

CAPTURED AT LAST

Marshals arrest ‘Losing Streak Lois’ in Texas

Riess to be extradited to Florida first

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The U.S. Marshal’s Office and the Lee County Sheriff’s Department met the press early Friday morning in Lee County Florida and reported that Lois Ann Riess, fugitive on the run, offered no resistance to her arrest late Thursday night.

Two hours later, Dodge County Sheriff Scott Rose met with the media in Mantorville to discuss Riess’ arrest and to thank the media and the public for their help in ending this nearly one-month manhunt. Video of the sheriff’s press conference can be found at steeledodgenews.com.

Riess, of Blooming Prairie, has been on the run since March 21 when she allegedly shot and killed her husband David at their home south of Blooming Prairie in Dodge County.

A nationwide manhunt resulted in the apprehension and arrest of Riess at a South Padre Island, Texas restaurant.

She was arrested at 8:25 p.m. Thursday without incident by the U.S. Marshals and the South Padre Police Department. She was taken to the San Pedro Island jail.

Riess was arraigned in Texas Saturday morning and ordered to be held without bond until she can be transferred to Florida. Perhaps the biggest news coming out of the hearing was the order that Riess will be extradited to Florida before she is returned to her home in Minnesota for legal proceedings.

While the legal proceedings are still being worked out between the two states, she will end up in Florida first most likely because she had already been charged with the Fort Myers Beach murder. Minnesota will be watching this closely as Florida also has tougher penalties, namely the death penalty.

Dodge County Sheriff’s investigators and Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) investigators flew to Texas early Friday morning to continue their investigation. They executed a search warrant on her hotel room late Friday and recovered two pistols, including a .22 caliber and 9-mm.

Rose called these events “a tragic and devastating time.” He asked everyone to be mindful and respectful of the families of the victims.

With Riess’ arrest, Sheriff Rose said he believed the people of

Blooming Prairie and elsewhere were safer because of the efforts of the media and public tips.

“It’s an unusual and sad case,” Rose remarked. He said Riess’ arrest created a sense of “great relief” for law enforcement authorities. Her apprehension was “truly a team effort on our part,” Rose said in complimenting his staff of 54 at the Dodge County Sheriff’s Office.

Carmine Marceno, undersheriff in Lee County, Florida and John Kinsey of the U.S. Marshal’s Office in the Middle District of Florida conducted the press conference. See video at <https://www.facebook.com/NBC2News/videos/10155744406761225/>.

Wanted in Lee County, Florida, for murder, Riess allegedly killed 59-year-old Pamela Hutchinson in a Fort Myers Beach condo on or about April 5.

She then allegedly stole the victim’s driver’s license, credit cards and 2005 white Acura TL and fled. Riess, 56, is also a person of interest in the murder of her husband in Dodge County in March. She has not been charged with second degree

SEE CAPTURED, A3



**“This is a stone cold killer.
We ran a killer off the streets.”**

- Carmine Marceno
Lee County Undersheriff

*Still no local murder charges as
investigators continue to build case*

WANTED

Lois Ann Riess

WANTED: MURDER

1-800-780-8477



U.S. MARSHALS



The U.S. Marshal Service launched electronic billboards in five southern states last week in hopes of finding accused fugitive killer Lois Riess of Blooming Prairie. The billboards featured an image of Riess and requested anyone with information to contact police. The fugitive manhunt attracted nationwide attention through the news media. Authorities credit the media coverage for helping capture Riess last Thursday in South Padre Island, Texas.

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

As the accused killer who has been dubbed by authorities as “Losing Streak Lois” will be heading off to Florida for the first phase of her criminal proceedings, murder charges still have not been filed against her in Dodge County.

Sheriff Scott Rose had previously said second-degree murder charges

against Lois Riess in the suspected killing of her husband David Riess were expected to be filed last week. However, that didn’t happen as local investigators appear to be trying to put together a rock solid case. There is no rush as Riess has already been charged in Florida.

At a press conference Friday morning, Rose said charges would not be filed until Minnesota investigators are finished piecing together the Dodge County case. “We are taking time to build

as strong as possible case against Lois Riess for David Riess’ murder,” he said. “Our investigators and the agents from the Minnesota BCA and its crime lab are continuing to gather evidence and information that will become part of the case against her.”

