed to start painting again," he added.

The art gallery on display at the Owatonna Arts Center is a collection of 24 paintings and one sculpture.

Ihrke mentioned that while there will be some work on display that he has done in previous years, the vast majority is all from 2016.

"I'm not sure of the exact number but I want to say 16 or 17 paintings on display are from this year," he recalled.

In previous shows, Ihrke said that he tried to have a theme, where it was represented and depicted across several times.

This show however, is a pure collection.

"I just went into the studio, started painting and just went from there," he said.

While his work is what he says as a fusion of naturalism and realistic, Ihrke finds a lot of his influence in famous surrealist artist, Salvador Dali.

"I think that's something that most people would tie my work into," he explained.

The pieces of art that are being presented on the walls are filled with numerous blends of color, something that isn't necessarily a fixture in surrealist-influenced paintings.

"Being a house painter, I'm involved with a variety of colors and it's hard not to finds inspiration to use them," he added.

One piece that will surely catch your eyes would be his Reflective Geology paintings. There were three different ones on display that used a wide array of colors and blends of structures.

"I really wanted to challenge myself so I depicted thing that are crsytalizing, kind of warping reflections and transparent things like the soap bubbles," he said.

Ihrke said that there is an immense amount of pride that comes with being able to present his work.

"To able to come back to my hometown with what I learned in Winona and put on a show that people seem to enjoy, I feel really proud," he said.

As for the future, Ihrke hopes that down the road he will be able to do more with his art.

"I'd like to use my art not only as a means to support myself but more as a community benefit," he said.





Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Left: Owatonna artist Kevin Ihrke stands next to his sculpture during the showing of his work at the Owatonna Arts Center on August 14, 2016. Right: Kevin Irhke's "Reflective Geology No.3 hangs on display for the public to view at the Owatonna Arts Center

Owatonna High holds football camp



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Top: Varsity defensive line coach Delles Solie teaches the proper positioning of your hands when striking to upcoming freshman and sophomores at the Owatonna football camp August 10, 2016.
Bottom: Sophomore defensive lineman Chris Lewis works on beating a reach block at Owatonna's football camp

By JOSH ZIMMER
Staff Writer

For boys growing up in Owatonna, Husky football is a way of life. The 5A Minnesota powerhouse is known for generating some of the state's best players.

For three days this past week, kids of all ages had the opportunity not only to hang out with some members of the varsity staff but its players too.

Owatonna High School held their 20 annual football camp on the grounds for boys in all age groups.

Jeff Williams, who's been at the helm for 21 years, says that the camp is all about helping create a pipeline for the junior high and high school teams of the future. "We are trying to build and establish a progression," he said.

The camp held 200 players from the third grade all the way to upcoming sophomores. With the obvious difference is size between the age groups; Williams had members of his staff coach the third through six grade players inside the stadium.

He stated that the reasoning behind this is to give the young kids a glimpse of the future.

"Hey I'll get a chance to play here someday," he mentioned.

He also added that the players in that age group were primarily individual fundamentals for particular positions and play a ton of lead up games-getting them familiar with competition.

As for the seventh and eighth graders, Williams said they have the players pick a specific position and have them work on a deeper level of the fundamentals.

"The things we go over are things that they will really need to excel at the position in their near future," he added.

For the 40 incoming freshman and 25 upcoming sophomores, Williams stated that's when the camp become more about adjusting them to the high school level.

"It's a very scheme oriented camp and the faster that we can get these young players acclimated to the high school level, the less time we have to spend on it when we open camp," Williams said.

He also added that they held their camp for the juniors and seniors the previous week, allowing for more hands on time with the younger players.

He added that for defensive lineman and linebackers, they teach the players how to adjust to certain formations and how to react to motion.

While the camp is has a primary focus on the adjustments to high school football, its not to say that they forget about teaching and refining fundamentals.

"We do specialized drills call 12 pack which are 12 drills that the kids do everyday to improve their footwork," he added. Williams mentioned that by doing the 12 pack drills everyday, the kids are already aware of the drill and are able to hit the ground running for two a days.

