



STEELE COUNTY TIMES



Medford Tigers 2B

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Tuesday, September 19, 2017

BACK IN OPERATION



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Steele County Buildings Director Lynn Holthus shows off Courtroom B at the Steele County Courthouse in Owatonna. The courthouse is partially back to normal operations after being closed for nine months. In January, a pipe burst and flooded the entire facility, including this courtroom where the Cyrus Trevino murder trial will take place this week. The rest of the courthouse may not be fully functional until early next year.

Historic courthouse partially reopens after being shut down for 9 months

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

After months of being shut down, the Steele County Courthouse in Owatonna is operational once again. Well, sort of. On Monday, the courthouse opened a sec-

ond floor courtroom to accommodate the high-profile murder trial of Cyrus Trevino. The trial began with jury selection Monday morning with 80 potential jurors expected to appear. Other areas of the top floor also re-opened Monday.

"It's very exciting, I will admit," said Robin Hoesley, court administrator. "We're happy

to be partially moving back in the courthouse. This is a big step forward," she said. Her office had been displaced to other buildings after a pipe burst in the courthouse in January, flooding the entire historic facility.

COURTHOUSE
Continued on page 4A

"Holly, want a cracker?"

With parrots by his side, man strolls through BP park

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

We have often heard the refrain, "Polly, want a cracker?"

Well, now if you visit Central Park in Blooming Prairie on any afternoon, you may hear the refrain, "Holly, want a cracker?"

Holly is Blooming Prairie resident Carl Barber's beautifully colored Macaw parrot.

Macaws are long-tailed, often colorful New World parrots, native to Central America and North America (only Mexico), South America, and formerly the Caribbean. Most species are associated with forests, especially rain forests, but others prefer woodland or savannah-like habitat.

Barber, who lives across the street from the Prairie Manor Care Center, comes over to the city park almost daily at mid-afternoon with his two talkative parrots. Barber loves to show off his birds to park visitors, mostly young kids.

He also has a orange-winged amazon parrot. The orange-winged amazon is a mainly green parrot about 33 cm (13 in) long and weighing about 340 g. It has blue and yellow feathers on its head, which varies in extent

between individuals. The upper mandible is partly horn colored (gray) and partly dark-gray. It has orange feathers in the wings and tail, which can be seen when in flight.

Barber's Macaw is 6 years old and Valerie, the Amazon parrot Barber bought just a month ago, is 13. Both are females.

"I like birds and the kids seem to really get along with the birds," Barber says. "They also don't shed like cats and dogs," he added.

Barber carefully allows passers by to hold the birds. "It's my turn to hold her," says Noah Fawver to his friend, Zoe Heimer.

Barber said his birds are therapeutic and relaxing for him. He also says he enjoys making kids happy by bringing the birds to the park.

Valerie is very friendly and has a "whole notebook" of conversational lines. Among them are: "Happy Birthday," "What the heck?" and Valerie whistles the theme to the Andy Griffith Show.

Barber also has two bearded dragon lizards that

are about 13 inches in length. He has not brought them to the park.

In addition to his love for birds, Barber enjoys the Christmas season by putting up a large variety of blow-up creations including many Disney characters. "Wait until you see what I will have this year," he teased.



Carl Barber of Blooming Prairie has been a popular visitor to Central Park when he brings his two colorful parrots to entertain a crowd that gathers around him. (Staff photo by Howard Lestrud)

Former top official files lawsuit against county

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

The county's former administrator is alleging the county board has created a "boys' club" culture in which state laws are being openly violated.

The Steele County Board of Commissioners is facing multiple counts of misconduct after former administrator Laura Elvebak filed a civil lawsuit. Elvebak accuses the county board of sexual discrimination, violations of Minnesota's Open Meeting Laws and violation of Minnesota Whistleblower Act in a 16-page lawsuit served on county officials Sept. 8 and filed in Steele County District Court Sept. 11.



Elvebak

LAWSUIT

Continued on page 5A

Large hooch operation busted near Meriden

Operator enters diversion for moonshine still

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

In what may have been a scene right out of the 1960s sitcom hit Beverly Hillbillies, a man tried to manufacture illegal moonshine in a remote area of Steele County.

And his operation may have gone undetected if it wasn't for a large amount of water flowing across the street and attracting the attention of others near his Meriden residence located on the west side of the county.



Frisk

MOONSHINE

Continued on page 8A

Board picks Wabasha administrator to lead Steele County

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

In the midst of controversy involving its former administrator, the Steele County Board has picked a new administrator.

Michael Plante, current administrator with Wabasha County, has been chosen as the new administrator for Steele County. Board chairman James Brady said contract negotiations are underway with Plante to bring him on as administrator to replace Laura Elvebak, who abruptly resigned in April.

The county held interviews with Plante and two other candidates last week when it also had a lawsuit filed against board members for misconduct ranging from sexual discrimination to violations of open meeting laws.

Plante has been the county administrator in Wabasha since March 2014. Previously he was an assistant county attorney in the Wabasha County Attorney's Office and an assistant county attorney in Hubbard County.

He grew up in Steele County and graduated from Owatonna High School in 2002.

The other finalists for the position were Jennifer Bromeland, city administrator in Jackson and Scott Goldberg, the environmental services director for Steele County.

The board held a meet-and-greet with the public on Sept. 12 and brought the finalists back for final interviews on Sept. 13. Board members decided later on Sept. 13 to offer the position to Plante.

Brady and interim county administrator Janice Fransen are handling negotiations for the county. Julie Johnson, human resources director, is also believed to be involved in negotiations.

Plante was unavailable for comment at press time.



Plante

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Opinion

Our view

Preserving a county historic landmark for decades to come

Every cloud has a silver lining, or so the expression is often shared. That phrase appears to be ringing true for county officials at the Steele County Courthouse in Owatonna. After a disastrous situation in which a pipe burst and flooded out the entire historic courthouse back in January, officials are now seeing light at the end of the tunnel in which things may have worked in the county's favor. The courthouse partially opened Monday morning for the high profile murder trial of Cyrus Trevino. While a courtroom on the second floor has been given the all clear to house Trevino's trial, as well as other jury trials going forward, much of the rest of the building will still remain closed for at least a few more months. It will be at least January before the courthouse is fully operational again. Most of the damages will be covered by insurance, though the county could be on the hook for up to a half million dollars in repairs. But, according to Steele County Buildings Director Lynn Holthus, the county will be coming out ahead in the long run. "It's a good investment without having to build a whole new justice center," Holthus said last week. He estimated a new justice center could run as high as \$50 million. He thinks the disaster-turned-renovation could carry the county for as long as 30 years into the future.

Holthus repeated himself by emphasizing, "We'll be dollars ahead." In tight budget times, it's a relief to be able to preserve a historic landmark in the county and continue keeping it operational, even though it came in an undesirable way. Once the dust settles from this latest renovation project, the biggest issue facing the courthouse will be parking. The county is currently exploring the possibility of purchasing some residential properties in the area to free up some much-needed parking space. It definitely has been a year of turmoil for county officials with the courthouse becoming inoperable for most of the year, but they have weathered the storm in good fashion and provided the citizens of Steele County with a first-class facility that will serve well into the future. Perhaps every cloud truly does have a silver lining. Certainly, in this case, a terrible situation has some good aspect to it.

Your View

Time to wake up to drunk driving

To-the-Editor:

Just a quick note to let you know how much we appreciate your many positive comments that appear in your Steele County Times each week.

The Hot Pursuit column is the first article that we read each week. Also, I believe the emphasis that you are putting on drunk driving will wake up the entire nation for the need to curb drunk driving!

Keep up the good work!

Gene Trom
Blooming Prairie



REFLECTIONS...
AND HOW



HOWARD
LESTRUD

Search for a cheerleader for the community of Blooming Prairie, and you undoubtedly will come up with the name of Becky. (Trom) Noble, currently executive director of the BP Area Chamber of Commerce.

Becky is right when she says not too many communities the size of Blooming Prairie have a chamber of commerce.

She reviewed her 16 years with the chamber while playing the role of keynote speaker at a meeting of the Arkema Citizens Advisory Panel on Sept. 13. She told moderator Roger Sorenson she would only be speaking for 15 minutes. An hour and 15 minutes later, she completed her raving about Blooming Prairie.

Becky is a hometown woman who has lived here all of her years and really knows what is going on in the community. Just listen to her daily on KRFO Radio and read her regular correspondence with Chamber members.

Definitely a face well known in Blooming Prairie, Becky believes in the Chamber's mission statement. The chamber's Mission Statement is "to provide a framework for community growth and development by encouraging financial investment, coordinating business activities, promoting commerce and fostering a sense of community pride."

Becky is constantly promoting Blooming Prairie and has a genuine caring attitude toward the membership of the BP Chamber. Believe it or not, she gets all of her work done part time and without any type of extra benefits.

In addition to her chamber responsibilities, Becky and her husband Mark clean the City Center three days a week and she also audits the books of a local snowmobile group.

Becky started her Chamber executive position on Sept. 1, 2001. Ten days later, all Americans shuddered as four terrorist attacks were waged on the U.S.

"I got to work on Sept. 11 and couldn't stand it so I went home," Becky recalls. She returned the next day, however, to begin organizing her work load.

One of the prime goals of the local Chamber, Becky says, is to get taxes reduced and to influence the Minnesota Legislature to help local businesses grow.

The local Chamber uses Grown MN to connect businesses to one another. "We are always asking busi-

Blooming Prairie's No. 1 cheerleader

nesses if there is anything we can do to help them improve their business," Becky told the Arkema group.

Greg Johnson of B to Z Hardware is the current president of the BP Chamber. Dan Peach is vice president. Sarah Lindquist is secretary and Joanne Nahlovsky is treasurer.

Becky said the Chamber's major activity is sponsoring the annual 4th of July celebration. Members Nick Seifert and Karen Fourarge are leaders of the 4th efforts.

The Holiday Dazzle event held in early December is also a very popular Chamber event and draws many people to town to take advantage of special bargains and promotions. "There's something for everyone on this Friday night, sometimes the coldest night of the year," Becky said.

Another popular Chamber event is the golf outing in July. The chamber also promotes wine tasting events.

Grabbing a copy of Blooming Prairie's 150th anniversary book, Becky said a very active intuitive 150th celebration committee spearheaded several successful anniversary events during the year.

The anniversary book was authored by local icon, LeMar Nelson. "It's a fun little keepsake that is available at my office and at the banks for only \$28," Becky says.

A manufacturers luncheon is planned for October. Becky lauded many Blooming Prairie business leaders who left the area at a young age and returned to be a very successful contributor to the growth of the BP community.

The Chamber has a Facebook page and also has an application called "RTown."

The Blooming Prairie Chamber sent a large number of local business leaders to a Blandin community leadership class two years ago.

The Chamber has several influential committees: civic ambassadors; promotions committee; government relations; junior entrepreneur for grade 2 and grade 5 led by Linda Klemmensen and a beautification committee. The latter was responsible for placing colorful benches on Main Street.

Becky complemented Mayor H. Peterson and city administrator Mike Jones for their efforts to make Blooming Prairie a fun place to live. A comprehensive plan for the city is available for examination at Becky's office and with Jones.

Becky quickly highlighted recent accomplishments in BP:

- Pine Springs Swimming Pool, one of the top 10 pools in the state.
- Bunkie's, new roof being constructed.
- New Main Street following reconstruction project.
- Craig Kruckeberg renovated couple of buildings downtown for



Becky Noble, Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce executive director, talked about the chamber's role in promoting investment in Blooming Prairie. She was a featured speaker at an Arkema Citizens Advisory Panel meeting recently at the BP City Center. (Staff photo by Howard Lestrud)

- KIK Graphics and apartments for Minimizer sales people.
- Holman building was purchased by Eaton Miller and is being used as locations for Rachel's, Home Sellers, Air bed and breakfast.
 - Extreme Powder Coating has expanded.
 - Prairie Plumbing & Heading put a new look on its building.
 - New ambulance garage was built.
 - New bus garage was built.
 - Prairie Manor Care Center finished remodeling.
 - Arkema put in new tanks.
 - Joe's Repair installed new cement.
 - Eagle Insurance and Klemmensen Graphics occupied newly remodeled building on 218.
 - Johnson buildings are refurbished.
 - New NAPA store was built.
 - Darrick's expanded.
 - New BP welcome signs were installed on north and south sides of town.
 - New baseball dugouts were built.
 - Miner's expanded.
 - T & T Motorcycles expanded.
 - Metal Services provides home for Hormel computer backup.
 - Johnson & Doerhoefer expanded.
 - New York Life made changes.
 - Heavy Metal grew under leadership Mundy.
 - Kevin Christianson grew his Smooth Moves business.
 - Bio Plastics expanded under leadership of Gary Noble.
 - Salinas Repair got bigger.
- "We need to thank our mayor, city staff, council and businesses for investing in this community," Becky said. "We need to be thankful for what we have," she added.
- "I am very proud of this community and its educational system," Becky said. "Our churches are great, too," she said.

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A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2017
2 State Awards

2016
6 National Awards
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
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The opinions of our readers in the form of Letters to the Editor are a vital contribution to the healthy exchange of ideas on the Steele County Times opinion page. All letters must be signed by the writer/writers and include a telephone number for verification purposes. Letters are accepted through personal delivery, by mail or by email at bptimes@frontiernet.net.

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

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

ETHICS

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

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Elsewhere in Minnesota\$44
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Second Front

Extra security in place at murder trial

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

With a high-profile murder trial beginning this week in Steele County, heightened security will greet court personnel, jurors and the public at the courthouse.

“Extra security will be in place for this trial,” said Sheriff Lon Thiele. “We will be prepared. I hope it will run smoothly.”

Thiele declined to give specifics about what security measures his deputies will be utilizing throughout the trial. But he assured that the tightened security at the courthouse will take place during the duration of the trial, which is expected to last up to two weeks.

Jury selection begins in trial of accused killer

By KYRIE BUSSLER
Staff Writer

For its first use since January, the Steele County Court House was bustling with action Monday morning, as jury selection began in Steele County’s first murder trial since 2011.

Approximately 75 people were summoned to appear for jury duty for the trial of Cyrus Noel Trevino, 25, who is facing first-degree and second-degree murder and illegal possession of a firearm charges for the killing of Richard Jurgensen of Medford.

The potential jurors packed into Courtroom B by filling up both the jury box and gallery, as they received instructions from Judge Joseph A. Bueltel, who is presiding over the trial. The jury selection process, otherwise known as voir dire, began by jurors filling out a questionnaire.

Then, the potential jurors are slated to appear in eight groups throughout the week for questioning. The prosecution and defense will ask questions to assess the potential jurors’ bias in order to seat a fair and impartial jury.

Attorneys started questioning the first group Monday afternoon. The questioning began with Judge Bueltel asking preliminary questions followed by

the defense and then the prosecution. After questioning, the parties had time to deliberate on whether or not to seat the person in the jury.

Throughout the process, both sides can exercise either a Strike for Cause or Peremptory Strike to remove a potential juror. A peremptory strike occurs when one of the sides chooses to excuse a juror without a particular reason.

Three jurors were seated Monday afternoon. By the end of the week, attorneys will have seated 12 jurors along with three alternates.

Besides beginning the jury selection, a handful of the up to 25 witnesses who may be called during the trial appeared in court after receiving subpoenas for their testimony. Five witnesses received later dates for their testimony. One witness failed to appear, and a bench warrant was issued for his arrest.

Trevino, along with co-defendant, Gerald Blevins, is accused of killing Jurgensen in an execution-style murder in rural Steele County in June 2016. Authorities later determined that the homicide was drug-related, as methamphetamine played a central role in the case. Blevins will go to trial in January.

Opening statements are expected to start next Monday with testimony following.



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

A Steele County sheriff’s deputy led accused killer Cyrus Trevino into the Steele County Courthouse in Owatonna Monday morning for his first-degree murder trial. Jury selection began Monday and is expected to continue all week. The trial will likely take two weeks.

Blossoms Forever to be honored

Former army solider exemplified service

A career enforcing law for lead prosecutor

A year of honors for community protector

Editor’s Note: On Saturday, Sept. 30, six people will be recognized as honorees at the annual Blooming Prairie Education Foundation Banquet. Last week the Times featured three of the honorees, Carl Peterson, Robert Hansen and Naomi Erickson. This week we offer profiles on the final three honorees, Janelle Prokopec Kendall, Jacob Peterson and Raymond Kubicek.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

The Blooming Prairie community has seen a lot of service personnel serving in various conflicts, and Distinguished Service award winner from the Blossoms Forever, Raymond Kubicek, exemplifies that service as well as anyone.

Kubicek, who passed away in 2010 at almost 90, had a distinctive career in World War II, earning the Bronze Star during the Battle of the Bulge.

Born in Blooming Prairie, Kubicek graduated from BPHS in 1939, where he excelled in football, basketball, and baseball. He also earned Valedictorian honors. Although recruited by Minnesota University football coach Bernie Bierman, he chose to attend college at the University of North Dakota on a football scholarship. He played varsity ball as a freshman, but World War II intervened, and he was drafted into the army. Before leaving for the service, he married his high school sweetheart, Lorrain Johnson.

After an 11-week course in basic training, Kubicek and his army company shipped to Europe with 20,000 soldiers on the Queen Mary when the Battle of the Bulge began, and Kubicek began an illustrious army career. After landing outside of La Harve, France, his company

Kubicek

made a push to the Rhine River in Germany, taking one city after another. On one occasion, with his company pinned down by the Germans just outside of Heidelberg, Kubicek volunteered to go back to find ammunition from the ammunition outfit. That escapade earned him his Bronze star.

At the Brenner Pass in the Alps, his company got the news that the war was over, and while back in the states on a 30-day leave, Kubicek received news on the radio that VJ Day had been declared. He finished out his service commitment at Fort Logan, Colo., after serving from 1944 to 1946, including 11 months overseas in the infantry.

Following his tour in the army, Kubicek worked for the Hormel Company in Austin for 41 years, serving as a divisional chairman of the hog kill department for 15 years and also was a grievance man, a member of the union executive board, and financial secretary.

Following his retirement, Kubicek kept an active interest in sports. He played softball for 18 years in the Bi-County, Hormel, and city softball leagues, and he golfed regularly until in his 80s, twice winning awards for getting a hole-in-one.

He and Lorrain moved to a cabin on German Lake after his retirement, and the two spent 26 years traveling to Lake Havasu, Ariz., for the winter months. They had been married for 67 years when he passed away in December 2010.

As his wife Lorrain (Cookie to most people) remarked, “Ray was an all-around good person. He loved life and nature to the fullest; he was very congenial, loved people, and was always ready to help on any occasion.”

Kubicek was a church-going person who loved the lord and took good care of his wife and family. He was another of the many community members who served in the military with distinction.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

In a world usually dominated by men, Janelle (Prokopec) Kendall has defied the norm and is forging a brilliant career as the county attorney for Stearns County.

Some big cases have come her way, and she has handled them with fairness and the aplomb that has become her trademark in the justice system.

A 1983 graduate of Blooming Prairie High School, Kendall received her undergraduate degree from Hamline University and earned her Doctor of Law from the Minnesota University Law School. She practiced law in St. Cloud, was assistant Stearns County attorney for seven years, spent over three years as the Mille Lacs County attorney, and then moved back to Stearns County as the lead prosecutor.

In her position, Kendall has quite a litany of duties including being responsible for criminal prosecution, juvenile delinquency, child protection, truancy enforcement, child support collection, and is the civil law firm for county departments. Needless to say, her list of responsibilities is large, indeed.

In her background, Kendall comments, “I was fortunate to be in a good school where I could meaningfully participate in multiple activities—music, speech, theater, school newspaper—without having to pick only one. Several teachers, including Mr. Nelson, Mr. Vorlicek, and Ms. Felchle molded my ability to perform, in writing and live action, and in music and public speaking. In my professional ca-

Kendall

reer, I draw on what they taught me about content, audience assessment and delivery.”

From a world audience in the Jacob Wetterling case last year to playing a concert before 20,000 people a short time ago, Kendall credits her accomplishments to what she learned at BPHS. Her parents endured all the after-school activities and headed her in the right direction to college and eventually law school.

Kendall and husband John, a professor at St. Johns University, paid for their first car by singing at weddings, and music takes a close second to the law profession in her life. The Kendall family band, Walters Wheelhouse, now includes sons Andrew and Alex and husband John, and they have moved past wedding singing to a very successful second career in performing.

As a couple of her strong supporters Doug and Judy Myer remarked, “In our estimation, Janelle’s contribution for all of us far exceeds the Blossoms forever distinctive service requirements. Her professional successes for sure have been positive contributions all of us and way beyond. We are all honored by her work and her life.”

Kendall traces her passion for music back to playing as a church organist at an early age and to her appearances in the all-school musicals “Wizard of Oz,” and “Guys and Dolls.”

As Kendall concluded, “All the things I learned at BPHS—practice, think, do the right thing—headed me in the right direction.”

If there is anyone who deserves notice for the public service she provides, one needs look no further than to Janelle Kendall.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

For one of the honorees of the Blossoms Forever, the past year has been one of success and rewards already.

Jacob Peterson of Blooming Prairie will receive one of three distinguished Service Awards at the annual Blooming Prairie Education Foundation banquet on Sept. 30. The award will add to an already successful year for Peterson. Earlier this year he was named the Steele County Law Officer of the year, and he and wife Alecia were honored as the Blooming Prairie Citizens of the Year in January.

And to the residents of Blooming Prairie, the honors have been well deserved.

The 38-year-old Peterson, or Jake, as he is commonly referred to, is a lifelong Blooming Prairie resident, having grown up with two brothers and a single father. He spent his childhood interested snowmobiles, model trains and going on plane rides with his father, who owned an airplane. He also recalls many summers riding in semi-trucks with his uncle and seeing much of the country. By the time he entered sixth grade in school. He had already swum in two oceans and visited 20 states.