Specifically, local investigators executed search warrants on the motel room in Texas where Riess had been staying and on the stolen vehicle she

SEE INVESTIGATORS, A6



Submitted Photo
Rod and Tess Koster of Blooming Prairie were staying at their Florida home in early April when accused killer Lois Riess showed up in their driveway one afternoon. The couple is thankful to be alive, especially knowing that Lois allegedly killed another woman about a block from the Kosters in Fort Myers Beach.

“It might have been me. I feel lucky to be alive”

- Tess Koster
Survived ordeal with accused killer

BP couple sought out by accused killer in Florida thankful to be alive

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

No one is feeling more relieved over the capture of accused killer Lois Riess than Blooming Prairie business owners Tess and Rod Koster, especially after their harrowing experience while vacationing in southern Florida.

Knowing what she knows

now about the alleged murderer, Tess is convinced she could have been one of Lois’ victims. The two have similar long blonde hair and about the same age.

Police revealed that Lois Riess allegedly murdered Pamela Hutchinson in Florida to steal her identity because of their similar looks.

“It might have been me,” Tess said last week after returning back home from

Florida and the day after Lois Riess was captured in Texas. “I feel lucky to be alive.”

Tess admits she has been “shook up” and uneasy ever since her face-to-face encounter with the accused killer. But things changed last Thursday after news came out of Texas that Lois Riess had been arrested in South Padre Island.

SEE BP COUPLE, A6

LOIS RIESS ENCOUNTER

Tess Koster’s personal account of her encounter with the alleged killer Lois Riess

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OUR VIEW

Teamwork from many helps catch a nationwide fugitive

Once federal authorities captured accused murderer Lois Riess, who is suspected of going on a 2-state killing spree that began outside of Blooming Prairie, a collective sigh of relief could be felt across the nation. She had been caught before hurting or killing anybody else.

For nearly one month Riess eluded local, state and federal authorities in a track from Minnesota to Iowa to Florida and ending up in Texas. During that time, she had many people on edge wondering where she was going to show up next. The tragic case of a mother and grandma believed to be a gambling addict took many unexpected twists and turns that had people wondering if they were in the movie theatres watching a murder thriller. But sadly it turned out to be real life.

While it's still not known exactly what triggered "Losing Streak Lois," as authorities dubbed her in this case, to take such alleged drastic measures as to kill two people and other crimes, the world is a safer place today thanks to her being taken off the streets. And it couldn't have been done without the combined cooperation and efforts of several groups of people.

First of all, we want to recognize the efforts of the Dodge County Sheriff's Office, which began untangling this mystery on March 23 when David Riess' body was found shot to death in the couple's home outside of Blooming Prairie. Even though the local office isn't equipped to handle such cases of this magnitude, the local investigators teamed up with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and later the U.S. Marshal Service and Lee County Sheriff's Office in Florida. Dodge County Sheriff Scott Rose and his team are to be commended for their diligent work around the clock in solving this case.