Walking throughout the camp, some of the drills that were being taught were ones that should really allow for the game to slow down for some of these players mentally when camp starts.

An example of that was over in the defensive line drills, where varsity defensive line coach Delles Solie was teaching some of the younger players about how to read and react to specific blocks against the run.

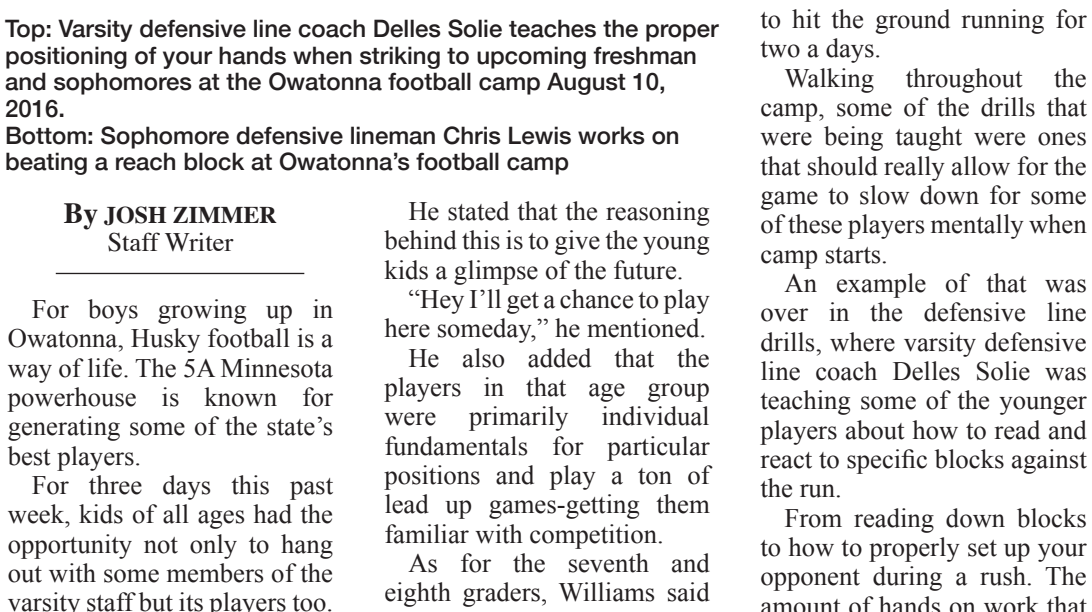
From reading down blocks to how to properly set up your opponent during a rush. The amount of hands on work that the coaching staff had with the players were in expendable.

What I found was the best aspect of the camp was that not only was it being coach by members of the varsity coaching staff and the players that a handful of alumni were out to help as well.

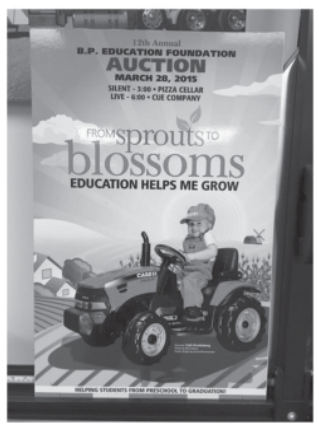
Creating that family environment is sports is key and Williams is all for it with his football program.

" We always tell the players that tradition never graduates so it's great to see the turnout every year," he explained.

Owatonna started their preparations for a state championship run on Monday.

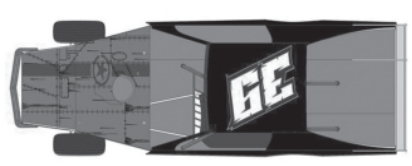


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Dad: "Can I see your report card, son?"
Son: "I don't have it."
Dad: "Why?"
Son: "I gave it to my friend. He wanted to scare his parents."

What's big, red, and eats rocks?
A big - red - rock - eater
Staff Favorite - Kim

What do you give a sick lemon?
Lemon aid.