Peterson graduated from BPHS in 1998 and began college at RCTC to study law enforcement. He joined the BP ambulance crew in 2000, after receiving his EMT certification, and then transferred to Winona State University to complete his degree. He met Alecia at college, and they eventually married in Hawaii. Alecia finished her degree in education, and he earned his peace officer license.

Back to Blooming Prairie in 2004, Peterson took a job on the Blooming Prairie police force, where he still works. The couple had their first child in 2010 and also founded the Stix of Fury,

Peterson

the drum line that has instilled his passion for seven years. The couple now has three children, and Alecia still teaches in the Owatonna school system.

He has several hobbies and is happy now because his children can enjoy the hobbies, like snowmobiling, jet skiing, camping and fishing, with him. His main hobby, however, remains his Stix of Fury, and he gets excited for the parade season every year.

Along with Alecia, who joined him in his interest by organizing the color guard that now accompanies every appearance in the many parades in which they enter each summer, Peterson spends many hours with “his kids.” The countless hours of practice have produced dividends, as the group is now an accomplished group, widely known, and frequently requested to make appearances at events and summer parades.

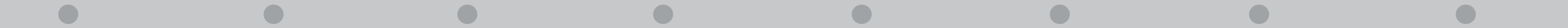
As one of his big supporters, Kristi Jorgenson, remarked recently, “Jake and Alecia Peterson have been a blessing to this community, but they have been even more so to my family. After the death of our son, the couple was always available for our call and would do anything to help us when needed. All of our kids have been in the Stix of Fury and have loved the experience.”

As Peterson commented, “I have been very lucky to have the life I do. I have a great wife and family, and I have received several recognitions in the past couple of years. But it wasn’t me that has made it all possible. It is my family and my friends who have molded me into the person I am today.

“I still work for a great police department in BP, and Alecia still teaches in Owatonna. I couldn’t imagine living anywhere else, and I am proud to declare that I will forever be an Awesome Blossom.”

At least that is something with which most BP residents will agree.

If you go ...
BP Education Foundation Banquet
Saturday, Sept. 30
BP Servicemen’s Club



COURTHOUSE: from page 1A

The county received a certificate of occupancy from building inspectors last Thursday.

Lynn Holthus, the county's building and grounds director, has been supervising the renovation project since the courthouse was shut down. "It's a big process to do this. It's not something that happens overnight," he said, noting the state was involved throughout the project. Most of the court personnel are state employees.

Holthus describes the last nine months as being an incredible experience that brought together many different departments. "It seems during a tragedy, everyone pulls together and works well together," he said.

Though the pipe burst became a major inconvenience, Holthus has found a silver lining to it all. "This will give us 20-30 years without building a new justice center," he said. "It will save us \$20-50 million for a new center. In the long run it will save taxpayers money," he added.

The costs associated with the clean up and renovation are still being tallied, but Holthus noted that most of the damage will be covered by insurance. He estimates the county will have as much as \$500,000 of its own funds into the project.

The last major renovation at the courthouse took place in 1998, according to Holthus. However, some of the ceilings haven't been exposed since the 1950s.

During the most recent renovation, insulation was added to the attic. "Everything we have done should save on efficiency," Holthus said.

As he looked at the newly renovated courtroom on the second floor, Holthus said, "We really got the place cleaned up and spruced up." He paused for a moment and reflected on how much harder the job would have been if there had been people working in the building.

Hoesley described the efforts to get the courtroom operational for the murder trial as "grueling" over the past few weeks.

Even though one courtroom is back up and running, the rest of the courthouse will remain closed



possibly for several more months. The situation with the courts being displaced has been less than ideal since January. Hoesley said it has been a challenging experience for her staff to coordinate the logistics of court at three different locations in Owatonna. Most of the court operations had been moved across the street to the Owatonna Fire Station and across town to the county administration building where jury trials took place in the board room.

She said having the fire station across the street was a huge advantage for court personnel. "We have done our best to let everyone know where to go," Hoesley said. "We appreciate everyone's flexibility and patience," she added. Over the next few months, a third courtroom will be constructed in what had been known as Hearing Room C in the courthouse. "It wasn't a functional secure courtroom," Hoesley said. "A better courtroom is being constructed."

The third courtroom should be finished by February. There are currently only two judges assigned to Steele County, but a third judge often comes in from another area of the district to handle the heavy caseload, according to Hoesley. "There is a very intentional decision to have three courtrooms as we have three judges quite often," she noted.

The county's probation department will not be moving back into the courthouse as it has found other space in the downtown area.

"We'll be dollars ahead. In the long run, it will save taxpayers money."

Lynn Holthus
Steele County Buildings Director

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Check-in services that can help seniors stay put

Dear Savvy Senior,

Are there any services you know of that check in on elderly seniors who live alone. I worry about my 84-year-old father falling or having a medical emergency, and not being able to get to the phone to call for help. And he won't wear a life-line help-button.

Desperate Daughter

Dear Desperate,

Depending on where your dad lives, there are check-in call services, volunteer visiting programs, and a variety of technology options you can turn to that can help you keep tabs on him. Here are several to check into.

Daily Check-in Calls

To make sure your dad is OK every day, consider signing him up with a daily check-in call service program. These are telephone reassurance programs run by police or sheriff's departments in hundreds of counties across the country and are usually provided free of charge.

Here's how they work. A computer automated phone system would call your dad at a designated time each day to check-in. If he answers, the system would assume everything is OK. But if he didn't pick up or if the call goes to voice mail after repeated tries, you (or whoever his designee is) would get a notification call. If you are not reachable, calls are then made to backup people who've also agreed to check on your dad if necessary.

The fallback is if no one can be reached, the police or other emergency services personnel will be dispatched to his home.

To find out if this service is available in your dad's community, call his local police department's nonemergency number.

If, however, the police or sheriff's department in your dad's community doesn't provide a daily check-in call program, there are a number of companies you can turn to that offer similar services offered directly to consumers for under \$15 per month. Some to check into include the CARE senior calling program (Call-Reassurance.com), Care-Checkers (CareCheckers.com) and IAmFine (Iamfine.com).

LAWSUIT: from page 1A

She is seeking in excess of \$50,000 for damages she suffered at the hands of county board members.

Matthew Morgan, an attorney with Nichols Kaster Law Firm in Minneapolis, is representing Elvebak in the lawsuit. He said Monday the county has up to 20 days to respond to Elvebak's allegations.

The case has not been assigned a judge yet, but Morgan suspects it will not be a Steele County judge. He said it is likely it will go to another judge within the Third Judicial District to avoid any conflicts of interest.

Elvebak left the county in April under a cloud of controversy. She resigned within days of the county board placing her on administrative leave.

The lawsuit alleges that former Commissioner Nina Huntington told Elvebak that Commissioners James Brady and John Glynn were strategizing to get rid of her as early as December 2015.

In her lawsuit, Elvebak alleges Brady and Glynn had a "well-known disrespect for women in the administration and would mistreat and patronize women working for the county." She pointed out one specific example after a joint powers organization meeting that Glynn commented on there being too many "bitching women" in attendance. A formal complaint about the offensive comments was made to human resources officials, the complaint said.

The discriminatory atmosphere against women extended to day-to-day work activities, according to the suit. It was common knowledge that Commissioners Brady and Glynn would seek the opinion of a male employee, even if a female employee had more expertise or experience, the complaint said.

"Men were generally assumed to have more credibility and were awarded more responsibilities, while women were treated less favorably, and were often treated in an inappropriate and paternalistic manner," Elvebak claims in her suit. "Women's opinions were given less weight during meetings, or were completely ignored."

Prior to last fall's election, Brady promised employees that he would work hard to remove women from positions of power. One of the individuals he promised on removing was Elvebak, the complaint alleges.

Once Brady became board chair in January, he worked to indoctrinate the "boys' club" culture of the board and the administration at large, the complaint said. "Under the newly appointed board, the disrespect and disregard toward women in the administration grew, and it became increasingly difficult for Elvebak to do her job," the suit said.

Soon after the board changed in January, Elvebak found that the board began violating open meeting laws, and heard many employees of the county comment on gatherings they witnesses that were in violation of open meeting laws, the suit alleges.

The board frequently violated open meeting laws, according to the suit. On multiple occasions, the board met or communicated informally, either in full or in smaller groups, to discuss and transact official county business, the suit said, adding the meetings were unannounced, unnoticed and there were no grounds to hold a closed meeting.

In February, Elvebak specifically told Glynn that she frequently received complaints from the public and county employees that it was believed that commissioners were discussing county business outside of a public meeting. Glynn denied the allegations, but Elvebak cautioned that the perception was the board was holding meetings in violation of the public meeting laws.

The suit pointed out an incident in March when several commissioners met to discuss official business prior to a regular board meeting. Elvebak walked in on the meeting, and informed the commissioners that they had to wait for the start of the open meeting. One of the commissioners allegedly patronized Elvebak and ignored her concern by telling her, "Ok, mom." They continued discussing business any way.

In March, Elvebak became aware of violations or planned violations of the Min-

nesota Veterans Preference Act. The board sought to reform the county's organizational structure to eliminate a position held by a veteran protected under MVPA. Elvebak and human resources director Julie Johnson warned the board on multiple occasions that they needed to be cautious in eliminating the veteran's position.

Elvebak went to the board and notified members that terminating the veteran could be a violation of MVPA. However, the board was dismissive and patronizing towards Elvebak, she alleges.

The board eliminated the veteran's position, along with another female employee, at an open meeting on April 11. The terminated employees were to remain employed until May 30. Elvebak became concerned about the legal liability of allowing the terminated employees to continue working until May 30. In her experience, it was common practice to place such employees on paid administrative leave.

Elvebak consulted with the county attorney and subsequently placed them on administrative leave. Commissioners then got angry with Elvebak for placing them on administrative leave and accused her of terminating their employment without the board's approval, the complaint alleges.

At a meeting on April 18, Elvebak learned that it was the board's intent to terminate her employment for three reasons. They allegedly included: difference of opinion between Elvebak and the board regarding the county's vision, Elvebak inadvertently sent an email to a commissioner four months prior regarding his discriminatory attitude towards her and because she placed the terminated individuals on paid administrative leave before consulting the board.

Elvebak claims it was the board who terminated the two employees and not her.

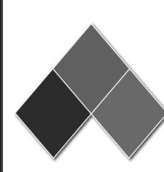
Elvebak received a formal letter from Brady on April 18 notifying her of the board's decision to terminate her. Brady then placed her on paid leave. A few days later she resigned.

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago Sept. 18, 2007 Dan Evans, Publisher	20 Years Ago Sept. 16, 1997 Elsie Slinger, Publisher	75 Years Ago Sept. 17, 1942 Walter K. Mickelson, Publisher
Elementary teacher Marilyn Witzel, retired in June 2007 after teaching 34 years in the Bloomington Prairie School System. Marilyn grew up and was educated in Bloomington Prairie.	Bloomington Prairie reached a Lottery milestone last month. The city's total Lottery ticket sales topped \$2 million since the Lottery began in April 1990. Almost 33 percent of the Minnesota cities that have Lottery retailers (224 of 681) have crossed that sales mark. August Lottery sales in Bloomington Prairie totaled \$22,831.	E.O. Habberstad, president of the Farmers & Merchants State Bank, Bloomington Prairie, was elected president of the Dairy Regional Clearing House Association at a meeting held last week in Owatonna.
New staff members joined the school district. Casie Nider is the new kindergarten teacher at the elementary school this year. Marc Patton is the IT specialist at both the grade school and high school.	The Bloomington Prairie City Council OK'd a property tax levy hike of \$346,000 at the Sept. 15 meeting, which is 9.1 percent higher than last year's levy.	Vicland Oats, a new variety in Minnesota, won Harvey Plotts, Bloomington Prairie farmer, second prize at the Minnesota State Fair this year. Plotts' exhibit was awarded second honors in one of the largest entries recorded in the State Fair history. His prize was \$3 cash.
BPHS senior Brendan McCabe was named to the Minnesota High School Coaches' Association All-State team in baseball this past summer. Notification came very late because Coach Chris Staloch was inadvertently not notified at the time of his selection. McCabe became the fourth BP baseball player to receive the award.	Patrons of the Bloomington Prairie Co-op Creamery Association, by a 3-1 margin, expressed their opposition to merging with any other dairy plant at a general informational meeting, held Sept. 15 in the Community building.	The siren called out the fire department last Thursday noon when the garage on the place occupied by Grover Rysavy was discovered on fire. Several small boys were playing in the building, and the general supposition is the youngsters ignited a collection of waste paper stored in it. The blaze was quickly extinguished after the department arrived. The damage was negligible.
	50 Years Ago Sept. 21, 1967 Victor, Vernon & Vryle Krejci, Publishers	

Steele County Times Professional Directory

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Obituaries

Gloria J. Jacobson, 93, Austin



Gloria J. Jacobson, a proud Norwegian of Austin, died Saturday, Sept. 16, 2017, at St. Mark’s Lutheran Home. She was 93. Funeral services will be held Sunday, Sept. 24 at St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Austin with Pastor Mark Niethammer officiating. There will be a visitation from 4-7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23 at Worlein Funeral Home in Austin, and one hour prior to the service at the church on Sunday. Interment will be in Red Oak Grove Lutheran Cemetery. Gloria Janet Simonson was born June 5, 1924 at the family home near Sargeant, Minnesota, to George and Ragnhild (Nesheim) Simonson. She grew up in the Sargeant area with three sisters and two brothers. Gloria attended country school and graduated from Hayfield High School.

She held jobs in both Rochester and Austin, where she worked for Hormel Foods Corporation. While working at Hormel, she enjoyed going dancing on Friday and Saturday nights with her girlfriends. At one of those dances, Gloria met her future husband, Stanley Jacobson, who had recently been discharged from the Army.

On April 7, 1946, Gloria and Stanley were united in marriage at Evanger Lutheran Church, where she was also baptized and confirmed. The couple made their home in Austin, and then moved to Blooming Prairie for 11 years before moving back to Austin. They had been members of St. Olaf Lutheran Church since 1958. Gloria loved being a wife and mother to their four children.

She maintained an organized weekly schedule, with a laundry day, ironing day, cleaning day, and everyone’s favorite – her baking day. Some of the grandkids even called her “Cookie Grandma.” She seemed to know everyone’s favorite thing to eat, so all of her family would get spoiled at times. The Jacobsons had a large garden and Gloria did a lot of canning and freezing of their crops. Her canned peach sauce was high on many peoples’ list of favorites. Each summer, the Jacobson family would head up north with their boat for a week of fishing. After they sold the boat, Gloria and Stanley would still go fishing at local lakes, sitting on lawn chairs at the water’s edge. They tried to get to as many lutefisk dinners as possible each fall. One year they attended six. Of course, each one was the best.

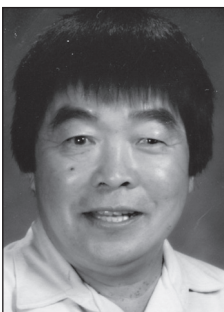
During their later years together, the couple would have their Friday afternoon date. They packed a few snacks and two bottles of water and went off for a ride. They drove around on country roads checking things out, ending up back in Austin just time to go out to eat and still be home before dark. After Stanley passed away, Gloria lived at the Courtyard Apartments and made many friends there. In later years, she spent many good times with her lifelong friend, Leslie Jensen. Gloria will be dearly missed by her friends and family.

Survivors include her children Gary (Paulette) Jacobson of Austin, Susanne (Donald) Lerum, also of Austin, Carol (DeWayne) Lorenze of Dakota City, Neb., and Steven (Kathy) Jacobson of Tower, Minn.; 9 grandchildren Karrie (Gary) Maier, Stacy (Dan) Stork, Casey Vietor, Shelby (Travis) Gilster, Corey Lerum, Jessica Jacobson, Katie (Al) Backlund, Kjell (Emily) Jacobson, and Kelsey Jacobson; 17 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren; former daughter-in-law and dear friend, Pam Brandeland Jacobson; sister Alice Williams, brothers Jacob and Milward (Donna) Simonson; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Gloria was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Stanley, sisters Esther Wiese and Ruby Klingfus, brothers-in-law Arnold Wiese, Donald Williams, LaVern Klingfus, Lawrence Jacobson, Chester Jacobson; sisters-in-law Lavonne Simonson, Agnes Jacobson, and Myrtle Jacobson.

Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Funeral Home of Austin. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

George Tashima, 80, Blooming Prairie



George Tashima, 80, of Blooming Prairie, passed away on Monday, Sept. 11, 2017 at Mayo Clinic Hospital Rochester, Saint Mary’s Campus.

A memorial mass was held Saturday, Sept. 16, 2017 at St. Columbanus Catholic Church in Blooming Prairie with Father Thomas Niehaus officiating. Burial followed in the St. Columbanus Catholic Cemetery.

He was born on March 13, 1937 in Holualoa-Kona, Hawaii, the son of Miyuki and Takie Tashima. George came to begin his Blooming Prairie teaching career in 1962 after graduating from Winona State University. He taught both math and science at BPHS, although he will be remembered most for the years of math. He also coached BPHS wrestling for 16 years, and continued to help out at the scorer’s table after he stepped away from coaching.

George married Peggy on Dec. 17, 1982 in Blooming Prairie. They were blessed with two boys, Gary and Sam, and George enjoyed watching them grow up and share in their successes at school.

Through the years, some of his favorite times were spent outdoors, whether that be in his bountiful garden, early morning rounds of golf, or Saturday morning hunt-

ing in the fall. He also enjoyed poker night with the long-time group that met Wednesday nights.

George is survived by his wife Peggy Tashima, sons Gary Tashima of Houston, Texas, and Sam (Erin) Tashima of Detroit, Mich., step-children Beth Lane of Weatherford, Texas, and Matt (Sarah) Fandre of Lenexa, Kan.; 1 granddaughter Margaret Katherine Emiko Tashima; 6 step-grandchildren Andrew, Sarah Beth, and Rachel Lane, and Lauren, Alexandra, and Nicholas Fandre; sisters Midori Katano of St. Paul, and Minnie (Don) Allison of Fullerton, Calif., and brothers Minoru (Karen) Tashima of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, and James (Nancy) Tashima of Captain Cook, Hawaii; sister-in-law Bernice Tashima of Pearl City, Hawaii, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Miyuki and Takie Tashima, brother Sadaharu Tashima, and brother-in-law Gary Katano.

The family wishes to extend deepest appreciation and gratitude to the care teams of Mary Brigh 5F and 5G at St. Mary’s Hospital for the tremendous love and support shared with George and his family during his illness.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Harriet Ressler Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 64, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 or a memorial of your choice. Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Terry G. Wiese, 74, Owatonna



It is with great sadness the family of Terry Gene Wiese announces his passing after a brief illness on Monday, Sept. 11, 2017, at the age of 74. Terry was surrounded by his loving family in his home in Owatonna.

Terry was born April 6, 1943 in Osage, Iowa to Walter and Bernice Wiese. More opportunities presented itself, and the Wieses made their way to Austin, Minnesota where Terry thrived at and developed a passion for sports. He graduated from Austin Pacelli High School in 1961 and then Austin Area Vocational School in 1963. It was during this time he met a vivacious brunette from Lansing, Barbara Jean Thompson. They would be married in 1963 in Austin, and she would become his foundation for a life journey that would provide him with a beautiful family, home, successful career and a wide circle of friends that would love him. The young couple moved to Owatonna for Terry to become a Supervisor at Owatonna Tool Company. A successful career and loving home provided a place for their children Kim, Gary and Marc to thrive in. Professionally, Terry transitioned into sales where he spent the remainder of his career until he retired in 2006. Even in retirement, he welcomed the chance to work with his son, Gary, and became President of Southern Minnesota Oil Services.

He was an active Dad and didn’t miss Kim, Gary and Marc’s activities and sporting events. He coached youth sports where many other friends of the Wiese kids got to enjoy Terry. Always active, Terry was a member of the Owatonna Elks, Eagles, VFW Club, Minnesota Sheriff’s Association and Owatonna Blue Line Club. Terry had a

love for the Steele County Free Fair where he served as Evaluation Superintendent for several years.

Terry tried to winter in Florida, but his love and commitment to his grandchildren proved to be too strong. He skipped the beach and instead endured the chilly Minnesota weather to watch football, hockey, basketball, volleyball, softball and lacrosse games. Friends always welcomed the chance to play cards with Big “T.” He was a killer 31 player, and his laugh during get-togethers lit up the room. There wasn’t anything Terry could not or would not cook on the grill. Friends loved that no matter what he was grilling, there would always be a hot dog or two on the grill. After many years in sales and extensive traveling, Terry had a passion for cars. He loved his Corvette and relished any chance he could get to drive it including an extensive trip on Route 66. Terry lived his life for his family and friends, and he will always remain with us.

Terry will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 53 years, Barbara; his mother Bernice; his three children Kim Krause (Larry) of Waseca, Gary Wiese (Sheila) of Owatonna and Marc Wiese (Sara) of Owatonna; grandchildren Courtney Rosenau, Katie Rosenau (T.J. White), Mitch Wiese, Zach Wiese, Justin Krause, Hailey Krause; great-grandchildren Mason and Sadie; his sister, Julie (Pat) O’Brien of Waseca. Terry was preceded in death by his father, Walter Wiese and his sister June Nierengarten.

A Visitation was held Sunday, Sept. 17, 2017 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Michaelson Funeral Home, Owatonna and one hour prior to the service at church. Services were Monday, Sept. 18, 2017 at 11 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna. Memorials are preferred to Owatonna Quarterback Club or Owatonna Blue Line Club.