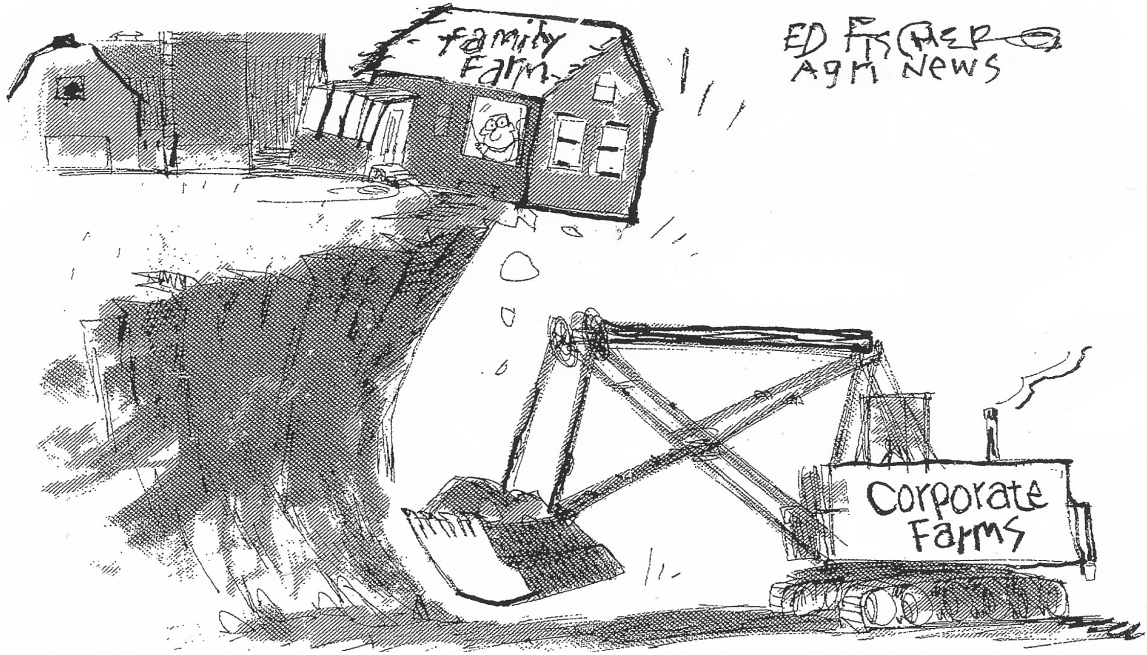
Unfortunately the case gained more momentum as Riess was accused of killing a woman she befriended to steal her identity in Florida a few weeks later. This killing thrust the Riess case into the eyes of the entire nation as authorities launched a desperate attempt to catch her. In detailing a suspected "cold blooded killer" as she was described, Florida officials were swift in making sure something more tragic would not take place.

And that's where the next layer of cooperation and effort came to light even stronger than in the initial stages. The news media shared the tragic killings and the vigilant manhunt underway for a fugitive that spanned through many states. In addition to local coverage, the murder investigation captured state and national attention.

After Riess was captured last Thursday thanks to a tip from someone who saw the media coverage, local and federal officials thanked the media for its role in her apprehension. Without a doubt, the media is a powerful force that can even lead to helping solve murder mysteries. It's reassuring to see that normal every day citizens pay attention to media accounts in greater hopes of improving society.

It's our hope that the families of David Riess and Pamela Hutchinson can begin to have some closure. This has undoubtedly been a tragic and devastating time for both families. While they are still grieving, we hope that Lois Riess' capture will provide them with at least a glimmer of hope that justice will prevail and bring some closure to these horrifying crimes. Let's all keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they continue through these dark moments.

The complexity of this case shows that law enforcement cannot do its work alone. It needs the help and cooperation of others from the media to every day citizens in bringing fugitives to justice.



Citizens, law enforcement join hands to solve bizarre case

One of the more bizarre crime stories to shake the small community of Blooming Prairie has had its residents captivated by twists and turns following the murder of businessman David Riess in late March.

Lois Riess is now in custody and likely will be extradited to Florida to stand charges of murdering Pamela Hutchinson of Bradenton, Florida and stealing her identity.

Riess was apprehended on March 19 at a restaurant in South Padre Island, Texas. She offered no resistance.

A crime of murder was allegedly committed on April 21 with David Riess being shot multiple times. His body was found by two Blooming Prairie police officers, Cpl. Jake Peterson and Officer Dan Peach.

Since the murder site was in Dodge County, Sheriff's authorities took over the investigation.

The rest is history. Police looked nationwide for Lois Riess, a person of interest in David Riess' murder. She was spotted at Diamond Jo's Casino in Northwood, Iowa and then seen at Fort Myers Beach, Florida, when she attempted to visit Tess and Rod Koster. Her motive was not known but Tess Koster believes Riess may have robbed them and possibly killed them.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office then became involved when Pamela Hutchinson was found murdered in a condominium in Fort Myers Beach. Riess again became a suspect.

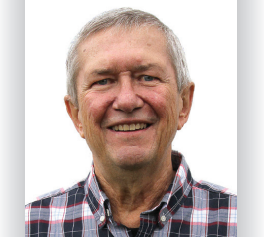
Read Tess Koster's story elsewhere in this issue.

Lois Riess' alleged actions beginning in Blooming Prairie and continuing to Florida and on to Texas had everyone in Blooming Prairie wondering why this chain of events was happening.

Where is Lois Riess? Everyone was asking that question.