What kind of pants does Mario wear?
Denim, Denim, Denim
Staff Favorite - Tawni

What do you call a singing Laptop?
A Dell
Staff Favorite - Mike

How do you make a tissue dance?
You put a little boogie in it.

What do you call cheese that isn't yours?
Nacho cheese.

What did one eye say to the other eye?
Something smells between us!
Staff Favorite - Mike

What does a nosey pepper do?
Gets jalapeño business!

Knock, knock
Who's there?

Interrupting cow.

Interrup-

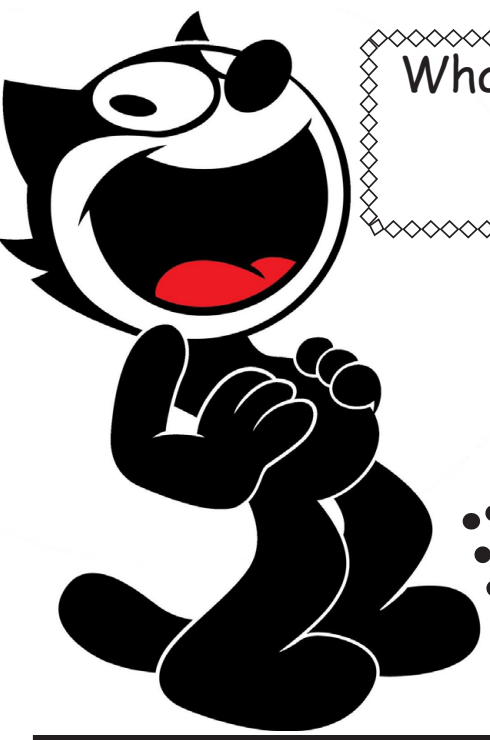
MOOO!!!!

What do you call a fake noodle?
An Impasta

Why can't you hear when a pterodactyl goes to the bathroom?
Because the P is silent

What do you call an alligator in a vest?
An Investigator

What's brown and sticky?
A stick.



What do you call a sleepwalking nun?
A Roman Catholic
Staff Favorite - Kylie

How many tickles does it take to make an octopus laugh?
Ten-Tickles
Staff Favorite - Jessica

Who did Frankenstein's monster bring to prom?
His ghoulfriend.



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HOMETOWNEXTRA
OWATONNA

SMMAC Lands in Owatonna







Story and photos by Emily Schoenbeck
County writer

Left: A pilot poses behind his classic model aircraft. All of the classic planes are based on crafts designed before the 1960's.
Top: One local boy and his friend all the way from Canada were brought the event by the boy's father, one of the pilots. Many of the pilots brought their sons to share in the experience making the hobby a father-son bonding experience.
Right: A classic plane takes to the skies on the opening morning of the fly-in. It was later joined by another plane while club provided spotters watched to make sure there were no collisions.
Bottom: One man turns the propeller of his plane to get it going, while his fellow launcher braces it so it does not release early. Most planes required at least two people to launch them.

The members of The Southern Minnesota Model Aircraft Club may be keeping their feet on the ground, but their heads are firmly in the clouds. Last weekend they hosted the Northern Alliance Military Fly-in at their club field just south of Owatonna.

The event is an opportunity for pilots of remote controlled large-scale aircrafts to come and fly together. The pilots are all members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, a national organization that certifies pilots to safely fly such crafts. The fly-in was a warbirds and classics event, so it was open to any pilot flying a replica of a military plane or one whose design predated 1960. It's the twelfth year the club has hosted this particular fly-in, and the organizers were expecting a 100 pilots that weekend flying over 500 planes with some pilots coming from as far as Oklahoma and California. On the local circuit, this is the fifth out of seven such events in the season.

The Fly-in is more than just a fun occasion. It also serves as a fundraiser for The Veterans Airlift Command, a charity to help with the transport of combat wounded veterans and their families. The fundraiser organizer for the club is Todd Landen, a combat wounded veteran of conflicts in both Iraq and Afghanistan, who is himself now retired and disabled. Many of the pilots for the event are former military making for a close-to-home cause. The event raises about $2,500 each year.