SEMCAC senior menu

Sept. 19 Roast Pork Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Harvard Beets Cinnamon Applesauce Cook’s Choice Pudding	Orange Glazed Carrots Batter Bun Flavored Ice Cream	Sept. 28 Porcupine Meat Balls Buttered Mashed Potato Italian Breen Beans Fresh Fruit
Sept. 20 Onion Smothrld Steak Alt: Liver/Onions Fresh Boiled Potatoes Broccoli Fresh Oranges	Sept. 26 Spaghetti/Meat Sauce Mixed Green Salad Pineapple Slices French Bread Hawaiian Cake	Sept. 29 Baked Chicken Mashed Potatoes Seasoned Peas/Celery Mixed Fruit Cup
Sept. 21 Chicken Chow Mein Rice Parslied Carrots Fruited Coleslaw Pumpkin Raisin Bar	Sept. 27 Pork Loin Medley Asparagus Dinner Roll Strawberry Shortcake	Oct. 2 Chicken ala King Over Biscuit Peas & Carrots Citrus Fruit Cup Pudding
Sept. 22 Hamburger on Bun w/ Fixings Potato Salad Calico Beans Melon Wedge Cookie		
Sept. 25 Tilapia with Piccata Sauce Alt: Sliced Turkey Baked Potato		

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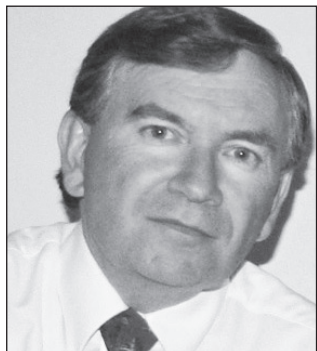
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“Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” Matthew 18:21 NASB

Peter thought that he was being very generous with his offer to forgive his brother seven times. He had listened to Jesus and He had heard Jesus talk about

forgiving others. So, he thought that he should go beyond the normal range of forgiveness. Forgiveness, though, is never easy. Especially on important things. If someone trashes your name or does something that really hurts you it is very difficult to forgive them and allow them another chance at hurting us.

In fact, in some instances it is not even safe. And it is not even right to forgive someone for hurting someone else. If someone abuses your child, your responsibility is to protect your child not just say, “Never mind, I forgive you. “

Forgiveness is never easy

But when someone hurts you and truly is sorry, Jesus teaches that we should forgive. He urges us to forgive for two reasons. First, if we do not forgive, then we will carry the hurt and anger around with us. That is destructive to our health and our mental well-being. So, for your own sake, forgive. Forgive in your heart before they even repent and ask for it. Forgive, so that you can move on and not get stuck in the bad things of the past.

Second, forgive so that the one who hurt you can grow. Forgiveness releases them from the past and

gives them incentive to change. Of course, that is only true if the offender is willing to take responsibility for what they have done and seeks to make amends. If they blame someone other than themselves for the offense, then while you may forgive them so that you walk free, you may have to also cut the tie to them to keep from being a repeat victim in the future.

Forgiveness is a very powerful change agent. But usually only when we take responsibility for our actions. God’s forgiveness, we are told, comes when we confess our sins. (See I

John 1:9.)

And confession is more than just admitting that we did something wrong. It is admitting that there is a flaw in our character that drove us to do that wrong. A flaw, that unchanged, would cause the same result in the future. Confession of sin means recognizing that there is something very wrong with us. Our hearts do not naturally turn in the right way. We are sinners by nature and by habit. We do not deserve forgiveness.

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(507) 676-5696

Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sunday

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Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696

Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday

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Jeff Sandgren, Interim Pastor
Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor (507) 583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com

Worship: Sundays 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Education Hour: Sunday 9:30 a.m.

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Services: 9 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m.

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Minister Dwight DoBell
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Service: 8:30 a.m. Sunday

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30456 Mower-Freeborn Road, Austin
Pastor Lindsay Stolen
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www.roglutheran.org

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www.redeemrowatonna.org

Service: 9 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

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4532 S.E. 84th Ave., Claremont
The Rev. Alan Broadwell
(507) 528-2404

sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net

Weekly Church Services:

Saturday Evening at 7 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.

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Pastor Collin Duling
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Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

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Education hour: 10 a.m.

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Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 AM

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MOONSHINE:
from page 1A

When Steele County sheriff’s deputies went to investigate the pooling of water on the road during a late winter evening, they stumbled onto a large distillery cranking out what Granny Clampett did on the Beverly Hillbillies—moonshine, and lots of it.

The operator of the moonshine still, Shane Lee Frisk, 49, was charged with felony manufacture and sell wholesale without a license. Frisk appeared in Steele County District Court last week where he entered into a diversion program. If he successfully completes diversion, the charge would be wiped away.

Asked about the legitimacy of the operation, Sgt. Gary Okins of the sheriff’s office said, “Spectacular. Just like out of the Beverly Hillbillies.”

The case started on March 17, 2016 when deputies responded to the 8900 block of 13th Street SW by Meriden. When they arrived, they saw a large area of water flowing across the road. Realizing that the weather was turning to freezing, a sergeant became concerned because the area would soon become a road hazard if the water froze.

As deputies pulled into the

driveway of the residence, they found a black flexible sump pump-type hose leading from the east side of the house down the driveway and ended just before the street. The sergeant noted in his report that the hose “had water exiting it nonstop.”

Deputies saw a blue and white pole building located next to the residence with a black garden hose leading from the barn to the black sump pump hose.

When deputies made contact at the house, Frisk’s wife went to the pole barn and knocked on the side garage door calling for her husband to come out. A short time later Frisk opened the side garage door at which time deputies saw an “obvious alcohol still” 10 feet behind him, court records said. The still was silver and appeared to be about 45 gallons in size with a cone-shaped top.

During the investigation, deputies saw a pipe exiting the top and draining into a clear glass gallon-size container that was approximately half full. Frisk told deputies that he had just started cooking that day, the complaint said. Officers ordered Frisk to shut off the heat source and make it safe. Frisk went

back inside and shut the door.

After Frisk came back out of the shed three minutes later, he notified officers he wanted an attorney. Deputies then drafted a search warrant and executed it on the pole barn and attached building.

Upon searching the building, numerous items of manufacture and storage of distilled alcohol were seized. A large tin boiler with a conical top and 100-gallon barrel six feet tall was found in the building. On top of the

boiler, a 90-degree stainless steel elbow tapered into copper piping. Deputies detected a sweet odor of fermented gas.

In an interview with investigators, Frisk claimed the alcohol was just for his own personal use. Frisk said his fermenting process is sugar, water and yeast. He said it takes a week to ferment.

A deputy asked Frisk, “If the boiler heats up, which causes steam, you then cool the steam by condensing it which turns

into liquid, and that liquid drips into the bottle?” Frisk responded, “Yes.”

A deputy located a white, clear, flint bottle next to a pallet of materials. The bottle was warm to the touch and was still wet inside. When the deputy opened one jar, it smelled like

“strong alcohol,” court records said.

Though Frisk will make an attempt at the diversion program, manufacturing alcohol without a license is typically punishable by five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.



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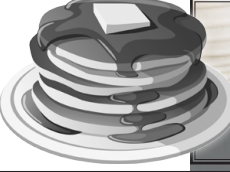
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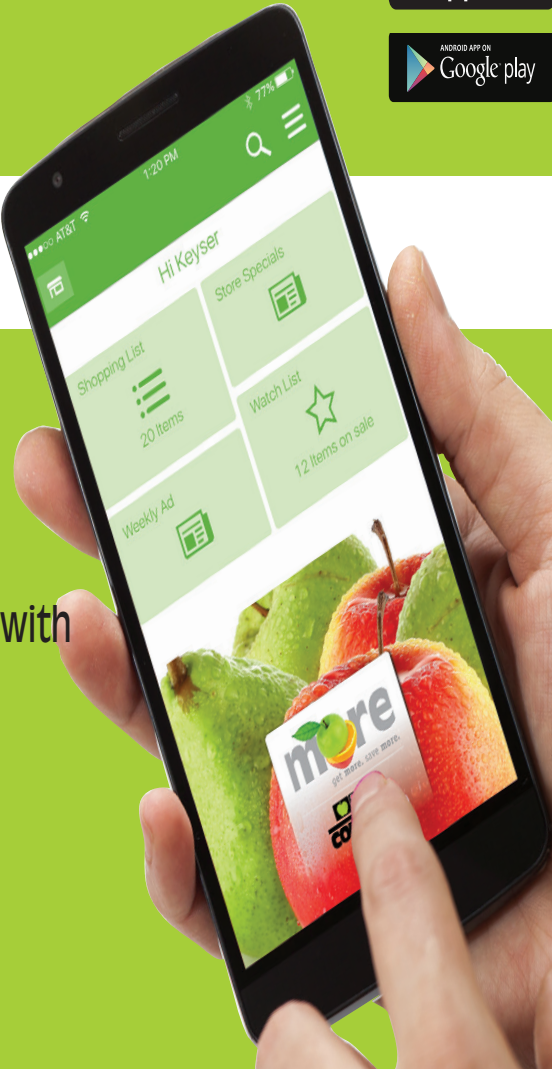


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OUTSIDE



THE LINES

LeMar Nelson

Another strong week

It was another good week for the Blossoms, as the teams neared the halfway point of the season. The football team dominated Wabasha-Kellogg away from home, the volleyball team won two of three matches, and the cross-country teams both won in a home meet last Tuesday.

Although the coaches thought that the team lost a little focus in the second half and allowed the home team too much offense, they also noted that the Blossoms played a very good first half and really dominated the Falcons. That sets up a big game next week against another tough opponent, when Winona Cotter comes to McFarlin Field. It should be another good contest.

The volleyball team accomplished one task last week, when they won a game against Bethlehem Academy. Although they lost the match 3 games to one, the team earned their first game victory in several years against the perennial state tournament competitors. The Blossoms had won two straight matches earlier in the week over Randolph and Lyle-Pacelli.

The team is playing well during this stretch, and the girls are doing it without injured starter Micalyn Trihus. She is just a freshman, but was one of the leaders at the net in pounding kills and blocking kill attempts from opponents. The team has a couple of tough matches on their schedule again this week, when they have to travel to both Medford and Maple River for conference matches. Good luck to them.

Finally, the cross country teams both enjoyed success, as they captured a home meet. Alec Ille continues to impress area runners with his excellent times and top five finishes. The girls are also showing a little depth, with 9th grader Bobbie Bruns leading the pack with some good times overall. The teams next run this weekend at the annual mega meet at Staples.

PERSONALITIES

Several items concerning local personalities have come to my attention just in the last few days. The Austin Herald newspaper had a profile on BPHS senior volleyball star McKenna Hein a week ago, and Herald reporter Rocky Hulst brought out some interesting facts about Hein. It was a good read for blossom sports fans.

I don't think I am giving too much away to tell readers that BPHS JV volleyball coach and local community volunteer Jennifer Wayne will receive Live United award from the BP Area United way organization. Besides her coaching duties for the volleyball team, Wayne is

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Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Top: Junior running back Jason Williamson (22) throws a stiffarm on a defender during the second half of Owatonna's 70-36 win over Austin Friday at Art Hass Field. Williamson recorded seven total touchdowns, five of which came on the ground in the win.

OHS running back Jason Williamson records 7 total touchdowns in 70-36 win

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

AUSTIN – It wasn't the prettiest game, but in the end the Owatonna High School football team was able to leave Art Hass Field with a win.

Racing out to an early 18-0 lead, the No.2 ranked Huskies (3-0) managed to have just enough breathing room from an explosive Packers offense before rolling to a 70-36 lopsided win Friday night in a Big Southeast crossover game. Despite the score, Head Coach Jeff Williams noted that there is a lot to shore up.

"Championships aren't won in Week 3 as we found out a year ago," he added. "We're just going to continue to work on the process on trying to get better and trying to improve." It was an inauspicious start for Owatonna as Alex Raichle would cough off the ball on the first punt return opportunity of the game to give Austin great field position to strike first. Luckily, the Huskies' defense was able to sack Austin quarterback Tate Hebrink on fourth

down to alleviate the early mistake.

On the ensuing drive, Owatonna's offense started to get into its usual rhythm, marching 73 yards in seven plays. The drive was capped by a 14-yard touchdown run by junior running back Jason Williamson. It was another elite performance from the state's No.4 rated recruit for the 2019 class. In seven first half scores, Williamson accounted for five of them. Even more impressive from the standout was that it was a well-balanced assault from the junior. Of his five scores in the opening half, two came on the ground as well as a pair of receiving scores. Williamson also recorded an 89-yard kickoff return for a touchdown late in the second quarter. Coach Williams noted that it's not easy to be able to turn and hand the ball to his star running back, but is fortunate to have the talent on the roster.

"It's not easy," he said. "We have athletes and it masks a lot of mistakes." In the early goings of the contest, the Packers offense – while managing to chew up some yards –

simply was unable to get into the end zone. Meanwhile, the Huskies offense continued to roll. They even had a few tricks up their sleeves. On a second down early in the second quarter, the Huskies offense came out in a four receiver set into the boundary. Senior quarterback Abe Havelka then motioned Alex Raichle out wide to the left. Seeing that Raichle had man coverage, the senior signal caller hit the speedy senior on a quick slant for a quick 44-yard strike. Raichle would also haul in a 60-yard touchdown pass late in the half.

With its back against the wall, Austin knew that they needed to strike fast if they wanted to stay in the contest. Not only did they strike, but struck fast and often.

On their remaining four possessions of the half, the Packers scored a touchdown on each of those possessions to cut the lead to 32-27. While the first two drives were somewhat methodical, the final two drives displayed an explosive offense that has carried the Packers to a 2-0 start prior to Friday night. Running back Joe Seeman took a handoff off the left

side for 45-yards. On the Huskies' ensuing kickoff following Raichle's second score of the game, Gavin Owens raced 75 yards to cut it to a one possession game.

Enter Williamson. Marching 61 yards in 11 plays, the Huskies were able to strike as time expired on Williamson's second receiving touchdown of the game from one yard out. Coach Williams noted that there was a simple factor that stopped the Huskies from going two-straight weeks without finishing a drive at the half.

"We finished," he added. In the second half, the Huskies defense started to settle in. After allowing a touchdown on the Packers' opening possession of the half and a 52-yard drive that finished at the OHS 13-yard line, the Owatonna defense allowed a total of three yards for the remainder of the half. Williams noted that at the half, they told the players to settle back into the zone.

"Defensively, be disciplined and do your job," he added. "I thought we played better in the second half, but we had a lot of mistakes." As for the Huskies, outside from a safety on their third possession of

the half, they scored on all but two possessions. Of the four touchdowns, Williamson recorded two of them, one being a 51-yard scamper. The junior finished the contest with 205 yards rushing on 28 carries and four rushing touchdowns. As a receiver, he would record three catches for 70 yards. He would also record an interception.

Ethan Walter would score the Huskies final touchdown of the contest from 43-yards out to give the Huskies the commanding 70-36 lead. After an early miss on a PAT attempt, Williams opted to go for two the rest of the way. In fact, they attempted nine two-point conversions.

Owatonna will travel to Rochester John Marshall on Friday.

Team stats

Passing: O 248, A 247
Rushing: O 300, A 114
Turnovers: O 2, A 2

Huskies stats leaders

Passing - Havelka: 12-19, 223, 4 TD's, INT
Rushing - Williamson: 28 carries, 210 yards, 7 total TD's (5 rush)



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Cardinals blank Tigers 32-0



Photo courtesy of Skye's the Limit Photography

Top: Willie VonRuden runs upfield during the first half of the Tigers' 32-0 loss to Bethlehem Academy Friday in Faribault. Medford recorded 205 yards of total offense. Bottom left: Quarterback Jarvis VonRuden looks to hand the ball off. Bottom right: Jerome Chavis makes a tackle on a Cardinals' wide receiver.

Medford allows 19 fourth quarter points in loss

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

FARIBAULT -- For the second-straight game, the Medford High School football was on the cusp of a win late into the game as they only trailed Bethlehem Academy 13-0 after three quarters.

However, the Cardinals offense simply caught fire.

Scoring 19 points in the fourth quarter, Bethlehem Academy rolled to a 32-0 shutout win over the Tigers Friday.

"Their defense was awfully

good," commented Head Coach Jerome Johannes. "We really couldn't get anything going offensively."

After managing to rack up nearly 350 yards of total offense in the one-point loss to Kenyon-Wanamingo just a week prior, the Tigers offense ran into a formidable defensive unit for the Cardinals. Normally a balanced attack, Medford managed to record just 62 rushing yards on the ground. In fact, the Tigers' longest run of the night was for eight yards. Johannes noted that it all started up front.

"The story was their defensive

line," he added. "We couldn't get anything really going in the run game, especially up the middle."

Johannes noted they were able to find early success on their jet sweeps, managing to grind out tough yards, but when the Cardinals made an in game adjustment, it virtually turned the offense into a one-dimensional attack.

"They started to bring their linebackers in to stop it," he said.

Senior quarterback Jarvis VonRuden shouldered a lot of the offensive woes as the team relied

on his arm for 21 attempts to try and generate any momentum. Despite completing 15-of-21 for 101 yards, VonRuden was intercepted three times on the night. Aside from Willie VonRuden's 41-yard pass to Nate Meixner, the longest completed traveled just 15 yards.

Willie continues to be the spark plug for the Tigers offense this season. Seeing his second-straight game with a passing attempt, the sophomore was also the leading rusher for Medford, recording 34 yards on nine carries. Meixner was second with 16 yards on four attempts.

After registering six sacks against the Knights, the Tigers defensive front was stymied, failing to bring down the quarterback behind the line once Friday night. Bo Noble had another stellar performance for the Tigers with a team-high, 12 tackles in the loss. Juan Gamez 11 stops made him only the second Tigers' defender with double-digits stops.

The Tigers will have to rebound quick as the No.5 team in Class A, Mayer Lutheran will come to town Friday night for the start of District play. Johannes noted that after the game, he told his team that they need to quickly forget about this one.

"We have to let this game go," he added. "They're always going to be more excited to play at home. So I think just being at home, not having to travel, in front of our home fans it's just going to be more exciting in itself. They love playing on our field and having a good team coming in, I know they want to be able to show their fans the best they can give."

Kickoff Friday is set for 7 P.M.





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Gophers' Huff honored



Photo courtesy of University of Minnesota Athletic Department

University of Minnesota junior safety Jacob Huff celebrates after his 67-yard interception return for a touchdown.

University of Minnesota safety Jacob Huff was named Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week Monday.

Huff played a critical role in Minnesota's 34-3 win against Middle Tennessee on Saturday, as the Gophers improved to 3-0 on the season. The junior totaled four tackles (all solo), one tackle for loss, one pass breakup and he also returned an interception 67 yards for a touchdown.

Huff's second interception of the year – and of his career

– clearly put the game in Minnesota's favor. His first collegiate touchdown came with 1:56 left in the first half and put the Gophers up 20-3. It was Minnesota's first defensive score of the season and first since Antoine Winfield Jr. returned an interception 82 yards for a score at Maryland last season.

Huff and the Gophers allowed only three points to the Blue Raiders on Saturday. The three points were the fewest that Minnesota has ever allowed at TCF



Bank Stadium and were the fewest for any opponent since Minnesota won 17-3 at Illinois in 2012. Minnesota has given up just 24 points this year and has not allowed a point in the second half through three games.

Huff is Minnesota's first Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week since Nov. 21, 2016, when Blake Cashman was honored.

The Gophers return to action when they open Big Ten play against Maryland on Sept. 30.

NRHEG picks up first win

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Despite losing another starter through injury, NRHEG won its first football game of the season Friday, Sept. 15 by edging Norwood-Young America on the road 14-12. It came thanks

to a huge night for Panther Perry Peterson who lugged the ball 32 times in the contest for over 200 yards.

NRHEG opened the scoring in the first quarter on a 10-yard burst by Peterson after a drive that began in their own territory. The kick for the extra point failed. A Cade Zellman pass to

Andrew Heuer tied the score in the second quarter, but the kick for the extra point went wide, and the half ended in the 12-12 tie.

Norwood-Young America took the lead in the third quarter on a Tim Wolf run of 10 yards, but this time the extra-point kick was blocked. NRHEG

waited until the final period to strike again, this time on a 1-yard run by Peterson. With the score tied, a crucial grab on a pass from Peterson to Brady Agrimson scored the two-point conversion and gave the Panthers the huge victory.

Blossoms roll to 3-0 start

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

WABASHA -- Putting local fans at ease early, the Awesome Blossom football team took a huge halftime lead and finished the night with a 40-14 victory over Wabasha-Kellogg at Wabasha Friday, Sept. 15. The offense functioned comfortably, but a lot of credit for BP's third win of the season goes to the offensive and defensive lines that played with high efficiency.

"Our two lines were as good as we've been," remarked Coach Chad Gimbel, "but I would like to see us finish better. We lost focus in the second half and allowed WK to move the ball and

count two touchdowns. Our first half effort was good, and we did stay focused."

Max Romeo opened the scoring for the Blossoms with a short burst of 2 yards and a good kick for the extra point. Romeo added a second touchdown on a 23-yard pass from quarterback Seth Peterson. Peterson missed only four pass attempts and had no interceptions in the game.

Sophomore Matthew Pryor ran for a yard and a Blossom 23-0 lead after a good conversion kick. With just 1:51 remaining in the half and pinned deep in their own territory, the Blossoms went into their two-minute deployment. Peterson mixed runs and short passes to

drive the ball down the field and finally found Gabe Hagen for one big play of 27 yards and the 27-0 lead.

The last advice that Coach Gimbel gave the players at Thursday practice", commented Assistant Coach Nate Pillar, "was to really focus on cleaning up assignments and eliminating penalties and negative plays That worked for the most part in the first half, although a pass interference allowed a Falcon drive to continue, and a couple of other penalties in the second half hurt.

Before they lost their focus in the second half, BP watched Romeo dash into the end zone from 43 yards out in the third quarter,

before Trevor Timm passed for one touchdown to Jaymin Jensen. In the fourth quarter Kaden Thomas ran a keeper for a touchdown and 40-7 margin, and then KW ended the scoring on a 46-yard ramble by Jamie Hewitt.