As the nationwide manhunt

REFLECTIONS... AND HOW



HOWARD LESTRUD

expanded from the Dodge County Sheriff's Department and Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to a national hunt helped by the assistance of the U.S. Marshal's Office. "We will find her," said officials of the Marshal's Office.

Finally with her arrest, another law enforcement agency, South Padre Police became involved.

Pleas went nationwide for public help and help the public did, providing law enforcement with the tips that led to Riess' arrest.

The cooperative efforts of all law enforcement agencies, starting in Blooming Prairie, going on to Dodge County and then nationwide were exemplary.

The professionalism of law enforcement throughout the country showed strong evidence that cooperation between policing departments and help from the media and public made the arrest of Riess possible.

Many are now relieved that the first step in the criminal case has concluded with an arrest. It now continues with Riess' extradition to either Florida or Minnesota.

The community of Blooming Prairie stood tall in keeping informed but refrained from spreading rumors in this case.

The Twin Cities media swooped down on Blooming

Prairie to find out why these events. Blooming Prairie does not know the answers but residents believed answers would come in due time.

Community residents expressed confidence that law enforcement would find answers. More answers will come with further investigation.

Blooming Prairie is a caring community and appreciates its inhabitants. The recent chain of events surrounding Lois Riess is baffling and does not mean that the BP community is an unfriendly place to live.

Look at the fundraising efforts led by the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group, by the BP Education Foundation and by the BP Youth Club. Just last weekend, more than 233 people participated in a designer purse Bingo that earned over \$10,000 for the BP Cancer Group.

This, too, will pass, says Blooming Prairie Mayor H. Peterson who is one of the most vocal ambassadors of this southern Minnesota community.

Thanks to our splendid law enforcement locally and throughout the country plus help from social media, Lois Riess was found and will now face criminal charges for her alleged actions.

Law enforcement thanked other agencies who helped on the Riess case and they also praised the news media and the public for their help.

Blooming Prairie is a small town affected by some crazy chain of events but it will survive because it cares for its community. Residents should be proud of its community's strong agricultural standing and its trend setting manufacturing advances.

Blooming Prairie deserves more attention for its many positives rather than for a negative chain of events adding up to MURDER.

LETTERS POLICY

The opinions of our readers in the form of Letters to the Editor are a vital contribution to the healthy exchange of ideas on the Steele County Times opinion page. All letters must be signed by the writer/writers and include a telephone number for verification purposes. Letters are accepted through personal delivery, by mail or by email at bptimes@frontiernet.net. Opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Steele County Times and the editor reserves the right to edit letters when necessary. Please limit opinions to no longer than 350 words. The Steele County Times encourages readers to write letters to the editor as a means of communicating ideas and opinions with others, with a goal being to make the community better for all people.

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Elsewhere in Minnesota.....\$44
Out of state.....\$46

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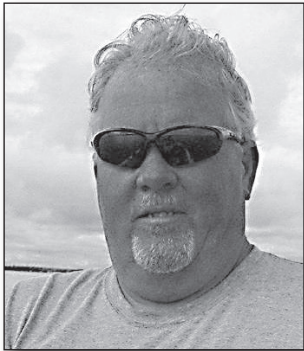


MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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 Award

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

DAVID RIESS MURDER INVESTIGATION



“It’s an unusual and sad case.”

-Scott Rose
Dodge County Sheriff

Koster: ‘It might have been me’

Vacationing BP business owner now realizes she may have been the target

(EDITOR’S NOTE: A few weeks ago the Times referenced an unidentified source in a front page story on Lois Riess’ whereabouts. The source revealed at the time that she had seen Lois Riess in Fort Myers Beach, but did not want her name used for fear of her safety. Our source, Tess Koster, a Blooming Prairie business owner who was vacationing in Florida at the time, came forward this week to share her face-to-face encounter with Lois Riess for readers. Koster shared her story after Riess was captured in South Padre Island, Texas last Thursday.)