The members of the club and the visiting pilots show a special devotion to their craft. Each pilots brings at least three to five planes to the fly-in, though some people's trailer could be seen stacked with up to 20 planes. The field can accommodate about five or six in the air at a time. The planes themselves are fifth scale models with a roughly 80-inch wingspan through some are as big as 200 inches across. They can weigh anywhere from 30 to a 100 pounds. Made from balsa wood or light ply with a fiberglass shell, they can take anywhere from a few weeks to several years to construct. The aircrafts run on either small electrical or gas engines, though some use small scale turbines; they are all radio controlled.

Chris Mayer of Owatonna, a SMACC member of 11 years, knows all about planes whether model or real-life. Mayer one of the model pilots on the field for the weekend is a licensed pilot of 32 years with over 19,000 hrs logged in the air.

Mayer was a Senior Master Sergeant in the Air Force who's flown in both Gulf Wars, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Enduring Freedom in 14 years of active duty before moving to the reserve for a time and then retiring in 2007. Enrolling in the military as a young man in 1986, he flew C-141 planes in combat.

He's been creating models for even longer than he's been military. Planes have fascinated Mayer ever since he was a child. Looking back on when he was a kid, he recalled, "Every time I saw a piece of paper on the ground I would pick it up and start folding it into an airplane." While he used to fly models competitively, these days fly-ins are what he enjoys most. When asked how it compared to actually flying a plane, he responded it was totally different and "You have to mentally put yourself in the cockpit."

These days he's also not flying alone. His son Collin, 16, has also been bitten by the flying bug, and as we spoke was driving up all the way up from Oklahoma to participate in the fly-in. Unusual for most kids his age, he's already logged several hundred hours in the air and has ambitions to be a pilot. While he tried to play it cool, Mayer couldn't hide the pride in his voice as he talked about his son's own passion for planes.

For this fly-in, he brought four of his own planes and one belonging to his son, though they own over 20. Mayer said his focus is on military planes of world war vintage. His planes have considerable maneuverability in the air with one of his jets able to reach 160mph at top speed.

A scan of the field showed Mayer wasn't alone in his fascination or devotion to recreating with precision the planes of the past. He said that the pilots do more than just build the planes. It's a process that involves a lot of research. They study the make of the airplane, but also the conditions the pilot would have faced and the conflict in which the craft would have flown. Thinking about his and his fellow pilots' hobby and the event at large, he concluded, "It's a way to give back, to recognize service and sacrifice for our country, and that's important."





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Local ag leaders honored at land use banquet

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

A local farm family and three individuals were honored last week at the Excellence in Agriculture Awards banquet at the Servicemen's Club in Blooming Prairie. The event was held in conjunction with the Land Use Expo last Tuesday and Wednesday.

Aaron Anderson was recognized as the Outstanding Young Farmer and presented his award by Ashley Schmeling of Land Use Expo.

Anderson grew up on his family's dairy and crop farm until the death of his father in 2000. After high school he worked in construction until 2012 when the opportunity arose for him to begin farming on his own.

He now does cash cropping of corn and soybeans on 500 acres near Blooming Prairie.

He also has joined with two partners to operate a beef operation where they raise cattle and sell directly to several co-ops in the Twin Cities, he said. Currently they have about 200 head of beef and slaughter seven or eight a week.

Named the Outstanding Family Farm was the Kramer family farm of Hayfield, now operated by Ted and Tom Kramer and their sons. Ted and Tom's father, Don, who started the farm, is still active at the age of 89, Land Use Expo member Jim O'Connor said in presenting the award.

The family has 5400 acres of corn and soybeans as well as finishing hogs.

In accepting the award, LaVae Kramer, Tom's wife, said that the Kramers believe there is no better place to raise a family than on the family farm.

She thanked the Land Use Expo organizers for helping to tell the public about agriculture, saying that when people visit the farm they have no idea what a family farm is all about and often have a negative opinion about farmers.

Ken Folie, who lives in Canisteo Township, received the Commitment to Agriculture Award, presented by Steele County Feedlot Officer Dan Vermilyea.