Blooming Prairie 13 14 6 7 40
Wabasha-Kellogg 0 0 7 7 14

Stats

BP Rushing- Romeo 6 for 51 yards, Pryor 9 for 33, Alex Baldwin 2 for 71

BP Passing- Peterson 17 of 21 for 193 yards. Receiving- Hagen 5 for 56 yards, Payton Simon 5 for 72.

Blossoms move to 3-0 on the year

LINES: from page 1B

involved in several community projects, and she is a well-deserving recipient of that honor.

Homecoming candidates for the annual honors have been chosen at the local high school. Linnea-Byers Sunde, McKenna Hein, Emma Christianson, Ayren Ingvalson, and Rachel Pirkil will vie for the Queen's title; while Lucas Noble, Ethan Arett, Mitchell Oswald, Jake Ressler, and Max Romeo are up

for King. Homecoming is set for Oct. 6, with the coronation program scheduled for Monday, Oct. 2. It is coming up fast.

The American Legion and VFW auxiliary membership is hosting a supper next Thursday evening, with a fried chicken meal to be served at 6:30 p.m. Call the club for reservations.

Then on Sunday, Sept. 24, the Servicemen's Club is having a breakfast buffet fundraiser and

silent auction from 9 a.m. to noon. A free will donation will be accepted, with the profits designated for the Veterans' Memorial.

POSTSCRIPT

As I write this, the Twins are still in the thick of fighting for a playoff berth, and the Minnesota Lynx have captured another semifinal win, and are eagerly

awaiting another showdown with the L. A. Sparks in the finals, starting next weekend. It will be the third year in a row that the two teams have played for the WNBA title, and the two teams have each won one championship. It should be a good battle. Enjoy the turning leaves of autumn, the cooling temperatures, and go Blossoms.

Prep Preview



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna defensive end Kade Serbus.

Mid Southwest-East

	Div.	Overall
Blooming Prairie	3-0-0	3-0-0
Rushford-Peterson	3-0-0	3-0-0
Goodhue	2-0-0	3-0-0
Winona-Cotter	1-1-0	1-1-0
Fillmore Central	1-2-0	1-2-0
Southland	0-2-0	1-2-0
Wabasha-Kellogg	0-2-0	1-2-0
Kingsland	0-2-0	0-3-0
Hayfield	0-3-0	0-3-0

Mid Southwest-West

	Div.	Overall
Mayer Lutheran	3-0-0	3-0-0
Kenyon-Wanamingo	2-0-0	2-1-0
Bethlehem Academy	2-1-0	2-0-0
Lester Prairie/ Holy Trinity	2-1-0	2-1-0
United South Central	2-1-0	2-1-0
St. Clair	1-1-0	2-1-0
Medford	0-2-0	0-3-0
J-W-P	0-3-0	0-3-0
Minnesota Valley Lutheran	0-3-0	0-3-0

South Central-Blue

	Div.	Overall
Sibley East	2-0-0	3-0-0
W-E-M	2-0-0	2-1-0
LeSueur-Henderson	1-1-0	2-1-0
Maple River	1-1-0	2-1-0
Norwood Young America	1-1-0	1-1-0
NRHEG	1-1-0	1-2-0
Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop	0-2-0	0-3-0
Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial	0-2-0	0-3-0

Big Southeast-Red

	Div.	Overall
Northfield	1-0-0	3-0-0
Owatonna	1-0-0	3-0-0
Rochester Century	1-0-0	2-1-0
New Prague	0-1-0	1-1-0
Rochester John Marshall	0-1-0	0-3-0
Rochester Mayo	0-1-0	0-3-0

Football State Rankings

Class 1A

1. BOLD
2. Wabasso
3. Goodhue
4. Minneota
5. Mayer Lutheran

*Receiving votes:
Dawson-Boyd,
Ada-Borup/NCW

Class 2A

1. Caledonia
2. Barnesville
3. Minneapolis North
4. Pillager
5. Hawley

*Receiving votes:
Triton, Pipestone
Area

Class 5A

1. Owatonna
2. Elk River
3. Mankato West
4. Robbinsdale
5. Apple Valley

*Receiving votes:
Alexandria,
Chanhassen

*Source: Northstarfootball.com

Steele County Football Schedule

Blooming Prairie

Sept. 1... at Southland W 37-14
Sept. 9... vs. Fillmore Central W 18-12
Sept. 15... at Wabasha-Kellogg W 40-14
Sept. 22... vs. Winona-Cotter
Sept. 29... at Goodhue
Oct. 6... vs. Hayfield
Oct. 18... at Rushford-Peterson

Medford

Sept. 2... at Winona-Cotter L 31-22
Sept. 8... vs. Kenyon Wanamingo L 27-26
Sept. 15... vs. Bethlehem Academy L 0-32
Sept. 22... vs. Mayer Lutheran
Sept. 29... vs. Lester Prairie/ Holy Trinity
Oct. 6... at St. Clair
Oct. 13... vs. Minn. Valley Lutheran
Oct. 18... vs. United South Central

NRHEG

Sept. 1... at Pipestone Area L 14-7
Sept. 8... vs. Sibley East L 28-13
Sept. 15... vs. Norwood Young America W 14-12
Sept. 22... vs. G-F-W
Sept. 29... at WEM
Oct. 6... vs. Maple River
Oct. 13... at LeSueur-Henderson
Oct. 18... vs. Lake Crystal-WM

Owatonna

Sept. 1... vs. Faribault W 61-0
Sept. 8... vs. Rochester Mayo W 46-7
Sept. 15... at Austin W 70-36
Sept. 22... at Rochester JM
Sept. 29... vs. Mankato East
Oct. 6... Rochester Century
Oct. 13... at Northfield
Oct. 18... at New Prague

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Steele County Times 2017 Football Contest

Football Contest Rules

Contest: There will be 30 games each week during the contest, which begins Sept. 9 and runs for 12 weeks.

How to win: Pick the team you think will win each game listed in the below advertisements. Write the team's name in the blank with the corresponding number. Cut out the entry blank and enter to: Steele County Times, P.O. Box 247, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 or drop off at our office at 411 E. Main St. in Blooming Prairie. You may enter in person, mail or by e-mail to bptimes@frontiernet.net. It must be postmarked no later than 5 p.m. Friday. You must enter a score in the Tie-Breaker game or you will be disqualified.

What you win: The Times will award a \$10 gift car to the Kernal Restaurant, in Owatonna to the person correctly predicting the most winners from the games listed. The person with the most correct games throughout the 12 week contest will be awarded a subscription to the Steele County Times (\$38 value) and a Chanhassen Dinner Theatre ticket for two (\$175 value). An additional prize will be awarded if the winner correctly picks the outcome of all 30 games. Ties will be broken by the score of the Tie-Breaker game. All decisions by the judges are final. The contest is open to anyone age 14 and above, excluding staff and family members of Bussler Publishing, Inc. or Dodge Media, Inc.

This week's winner is Mike Grunklee by tiebreaker. 3 readers had 7 wrong.



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29 _____

15 _____

30 _____

*Tie-Breaker Score _____ *

1. Bethlehem Academy at Kenyon-Wanamingo
2. Winona Cotter at Blooming Prairie

3. LCWM at Maple River
4. Mayer Lutheran at Medford

5. G-F-W at NRHEG
6. St. Clair at United South Central



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7. Norwood-Young America at W-E-M
8. Lyle-Pacelli at Grand Meadow

9. Owatonna at Rochester John Marshall
10. St. Charles at Triton

11. UNLV at Ohio State
12. Michigan at Purdue



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Hometown Sports

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

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5B

Mayo hands Huskies first loss of season

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

OWATONNA -- It's been quite a season for the Owatonna High School girls tennis team.

Through 11 matches, the squad led by long-time head coach Curt Matejcek, has yet to receive a loss. Tuesday, the Huskies played host to an all too familiar squad in Rochester Mayo.

Unfortunately, it was also an all too familiar result.

Sweeping the doubles' matches and picking up a pair of wins in singles play, the fourth ranked Spartans handed the Huskies their first loss of the season, 5-2.

"It was a very good effort against a very talented team," Matejcek said afterward.

In doubles play, Mayo's pair of Emily Norman and Ani Bulbulian was too much for Owatonna's No.1 doubles pair of Alissa Weide and Lauren Betti, winning in straight sets 6-0, 6-0. At No. 2 doubles, Owatonna's Liv Matejcek and Caitlyne Bussert managed to steal a pair of games in the first set against Mayo's Katee Johnson and Taylor Hill before falling 6-2. In the second set, Owatonna was able to make it a close contest, recording three games before ultimately falling 6-3. Despite recording four games in each of the two sets, Owatonna was unable to snag a set from Mayo, falling 6-4, 6-4.

In singles play, the Huskies gave Mayo everything they could handle. Attempting to shake off sluggish starts, both Emily Rahrack and Sara Anderson were unable to win a set against their Spartan opponents. Rahrack fell 6-1, 6-2 at No.1 singles to junior Emma Trnie. At No.2 singles, Anderson fell to Amalin Sorajja to the same score, 6-1, 6-2.

The lone bright spot for the Huskies was the play of their No.3 and No. 4 singles players, Macy Voss and Megan Johnson. Both players kept their impressive records in tact after picking up the win Tuesday. Voss, who currently sits at 12-0 on the year, had to go into a decisive third set to record the win. After dropping the first set 2-6 to Mayo's Taylor Julsrud, she rebounded to take the second set 6-2, before a 10-8 decision in the final set. As for Johnson, she also needed a final set to seal a win. Taking the first set over Sutton Julsrud, Johnson dropped the second set in a close 4-6 contest. In the final set, she would down Julsrud 10-7.

On Thursday, the Huskies were able to bounce back from Tuesday's loss, sweeping Red Wing 7-0 in Big Nine Conference action.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna's Sara Anderson returns a serve during Tuesday's home match against Rochester Mayo. Anderson fell in straight sets, as the Huskies suffered their first loss of the season.

High scoring affair



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna's Sophie Amundson (3) dribbles the ball during the second half of the Huskies' 11-1 win Tuesday at the Owatonna Soccer Complex. Amundson recorded the hat trick in the win.

Huskies score 10 unanswered goals in rout

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

OWATONNA – After a two-game road trip, the Owatonna girls soccer team was back at home against the Winona Winhawks.

There's a saying that goes something like there's nothing sweeter than home sweet home.

The Huskies proved that Tuesday night.

Scoring 10 unanswered goals, three of which coming from Sophie Amundson, Owatonna steamrolled to an 11-1 win over the Winhawks at

the Owatonna Soccer Complex in Big Nine Conference action.

"It was definitely the best we've passed the ball," commented head coach Matt Roddy. "Our pass, receive; our movements it was all really good."

Similar to last Thursday's contest against Northfield, the Huskies felt the pressure from the Winhawks offense early. However, it wasn't due to the pressure, but rather sloppy play. After a few bad passes, Owatonna fouled Sophia Moe, bringing a penalty kick attempt. Moe would sail

her attempt over a wall of Owatonna defenders a minute into the contest to give Winona an early 1-0 lead.

From there however, it was all Owatonna.

In the third minute, Grace Wolfe was able to tie the game at 1-1 after making to sneak through a pair of Winhawk defenders. There were two catalysts for the offensive performance for Owatonna. One was the play of Wolfe, who recorded

HUSKIES

Continued on page 6B

Medford rolls in sweep over USC

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

MEDFORD – After dropping a contest to Byron in five sets Tuesday, the Medford High School Volleyball was back at home for a non-conference contest against United South Central.

It didn't take long for the Tigers to prey on the mis-cues of the Rebels.

Utilizing good outside hitting and sound communication, the Tigers raced to a straight-set (25-10, 25-12, 25-11) Thursday night at Medford High School.

"We've been working a lot on switching up our offense," commented head coach Missy Underdahl. "I thought the girls executed very well."

Medford started out the opening set by quickly jumping out to a 5-2 lead thanks to a pair of ace serves. After the Rebels were able to cut the deficit to three, the Tigers offense started to heat up. Generating a run of five

points, Medford built a commanding 10-3 lead. In fact, in the four separate runs generated in the first set, the Tigers allowed back-to-back points just once.

The second set started almost identical to the opening set. The Tigers managed to jump out to a commanding lead early and made the Rebels play catch up. In fact, out of the final set, the Rebels smallest deficit was one point. Underdahl noted it's not as easy as it looks to keep momentum against a team with their backs to the ropes.

"We've tried to work a lot staying focused and keep executing our game plan," she added. "It's easy to lose focus and lose that momentum when you're not as aggressive, so it was fun to watch it tonight."

Other than enjoying watching her squad keep the pedal to the metal, Uunderdahl had to have liked what she was seeing on the offensive end for the Tigers.

TIGERS

Continued on page 6B



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Medford's Rachel Luebbe (10) and Amanda Honsey (15) go up to block a kill attempt from a USC defender.



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Blossom girls fall to Faribault B.A.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

After two good wins earlier in the week, the Awesome Blossom volleyball team ended an active week with a four-game loss to visiting Bethlehem Academy Thursday, Sept. 14. Although a loss, it marked the first time in many seasons that the team had been able to win a game from the perennial state tournament competitor Cardinal contingent.

BP hung with B.A. for most of the first game even leading the Cardinals 10-5 at one point. Three serving errors helped the winners take control and score the last 7 points in a 25-18 win. The Cardinals had an easier time in a game two 25-16 victory, but the Blossoms dug deep and outlasted B. A. 28-26 in the overtime third game.

Rachel Oswald helped the cause with six serving points, and McKenna Hein and Sam Wurst both had big blocks in the game. The team ran out of gas in game four and dropped

to the Cardinals 25-11.

Ayren Ingvalson led the team in digs with 20 and added 7 kills. McKenna Hein had 6 kills and 14 digs, Wurst had 8 kills, and Julia Worke added 4 kills and 7 digs. Heather PirkI had 23 assists, and Linnea-Byers Sunde helped out with 18 digs.

BP wins in four sets

After dropping the first game, BP took control and defeated Lyle-Pacelli in four games at Lyle Tuesday, Sept. 12. The Athletics won game one in overtime 27-25, but the visitors dug down and took the next three games and the match.

Setter PirkI served 10 points in the second game 25-15 win, and she added six more points in the game three victory. BP had to survive another overtime game to close out the match 26-24. Worke served the winner in the overtime, the last of four-straight points. PirkI had served seven-straight points to give the locals a 17-16 lead, but LP

tied the score at 24, with 7 of the next 8 points.

“This was another exciting match,” commented Coach Ranell Kittelson. “We couldn’t quite finish in the first game loss, but the girls were able to find focus and keep the momentum up in the last three games.”

Hein led the team with 13 kills, but Wurst had six kills and four blocks. Oswald had eight kills and four blocks, and Julia Worke and Ayren ingvalson both added five kills. PirkI finished with 32 assists, and Linnea Sunde scrambled for 16 digs, Ingvalson contributed 11 digs, and Worke added nine digs and three ace serves.

BP outlasts Randolph

In a closely contested match on Monday, Sept.11, the visiting Awesome Blossom volleyball team outlasted Randolph to win in five games. The locals won games two, four, and five to pull out the hard-earned victory.

The Rockets took game one in overtime 29-27, but BP rebounded to win the second game 25-16. Randolph regained an edge with a 25-20 win in game three, but the Blossoms then took control with a 25-15 fourth game win and a 15-8 victory in the deciding fifth game.

“It was an exciting match tonight,” remarked Coach Kittelson. “It is always a competitive match against the Rockets, and tonight was no exception. We struggled a bit with our serving defense on the two games we lost, but we played controlled and aggressive offense on the three games we won. We stepped up and really took charge in the last two games.”

Hein had 10 kills, 10 digs, and two blocks to lead the Blossoms, and Wurst pounded down nine kills and added five blocks. Worke contributed eight kills, 11 digs, and served four aces, and Oswald and Ingvalson had five and four kills respectively. PirkI finished the match with 28 assists.

Blossoms junior high round up

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

The BP 8th grade suffered its first loss of the season at Faribault Thursday, Sept. 24, when Bethlehem academy defeated the blossoms in a four-game set. B.A. won game one 25-8, but the Blossoms came back for a 25-23 second game victory. The Cardinals won the fourth game 25-11. Marquette Millam had 5 points, including 3 aces to lead the visitors.

The 7th grade lost three games to the Cardinals by scores of 11-25, 8-25, and 9-25. BP fought to stay in the games pretty well, but really faltered in the last two games.

8TH GETS TWO WINS

HUSKIES: from page 5B

to rebound from a deficit early. Roddy noted that it was imperative for his squad to answer the early goal.

“That Winona team has some good players on it,” he added. “If would’ve stayed 1-0 for a while and we didn’t answer quickly, their confidence would’ve grown; could’ve been an entirely different game.”

The Huskies’ offensive pressure only continued to ramp up, generating back-to-back shot attempts that sail over the net. In the 8th minute, Amundson tallied the first of her two goals to give Owatonna a slim 2-1 lead. It looked as if the Huskies’ had fresher legs than their opponents, managing to outrun angles and win loose balls. Minutes later, the Winhawks would generate their second and final shot on goal. However, senior keeper Jamie Davidson made a great sliding stop to render any chance of a rebound.

In the 18th minute, Bria Wachowiak scored the first of her two goals on the contest, after a string of seemingly flawless passes. It was a fixture of the Owatonna offense Tuesday night. The communication among Owatonna players was crisp. It was almost like players knew where others were going to be.

“We’ve had sort of a stack schedule early, some really tough teams,” Roddy added. “So it was nice to have a game where we have a little time to develop more of those combinations and work tighter passing.”

In a span of minutes late in the half, Jordan Whalen and Amundson each scored to extend the lead to a commanding 5-1. Owatonna entered the half with a 7-1 lead. Amundson would record the hat trick in the 37th minute while Whalen would score her second goal in the 51st.

chel Harberts. “The team is improving each match, and that is good to see. In game two the girls had 10 passes to target and also had 10 assists.” BP is 3-0 for the young season.

In the Randolph match, the girls fought back from behind in game one, but lost in overtime 24-26. BP took the second game 25-23, and then won the last two games. Larissa Judy had 10 points in game two, and Schneider led the scoring in game 4.

The 7th grade played to a tie against NRHEG, and lost to Randolph a night earlier. The Panther match ended in an absolute tie with even the points earned and allowed dead even. BP won game one 25-22 lost 15-25, lost 22-25, and

won the fourth game 25-15. Sierra Larson, Abby Hefling, and Anna Pauly led the team in serving. “We served much better tonight,” remarked Coach Gina Hendrickson, “And the entire team seemed more into the game. We served 81 percent tonight, compared to just 66 percent against Randolph. At this level, serving is the most important statistic.” The 7th grade is 1-1-1 for the season.

The team struggled serving against the Rockets and lost three of four games. BP won 25-23 in the first game, but then dropped the next three 18-25, 19-25, and 5-25. Heflibg had five ace serves in the match and four other girls contributed 2 aces each.

nah Gerbur would score the final goal in the 78th minute, roughly a minute after having a failed penalty kick.

Owatonna won 1-0 Thursday night after Sydney Kretlow’s lone goal of the contest.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna’s Sydney Kretlow.

16th annual Optimist Youth girls volleyball tournament

The Prairie Lakes Wellness Center and Watertown Optimist Club are sponsoring a girls volleyball tournament for grades 7th, 8th and 9th. The tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 3rd and 4th. The tournament is for school or traveling teams. Teams will either play in pool and bracket play or round robin. Cost is \$175 per team. Deadline is October 24th. To sign up or for more information, contact John Small or Dave Greenman at 605-882-6250 or jsmall@watertownsd.us

STARS OF STEELE

Jason Williamson

This week’s Athlete of the Week goes to Owatonna junior running back Jason Williamson.

In the Huskies 70-36 win, the junior running back accounted for seven total scores in the rout.

He had five rushing touchdowns to go with his 205 yards rushing, a 51-yard recieving touchdown, and a 89-yard kickoff return touchdown. He also had an interception.

Stars of Steele is brought to you courtesy of:

Blossoms host invitational

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

On a fall day that felt more like midsummer, the BP cross-country teams captured the titles in their own invitational meet.

The boys took the 4-team meet over NRHEG, Medford, and Pacelli, while the girls ran past Pacelli, NRHEG, and Medford on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

The mid-80’s temps made the course a tough ne to navigate, but some excellent times were still recorded.

Alec Ille and Cameron Kubista ran one and two in the boys’ meet with times of 17:13 and18: 59. Two NRHEG runners, Ben Lewer and Daniel Nydegger followed, with Pacelli’s Jaydan Lewis claiming fifth. Isaac Ille placed 9th for the locals at 20:54, Jesse Schewe finished 13th in 21:20, and Ethan Grant was just seconds behind Schewe at 21:27. Alex Miller, Adam Larson, Kyle, Bramstedt, Colton Krell, Brian Jiminez, and Dylan Johnson all also ran for the Blossoms.

Lewer’s third place timed a 19:17 for NRHEG, and Nydegger ran fourth in 19:29. Agro Gushwa and Kollin Reese followed in 20; 53 and

21:16, and Gavin Anderson timed a 24:00. As Coach Mike Weber stated, “It was an 80 degree day, which made running conditions difficult. Most of the runners did a nice job of placing ahead of the pack, which really helped us to the team second lace finish.”

For the girls Kayla Christopherson (20:07 and Roxy Bickler (21:23) ran first and second for Pacelli, but BP’s Bobbie Brunns timed a 22:40 for third, and five other local runners placed sixth through tenth to give the Blossoms the team first place. Emily Anderson and Jaclyn Hyland also ran for the Blossoms.

Madisyn Buetel ran first for NRHEG in 24:26 (4th) and Jade Mely timed a 25:33 (5th). Mia Williams rounded out the Panther scoring with a 28:28 time and 13th place. Williams, especially, improved her time from a week ago.