BY TESS KOSTER

It was a beautiful day in Fort Myers Beach, 85 and sunny. While talking to my daughter, Breana, who was at our car lot, Koster’s Car

Korner in Blooming Prairie, earlier that morning she said, “What? You’re cleaning the garage for the third day in a row?” I said “Ya, it was really bad when we moved in Feb. 1. Here it is April 2, and we still don’t have this house ready to rent. It still needs a roof from Erma!” My husband Rod and I have five rental homes all within a few blocks of Times Square and the main downtown area. Putting on my work clothes and a large pink and white striped headband for the humidity, I opened the garage doors and went to work. At 1:45, a pearl-colored Cadillac Escalade parked behind our two vehicles facing south toward the bridge leading off island, which is one block away. A gal with a ponytail in her long platinum blonde, almost white hair, got out and walked around the rear of the Escalade while looking at the notepad in her hand, then at the 870 numbers on the house

next door where we previously had lived in the winters for the past six years and is now a full-time rental. She looked back at the pad in her hand and looked at the 880 on the house we are living in now. Standing next to my van, she then looked at my Minnesota Dealer plate. I stepped forward and said “Can I help you?” With my

rentals, people do this all the time. Our eyes met, my heart skipped a beat, it was Lois Riess! I have known her ever since she and Dave came to Blooming Prairie in 2005. She looked down shaking her head saying “wrong house, wrong house” as she got back in her SUV and drove away. I pretended to clean, hoping



she had not recognized me. When she was a half a block away, I ran up stairs into the house yelling “Rod! Rod! Lois was just in our driveway.” He had been talking on the phone and set it down to hear what happened. I explained “Lois Riess just got out of her Escalade checking out our houses. When I said “can I help you” she took off. Should we follow her and dial 911 or just dial 911?” He said “She has a gun! We are not following her.” He picked up his phone and said “Breana, Lois was just here. Call the local police and sheriff.” Remembering the strange phone call Breana had received at 10:30 a.m. at Koster’s Car Korner, our family business. She told the local police about Lois being in our driveway, and the phone call was a woman explaining she was at the Salty Crab, a local restaurant on the beach three blocks from our house, and she had met Breana’s

parents a year ago in Fort Myers Beach. Could she please have our address since she had tried Tess’ cell number and there was no answer. Breana said “She probably didn’t answer because she is cleaning the garage.” Breana gave her the address and Rod’s cell number. Looking up the number on caller ID the police said it was Lois’s new cell number, which she had purchased under a fake name after she ditched her old cell phone. Back at our house, I called 911 who referred me to Steele County, who referred me to Dodge County, who referred me to Fort Myers Beach Police Department, who referred me to Lee County Sheriff’s Department. At 2:15, I had the Sheriff’s Department in my driveway. They explained that there was only a theft and forgery charge against her and that she was only a person of interest in her

SEE KOSTER, A6

‘It’s like a movie’

Everyone is talking about Lois Riess

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Where’s Lois? That was a question many Blooming Prairie residents, young and old, have been asking the past three weeks. Lois Ann Riess was named a person of interest by the Dodge County Sheriff’s Office when her husband David was murdered on March 21. Riess managed the Prairie Wax Worm Farm located just south of Blooming Prairie. As the days went by without a trace of the suspect, residents pondered where she might be. News then came down that she was spotted at Diamond Jo’s Casino in Northwood, Iowa and days later in Fort Myers, Fla. She was identified by two Blooming Prairie business owners. Lois Riess was then listed as a suspect in another murder, this time

in Florida. She remained on the run and was finally captured on April 19 in South Padre Island, Texas. Now, Florida and Minnesota authorities look at ways to extradite her to one of the two states on murder charges. Earlier in the day before she was found and arrested, this journalist made some rounds around Blooming Prairie, asking people to give their take on the Lois Riess matter. “It’s like a movie; it’s so bizarre,” said a senior girl at Blooming Prairie High School. “It’s so unreal that things like this happen. I feel bad for her family. “Our first class of the day begins with us sharing the latest stories on Lois Riess. This is a trusting community, and it definitely has affected our community.” “It opens our eyes to the fact that not everyone is the image they portray.” The Blooming Prairie

senior said she has friends who work at the Prairie Wax Worm Farm. “It has affected them.” Even residents at the Prairie Manor Care Center are asking for new information on Lois Riess. “It’s crazy and unreal,” she continued. “This lady is elusive,” remarked a curious Steele County resident. Referring to a \$6,000 reward being offered, a gentleman said he thought he would begin looking for Lois. “They will find her,” promised another county resident. “These events definitely gives a small town something to talk about,” said one coffee regular at The Bakery. “We refrain from making any public comments,” said one Blooming Prairie business owner. On this particular day, four news media outlets were in town. Local businesses were

SEE MOVIE, A6

CAPTURED: Riess to be extradited to Florida first

FROM PAGE A1

murder in her husband’s death as of yet, said Sheriff Rose. The investigation is continuing. Dodge County authorities have also charged her with grand theft. The fugitive investigation for Riess gained momentum when U.S. Marshals received a tip from a restaurant worker who thought they spotted her. The alert worker provided a description of the suspect and her vehicle. When Deputy U.S.