Folie grew up on a farm near Clark's Grove and attended Austin Community College before beginning a 33-year career at IBM in Rochester. When he retired from IBM he began a second career in township and county government, Vermilyea said.

He served on the Dodge County Planning Commission and also as the Dodge County feedlot officer.

Folie also stressed, Vermilyea said, that feedlot officials had to make science-based decisions.

In presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to Gene Francis, O'Connor asked "where do you start and where do you end?"

Francis taught agriculture management at Blooming Prairie High School for 32 years and during that time also helped many area farm families with farm management issues. When he retired from teaching, O'Connor said, he continued to work with families in his own farm management business, always assisted by his wife, Pat.



INDEPENDENT | PHOTOS BY KAREN JORGENSEN

Jim O'Connor presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Gene Francis. Francis taught agriculture management at Blooming Prairie High School for 32 years and now operates a farm management consulting business with his wife Pat.



LaVae Kramer thanks the Land Use Expo for choosing the Kramer family farm as the Outstanding Farm Family. Tom and Ted Kramer and their families operate the Kramer family farm while farm founder Don Kramer still helps out daily at 89.



Ken Folie accepted the Commitment to Agriculture award from Dan Vermilyea, Steele County feedlot officer. Folie is a former Dodge County feedlot officer and current member of the Canisteo Town Board.



Ashley Schmeling presented the Outstanding Young Farmer award to Aaron Anderson, who farms 500 acres near Blooming Prairie and is partner in a beef raising operation.

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Minnesota Crop Report:

Minnesota farmers were limited to 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork as a large area of heavy rain moved across Minnesota during the week ending August 14, 2016, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The resulting wet conditions led to flooding and ponding in some areas, raising concerns about crop stress and losses. Field activities for the week included cutting and baling hay, harvesting small grains, and applying insecticides as needed.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 26 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 4 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus.

Seventy-eight percent of Minnesota's corn acreage was in or beyond the dough stage, 12 days ahead of the five-year average and 5 days ahead of last year. Twelve percent of the corn acreage was in or beyond the dent stage. Corn condition rated 85 percent good to excellent. Eighty-nine percent of the soybean crop was setting pods, a week ahead of average, but 6 days behind last year. Soybean condition rated 79 percent good to excellent. Fifty-seven percent of the spring wheat acreage had been harvested, 6 days ahead of the five-year average. Spring wheat condition rated 69 percent good to excellent. Seventy-four percent of the oat crop was harvested for grain, 4 days ahead of average, but equal to last year. Sunflower condition rated 58 percent good to excellent. Eleven percent of the potato acreage had been harvested, 4 days ahead of average. Potato condition rated 92 percent good to excellent.

The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 94 percent complete. The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 58 percent complete, a week ahead of last year. Pasture condition rated 76 percent good to excellent.

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:
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

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

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

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

Cert of Assumed Name

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.
ASSUMED NAME: BALANCED HEALTH CARE CENTERS, 1414 SOUTH OAK AVE SUITE 4, OWATONNA, MN 55060.
Person(s) doing business under the above Assumed Name: MCGREGOR CHIROPRACTIC, PC, 1414 SOUTH OAK AVE, SUITE 4, OWATONNA, MN 55060.
If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.
By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document of his/her behalf. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.
SIGNED BY: NICHOLAS J. MCGREGOR, PESIDENT
MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: njmdc@hotmail.com. Exclude the above email address from requests for bul data, to the extent allowed by Minnesota law.
Person who can be contacted about this form: DAVID L. EINHAUS (507) 451-3580.
Entities that own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed must register with the MN Dept. of Agriculture's Corporate Farm Program.
8/16, 8/23

BP ISD#756 Fam. Ed. Right

Family Education Rights & Privacy Act

The following information will be published in the local paper for two consecutive weeks. Independent School District #756, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, in compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act announces that directory-type information on public school students in the district will be disseminated from time to time without further authorization from parents of such students.