In the junior high course for the boys Hosea Baker, Micah Donnelly, and Eliott Swenson finished third, fourth, and fifth with times of 15:04, 15:11, and 15:15. Samuel Skillestad, Samuel Michaud, Gustaof Ogren, and Lucas Schammel also ran the course for BP

Medford rolls in sweep

TIGERS: from page 5B

Blended with crisp sets, and blazing hitting, it was a true force at the net for Medford tonight. Whether it was on the outside with Amanda Honsey and Emma Kniefel or inside with Rachel Luebbe, Medford was effective from every spot. The trio combined to record 21 of the Tigers’ 27 digs. Kniefel and Luebbe tied for a team-high eight kills.

However, much of Kniefel’s work came in the final set.

Opting to give players who earned the opportunity for some valuable game experience in practice, the Tigers were in the

midst of a possible trap set, holding a slim 12-10 lead.

Enter Kniefel and Luebbe. For the remaining 13 points, the Tigers would only face one serve as both players sparked a devastating 12-point surge. Kniefel recorded a trio of kills while Luebbe added two major blocks and a kill of her own. Underdahl noted that it was important to get the players experience.

“When it something’s like this where we know we have the upper hand on them, I want to get them in so they can show what they’ve been working on.”



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GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS

WEEK 15 - Sept.11

1	Strunk, Farr, Koster	95.5
2	Hinzmann, Wurst, Hueman	88.5
3	Bartsch, Lewer, Kartes	87
4	Behnken, Peterson, Peterson	84
5	Larock, Iacovino, Schwartz	82.5
6	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	76
7	D Glynn, C Glynn, Esplan	75.5
8	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	74.5
9	Moti, Meyer, Lembke	72.5
9	Braaten, PirkI, Ressler	72.5
9	Carlson, Scheifer Jones, Kittleson	72.5
12	Pfiefer, Wanous, Hardecopf	72
13	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	70
14	R.Skala, J.Skala, Theile	69
15	Johnson, Kvaltsen, Bolver	67.5
16	Gruncklee, Evans, Possehl	64.5
17	White, Lysne, Johnson	64
18	Doerhoefer, Olson, Worke	63
19	Lea, Hansen, D.Johnson	58
20	Clark, Blome, Skala	57.5
21	Glynn, Gorman, Malo	55
22	Haberman, Henefield, Nahlovsky	52.5
23	Morgon, Olson, Olson	52
24	Stangle, Stangle, Flemming	51
25	Klemmensen, J. Klemmensen, R. Anderson	50

TOP SCORES

A	Behnken, Peterson, Peterson	31
B	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	32
C	Hinzmann, Wurst, Hueman	35
C	Carlson, Scheiffer Jones, Kittleson	35
D	D. Glynn, C. Glynn, Esplan	35

Survivor: People need to talk about suicide



Staff photo by Lori Wagner

Sikel led a group of 127 motorcycles and 15 cars from Owatonna into Mower, Freeborn and Waseca counties and back again to Owatonna during the annual Jacob's Run.

Annual Jacob's Run raises scholarships for area schools

By **RICK BUSSLER**
Publisher

As motorcycles and cars traveled along the back roads into small towns around the region Saturday, Robert Sikel of Claremont felt a sense of relief knowing that the message of suicide prevention is getting out to other people.

Sikel led a group of 127 motorcycles and 15 cars from Owatonna into Mower, Freeborn and Waseca counties and back again to Owatonna during the annual Jacob's Run. The Open Arms Yellow Ribbon fundraiser is named after his teenage son, Jacob Sikel, who died by suicide at his Dodge County home in 2012.

"Losing a child to suicide is even harder than losing a child," Sikel said. "Our personal story is what drives us more than anything."

The group hit its goal of raising enough funds for 10 scholarships of \$500 each to be awarded to area graduates next spring.

"The main message we want to convey is that it's OK to ask for help," Sikel said. "How to

prevent suicide is to talk about it."

In addition to a yearly run, Open Arms members travel to schools throughout the region talking about suicide prevention. Sikel has presented at 15 schools.

"Public training is the most important tool," he said.

Sikel said people are always being trained on CPR, the Heimlich Maneuver and fire prevention.

"But what happens if you have someone who tells you they want to die by suicide?" he said. "We do suicide prevention training. It needs to be pushed a little harder."

He said he believes everyone should be trained on how to deal with mental health issues, and suicide in particular.

"Everybody wants to prevent people from dying," Sikel said. "I believe that in my heart."

The goal of Open Arms is zero suicides. While Sikel realizes that goal is likely unattainable, he vows to do everything he can to help other people.

Parents, he said, are often scared to talk to their kids. He

encourages parents to tell their children that they love them every night and that they will always be there for them.

He recalls one presentation where they spoke to 1,500 kids. Later on there was a session for parents and only 20 showed up.

"They are scared to talk about it, and that's what we need to stop," Sikel said.

He said he's concerned about what is happening in the mental health area. For example, Blue Cross and Blue Shield recently cut back on funding for mental health options.

He also finds that many people often have to wait up to four months to get help.

"Sometimes you have only 3 or 4 minutes to do something," he said, adding there is not a lot of help available for distraught people.

Through his efforts, he hopes to keep suicide from becoming a taboo subject with people.

Sikel said he also hopes people will stop thinking that if you talk about suicide, it is going to happen.

"You have to talk about it to prevent it," he said.

BP grad to run for state legislature



Jonathan Isenor

A former Blooming Prairie man is making a run for Minnesota House of Representatives.

Jonathan Isenor of Wanamingo has announced his candidacy for District 21B, which covers Dodge, Goodhue, Wabasha and Winona counties. Isenor is a graduate of Blooming Prairie High School and his wife, Laura, is an assistant prosecutor in the Steele County Attorney's Office.

In making his announcement, Isenor stressed that he supports the Second Amendment permitting responsible gun ownership and does not support any mass transportation that will be harmful to communities. Specifically, he referred to the Zip Rail.

Isenor received a bachelor's degree from St. Cloud State University and a law degree from Hamline University School of Law.

As a professional mediator, Isenor works with people who have opposing views and compromise.

"I am a fighter, ready to oppose weak arguments and unfair tactics," Isenor said. "I will use common sense to solve problems in our district but will fight bad policy and harmful proposals," he added.

He is a member of the Minnesota Lawyer's Bar and historical societies in Dodge, Goodhue, Wabasha and Winona counties.

Isenor said, "I love south-

ern Minnesota, particularly the small farming towns. I am running for Minnesota representative to stand up for our rural communities at the Capitol. I am running because our laws need to protect the health, safety and well-being of all citizens, not just our legislators."

He will be holding a Campaign Kickoff party on Sept. 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Kenyon Depot Park and Sept. 24 from 3 to 6 p.m. at Michael LaCanne Memorial Park in Goodview. Food and refreshments will be served at both events.

The Isenors have two small children, Jack, 3 and Dorothy, 6 months.

City strives for fiscal responsibility

Taxes may rise only slightly in Blooming Prairie

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

"It's a very small increase and I think the city has been very fiscally responsible to its residents," commented Blooming Prairie Mayor H. Peterson when reflecting on the 2018 budget and tax levy.

Blooming Prairie was a busy city this summer with many street projects being completed and residents not seeing huge tax increases, said city administrator Mike Jones.

"This is a steady-as-you-go budget," Mayor Peterson said. Peterson and the council officially set the levy at a regular meeting on Sept. 11.

The overall budget for the operation of the city of Blooming Prairie is listed at \$1,556,435 for 2018. It represents an increase of \$10,843 in Local Government Aid.

Debt service is at \$188,134 and increases by \$17,238, mainly because of the reconstruction of Second Street and the west end of Main Street.

The property tax levy approved by the council represents a \$24,250 net increase to next year's budget. Part of that increase is due to bringing on a part-time police officer and funding of the Second Street construction project.

The operating levy of \$523,542 represents a \$7,012 increase. Paying for Third Street

projects, a new ambulance garage and Main Street adds another \$190,383 to bring the total levy to \$713,925. Debt service only went up \$17,238.

Using a \$100,000 home for tax comparison, the levy will cause a \$24.25 annual increase.

Looking at levy comparisons for past years, in 2011 the debt service levy was \$181,000 compared to the current \$190,383. The operating levy of \$523,542 compares to \$615,000 in 2010.

"If you look at what we have done in our community the last seven to eight years, we have not increased taxes substantially," Jones says.

Looking back at the city's street projects in 2017, Peterson joked, "We had more street projects per square mile than did the city of Minneapolis."

The city's budget has "stayed pretty much the same" in recent years and much of the credit for that goes to City Administrator Jones, Mayor Peterson said.

"We are trying to keep the budget and taxes affordable thus making the city of Blooming Prairie a better place

A public meeting to discuss the budget and levy for 2018 will be held during the council's regular December meeting on Monday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. During that time the public is allowed to ask questions and share their opinions on the proposed items before the final budget and levy is adopted.

BP Vets Memorial given green light

Goal in sight as fundraising drive exceeds \$100K

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

"It's definitely a reality and it will happen," said Tom Peterson, chairman of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee.

Peterson and other members of the Memorial Committee are quite jubilant to announce that Phase II of the BP Memorial project has continued with aggressive fundraising.

Plans are to build a veterans memorial just east of the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club. The club has donated the property for the memorial project.

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron #52 is spearheading the overall veterans memorial project.

Peterson said the fund drive has exceeded \$104,000 with the goal still being \$250,000.

"We've always said that when we surpass \$100,000, we would be talking about a ground breaking. Preliminary plans are to have the ground breaking ceremonies on Memorial Day 2018."

A push for more funds will be made at upcoming veterans events: 1) membership dinner on this Thursday, 2) pancake breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 24 and 3) Veteran's

Day dinner on Saturday, Nov. 11. The BP Memorial Corporation is a 501(C)(3) entity. Donations to the memorial are tax deductible, to the extent permitted by law.

Phase I, which started in May 2014, was to determine who the memorial is for, what the memorial will be, and where the memorial will be located.

Phase II continues with raising funds. "Now is the time to raise the remaining \$150,000," says Peterson. "Help us make this a reality."

Construction begins in Phase III.

Phase IV involves maintaining the memorial.

Phase V includes preparation for expansion of the memorial.

The West Wall is complete with 120 pavers. Peterson pointed out that 163 pavers have already been sold. Three walls will be built in Phase III.

Committee members include: American Legion, Tom Walters; American Legion Auxiliary, Sandy Jones; Sons of the American Legion, Fred Vokoun; Veterans of Foreign Wars, Ken Vermylea; VFW Auxiliary, Marilyn Meshke; Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club, Doug Miner and chairman, Tom Peterson.

The Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee in col-



laboration with John Heerema of Owatonna Granite and Monument designed the memorial.

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;

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.

If interested in buying a paver or in making a donation to the BP Veterans Memorial, contact Tom Peterson, at 507-456-2017, or any Committee Member.

Blooming Prairie City Taxes

Proposed 2018 budget: \$1,556,435

Tax increase: \$24.25 on a \$100,000 home

STEELE COUNTY TIMES

THE 2017 BLOOMING PRAIRIE

Education Foundation Banquet

will be held on **SATURDAY, SEPT. 30**
at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club.

The Honorees:

Janelle Prokopec Kendall - Distinctive Service
Jake Peterson - Distinctive Service
Raymond Kubicek - Distinctive Service

Carl Peterson - Athlete
Robert Hansen - Athlete
Naomi Erickson - Educator

Tickets will be available at the New York Life office,
Julie Noble, or a BPEF board member.

County Living

Harvest for history coming to area center

The Steele County Historical Society is pleased to announce the return of “Harvest for History.”

Using locally sourced product, Chef Joanne Giga will take you on a delectable journey through Southern Italy as you enjoy a multicourse small plate experience with complimentary wine pairings. Chef Giga will draw from her Culinary Trip to Puglia Italy with Oldways inspiring good health through cultural food traditions. The dishes of the region emphasize: olive oil, nuts, beans, seasonal vegetables, meat and fish as well as distinctive pastas, cheese and wine. The four-course meal will represent many of these ingredients.

Wines have been selected by Heidi Lyman of Wine Merchants. Lyman will guide you on a journey through the vineyards of Southern Italy with firsthand knowledge of the wines we will be exploring.

“Harvest for History” will be held at the Steele County History Center located at 1700 Austin Road, Owatonna on Saturday, Oct. 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Chef Joanne Giga is a graduate of Concordia College, Moorhead, Home Economics Education and taught 33 years in Owatonna Public Schools. Giga’s travel and food experiences include

Europe, Brazil, Middle East, China, and Vietnam. She has attended the Savory Spoon Cooking School, Door County, WI and a Culinary Trip, Puglia, Italy in 2013.

Along with the delectable food and wine, guests will enjoy entertainment by Owatonna Native, Scott Rogness and Mike Chinander. Scott is a singer/songwriter/producer who can move effortlessly within many styles of music. Whether it be pop, country, alternative or retro as in the case of the soundtrack for Tom Hanks film, That Thing You Do! In addition to providing the singing voice of “Lenny” in the film, he co-wrote five songs: “I Need You/That Thing You Do!,” “Dance With Me Tonight,” “All My Only Dreams,” “She Knows It and Drive Faster.” He also provided lead and background vocals for those and all the Wonders songs in the film. Scott also placed songs in My Big Fat Greek Wedding, “Something Wild” for Silence of The Lambs director Jonathan Demme and Modern Girls, for director Jerry Kramer. His recent project is The Shasta Kings, a 5-song ep of new songs. Mike is a multi-instrumentalist/vocalist for many bands, including: Westwind, Ray Trenda Band, Good Question, Hot and Bothered, The Fabulous Lovehandles,

The Stasta Kings, and numerous church groups. He’s played for the Steele County Food Self Hometown Sampler since 1996.

“Steele County has an abundance of locally sourced foods and we thoroughly enjoy being able to showcase the area’s bounty” said SCHS Meeting and Event Manager, Stephanie Kibler. “We are pleased to have our very own Joanne Giga as our chef, her attention to detail will make this evening memorable and delicious!”

During the Harvest for History event guests will also be able to meander through the exhibits currently on display—Over Here, Over There: The Great War and Autos and Roads.

Tickets for Harvest for History are \$100 per person or \$700 for a table of eight. Seating is limited to 100 guests. Tickets may only be purchased at the Steele County History Center, by calling 507-451-1420 or online at our website or Eventbrite.com.

The History Center is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

BP woman to be honored by United Way

The United Way of Steele County plans to honor a Blooming Prairie woman.

Jennifer Wayne will be presented with an award during half-time at the Blooming Prairie football game Friday night at McFarlin Field. Community members are encouraged to support Wayne in this recognition and hear from United Way representatives.

Wayne has actively volunteered with Blooming Prairie Schools and First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie for many years. She currently serves as a church council member and deacon. She is also secretary of the BPHS Music Boosters.

“As United Way begins our campaign season, we think it’s important to pause and recognize people in Steele County for their commitment to community. Jennifer exemplifies how each and every one of us can make a difference in the lives of our neighbors by LIVING UNITED,” said Kim Schaufenbuel, United Way Executive Director.

Each year United Way kicks off its annual campaign by honoring com-

munity members and local businesses that embody the LIVE UNITED philosophy in the county.

Award recipients are exemplary in their charitable giving; strong advocates for projects, programs or initiatives that change lives and demonstrate an above average amount volunteer time with a diversity of community organizations and our United Way.

The mission of the United Way is to change lives by mobilizing and optimizing the caring power of our community. This year’s goal of \$725,000 will provide funding to 23 local programs that give children a healthy start in life; families the tools they need to thrive; seniors and disabled neighbors the support to live with purpose and dignity; and neighbors the support they need in times of crisis to get back on their feet.

United Way of Steele County fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in Steele County. For more information, go to www.unitedwaysteele-county.org or Facebook and Twitter.

Veterans officer to be in area

The September monthly outreach office hours for the Steele County Veterans Service Officer have been announced.

Rene Gilormini, county veterans service officer, will be at the Servicemen’s Club in Blooming Prairie on Sept. 28 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Gilormini will also be in Ellendale at the Community Building from 11 to 11:30 a.m. on the same day.

Anyone with questions can call the Veterans Service Officer at 507-444-7460.



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Bloomington
Prairie Cancer
Group

By **CHERI KREJCI**
BP Cancer Group

This community we live in and those communities surrounding us are the absolute best.

The Blooming Prairie Cancer Group would like to THANK everyone who participated in “Paint Blooming Prairie Pink.”

We would be afraid to name any names for fear of forgetting someone, but we would not have been able to pull off a record-breaking year for Paint BP Pink without the help of the Blooming Prairie High School sports teams, the volunteers who helped the nights of the auction, the Cut for a Cure, the walk/run and bingo.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Cancer Corner

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

Thank you for a record year

Also, thanks or help with the Field of Flags, whether donating time, land and help with the poles.

Thank you to the donors, the tent sponsors and to the bidders. To everyone who came to our events, we say THANK YOU.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

If you can say you have not been affected by cancer -- well, you are definitely one of the lucky ones -- not to mention one of the few.

We raise these funds not only for cancer research but to help people in our area who are dealing with cancer.

People do not realize all the “extra” expenses that are involved with cancer treatment: gas, parking, meals, time off work. . . Thanks to all who

purchased parking passes and gas cards during the auction. That helps more than you know.

We were completely blown away by the generosity of so many. We have raised a record \$61,000-plus during our Paint BP Pink event. Thanks to all of you.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Next up to close out this year for the BP Cancer Group:

- Oct. 28 -- Village Affair (candles, bake sale, lefse)
- Nov. 16 -- Turkey Bingo
- Dec. 14 -- Jingle Bingo
- Jan. 14 -- Pancake Breakfast and Eagles Cancer Telethon

Cheri Krejci is the treasurer of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group.

Sisters Payton Esplan, 5 and Sophia Esplan, 8, were some of the early viewers of many of the donated items auctioned off at the Paint Blooming Prairie Pink benefit auctions on Friday and Saturday nights. Nearly 300 items were auctioned over the weekend.

Sponsored by

Krejci



LTO 2017-18 SEASON



Little Theatre of Owatonna

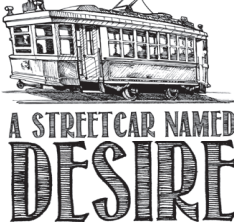


Shrek The Musical

Fall 2017

Oct: 19-22 & 26-29

Sponsored by Federated Insurance



A Streetcar Named Desire

Winter 2018

Feb: 16-18 & 22-23



Snapshots: A collection of performances celebrating traditions and experiences from around the world.

Special 2017

Nov: 30 & Dec: 1-3

My Man



My Man Godfrey

Spring 2018

April: 20-22 & 27-29



Seussical

Summer 2018

July: 12-15 & 19-22

Sponsored by Wenger Foundation

Shrek: Music by Jeanine Tesori, Book & Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire, Book by William Steig. Seussical: Music by Stephen Flaherty, Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty. Based on the Works of Dr. Seuss. Shrek and Seussical are presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI); Street Car Named Desire: by Tennessee Williams, presented with special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service; and My Man Godfrey: by Eric K. Hatach, comedy. Directed by Jon Terrill Drama is presented with special arrangement with Dramatic Play Publishing.

SEASON MEMBERSHIP



Available Aug. 1 – Oct. 29, 2017. You choose how to use your Season Membership admission passes. Use one for each show or all for one show.

Purchase tickets or learn more at: www.LittleTheatreofOwatonna.org

Gift Certificates Available—Makes Perfect Gifts for Theatre Buffs!

SEASON MEMBER INFORMATION

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email Address _____
Please add me to your email list. ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Check (Payable to Little Theatre of Owatonna)
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover
Name (as it appears on card) _____
Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____
Signature _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS (# OF ADMISSION PASSES)

Gold Star Contributor: (20)

\$300 _____ \$500 _____

\$1000 _____ Other _____

☐ **Benefactor: (15)** \$200 - \$299 _____

☐ **Patron: (10)** \$150 - \$199 _____

☐ **Twin Pack: (10)** \$140 _____

(5) Season \$70 _____ (5) Student \$60 _____

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Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Aug. 7 and 21 Sept. 11, 18, 25

Bloomin' Grapevine Wine Club
Tuesday 7-8:30 p.m. at J & H
August 8: Summer Get Together
Sept. 12, Oct. 3
November 2: Holiday Dazzle
Wine and Beer Tasting
November-May dates available
later.
Sunday Off-Sale: "Plan Ahead"
J & H Liquors off-sale will not

be open on Sundays, except for
certain holiday weekends. Holiday
dates will be posted at J & H.

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Contact Harvey for details.

**ALL EVENT DETAILS
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BLOOMING PRAIRIE

Sept. 20
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. – BP Library Story Time
5:30 p.m. – Chamber of Commerce Meeting, Lansing Corners

Sept. 21
5:30 p.m. – Legion-SAL-VFW and Auxiliary membership
supper, Servicemen's Club

Sept. 24
9 a.m. - Noon – Breakfast Buffet Fundraiser & Silent Auction for
the Veteran's Memorial, Servicemen's Club

Sept. 26
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. – BP Library Story Time

Sept. 28
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Steele County Veterans Service Officer,
Servicemen's Club

Sept. 30
Blooming Prairie Education Foundation Banquet, Servicemen's
Club

ELLENDALE/GENEVA/HOPE

Sept. 20
6 – 9 p.m. – NRHEG After Prom Meeting, NR Media
Center

Sept. 23
5 – 6:30 p.m. – Baked Potato Supper, Ellendale Com-
munity Building
7 p.m. – Bingo, Ellendale Community Building

Sept. 26
6:15 – 7:30 p.m. – NRHEG ECFE Adventures in Parent-
ing Class, Ellendale Preschool Room
6:30 – 8 p.m. – NRHEG Karate, Ellendale Elementary
Gym North

Sept. 28
11 – 11:30 a.m. – Steele County Veterans Service Of-
ficer, Ellendale Community Building

DEER HUNT WITHIN CITY LIMITS COMING TO OWATONNA

The deadline for the annual
deer hunt in Owatonna has been
extended.