Marshals and South Padre Island police arrived on the scene, they located the vehicle. Authorities then made their way into the nearby restaurant and found Riess sitting at the bar. She was taken into custody without incident. “I want to acknowledge the doggedness of our deputies, specifically in Florida, Minnesota and Texas, and our state and local law enforcement partners who worked this case around the clock,” said U.S. Marshal William

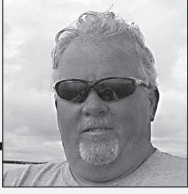
Berger. “I also want to thank the media and the public. You played a significant part in helping us capture Riess and ending her dangerous crime spree,” continued Berger. Marceno said legal processes have to be worked out before she can be moved to another state. Marceno said “thoughts and prayers” go out to the families of the two victims. He thanked not only the U.S. Marshal’s office but

SEE CAPTURED, A6

THE LATEST:
DAVID RIESS MURDER INVESTIGATION

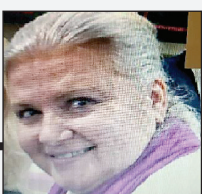
- Lois Riess captured April 19 by U.S. Marshals in South Padre Island, Texas
- Riess ordered held without bail and to be extradited to Florida to face murder charges in connection with Pamela Hutchinson’s death
- Dodge County and BCA investigators traveled to Texas to interview Riess and execute search warrants on the stolen vehicle she was accused of driving and her motel room
- Authorities seized two handguns during the search warrant of Riess’ room
- Still no murder charges in Dodge County
- Prior to capture, U.S. Marshals offered a \$6,000 reward and launched electronic billboards in five southern states

TIMELINE OF DAVID RIESS MURDER INVESTIGATION



March 21

March 25



March 26

March 27



April 9

April 13



April 19

March 21- Authorities believe David Riess was murdered in his home, allegedly by his wife, Lois Riess. (The date was not disclosed until March 27.)

March 23- The body of David Riess was found in his home after police do a welfare check.

March 25- Manhunt begins for Lois Riess. David’s bank card is used over the weekend.

March 26- Dodge County bank contacts police about fraudulent transactions made by Lois Riess with David’s business and personal accounts.

March 26- Autopsy conducted by Southern Minnesota Regional Medical Examiner’s Office. Sheriff Scott Rose reveals David Riess was shot multiple times.

March 27- Warrant issued in Dodge County District Court for theft against Lois Riess. She is accused of stealing money from her dead husband.

April 5 – Surveillance footage shows Lois Riess and Pamela Hutchinson talking at the Smokin’ Oyster Brewery in Fort Myers Beach.

April 9- Pamela Hutchinson of Bradenton, Fla. found murdered in Fort Myers Beach. She had suffered fatal gunshot wounds.

April 13- Lee County Florida authorities announce murder, grand theft auto and grand theft of criminal use of personal identification charges have been issued for Lois Riess in connection with Hutchinson’s death.

April 13- Florida officials say Riess fled southwest Florida traveling through the Gulf States and last detected in the Corpus Christi, Texas area.

April 19- Lois Riess captured by U.S. Marshals in South Padre Island, Texas

April 20- Authorities execute search warrant on Lois Riess’ motel room and find two handguns

April 21- Texas judge orders Lois Riess held without bond and to be extradited to Florida

April 23 – Lois Riess signs waiver of extradition to Florida.

PASTOR'S CORNER



AARON DE NEUI
SENIOR PASTOR
CEDAR CREEK CHURCH
HAYFIELD

Where is our nation headed? In many ways it seems the wrong direction. There are many signs that our culture is not only becoming less “Christian” in its views of sexual morality and other areas, but also more antagonistic and punishing toward the church that chooses to hold on to those views.