Directory-type information under this policy is defined as:
1. The student's name
2. The names of the student's parents
3. The student's address
4. The student's date of birth
5. The student's class designation (i.e. 1st grade, 10th grade, etc.)
6. The student's extracurricular participation
7. The student's achievement awards or honors
8. The student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team
9. The student's photograph or videotape of the student
10. The school or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in Independent School District #756

Any parent wishing to withhold such information from distribution must make the request to the Office of the Superintendent of Schools within ten days of this publication.
8/16, 8/23

Order to Show Cause

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
IN DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File Number:
74-CV-16-1552
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

In the Matter of the Petition of
Gary E. Burandt
For New Certificates of Title After Fulfillment of a Contract for Deed

TO: PEOPLES SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION:
Upon receiving and filing the Report of Examiner of Titles in the above entitled matter, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that you and all persons interested, appear before this Court on the 23rd day of September, 2016 at 11:00 a.m, Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, and then, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be heard, show cause, if any there may be, why this Court should not enter an Order as follows:

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

Order to Show Cause Continued

That the Registrar of Titles, upon the filing with him of a certified copy of this Order cancel the following Certificates of Title and enter new Certificates of Title for the following properties:

Certificate of Title No. 9871 Lot 1, Block 1, Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9872 Lot 2, Block 1; and Lot 1, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9873 Lot 3, Block 1; and Lot 2, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9874 Lot 6, Block 1; and Lot 5, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9875 Lot 7, Block 1; and Lot 1, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9876 Lot 8, Block 1; Lot 2, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9877 Lot 9, Block 1; and Lot 3, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9878 Lot 10, Block 1; and Lot 4, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9879 Lot 4, Block 1; and Lot 3, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9880 Lot 5, Block 1; and Lot 4, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

in favor of Gary E. Burandt free of the memorial of the following documents: #T000023676 and #T000060810

and free of the memorial of this Order, but subject to all other memorials and recitals appearing on Certificates of Title No. 9871, 9872, 9873, 9874, 9875, 9876, 9877, 9878, 9879 and 9880.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this Order be served:

(a) at least 10 days prior to such hearing upon the above named parties residing in this State in the manner provided by law for the service of Summons in a civil action;

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

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

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

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

BY THE COURT,
/s/ Karen R. Duncan
08/08/16
Judge of District Court

Attorney for Petitioner:
Mark Joseph Rahrick
108 West Park Square
P.O. 271
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060
Approved as to form:
/s/ David L. Einhaus
Steele County Examiner of Titles
Attorney License Number 026190
202 North Cedar, P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, Minnesota 55060
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
Facsimile: (507) 451-3532
E-mail:
einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com