Applications will be taken by
the City of Owatonna until 4:30
p.m. Thursday for the city deer
hunt. The application fee of \$12
is non-refundable.

All applicants must pass a
proficiency test using the same
equipment with which they will
be hunting.

Fifty applicants will be ran-
domly drawn to test. Two sets
of 15 permits will be randomly
awarded in October from the
pool of those passing the profi-
ciency test. After drawing, hun-
ters will be called in the order
they were drawn to choose their
location.

Hunters must be at least 18
years old.

The proficiency tests will be
Sept. 30 and Oct. 7 from 11 a.m.
to 2 p.m.

Only antlerless deer may be
harvested in or on Cashman
Park, Hamman Park, Kaplan's
Woods, Kaplan's Woods Park-
way, North Straight River Park

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AUSTIN/MOWER COUNTY

Sept. 20
11:30 a.m. – Picnic in the Lot, Mower County Senior
Center
6:30 – 8 p.m. – Adult Hockey, Riverside Arena
7:30 p.m. – Movie Night at the Paramount – Misery
(R), Historic Paramount Theatre

Sept. 21
4 – 7 p.m. – 15th Anniversary Celebration Car Show,
Primrose Retirement Community
6 – 7:30 p.m. – Public Skate, Riverside Arena
6:30 p.m. – Center and Throw, Austin ArtWorks Center
Clay Cavern

Sept. 23
8 a.m. – 8th Annual Jay C. Hormel Nature Center 8K
Run, Hormel Nature Center
10 a.m. – Saturday Sweet Reads – Liberty the Therapy
Dog, Sweet Reads Book and Candy Store
10:30 a.m. – Noon – Kids' Studio – Paper Mosaics,
Austin Art Works Center
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Mower County Historical Society
Fall Harvest Celebration, Mower County Historical
Society
7:30 p.m. – St. Andrew's Sisters Fundraiser, Paramount
Theatre

Sept. 24
5:30 – 7 p.m. – Stick Time, Riverside Arena

Sept. 25
5 – 6:10 p.m. – Public Skate, Riverside Arena
6:30 p.m. – Nature Yoga, Hormel Nature Center

Sept. 26
5 – 6:15 p.m. – Public Skate, Riverside Arena
6:30 – 8 p.m. – Stick Time, Riverside Arena
6:30 p.m. – Author Visit – Margarate Smolik, Sweet
Reads Book and Candy Store

Event Spotlight:

ELLENDALE BAKED POTATO SUPPER, BINGO

The Ellendale Community
Action Group (ECAG) will be
sponsoring a Fall Baked Potato
Supper and Bingo Night on Sat-
urday, Sept. 23 at the Ellendale
Community Building.

The supper will be a free-will
offering from 5 to 6:30 p.m.
with the bingo starting at 7 p.m.
Community members are in-
vited to come, load their warm
baked potato from Van Erkle
Farms in Hollandale, with but-
ter donated by Hope Creamery,
real sour cream, real Bacon bits,

shredded cheddar cheese, pulled
pork donated from Steve's Meat
Market, freshly chopped onions,
sliced black olives, salsa, and
BBQ sauce. Water and lemon-
ade will also be served at this
meal.

Everyone is invited to attend
this evening of food and fun in
Ellendale. A great time is anti-
cipated where community mem-
bers can visit with their friends
and neighbors and also eat a
great meal and play Bingo for
the night.

STATE REVENUE DEPARTMENT OFFERS CLASSES

The Minnesota Department of
Revenue offers various classes that
are free and open to the public.

This class is to inform business-
es about: how to register, filing re-
quirements, Minnesota forms to file,
e-Services, and locating informa-

tion on the Minnesota Department
of Revenue website.

Visit the Department of Revenue
at [http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/
businesses/corporation/Pages/
PShip_SCorp_Basics_Class.aspx](http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/businesses/corporation/Pages/PShip_SCorp_Basics_Class.aspx)
website to register.



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

Sept. 20
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Corporate Recognition 20th
Anniversary Event, Eagles Club
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Championship Ring Tour for Super
Bowl LII, Steele County History Center
12 p.m. – Fling Golf, Brooktree Golf Course
4 p.m. – EDA Meeting, Owatonna Council Chambers
4 p.m. – Owatonna Retail Trade Study Presentation,
Owatonna Council Chambers
5:30 p.m. – 50+ Fit and Flex Workshop, Sollid Yoga

Sept. 21
10 a.m. – 8 p.m. – Championship Ring Tour for Super
Bowl LII, Steele County History Center
12 – 1 p.m. – Business Boot Camp, Owatonna Public
Library
3 – 4:30 p.m. – Fling Golf, Brooktree Golf Course
3 – 7 p.m. – Medford Farmers Market, Christ the King
Church parking lot
5 – 7 p.m. – Taste of Steele County, Owatonna Eagles
Club
7 – 8 p.m. – Gainey Experience Discussion by author
Jackie Anderson Glenney, Steele County History Center
All Day – Pigskin & Pork, CashWise Foods

Sept. 22
9 – 11:30 a.m. – Fling Golf, Brooktree Golf Course
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. – Championship Ring Tour for Super
Bowl LII, Steele County History Center
5 – 7 p.m. – Woolstock for National Dog Day, Lake
Chase Dog Park
All Day – Pigskin & Pork, CashWise Foods

Sept. 23
7 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Owatonna Farmers Market, Central
Park
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Championship Ring Tour for Super
Bowl LII, Steele County History Center
10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. – CulturFest, Wilson Elementary
School
10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. – The Amazing Culturace, Wilson
Elementary School
1 – 10 p.m. – Golf Booster Club Tournament, Owatonna
Country Club
All Day – Ladies Day Out, Cabelas

Sept. 24
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Championship Ring Tour for Super
Bowl LII, Steele County History Center

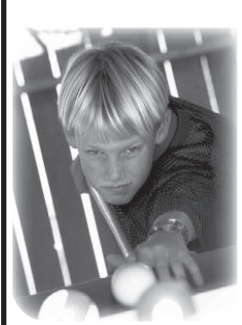
Sept. 25
4 p.m. – HRA Meeting, Second Floor Conference Room
in Owatonna City Admin Building
7 p.m. – Medford City Council Meeting, City Hall

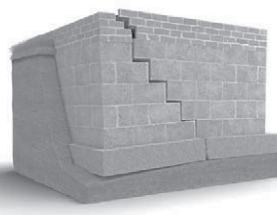
Sept. 26
9:30 & 10:30 a.m. – Owatonna Library Story Time
5:30 p.m. – Planning Commission Meeting, Owatonna
Council Chambers
5:30 – 7 p.m. – Owatonna Chamber of Commerce
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Women in Business

Escobedo right at home behind grill at downtown landmark



Cooking behind the stove at The Kitchen restaurant in downtown Owatonna is where you'll most likely find Linda Escobedo. She has worked at the local fixture for 42 years, including the past 20 as owner.

By **RICK BUSSLER**
Publisher

She has become the fabric of downtown Owatonna and her food has satisfied the appetites of thousands for decades.

Linda Escobedo spends most of her time behind the stove at The Kitchen restaurant where she has worked for 42 years. It's a comfortable spot for Escobedo and one that she has no plans of leaving any time soon.

The 1970 graduate of Owatonna was hired as a waitress in 1975 by Ev Green, owner of Ev's Kitchen restaurant. Since then she has never left and eventually became owner of the downtown landmark.

Escobedo worked for Mary Krippner, Green's daughter until she retired. There were two other owners that followed Krippner. They owned the restaurant for about two years each.

In 1997, Escobedo and her sister Barb Lowell purchased the restaurant and six years later, Escobedo and her husband purchased Lowell's half and became sole owners. Her husband has since passed away and she now runs it by herself.

"This place is a big part of me," Escobedo said in between lunch and dinner rushes on a recent afternoon. "The hours are long and I'm open six days a week but I love what I do and I don't mind working."

As owner Escobedo finds herself doing a little bit of everything in the restaurant, but her favorite part is waiting on the customers. "I love waitressing. That's my calling, just kidding," she said. "I love the customers and I like to see them happy."

Right behind waitressing for Escobedo is cooking. "I love to cook and bake," she says. Some of her favorites to bake are caramel rolls (only on Fridays), scones, turnovers, pies, cookies and

bread. She is especially proud of her English Muffin bread.

In addition to home cooked meals, Escobedo makes her own BBQ sauce, salad dressings and hand-dipped onion rings, among many other specialties. She plans to bring back BBQ ribs this fall.

And then there's Fridays when the Kitchen offers an all-you-can-eat fish fry. "It's hard for me to let go of that," Escobedo said of the fish fry.

The Kitchen has become a stop for tourists over the years. This week a bus tour from Iowa will be stopping for a meal.

Escobedo rattled off a whole list of groups that meet at her restaurant throughout the month. Some of them include Toastmasters, Federated Credit Union, Garden Club, Our Savior's and Trinity churches, Ham Radio, Owatonna Business Partnerships and Owatonna retired principals. She was quick to apologize if she missed some groups.

Asked what keeps customers coming back, Escobedo said with a chuckle, "I hope it's the good food."

She often has customers come off the freeway looking for "a little hometown restaurant" to eat at. Escobedo said hometown restaurants like the Kitchen are becoming harder to find.

Earlier this year, Pioneer Seed videotaped a commercial utilizing her restaurant as a backdrop. A crew from California showed up and ate after the video shoot.

Escobedo has eight grandchildren in the Owatonna and Waseca areas. Some of them help out at the restaurant. "It's fun to have my family work with me," she said.

She offers this advice for women entrepreneurs: "Don't be afraid. If there is something on your heart, try it."

It's advice that obviously has worked in Escobedo's favor for more than four decades.

Cupcakes, coffee, & award-winning waffles

It's all good at Perfect Day Cakes, Central Park Coffee

By **RICHARD JOHNSON**
Managing Editor

Thea Farrington is going, going, going, with a coffee shop, a bakery, and a 12-year-old daughter. And she's loving it.

"I have an amazing team, a supportive husband, a great community," said the Owatonna woman, who owns Perfect Day Cakes & Bakery, and Central Park Coffee Co. "I'm always trying to make everything better, so I always have to remember that everything is good – because it is. There's always room for improvement."

Farrington opened Perfect Day about five years ago. It seats about 20 customers and features cupcakes (with more than 160 options), doughnuts (more than 40 options), breakfast pastries (including caramel rolls/sticky buns, Danishes, and turnovers).

Pastries change each day because so many varieties are offered.

Gourmet coffee – with a large variety of syrups – is also available.

Farrington plans to add breakfast and lunch menus, starting in mid-October.

"When I started five years ago, my goal was

to expand into this kind of stuff," she said, "to have it be something you can't get everywhere in Owatonna. I have different options than most other places."

She has owned Central Park Coffee Co. for about nine months. The store seats about 30.

"That is your cozy coffee shop," Farrington said.

She offers a full breakfast and lunch menu through the day. Breakfast features waffles, breakfast burritos, breakfast sandwiches and bagels.

Those waffles – available for \$5 on "Waffle Wednesdays" – were nominated as one of Minnesota's best.

Lunch includes salads, sandwiches, wraps, and macaroni-and-cheese; each item costs less than \$6.

Minnesota-roasted coffee beans also are for sale.

"For me, the best part of our business is continuing to grow our community," Farrington said, "to give high-schoolers and kids a safe spot to go after school, and to not have vacant buildings."

"We want to make sure there are places to go and things to do in our community," she said.

If You Go

Perfect Day Cakes & Bakery is at 324 N. Cedar Ave., Owatonna.

The store is open Wednesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Call 507-455-2253 for more information.

Central Park Coffee Co. is at 113 N. Cedar Ave., Owatonna.

It's open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Call 507-451-4242, www.perfectdaycakes.com, or www.centralparkcoffeeco.com for more information.

Both stores also have Facebook and Instagram sites.



Submitted photo
Thea Ferrington, her daughter Totiana, and husband Eric.

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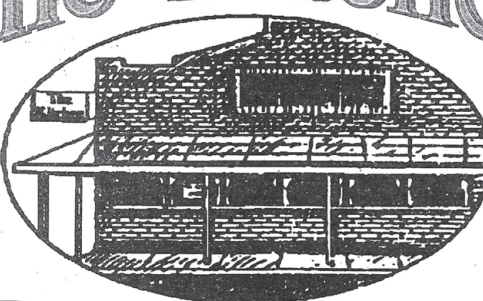
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CRIME BRIEF

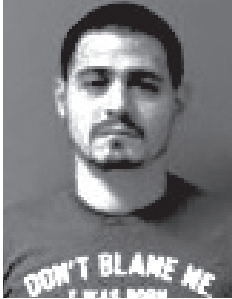
Huffing by driver suspected in crash

A driver is believed to have been huffing in a crash in Owatonna Sept. 13.

Andres J. Vargas, 36, of Owatonna faces multiple charges in connection with the crash. The most serious charge is criminal vehicular operation under the influence resulting in bodily harm. He has also been charged with gross misdemeanor DWI of a hazardous substance.

Owatonna Police responded to a crash on 26th Street NW. The vehicle driven by Vargas went out of control, rolled and struck another vehicle waiting to exit to the hospital. The other driver was injured.

Evidence collected at the scene, as well as Vargas’ own admission, revealed that he was drinking and driving before the crash and had been using Dust Off, according to police. Dust Off is compressed gas in an



Andres J. Vargas

aerosol can that contains Difluoroethane, a colorless, odorless gas classified as a hazardous substance.

Police said when Dust Off is inhaled, it gives users an immediate high and causes lightheadedness and passing out.

Officers took a blood test from Vargas after obtaining a search warrant.

Vargas has a prior DWI in 2008 in Texas.

and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 900 block of Cedar Ave. N.

Sept. 12

Hit and Runs: Hit and run accidents occurred in the 300 block of 2nd St. SE at 7:16 a.m. and the 100 block of Elm Ave. N. at 1:51 p.m.

Shoplifting: A shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Road W. at 5:31 p.m.

Thefts: Police received a theft report from the 100 block of 2nd St. NW at 5:36 p.m.

Sept. 13

Traffic: Police arrested a juvenile following a traffic stop in the 300 block of Pearl St. E. at 5:39 a.m.

Warrant: Officers made warrant arrests in the 600 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 8:04 a.m. and the 300 block of School St. W. at 9:19 a.m.

Trespassing: At 12:57 p.m., a subject was trespassing in the 1200 block of 18th St. SE.

Suspicion: Officers responded to suspicious activity in the 300 block of Grove Ave. S. at 2:54 p.m.

Harassment: At 4:07 p.m., police responded to a harassment incident in the 300 block of School St. E.

Shoplifting: A shoplifting incident occurred in the 100 block of Broadway St. W. at 6:16 p.m.

Sept. 14

Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 1000 block of Frontage Road W. at 10:41 a.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 200 block of 2nd St. NW at 11:22 a.m.

Warrants: Police arrested subjects for outstanding warrants in the 2200 block of 3rd Ave. NW and the 600 block of Eisenhower Dr. NW at 3:08 p.m.

Assaults: Police responded to assaults in the 1700 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 12:26 p.m. and the 500 block of Oak Ave. S. at 1:47 p.m.

Theft: A theft occurred in the 500 block of 15th St. NE at 3:15 p.m.

Suspicion: At 3:59 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of 15th St. NE.

Crash: Officers assisted the

State Patrol with a motor vehicle accident with injuries in the 800 block of Mineral Springs Road NE at 4:46 p.m.

Steele County Sheriff Sept. 8

Crash: Deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage in the 6800 block of Frontage Road W. in Medford at 11:39 a.m.

Animal: At 1:21 p.m., deputies received a report of animal cruelty from Meriden Township.

Hit and Run: A hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in Medford Township at 5:17 p.m.

DWI: Deputies arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated in Meriden Township at 7:29 p.m.

Sept. 9

Drunken Driving: Deputy made DWI arrests in the 7300 block of Crane Creek Road in Meriden Township at 4:52 a.m. and at Interstate 35 northbound and Bridge St. W. at 9:43 p.m.

Theft: Deputy took a theft report in the 6300 block of 14th Ave. NE in Medford Township at 4:36 p.m.

Sept. 10

Theft: Deputies received a theft report from Medford Township at 7:15 p.m.

Sept. 11

Theft: Deputy took a theft report in the 1600 block of 14th Ave. SE in Summit Township at 9:14 a.m.

Sept. 12

Burglary: Deputies responded to a burglary in the 2200 block of Austin Road in Owatonna Township at 5:55 a.m.

Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 4:19 p.m.

Civil: At 6:31 p.m., deputies responded to a civil matter in Ellendale. They issued a citation at the scene.

Sept. 13

Child Protection: Deputies received a child protection report from Lemond Township at 2:22 p.m.

Sept. 14

DWI: Deputies made a DWI arrest at Bridge St. W. and Oak Ave. S. in Owatonna at 2:55 a.m.

COURT NEWS Steele County

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

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Mark A. Eich, 53, Austin, speeding, \$141; Corey K. Lerum, 44, Austin, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Aaron T. Morgan, 22, Austin, revoked license, \$281.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Casey A. Adams, 38, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Amalio Arreola Acosta, 41, Burnsville, seat belt, \$106; Andrew C. Arseneau, 37, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281;

Stephen R. Badon, 34, Kenner, LA, speeding, \$131; Wesley W. Bostwick, 22, Mason City, IA, speeding and no license, \$241; Allan S. Boyd, 20, Superior, WI, no license, \$181; Caleb M. Connolly, 27, revoked license, \$281;

Tracey Dogan, 46, St. Paul, no motorcycle endorsement, \$131; Trevor A. Grems, 20, Medford,

speeding, \$131; Ernesto R. Guerero, 24, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281;

Charles V. Hamilton, 31, Janesville, seat belt, \$106; Mark H. Hood, 48, Lohrville, IA, speeding, \$131; Gabriel J. Hutchinson, 40, Minneapolis, speeding, \$141; Nathan A. Johnson, 21, Albert Lea, speeding, \$141; Chanry Kim, 41, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Christopher M. King, 17, Lonsdale, speeding, \$121; Honour E. Kowalske, 20, Nevada, IA, speeding, \$121; Marcus P. Kubat, 46, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Anthony C. Lamaack, 39, Austin, seat belt, \$106; Tania I. Malagon Manriquez, 26, Waseca, suspended license, \$281;

Fatuma A. Mohamed, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Maria E. Palmer, 23, Mankato, speeding, \$221; Riley R. Pangburn, 26, Northwood, IA, seat belt, \$106; Ebay J. Phillips, 36, Waseca, seat belt, \$106; Michael R. Priebe, 20, Waseca, speeding, \$221;

Daniel E. Rossberg, 43, Cottage Grove, window tint violations, \$181; Madelyn F. Rysavy, 21, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Christian S. Warner, 31, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Anastacia C. Wells, 26, Rochester, speeding, \$141; Alexander K. Whitaker, 28, Sun Valley, NV, pedestrian on highway, \$121.

Owatonna Police Department

Casey L. Anderson, 45, seat belt, \$106; Jacob J. Babbitt, 22, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Brian P. Caulfield, 32, Shallotte, NC, speeding, \$141; Ernesto Charles, 29, Los Frenos, TX, no license, \$181; Amy J. Garza, 36, Owatonna, revoked license, no insurance and speeding, \$621;

Larnell D. Graves, 24, Brooklyn Park, high beams violation and revoked license, \$321; Eric R. Hinson, 32, Woodland, NC, open bottle, \$181; Steve T. Perry, 37, Faribault, no license, \$181; Kimberly A. Powell, 49, Eden Prairie, failure to obey traffic control device, \$131; Mark A. Sawesky, 48, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281;

Jennifer D. Schwab, 47, Owatonna, parking in a crosswalk, \$37; Jonathan C. Smith, 31, Owatonna, obstruction of legal process, \$131, 10 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Brandon L. Stevermer, 22, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281;

Timothy P. Stohl, 53, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Travis M. Swartz, 30, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$181; Adam J. Techau, 33, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Kevin W. Webster, 28, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Jamie D. Bock, 38, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Brett J. Byers, 33, Waseca, suspended license and improper information on license, \$301; John H. Callahan, 30, Morristown, revoked license, \$281; Lucas S. Cole, 26, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Maurice L. Giles, 21, give peace officer false information, \$131 and 8 days in county jail; Christopher J. Gill, 23, Aurora, CO, speeding, \$121;

Branden A. Hendrickson, 18, Owatonna, suspended license and speeding, \$331; Jane D. Johnson, 56, Ellendale, speeding, \$121; William F. Kelly, 62, Holliston, MA, speeding, \$141; Ashley E. Martinez, 27, Waseca, no insurance, \$281; Martha R. McDaniel, 47, Woodbury, speeding, \$121; Jack L. Oldenkamp, 17, Austin, speeding, \$121; Zachary L. Prins, 27, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481;

Joshua B. Sipe, 18, Waseca, speeding, \$281; Kevin S. Walker, 44, Golden Valley, stop sign, \$131;

Nadine G. Yancey, 53, Waseca, high beams violation, \$121.

POLICE BLOTTER Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office handled 216 complaints during the week of Sept. 6 – 12. Some of them include:

Sept. 6

Explosion: Deputies responded to a chlorine explosion in a home in the 59900 block of 213th Ave. in Dodge Center at 10:15 a.m.

Fraud: Deputy took a report of identity theft in the 100 block of 5th St. SW in Dodge Center at 11:04 a.m.

Domestic: Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 800 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield at 7:56 p.m.

Sept. 7

Assault: Deputies responded to an assault in the 800 block of Hwy. St. W. in Dodge Center at 8:30 p.m.

Sept. 8

Bonfire: At 3:35 a.m., a citizen made a complaint about a burning bonfire being unattended in the 100 block of Ellington St. in West Concord.

Train: Deputies received a report of a train having engine trouble and blocking a crossing at Front St. W. and Elm St. in Claremont at 6:49 a.m.