It can become very disheartening if we allow it to and raise questions such as, “Are the days of the church impacting culture over?” and “Why is God allowing this?”

Fortunately, as it is written in

Ecclesiastics 1:9, there is nothing new under the sun. In many times and places, even when surrounded by culture very antagonistic toward the God’s people, his people have thrived!

For instance, the church was born during the reign of the Roman Empire, which in many ways was much more pagan and anti-Christian than our present culture. Yet the church exploded in growth and impact.

And if you go back even further in the Bible to the book of Daniel and the nation of Babylon, God’s people, including a

Jew named Daniel were enslaved by and surrounded by leaders and a culture that had no respect for or agreement with the beliefs of the Jews, including Daniel.

PERHAPS...much like where our nation is headed today in its views of the church. Yet...Here’s the good news:

Daniel thrived. He impacted. And God to some degree even blessed the Babylonian leadership because of Daniel. Truth is, God’s people, if they seek wisdom and humility in how to respond to and impact its less and less Christian culture, can impact its culture

while remaining steadfast in its beliefs!

So, hold on unapologetically to the unchangeable truths of God’s revelation, communicate it humbly and lovingly, even to the antagonistic, reach out generously and compassionately to the poor, and thriving can happen now just as in Babylon with Daniel: For you, for me and for the church!

Thriving in Babylon

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: 9:00 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
106 Third St. SE., Geneva
Pastor Kristen Venne
507-256-4288
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC
503 Radel Ct., Ellendale
Pastor Richard Sliper
507-684-2451
Saturday: 8 a.m. Men’s Bible Study
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship;
10:15 a.m. Sunday School/
Confirmation
Tues.: 7 p.m. Call to Prayer,
open to all churches
Wed.: 9:30 a.m. BibleStudy;
3:30 – 5 p.m. Jesus and Me; 6
p.m.
Call to Prayer; 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group

FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA
434 First St. SW.,
Blooming Prairie
Rev. Heidi Heimgartner,
507-583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sundays
Education Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST LUTHERAN – LCMC
8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope
Pastor Sandy Miller
507-451-3854
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15
a.m. Sun.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN – LCMS
2500 7th Ave. NE., Owatonna
Rev. Mark Rosenau,
Senior Pastor
Rev. Greg Schlicker,
Associate Pastor
507-451-4125
www.goodshepherd
owatonna.com
Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m.
& 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA
7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon
Pastor Nancy Edwardson
507-789-6661
Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA
9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale
Pastor Mike Walerius
507-465-8366
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN –

LCMS

1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Kirk Griebel
507-451-2720
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Education Hour:
10:15 a.m. Sun.

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

ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN – LCMS
4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont
Pastor Alan Broadwell
507-528-2404
Worship: 6 p.m. Saturday;
10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN – LCMS
28959 630th Ave., Sargeant
Pastor Collin Duling
507-251-5568
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL’S LUTHERAN – ELCA
30450 570th Ave., Waltham
Pastor Dwight DoBell
507-567-2474
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.

ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN – LCMS
202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN – ELCA
2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden
Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
507-451-2165
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

TRINITY LUTHERAN
5881 SE 118th St.,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
(First Sunday of the month)

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Rev. Todd Buegler, Senior
Pastor
Rev. Dean Smith,
Associate Pastor
Rev. Amanda Weinkauff,
Associate Pastor
507-451-4520
www.tlcowatonna.org
Worship: Saturday: 5 p.m.;
Sun.: 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. &
10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 6 p.m.
Sunday School:
8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA

104 First St. SE., Hayfield
Pastor Paul Hauschild
507-477-2248
www.trinityhayfield.org
Worship: 8 a.m.
& 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS
108 Third Ave. SW., Medford
Pastor Mark Biebighauser
507-451-0447
Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 Sun.
Education Hour:
9:15-10:15 a.m. Sun.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS
57043 300th St., Waltham
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
507-451-2165
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.

CATHOLIC

CHRIST THE KING
203 Second Ave. NW., Medford
507-451-6353
Father Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
Monday Mass: 9 a.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 SW First St., New Richland
Father Raul Silva
Fr. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
507-465-8217
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
Father John Sauer
Fr. Jose Morales, Weekend
Presider
507-451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com
Reconciliation: 8:45 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Children’s Church for
Preschool – 1st Grade
began Sept. 24
Faith Formation for
Kindergarten
– Confirmation: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays
Adult Study: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St., Hayfield
Father Thomas Niehaus
507-477-2256
Mass: 8 a.m. Sun.
& 8:30 a.m. Thursday
Reconciliation: 7:30 a.m. Sun.