8/16, 8/23

Steele County Synopsis - 7.12.16

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 7/12/2016

Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Brady/Schultz to approve the agenda. Ayes all.
2. Schultz/Huntington to approve the consent agenda items. Ayes all.
   - A. Approve Board minutes of June 28, 2016 and June 28, 2016 Board of Appeal & Equalization.
   - B. Approve the Listing of Bills.
   - C. Approve the Personnel Report.
   - D. Approve the LEC Committee recommendation for new flooring in the 911 Center and reception area for a cost of $4,367.85 thru Flooring Frenzy.
   - E. Approve the low bid from Rocon in the amount of $15,100 to build the entry vestibule at the Huber Entry Door at the Detention Center.
   - F. Approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota Department of Corrections for work release services.
   - G. Accept the EDA Membership recommendation for the appointment process for members of the newly established Steele County Economic Development Authority to be 2 Steele County Board members, 1 member from each City within Steele County, 1 member representing the Steele County townships, 1 member representing the Housing & Redevelopment Authority and 1 member representing the area of labor force issues.
   - H. Approve the addition of "Attachment B" to the revised Agreement between Steele County and Waseca County for Court Services Director Services.
   - I. Approve the low quote for both flooring and paint at 315 S. Cedar, rental property.
   - J. Accept the Steele County Fit Update.
   - K. Accept Probation Services Dashboard.
   - L. Accept Public Safety Policy Committee Minutes.
   - M. Accept Internal Central Services Policy Committee Minutes.
3. Schultz/Huntington to approve Conditional Use Permit #403 for Kevin O'Connor to construct a building and operate a road and street construction business in Section 4-108-20 of Aurora Township with conditions per the Planning Commission and accept the Findings of Fact. Ayes all.
4. Glynn/Brady to approve Interim Use Permit 2016-04 for Ulland Brothers Inc. to operate a temporary asphalt crushing, processing and storage facility on property owned by Caterpillar Forest Products located at 3249 County Road 45 South with conditions and accept the Findings of Fact. Ayes all.
5. Glynn/Huntington Resolution to approve final payment to Ulland Brothers Inc. in the amount of $36,219.19 for CP 74-016-05 (CSAH 14 N of Ellendale). Upon the vote being taken five commissioners vote in favor thereof, none absent not voting. A copy of the Resolution is on file in the Auditor's office.
6. Huntington/Glynn to approve the quote from Link-Support Services, LLC in the amount of $5,153.20 to replace the battery backups for the UPS at the Detention Center. Ayes all.
7. Huntington/Brady to approve the request to fill the vacant Appraiser position in the Assessor's office. Ayes all.
8. Glynn/Huntington to approve the request to fill the vacant Technical Clerk I position in the Auditor's office. Ayes all.
9. Schultz/Huntington to approve the request to fill the vacant Human Resources Generalist position in Human Resources office. Ayes all.
10. Glynn/Huntington to approve the card access/camera proposal for the 1st phase of the Courthouse security project in the amount of $57,979. Ayes all.
11. Brady/Schultz to send a letter of notice of intent to terminate our contract to PROVOX for Agenda.net. Ayes all.
12. Commissioner Reports:

Glynn reported on his attendance at the Dodge/Steele Community Health Board.

Huntington reported on her attendance at PTD 7 meeting, Criminal Justice committee, SCHA, Children's Mental Health Collaborative, Public Works Ground Breaking and the Dodge/Steele Community Health Board.

Brady reported on his attendance at the Solid Waste meeting in Waseca and the SE Water Resources Board.

Schultz reported on his attendance at the Historical Society, 911 Joint Powers Board and Fair Board meeting.

Ebeling reported on his attendance at the JD 24 meeting, PTD 7 meeting, 911 Joint Powers Board, KODA and Dodge/Steele Community Health Board.

LISTING OF BILLS
July 12, 2016

30th Place, LLC	17,490.16
A'viands, LLC	9,906.54
Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc.	8,149.26
Aug's All Home Services	2,360.00
Blooming Prairie Public Utilities	6,841.59
Jodi L. Bushey	7,900.00
City of Medford	5,000.00
Computer Professionals Unlimited, Inc.	15,219.72
Crane Creek Asphalt	6,021.24
DLT Solutions	3,960.69
Government Forms and Supplies	2,743.78
Hansen Excavation, Inc.	4,577.50
Integra Telecom	2,954.56
J R's Advanced Recyclers, Inc.	8,765.95
Kwik Trip, Inc.	3,836.57
Local Government Information Systems	27,619.50
Owatonna Motor Company	15,140.73
Owatonna Public Utilities	29,307.85
Riverland Comm College Austin	2,000.00
SCR Southern-Rochester	25,977.00
SeaChange Printing & Marketing Serv. LLC	5,046.46
Soldo Consulting PC	9,985.20
Steele County Central Services	3,669.50
Steele County Soil & Water Conservation Dist.	32,594.00
Thomson Reuters- West	2,580.20
Traffic Marking Service, Inc.	12,529.00
Turnkey Corrections	4,145.75
Venture Hydraulics, Inc.	3,747.57
144 Warrants under $2,000	58,458.17
TOTAL:	**$346,534.25**

13. Glynn/Huntington to adjourn to the Call of the Chair at 5:58 p.m. Ayes all.

8/16, 8/23

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New Richland Care Center
Is looking for a
FULL-TIME CHARGE NURSE
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EOE/Affirmative Action

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6-8 Hrs per day
• Set-Up
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• 40# Lift

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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