Fraud: A Blooming Prairie citizen reported fraudulent charges on his debit card at 8:41 a.m.

Sept. 9

Crash: At 12:26 p.m. a citizen reported that a car ran into her electrical pole during the night in the 20100 block of 555th St. in West Concord. The car was now parked at a neighbor's house. The motorist who appeared disoriented was still in the car, and had been in and out of the vehicle.

Disturbance: A Dodge Center resident called deputies at 6:09 p.m. for assistance removing a female from the 200 block of 3rd St. SE.

Civil: Deputy assisted with

a civil matter regarding renting space on the Dodge County Fair Grounds in Kasson at 7:48 p.m.

Juvenile: At 8:24 p.m., teenagers were throwing trash everywhere and yelling profanity in the 200 block of Hwy. St. W. in Dodge Center.

Noise: Deputies received a noise complaint of kids screaming in the 200 block of East St. N. in Claremont at 10:46 p.m.

Sept. 10

Civil: A citizen reported the theft of food in the 16700 block of 660th St. in Dodge Center at 2:34 p.m.

Medical: At 2:35 p.m., Deputies, Hayfield Ambulance and Mayo One responded to a medical emergency involving a woman being thrown off a horse in the 22000 block of 740th St. in Hayfield. She was transported to the hospital.

Sept. 11

Suspicion: A Dodge Center resident reported suspicious activity when he heard strange voices outside of his window in the 600 block of 13th Ave. NW at 2:38 a.m.

Larceny: Deputy took a report of the theft of a radio from a home in the 200 block of 2nd St. SE in Hayfield at 2:18 p.m.

Vehicle Fire: At 9:20 p.m., a vehicle caught on fire at County Road 9 and State Hwy. 30 in Hayfield.

Sept. 12

Narcotics: Deputies found narcotics during a traffic stop at 2nd St. NE and 6th Ave. NE in Hayfield at 2 a.m.

Civil: At 2:12 p.m., deputies assisted with a civil matter regarding property in the 800 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Sept. 4 – 11:

FRANK HENEFIELD
Attorney at Law

415 East Main Street
Blooming Prairie
(507) 583-6663
fdh@frontiernet.net

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

- Kristine Hazelton – theft - \$300 bail
- Andrew Heidemann – theft - \$300 bail
- Nancy Heim – DWI - \$1,000 bail
- Frank Henry – disorderly conduct – no bail
- Angela Herplinck – drugs – no bail
- Tammy Hess – DWI – no bail
- Faithful Hill – damage to property – no bail
- Thomas Hitchcock – revoked license - \$500 bail
- Brandy Hodges – domestic assault - \$1,000 bail
- Jeffrey Hodges – DWI – no bail

- Jeffery Hokanson – fleeing in motor vehicle - \$10,000 bail
- Dmarlo Holmes – financial card fraud - \$3,000 bail
- Brittany Hoverkamp – disorderly conduct - \$1,000 bail
- Renant Hubbard – controlled substance – no bail
- Andrew Hull – DWI - \$3,000 bail
- Spencer Hutchinson – aggravated DWI – no bail
- Trung Huynh – drugs – no bail
- Nicolas Ibarra – DWI – no bail
- Tammy Jackson – motor vehicle - \$500 bail
- Michelle Jarvis – worthless check - \$1,000 bail

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

Dodge County Sheriff's Office
Michael E. Billy, 20, Lake City, speeding, \$140; Brady L. Edwards, 48, Owatonna, careless driving, \$180; James P. Leonard, 57, Mantorville, suspended license, \$280; Nora K. Mahle, 22, Rochester, speeding, \$220; David B. Perkins, 31, South Bend, IN, speeding, \$280; Cory L. Rasmussen, 39, Hayfield, suspended license, no insurance and registration violation, \$510; Gerald D. Sackett, 85, Queen Valley, AZ, speeding and seat belt, \$145; Mary T. Turner, 67, Mantorville, speeding, \$120; Samantha J. Vaughan, 21, Kasson, speeding, \$220; James K. Wycoff, 43, Green Bay, WI, speeding, \$120; Alicia N. Zelinske, 28, Kasson, speeding, \$220.

Kasson Police Department
Joel M. Cabanas, 25, Rochester, suspended license, \$280; Cody J. Drewes, 24, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Abdullahi Gaal, 57, Rochester, speeding, \$140; Colleen M. Hjortaas, 48, Kenyon, suspended license, \$280; Sierra B. Jensen, 19, Dodge Center, minor consumption, underage purchase of alcohol, underage misrepresentation of age, \$380; Tony L. Lopez, 20, Kasson, stop sign, failure to obtain new license after information change and possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, \$350; Tammy S. Neseth, 54, Mantorville, speeding, \$140; Noelle M. Neubauer, 20, St. Peter, speeding, \$130; Christine M. Rath, 33, Hayfield, speeding, \$130; Travis L. Schrafel, 27, West

Concord, seat belt, \$105; Hayley M. Zaroni, 24, Rochester, speeding, \$130.

MN State Patrol Rochester
Cole A. Deavers, 29, Lowell, WI, seat belt, \$105; Eric T. Knudson, 33, Mantorville, stop sign, \$130; Maria C. Martinez, 33, Claremont, speeding, \$130; Brennan L. Parpart, 34, Watertown, WI, seat belt, \$105; Adam R. Vacura, 19, Dodge Center, speeding, \$130.

West Concord Police Department
Rosa T. Rosales, 23, Arcadia, WI, invalid license and speeding, \$230; Trevor R. White III, 28, West Concord, revoked license, \$280.

ARREST
Steele County

Owatonna Police
Alfredo Barajas III, 43, arrested at 1:13 a.m. Aug. 27, assault/domestic assault and child endangerment, held for court.
Jacob Tyler Salisbury, 27, arrested at 6:55 p.m. Aug. 27, violation of DANCO and criminal sexual conduct, held for court.
Andrew Jason Roseland, 34, arrested at 9:30 p.m. Aug. 27, order for protection violation, held for court.
Alexander Jay Brown, 22, arrested at 7:07 p.m. Aug. 29, felon in possession of firearm, sale and possession and receiving stolen property, held for court.
Dennis Warren Wimer Sr., 70,

arrested at 10:34 p.m. Aug. 29, felony DWI-test refusal, resist arrest and cancelled license, held for court.
Michael Jermaine Hambrick, 32, arrested at 11:21 p.m. Aug. 30, DANCO violation, held for court.
Jose Hernandez Jr., 34, arrested at 1:28 a.m. Aug. 31, felony controlled substance and misdemeanor fleeing and obstruction of legal process, held for court.
Joshua James Ferch, 23, arrested at 1:40 a.m. Aug. 31, DWI and erratic driving, held for court.
Peter Vega Martinez, 57, arrested at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 1, assault/domestic assault, held for court.
Johnny Mac Patterson, 24, arrested at 12:51 a.m. Sept. 3, felony extradition hearing from Illinois for parole violation, body only.
Edgar Celin Cabrera, 24, arrested at 2 a.m. Sept. 4, distributing alcohol to minor, held for court.
Damarrion Dante Tramaine Lesure, 38, arrested at 8:26 a.m. Sept. 4, felony possession of marijuana in a motor vehicle, held for court.
Travis Michael Swartz, 29, arrested at 1:22 p.m. Sept. 4, warrant arrest, \$500 bail.
Johnathan Cornelius Smith, 31, arrested at 8:20 p.m. Sept. 4, warrant arrest, \$3,000 bail.
Keith Douglas Haskell, 55, arrested at 10:38 p.m. Sept. 4, felony assault, impersonate peace officer, false imprisonment and aggravated robbery, held for court.
Chauncy Marie Mitchell, 51, arrested at 2:15 a.m. Sept. 5, felony assault/domestic assault, held for court.
Rodney Alan Zak, 57, arrested Sept. 8, domestic assault/assault,

held for court.
Paulina Lizlyn Rivera, 19, arrested at 2:38 a.m. Sept. 8, controlled substance crime, held for court.
Jackson Blake Cline, 18, arrested at 3:53 a.m. Sept. 8, controlled substance crime and drug paraphernalia, held for court.
Kauny Wool Machar, 50, arrested Sept. 8, cancelled license, held for court.
Andres Jaime Vargas, 31, arrested at 8 p.m. Sept. 13, felony DWI, reckless driving, open container, illegal passing and failure to drive with due care, held for court.
Jacob Clinton Carlson, 24, arrested at 12 p.m. Sept. 14, probation violation apprehension and detention arrest, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff
Katie Marie Johnson, 34, arrested at 1:59 p.m. Aug. 25, warrant arrest, \$20,000 bail.
Douglas James Long, 54, arrested at 8:18 p.m. Aug. 26, DWI-test refusal, held for court.
Alex Michael Schwartz, 28, arrested at 11:53 p.m. Aug. 26, DWI, held for court.
David Ortiz, 39, arrested at 9:52 p.m. Aug. 27, cancelled license, held for court.
Derek James West, 36, arrested at 8:15 a.m. Aug. 31, warrant arrest, \$10,000 bail.
Christopher Michael Jahr, 26, arrested at 12:51 a.m. Sept. 1, DWI, held for court.
Maurice Lovell Giles, 21, arrested at 4:26 p.m. Sept. 1, obstruction of legal process warrant arrest, \$1,000 bail.
Brandin David Botten, 29, ar-

rested at 3:03 p.m. Sept. 5, felony probation violations, held for court.
Janiffer Lyne Suchanek, 33, arrested at 1:19 p.m. Sept. 5, felony drug court apprehension and detention arrest, held for court.
Cory Lee Rasmussen, 39, arrested at 5:50 p.m. Sept. 5, warrant arrest, body only.
Ryan Burton Lane, 31, arrested at 9:57 p.m. Sept. 9, felony possession of narcotics/shrooms/acid and DWI, held for court.
Josue Steven Molina-Fuentes, 23, arrested at 6:31 p.m. Sept. 11, felony controlled substance crime, held for court.
Jacob Peter Banks, 25, arrested at 5 a.m. Sept. 12, felony drug court apprehension and detention arrest, held for court.
Jacob Anthony Zak, 25, arrested at 5:04 a.m. Sept. 13, felony controlled substance crime, interference with 911 call and contributing alcohol to a minor, held for court.

OWATONNA FIRE

Sept. 1
Crash: A motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred on Hoffman Dr. at 9:39 p.m.
Sept. 2
Fire: At 10:05 p.m., fire fighters responded to a cooking fire confined to a container in the 500 block of Adams Ave.
Sept. 3
Cooking Fire: A cooking fire occurred in the 300 block of Ce-

dardale Dr. SE at 4:23 p.m.
Sept. 4
Power Line: Fire personnel received reports of power lines down in the 7300 block of 27th St. NW. at 5:57 p.m. and the 1500 block of Rose St. E. at 6:06 p.m.
Arcing: Fire fighters responded to an arcing, shorted electric equipment incident on Willow Ave. at 6:13 p.m.

Sept. 7
Waste Fire: Fire fighters responded to an outside waste fire in the 100 block of McKinley St. E. at 3:55 a.m.
Crash: At 4:23 p.m., a motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred on 21st Ave. NW.

Sept. 11
Fire: Fire fighters responded to a fire in a mobile home on 25th Ave. NW at 9:33 a.m.

Sept. 12
Gas Leak: Fire personnel handled a natural gas leak in the 300 block of Grove Ave. S. at 2:26 p.m.

Sept. 13
Crash: A motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW at 2:40 p.m.

Sept. 14
Accident: At 4:48 p.m., fire rescue responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries in the 800 block of Mineral Springs Road NE.

Public safety calls down sharply at Steele fair

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

Overall attendance numbers may have been up at this year's Steele County Fair, but public safety calls were down sharply from the previous year.

The Steele County Sheriff's Office handled 499 total calls during the six-day fair in Owatonna compared to 584 the previous year, according to Sheriff Lon Thiele. However, law enforcement calls were up drastically.

Law enforcement calls, Thiele said, are made up of a variety of issues, including intoxication, theft, fights, safety hazards, threats, severe weather and trespassing. There were 86 of those calls during the fair, the highest number over the past five years. In 2016, there were 53 law enforcement calls.

One bit of good news is that there were no major cases generated from any of the calls during the fair, Thiele said.

During the fair, deputies dispensed 159 identification tags for children. This was the category that generated the highest activity for the sheriff's office. In addition, 24 people were fingerprinted at the fair.

The other highest category of activity was lost or found property. The sheriff's office took 100 property calls.

Deputies handled 51 lost persons calls, served 19 trespass notices and responded to 10 medical emergencies.

All in all, Thiele was pleased with the way everything turned out from a public safety standpoint at the fair.

Sheriff's Activity Steele County Fair	Law Enforcement Calls
Total Calls	
2017- 499	2017- 86
2016- 584	2016- 53
2015- 430	2015- 46
2014- 511	2014- 54
2013- 348	2013- 64

Milestones

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 19 Lee Morem Karen Njos Lachelle Wondra	Fredrickson Sara Graves
Sept. 20 Tyler Bass Heather Pirkel Gary Lueth Kristen Robbins	Sept. 23 Carl Swenson, Jr. Brooks Zimmerman Ethan Arett Terri Zwiener Megan Rask Kathi Peterson
Sept. 21 Dean Naatz Payton Fristedt Sam Brewington Mark Larkoski Jackie Smith Cathy Shawback Krista Young	Sept. 24 Brody Carlson JayLynn Sletten Patrick Wallace Kristen Romeo
Sept. 22 Katie Ingvalson Grace	Sept. 25 Hannah Morine Wehner Nicholas Nelson

Daysha Zilm
Henry Sundine
Sept. 19
Mark Ditlevson
and Renae
Worke
Elaine and Ken
Vermilyea
Veronica
and Muriel
Thompson Jr.
Jon and Sarah
Esplan
Rebecca and

Brian Broton-Anderson

Sept. 20
Dennis and Carol
Heimerman
Mike and
Jennifer
Swenson
Bob and Joanne
Nahlovsky
John and Angie
Carlson

Sept. 22
Sam and Barb
Brewington

Sept. 25
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Amberg
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Valek
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and Thresia
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Buffer letters going out

Mower SWCD seeks to work with landowners still needing to add vegetation

With the state’s Nov. 1 deadline approaching, Mower Soil & Water Conservation District today is mailing letters once again to help agricultural landowners in the county comply with the new buffer law.

About 240 letters are going out to landowners in Mower County who have been identified by Mower SWCD as needing to add vegetative buffer to their land along a river or stream deemed by the state to be a public waterway. These landowners receiving the letter also got a notification letter in January 2017 from Mower SWCD regarding compliance with the Minnesota Buffer Law but have not contacted or had their newly planted buffer approved by Mower SWCD.

“We need to hear from all affected landowners by Nov. 1 to continue working toward full compliance,” said Aaron Gamm, Mower SWCD’s buffer coordinator.

In the new mailing, Mower SWCD provides two options for landowners before Nov. 1, 2017. One option is a Validation of Compliance Request form for landowners who believe their land complies or will comply with the buffer law by Nov. 1, 2017.

The other option is a Conditional Compliance Waiver & Request form providing two waiver choices for landowners who will not comply by Nov. 1 due to their interest in getting technical and cost assistance or not being able to seed buffer this fall.

Under that option, Waiver A is for landowners pursuing or wanting to pursue buffer cost assistance, requiring them to comply a year later by Nov. 1, 2018. Waiver B is for landowners who want to plant buffers on their own next year, which requires them to provide a detailed outline of their plans for seeding and compliance by July 1, 2018.

State lawmakers earlier this year approved the extended deadlines but landowners still need to work with their local SWCD staff prior to Nov. 1, 2017, deadline.

Public waterways are designated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Public drainage ditches also have vegetative buffer requirements but those won’t need compliance until Nov. 1, 2018.

Buffers are areas or strips of land kept in permanent vegetation – not farmed – to slow water runoff and help filter out pollutants, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, as well as sediment. They also provide wildlife habitat and stabilize land along water.



Submitted Photo

Mower Soil & Water Conservation District’s Aaron Gamm, a district technician coordinating the local buffer program, checks in July on a new strip of vegetative buffer planted between a corn field and Roberts Creek in Waltham Township.

Under the 2015 law, landowners need to establish on public waterways a buffer averaging 50 feet wide with no less than 30 feet in any spot, unless approved for alternative practices. Public ditches must have at least 16.5 feet of buffer on each side.

Prior to the law, Mower County had 95 percent compliance for acreage along public waterways.

In January 2017, Mower SWCD sent more than 300 letters to Mower County ag landowners who appeared to have land without adequate buffer. Addressing needs on about 400 parcels, the letters included maps and an overview of the buffer law.

About 50 percent of those tagged parcels, however, involve landowners who have yet to communicate with Mower SWCD staff, who continue to provide technical assistance to landowners for measuring, staking, seeding and layout designing for buffers and offer programs that help landowners offset the loss of productive cropland.

One of those options came out in May with the new round of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in Minnesota –a voluntary program offering landowners higher payments to permanently protect cropland from being farmed again.

Since the buffer issue emerged, Mower County land-

owners also have enrolled more than 4,000 acres into the federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) that typically involves conservation easements of 10 to 15 years.

For more information on the buffer law, including the cost-share program, contact Aaron Gamm at Mower SWCD at 507-434-2603 or by email at aaron.gamm@mowerswcd.org. You also can visit BWSR’s webpage at www.bwsr.state.

mn.us/buffers.

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

MnDOT: Watch out for farmers, equipment



Motorists traveling on Minnesota highways this fall should be aware of large farm equipment transporting crops to markets, grain elevators and processing plants, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

“Harvest season is getting in full swing across the state and farmers and their equipment are out on the highways,” said Jay Hietpas, state traffic engineer. “Motorists need to be prepared to encounter slow-moving farm vehicles, especially on rural, two-lane roads.”

Farm equipment is large and heavy, making it hard for operators to accelerate, slow down and stop. The equipment also makes wide turns and sometimes crosses over the center line. Farm vehicles also can create large blind spots, making it difficult for operators to see approaching vehicles. All of these factors can cause serious crashes.

From 2011 to 2015, there were 688 crashes involving farm vehicles, resulting in 23 fatalities and 348 injuries. Nearly half of the fatalities were an occupant of the farm vehicle.

“Twenty-two percent of all farm equipment crashes and 29 percent of the fatalities were distraction-related,” Hietpas said. “Other factors were speed-related and alcohol-related.”

MnDOT urges motorists to:
• Watch for debris dropped by trucks hauling sugar beets and other crops. It is safer to brake

or slowly drive through debris than to veer into oncoming cars or off the road.

• When approaching farm equipment, slow down and use caution. Put additional space between your vehicle and the farm equipment ahead. Don’t assume the equipment operator can see you.

• Be patient and wait for a safe place to pass.

• Wear seatbelts.

• Drive with headlights on at all times.

Farm equipment operators should:

• Use lights and flashers to make equipment more visible.

• Use slow-moving vehicle emblems on equipment traveling less than 30 mph.

• Drive slow-moving vehicles in the right-hand lane as close to the edge of the roadway as possible.

• Consider using an escort vehicle when moving equipment, especially at night and if the equipment is large enough that it may extend across the center line.

• Avoid encouraging or signaling motorists to pass. Pull over when safe, and let traffic pass.

• Pick up any debris left on the highway by the equipment or contact MnDOT to remove it.

• Plan their routes so wide equipment will not hit or damage signs, guardrails, light poles and other roadway structures.

See dot.state.mn.us for more information.



Minnesota Crop Report



Warm conditions aided maturity of corn and soybeans and contributed to a rapid harvest pace of dry edible beans during the week ending September 17, 2017, according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were **5.7 days suitable for fieldwork**. Some areas reported fall tillage delays due to dry conditions. Harvest continued for corn silage, sugarbeets, potatoes, and alfalfa hay.

Topsoil moisture supplies rated 2 percent very short, 16 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies rated 4 percent very short, 15 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

Eighty-six percent of the **corn** for grain crop reached the dent stage, remaining 5 days behind the 5-year average. Thirteen percent had reached maturity, 10 days behind both last year and average. Corn for silage was 30 percent complete, 11 days behind average. Corn condition was 81 percent good to excellent. Eighty-one percent of the **soybean** crop was turning color with 36 percent dropping leaves. Scattered reports of soybean harvesting were noted in northern Minnesota. Soybean condition remained at 72 percent good to excellent.

Nearly all of the **dry edible bean crop** was dropping leaves. One-quarter of the dry edible crop was harvested during the week, making the total harvest progress 44 percent complete. Dry edible bean condition rating was 66 percent good to excellent. **Sunflower** condition remained at 86 percent good to excellent. **Potato** harvest was 48 percent complete. Potato crop condition remained at 92 percent good to excellent. **Sugarbeets** were 8 percent lifted. Sugarbeet condition was unchanged at 89 percent good to excellent.

The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 87 percent complete. **Pasture** condition declined to 54 percent good to excellent.

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Rock hounds get together in BP



Three young rock hounds visited fellow rock hound Marion Mast at a meeting of the Steele County Gem & Mineral Club on Saturday, Sept. 16. Shown examine rocks with Mast, right, are Carter Blome, Sam Skillestad and Nina Mast. (Staff photo by Howard Lestrud)

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

Call them rock hounds. Rock hounds of all ages gathered at Marion and Joan Mast’s residence recently just to look at some cool stones.

Marion is a member of the Steele County Gem

and Mineral Club and invited some of his fellow members to come and critique his personal collection on Saturday morning, Sept. 16. Three of the younger collectors also showed off their collections. Having fun collecting rocks and showing their collections were Carter Blome of Medford, Sam Skillestad of Blooming Prairie and Nina Mast, granddaughter of Marion and Joan

Mast. Sam, 14, said he started collecting when Marion had a rock and gem store in downtown Blooming Prairie. “I went to his shop to learn new things about stones,” he said. Carter, 13, says he enjoys collecting agates from the Lake Superior region. Nina, 9, said she is most fond of the tiger’s eye.