Concord Store & Locker looking for full time help to cut & wrap meat; stock coolers & freezers & nightly clean-up. Please call 507-527-2736 or stop in Monday-Friday 7:00am to 6pm 55217 201st Ave, West Concord, MN. 35-37c

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, 6:45-1:45 M-F on school days. Job responsibilities are cooking, ordering, inventory, occasional catering and managing a team of 7. Previous food experience is preferred. Another position is open at the high school kitchen, 4.5 hrs., 8-1pm.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

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 RENT

Apartments for rent, 1, 2 & 3 BR, gas & elec. Included. 507-273-7386. 50-1p, 2tfc

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Rent Sale- Great Western Apartments, Hayfield, will reduce your rent by $100 per month with a one-year lease. Newly renovated with large rooms, hardwood floors, and utilities included. We have the 1, 2, or 3 bedroom apartment you want. Call (507) 796-0152 or (701) 330-9706 for sale details 12tfc

Hayfield 1 bedroom, heat, water, and trash included, laundry room on site, elevator, community patio and social room. Senior apt age 62 or handicapped/disabled, income based. Equal Housing Opportunity. Call 477-2316 or 613-4188 25tfc

1BR senior apt. 55+ in Dodge Center, Clean quiet building, 1 bedroom, HUD vouchers accepted. Call Jim952-334-8369. 35 & 37p

Blood Clot patients, if you have experienced any serious problems with an IVC filter, call 507-201-8964 to speak with a lawyer. You may be entitled to compensation. tfc

Office/retail space, main street, Kasson, storage space & pasture also available, contact Pat 507-319-6762 33-35c

WANTED

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GARAGE SALES

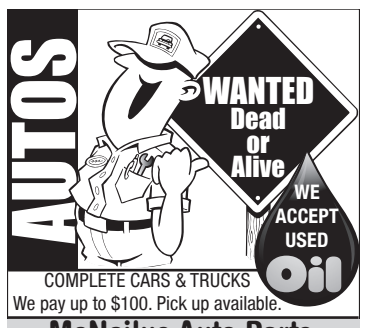
Riverside Park, Tuesday 11-5 through October, Farmers and Artisans Market, Arts and crafts, Watkins products, baked goods, plants, produce and flea market, vendor fee $5/wk. 507-635-5554, www.mantorvilletourism.com 25tfc

825 4th St NW Byron, Fri. 8am-4pm & Sat. 8am-12pm NICE STUFF NOT JUNK. New in box bath ceiling fan. 2 New in box tub faucets, LOTS of home decor, adult/teen clothes and shoes, bedding, rugs, misc. remodel items, picture frames, books, curtains, 12 serving set Oneida silverware and case, 4 oak stools, 1 oak stool with back and decorative pillows + much more. 35p

22771 700th St. Kasson, MN, Fri. 8-6 & Sat. 8-12 Perennials, raspberry plants, Big Green Egg Mini Max (new in box), home decor, boys clothes 8-12, girls clothes 10-adult small, Little Tykes outdoor play house, toys, misc. Cash only. 35p

78614 320th St. Racine, MN. Fri. 7am-7pm, Sat. 7am-2pm. HUGE Moving/Estate Sale! You won't want to miss this sale! Variety of wood working equipment, tools, 4 wheelers, many camping items, furniture, cast iron cooking pans, wood boards, knick knacks, clothes, house hold items, lots of "guy stuff", snow mobiles, several vehicles, John Deere barge box, electrical scooters. 35,36c

25062 608 St. (8/10 mile east of Hubbell House) Thur. 1-5, Fri. 9-5, & Sat. 9-Noon. Estate/household sale. Case IH train set (unopened), Breyer mules/cowboy horses. Fabric/buttons, Quilts, silver plate flatware, Dishes (Mikasa, Corelle, Bob Timberlake), jewelry, stoneware, ultimate Elvis Presley collection. Madam Alexander / Lee Middle dolls. Brinkman electric smoker. Craftsman scroll saw. 400 watt converter. Too many household items to list. 35p



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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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30-39c

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33-35c

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CHS EOE
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

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20tfc

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Jeff Ingvalson 507-456-1439
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