“These kids are rock hounds and have their nose to the ground looking for some new rocks all the time,” laughed Joan Mast.

On the adult side, Herman Clausen brought some field rocks from his farm north of Blooming Prairie. He said he walks the roads in his neighborhood, looking for “keeper” stones. He also borrowed Marion’s saw to cut some rocks.

Mary Shemorek came from Waseca and Jan O’Neil visited from Faribault.

Mantorville Theatre accepting auditions for The Rented Christmas

The Mantorville Theatre Company will hold auditions for its holiday production of The Rented Christmas at the Mantorville Opera House on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29-30 at 6:30 p.m.

John Dale hasn’t enjoyed a “real Christmas” for years. He decides to “rent” a Christmas from a shop that claims, “We’ll rent anything!” He has a list of requirements: a tree with presents, Christmas carols, a wife, and five children. Anne Weston, the shop’s owner, calls the actors’ guild to rent the “family.” When the actors catch the measles, she turns to the local orphanage and steps in to play the role of “mother” herself. Based on the short story by J. Lillian Vandervere, this happy story for the holiday season is suitable for all ages.

This production has parts for many actors in a variety of age ranges. The theatre is looking for four women, three men, at least two children, and at least six teens. This production will be directed by Rachel Soland and produced by Teresa Fette.

Theatre officials are also looking for volunteers to help take tickets, paint the set, help with costumes, and many other backstage opportunities. Anyone interested in volunteering or have any questions, or need to request an alternative audition time, should message on Facebook or email at MantorvilleTheatre@yahoo.com.

The Rented Christmas will run Nov. 17 through Dec. 3, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m.

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

To become a Blooming Prairie Chamber member, contact Becky at 583-4472

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Emergency Snowplow Operators

Seeking candidates for intermittent snowplow operators for winter snow & ice operations in various locations in SE Minnesota; requires Class B CDL with No airbrake restriction. For specific position requirements, salary and online application through October 16, go to <http://mn.gov/mmb/careers> and apply to Job ID 14500. EOE

Contact Lena at lena.garcia@state.mn.us or 651-366-3406

WEEKLY CROSSWORD - ANSWERS ON PG. C3

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Fall down
- 5. Walmart founder Walton
- 8. Los Angeles time zone
- 11. Gallantry
- 13. Early Supreme Court justice Bartlett
- 14. One-time governor of Maryland
- 15. Act of imitating
- 16. Popular basketball player Jeremy
- 17. Round Dutch cheese
- 18. S. American rodents
- 20. Comic opera “Princess ”
- 21. Commodities buyers and sellers (slang)
- 22. Hovers
- 25. Having had one’s head cut off
- 30. One-time monetary unit of Greece
- 31. Not no
- 32. Beloved Cubs third baseman Ron
- 33. Shapes
- 38. Giants signal caller Manning
- 41. Moves all the way around
- 43. Babe Ruth retired as one
- 45. Relinquishing
- 48. Native religion in China
- 49. Not well
- 50. Fill with high spirits
- 55. In bed
- 56. Type of pet
- 57. Somewhere to go
- 59. Smaller quantity
- 60. Ingested
- 61. Singer and Jacobs are two
- 62. Anger
- 63. British rockers ___ Zep-pelin
- 64. Like

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Polyvinyl acetate
- 2. Canadian folk musician
- 3. Evergreen trees and shrubs
- 4. Meat from a pig (French)
- 5. Secretion
- 6. Quality of yielding nothing of value
- 7. Aquatic mammal
- 8. Father
- 9. Protective crusts
- 10. Caps
- 12. Handwoven rug
- 14. Soil-like material
- 19. Not wide
- 23. When you aim to get there
- 24. Hold molecules
- 25. Tooth caregiver
- 26. Amount of time
- 27. Beverage container
- 28. Perform
- 29. Appollo’s grandmother
- 34. Obsolete home entertainment device
- 35. Serbian mythological demon
- 36. Bulgarian currency
- 37. Midway between south and southeast
- 39. Makes sense
- 40. A way to single out
- 41. Criminal (slang)
- 42. Former Tigers third baseman Brandon
- 44. Wobbled
- 45. Singapore’s second highest peak
- 46. Grossly overweight
- 47. Radioactivity units
- 48. Famed Spanish painter
- 51. Internet router algorithm
- 52. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 53. Druidic mother goddess
- 54. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 58. Midway between east and southeast

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Foreclosure

17-107494

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: July 10, 2013 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$105,738.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Danielle Kay Strommer and Stephan Charles Strommer, wife and husband MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. MIN#: 100603713070078628 LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC SERVICER: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed July 12, 2013, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000392396 ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 15,16 and South 14 feet of Lot 14, all being in Block 29 in Johnson and Company's Addition to Medford (said Block 29, being located in North part of SW 1/4 SW 1/4 of Section 9-108-20) PROPERTY ADDRESS: 211 1st Ave NE, Medford, MN 55049 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 16-101-2915 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$103,204.26 THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: October 19, 2017, 10:00am PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on April 19, 2018, or the next business day if April 19, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: August 31, 2017
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP
BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
Dated: August 25, 2017
CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP
BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
8/29,9/5, 9/12
9/19,9/26,10/3

Foreclosure

17-107550

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: July 15, 2008

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$80,300.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Jacqueline J. Robinson, a single person MORTGAGEE: Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation SERVICER: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed July 16, 2008, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000358537 ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.; Thereafter assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC. LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 15 to 26, both inclusive in Block 3, Clarke's Addition to the Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota. That part of the South Half of 7th Street NE (Pope Street) which lies S of Lot 1, Block 4, Clarke's Addition, North of Lot 20, Block 3, Clarke's Addition East of the East line of Center Avenue (Pine Street) and West of the Westerly right of way line of State Highways 218 and 30 in the village (now City) of Blooming Prairie (now Vacated) PROPERTY ADDRESS: 801 Center Ave N, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-109-0315 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$72,905.11 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: October 27, 2017, 10:00am PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on April 27, 2018, or the next business day if April 27, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: August 31, 2017
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP
BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
9/5, 9/12, 9/19
9/26,10/3, 10/10

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-1568

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

Estate of Janet R. Rosenblatt, Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on November 13, 2017, at 10:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Owatonna Fire Hall, 107 W. Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, October 5, 2007, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Sue Hayungs, whose address is 623 32nd Court NE, Rochester, MN, 55906 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 necessary acts for the Estate.

BY THE COURT
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
9/12/2017
Sonia Holder
Court Administrator
9/12/2017
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: 26190
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com
9/19, 9/26

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.

BY THE COURT
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
8/30/2017
Sonia Holder
Court Administrator
8/30/2017
Attorney for Petitioner
Eric J. Mattison
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 0268045
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: mattison@owatonnalawyers.com
9/12, 9/19

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-1642

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

Estate of Carole M. Dittrich, Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on November 13, 2017, at 10:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Owatonna Fire Hall, 107 W. Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, April 27, 1995, and ("Will"), and for the appointment of Shelly M. Dittrich Starman and Steven M. Dittrich whose addresses are 2724 SE 138th Street, Blooming Prairie, MN, 55917 and 9879 County Road 3, Owatonna, MN 55060, respectively as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

BY THE COURT
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
9/12/2017
Sonia Holder
Court Administrator
9/12/2017
Attorney for Petitioner
Kristin K. Haberman
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: haberman@owatonnalawyers.com
9/19, 9/26

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.

BY THE COURT
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
9/12/2017
Sonia Holder
Court Administrator
9/12/2017
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: 26190
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com
9/19, 9/26

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-1635

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

Estate of Marlene June Quaintance, Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on November 13, 2017, at 10:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Owatonna Fire Hall, 107 W. Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, August 4, 2015, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Bonnie Christensen, whose address is P.O. Box 654, Hill City, SD, 57745 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 necessary acts for the Estate.

BY THE COURT
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
9/12/2017
Sonia Holder
Court Administrator
9/12/2017
Attorney for Petitioner
Kristin K. Haberman
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: haberman@owatonnalawyers.com
9/19, 9/26

Steele County

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 08/22/2017 Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
1. The Board conducted an interview with County Engineer candidate Gregory Ilkka. Gnem/Krueger to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 4:38 p.m. Ayes all.
9/19

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
1. Krueger/Abbe to approve the agenda. Ayes all.
2. Glynn/Krueger to approve a four-year contract with Highway Engineer Gregory Ilkka. Ayes all.
3. Human Resource Director Julie Johnson outlined the interview process for the County Administrator position.
4. Preliminary interviews with the County Administrator candidates were conducted.
5. Krueger/Abbe to approve moving forward with Jennifer Bromeland, Scott Golberg and Michel Plante as finalists and to set a Special Board Meeting for Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the County Boardroom for final interviews. Glynn/Gnemi to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 3:25 p.m. Ayes all.
9/19

Steele County

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 08/30/2017 Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
1. Krueger/Abbe to approve the agenda. Ayes all.
2. Glynn/Krueger to approve a four-year contract with Highway Engineer Gregory Ilkka. Ayes all.
3. Human Resource Director Julie Johnson outlined the interview process for the County Administrator position.
4. Preliminary interviews with the County Administrator candidates were conducted.
5. Krueger/Abbe to approve moving forward with Jennifer Bromeland, Scott Golberg and Michel Plante as finalists and to set a Special Board Meeting for Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the County Boardroom for final interviews. Glynn/Gnemi to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 3:25 p.m. Ayes all.
9/19

Assumed Name

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 NAMED: Hendrickson Trucking

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 203 2nd St. NW, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S): Cody Lee Hendrickson Address: 203 2nd St. NW, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 USA

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 date referenced in the attachment.

SIGNED BY: Cody Lee Hendrickson MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: constitutioncody@gmail.com Steve Simon Secretary of State 9/19,9/26

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as the agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required, who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Blooming Prairie Township Landowners

The deadline for mowing Road Ditches in the Township is October 1st 2017.
If the road ditches on your land are not mowed by this date and have to be mowed for you by the township, we will bill you a fee for the service.

Signed the Blooming Prairie Township Board
Jerry WencI- Chairman
Missy Anderson- Clerk
9/19

Steele County

Steele County Commissioner's Synopsis for 08/22/17 Complete minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website.

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
• Glynn/Gnemi to approve the agenda.
• Approve the August 8, 2017 Board Minutes.
• Approve the Bills.
• Approve Personnel Report.
• Accept Public Safety Minutes.
• Human Resource Director Julie Johnson introduced new employee Amber Kniefel as an Administrative Assistant in the Community Corrections Department.
• The Steele Spotlight featured Assistant County Attorney Laura Isenor from the Attorney's office.
• A presentation of the Steele County Humane Society was given by Liane Peterson and Elizabeth Bratsch.
• Brett Ostby and Dan Shafer gave a presentation about the Zumbro Watershed Partnership and their request for funds to be used towards operational expenses.
• Transportation Planning Director Ronda Allis gave a presentation of the MnDOT District 6 draft 10-year district work plan.
• President Dan Deml and Fair Manager Jim Gleason from the Steele County Fair Board gave a presentation of the Steele County Free Fair.
• Glynn/Gnemi offered a Resolution to approve an agreement with Shannon Kruckeberg, DBA as Healthy Smiles. Upon the vote being taken, five Commissioners voted in favor thereof, none absent and not voting. A copy of the Resolution is on file in the Auditor's office.
• Glynn/Krueger to approve CUP #408 for MJC Farms to place four 25,800-gallon liquid fertilizer storage tanks on property owned by Jerald Ingvalson located in the NW ¼ of the SE 1/4, Section 13, Blooming Prairie Township with conditions per the Planning Commission and to accept the Findings of Fact. Ayes all.
• Gnemi/Glynn to officially state the Board's intention to exit Steele County Communities for a Lifetime (SCCL). Ayes all.
• Abbe/Krueger to authorize the County Administrator and the Board Chair to enter into negotiations with the County Engineer candidate Gregory Ilkka. Ayes all.
• Human Resource Director Julie Johnson outlined the interview process for the County Administrator's position.
• Gnemi/Abbe to approve the selected eight candidates for the first round of interviews for the Administrator position. Ayes all.
• County Treasurer Cathy Piepho gave a 2018 Budget update.
• Glynn/Abbe to approve a 1:1 match of \$4,000 to conduct a security assessment and a 1:1 match of \$2,000 for security training through the Safe and Secure Courthouse Initiative Grant Agreement between the State of Minnesota and Steele County. Ayes all.
• Gnemi/Krueger to approve the solicitation of bids for a new squad car. Ayes all.
• Glynn/Abbe to approve moving forward with a contract for service with Stage by Stage for dual chemical dependency treatment at the Detention Center. Ayes all.
• Abbe/Gnemi to approve a five-year service agreement between the Steele County Sheriff's Office and Motorola Solutions. Ayes all.
• Glynn/Gnemi to approve the new Highway Building layout with an additional 6,000 sq. ft. storage space on the second floor. Ayes all.
• Building and Grounds Director Lynn Holthus and Robin Hoesley gave an update on the Courthouse project.
• Gnemi/Glynn to schedule a Work Session on September 11, 2017 at 7:00 a.m. to discuss the Steele County budget. Ayes all.
• Gnemi/Krueger approve to meet in a Special Session to conduct interviews with the candidates for the Steele County Administrator's position on August 30th, 2017, time to be determined. Ayes all.

LISTING OF BILLS 08/22/2017	
30th Place LLC	17,596.25
Advanced Correctional Healthcare Inc	8,699.60
All American Arena Products	10,935.00
AMCON	24,652.00
Bishop Excavating, Inc.	35,728.98
Block Plumbing & Heating Inc	6,701.93
Borneke Construction, Inc.	482,986.65
Central Farm Services	4,229.99
Crane Creek Asphalt	2,562.39
CRK Properties LLC	5,974.00
Honeywell Inc	5,794.74
Innovative Office Solutions LLC	5,763.55
J R's Advanced Recyclers Inc	6,060.70
Local Government Information Systems	29,477.00
Medford Sand & Gravel LLC	14,234.13
Mn Counties Intergovernmental Trust	2,500.00
Mn Dept of Transportation	2,699.14
MVTL Laboratories Inc	11,520.90
Olmsted County Community Svcs	2,220.00
Olympic Fire Protection Corp	3,120.00
Pictometry International Corp	24,096.67
Rocon Incorporated	21,723.16
Soldo Consulting PC	3,281.16
Southern Mn Construction Co Inc.	14,734.39
Steele County Treasurer	12,271.10
Summit Food Service Management	9,416.34
Waste Management of Wi-Mn	52,348.27
WSB & Associates Inc	11,229.15
121 Warrants under \$2,000	59,977.93
Total:	\$ 892,535.12

Motion by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Gnemi to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 8:15 p.m. Ayes all.

9/19



Senior Focus

Health & Fitness
Retirement
Money/Investment
Activities & Hobbies

The health benefits of grandparent-grandchild relationships

In the not-so-distant past, extended families were the norm, with multiple generations residing on the same street if not in the same house.

Today the family unit is largely an amalgam of different situations. The rise of two-income families has pressured parents into finding childcare situations. Quite often grandparents once again step in to offer guidance and support for youngsters. This can be a good thing for both the grandparents and the grandchildren.

Although a bevy of psychological research focuses on parent-child relationships, new evidence points to the benefits of the grandchild-grandparent relationship as well. Close relationships between these different demographics is often a sign of strong familial ties.

A study from researchers at Boston College discovered that emotionally close ties between grandparents and adult grandchildren reduced depressive symptoms in both groups. Research at the University of Oxford among English children between the ages 11 and 16 found that close grandparent-grandchild relationships were associated with benefits including fewer emotional and behavioral problems and fewer difficulties with peers.

Adult and grandchildren alike benefit from relationships with their elders. Grandparents can provide a connection and exposure to different ideas while providing a link to family history and knowledge regarding traditions and customs not readily available elsewhere.

Nurturing grandparent-grandchild experiences may be easy for families where grandparents live in the same house or close by. For others, it may take some effort. The following are some ways to facilitate time spent together.

- Schedule regular family reunions or get-togethers. Host or plan multi-generation events that bring the family together

and expose children to various members of their family.

- Promote one-on-one time. Have grandchildren spend time with grandparents in intimate settings. Alone time can be good for both and offers each undivided attention. A meal at a restaurant or time spent doing a puzzle or craft can be interesting to both generations involved.
- Video chat when possible. If distance makes frequent visits challenging, use technology to bridge that gap. Send photos, letters and electronic communications. Tech-savvy grandparents can use Skype or Facetime to stay in touch and speak one-on-one with their grandchildren.
- Share skills with each other. Either generation can play teacher to the other. Grandparents may have certain skills, such as baking, sewing or wood crafts, they can impart that may not be readily taught today. Children can help grandparents navigate computers, video games or sports activities.

Grandchildren can help grandparents feel younger, and grandchildren can learn new experiences from their grandparents.



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Visit our website for more information about Birchwood Cottages Assisted Living in Owatonna
www.birchwoodcottagesmn.com

Feel free to contact Birchwood Cottages with any questions
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WANTED

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GARAGE SALE

Riverside Park, Mantorville. Every Tuesday 11 am - 5 pm May-October Farmers' & Artisans' Market: Artists, crafters, Watkins products, baked goods, flea market & farmers' market vendors, non-profit fundraising groups welcome, \$5/wk. vendor fee, 507-635-5554, www.mantorvilletourism.com
612 3rd St SE, Dodge Center Friday & Saturday 8 am - 4 pm. Moving/garage sale, multi-family, framed prints, sporting goods, pet carriers, folding chairs, desk, kids chairs and table, sewing machine, ice augers, and many other items. 40p
Stewartville's 10th Annual Trash & Treasure Day, Saturday 7 am - 5 pm. Some sales begin Thursday & Friday. You don't want to miss this event! Garage Sale listings will be listed in the September 19 issue of the Stewartville STAR, online at www.thinkStewartville.com and the Stewartville STAR's Facebook page. Call 507-533-4271 for more information. 40p
12 Airport Road S, Dodge Center. Fri-Sat 8-4 pm. Household knick knacks, compound bow w/ arrows, ice fishing rods, fabric for quilting or crafts, old vanity, old push button adjustable bed. 40p
403 7th St NE, Kasson. Sat 8 am - 1 pm. Many baby items and baby clothes, adult women's clothes sizes 8-11, a lot of miscellaneous. 40p

502 2nd Ave. SW, Kasson. Thur. & Fri. 8-4, Sat. 8-12. Furniture, home decor, misc.

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Part time bartender/waiter to work flexible hours Mon.-Sun. Must be at least 18 yrs. of age and able to start work at 4p.m. Will tain. Pick up application at 505 Frontage Rd NW or send application/ resume to Byron American Legion. P.O. Box 687 Byron, MN 55920. 39tfn
HELP WANTED: PCA/Care-giver in NW Rochester in private home. Every Friday & Saturday night 7 p.m.-7 a.m. and/or every other Saturday 7 a.m.-7 p.m. No heavy lifting. \$12.59 per hour. Will train. May apply for some or all. 507-289-2756 40nc

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Minnesota Classified Advertising Network



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EXPERIENCED SEMI-DRIVERS

Sugarbeet, potato harvest. Sept 20-Oct 28. Valid driver's license required. Employees subject to random drug testing. Camper hookups available. Emanuel Farms, Drayton ND 701/454-6122

EMPLOYMENT

PATTERSON DAHLBERG

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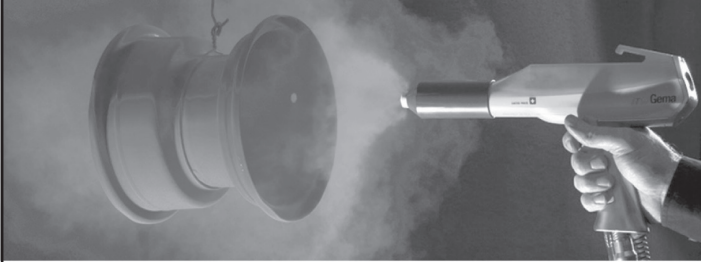
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OwatonnaPARKS & RECREATION

540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna • Office Phone: 507-444-4321 • www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation • Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.



You can donate to the Miracle Field and Inclusive Playground in Owatonna by signing up for the Minute to Win It Skills Challenge! This park will be located at the current Manthey Park. Keep an eye out for details! Contact Owatonna Park and Rec with any questions 507-444-4321

Ways to Register:

- On-Line
www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation/online-registration
- Walk-In Registration (begins at 7:00 a.m.): Park & Recreation
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Upcoming Events

- September 19: Youth Basketball Registration opens
- September 20: Archery Range opening at 711 N Elm
- September 22: Woofstock at Lake Chase Dog Park
- September 22: Owatonna Park Passport sign change
- September 22: Deadline to register for Fall Adult Tennis League
- September 26: Leisure Swim Begins
- September 28: Thursday Night Swim Lessons Begin
- September 30: Saturday Morning Swim Lessons Begin
- October 3: Tuesday Night Swim Lessons Begin
- October 5: National Golf Lovers Day at Brooktree Golf Course
- October 6: Youth Basketball registration deadline
- October 7: Minute to Win It Skills Challenge at Manthey Park
- October 8: Beers & Bogeys at Brooktree Golf Course
- October 20: WSI Session 2 begins
- October 28: 4th Annual Trick or Treat Trail at Manthey Park
- October 30: Tikes and Squirts Basketball registration deadline
- ONGOING: Calendar contest submission through October 2017
- ONGOING: Sunday Family Funday at Brooktree Golf Course

Parks and Recreation Contact Information:

Office & Information Line 507-444-4321
Tennis & Fitness Center 507-444-4290
Fax 507-444-4299

SeniorPlace 507-444-4280
Facebook Owatonna Parks and Recreation
Brooktree Clubhouse 507-444-2467

Email Address parkrec@ci.owatonna.mn.us
River Springs Water Park 507-774-7370

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