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
Father John Sauer
Fr. Jose Morales, Parochial
Vicar

507-451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday;
8:30 a.m. & 10 a.m. Sun.
Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sun.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Sat.
Adoration:
8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Thurs.

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC
114 E. Main St., Blooming
Prairie
Father Thomas Niehaus
507-583-2784
www.stcolumbanuschurch.com
Mass: 10 a.m. Sun.
& 8:30 a.m. Friday
Reconciliation: 9 a.m.
First Friday & Saturday

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna
Father Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
507-451-4845
Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m.
Reconciliation:
3-3:30 p.m. Sat.
Daily Mass:
8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri.
(Communion Service
8 a.m. Thursday)
Adoration Chapel available
Mon. – Fri. 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Key fob required after
hours or weekends

CHRISTIAN

CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT
540 SE 18th St., Owatonna
Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor
507-451-1032
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m.

PENTECOSTAL

FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL
230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Eliazar Talamantes
507-363-2240
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.;
6:30 p.m. Wednesday

METHODIST

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST
43089 180th St., Medford
(Seven miles west of
Medford on CR 23)
Pastors JJ & Stefanie Morgan
507-835-8726
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST
200 Sixth St. NW., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirkse
507-684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST

815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate
Pastor
Joyce Parker, Associate Pastor
507-451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Contemporary Worship:
10:45 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School/Adult Classes:
10 a.m.
Wednesday night
service at 6:30 p.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY
130 W. Bridge St., Owatonna
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Biblestudy: 9 a.m. Sun.
Reformers Unanimous
Meetings:
7 p.m. Friday

CEDAR CREEK
30 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
507-477-2255
www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

DESTINY CHRISTIAN
Owatonna Campus
422 North St., Owatonna
Pastors Tyler & Jessica Braucht
507-254-8514
www.destinycc.org
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

ELEVATION NORTH
2002 Austin Road, Owatonna
Pastor Doug Jones
507-363-3099
www.elevationnorth.blogspot.
com
Worship (English): 10 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Worship (Spanish): 2 p.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday
Spanish Evangelism & Prayer:
7 p.m. Friday

NEW BEGINNINGS
332 14th St. NE., Owatonna
Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson
507-721-1366
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Gateway Connection:
6 p.m. Sun.

SIMPLE CHURCH
4515 NW 22nd Ave., Owatonna
(Country Goods building across
the freeway from Cabela’s)
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday

MENNONITE

PRAIRIE MENNONITE
13638 750th St., Blooming
Prairie
Bishop Dennis Martin
507-583-7532

Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting:
7:30 p.m. Wed.

MORMON

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
404 31st St. NW, Austin
Bishop Rick Bremner
507-433-9042
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.

PRESBYTERIAN

ASSOCIATED CHURCH
Presbyterian Church (USA) and
United Church of Christ
800 Havana Road, Owatonna
507-451-1546
www.associatedchurch.org
office@associatedchurch.org
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
(Fellowship, Church School,
and Adult Discussions follow)
Wednesday Activities: Sept –
May (see website for schedule)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
109 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Kirk Johnston
507-477-2631
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
2373 Seventh Ave. NE,
Owatonna
Pastor Bob Brauer
507-340-7143
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat.
Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat.

UCC

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 Main St. S.
Medford
Rev. Richard Waters
507-451-4596
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
702 Third St. S., Ellendale
Pastor Patrick Stitt
507-684-3421
www.vibrantlifeag.com
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST
104 First Ave. NE,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Matt Fennell
507-583-2673
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
& 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.

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

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

LERBERG’S FITNESS CENTER & CAR WASH
118 5th Ave.
Ellendale
507-684-2471

Dr. Deborah Lien
DDS, MBS
Building Healthy Smiles!
132 2nd Ave NE
Blooming Prairie
507.583.6613
FREE CONSULTATION

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

Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
Certified Public Accountant Tamzen R. Johnson
319 East Main Street, Blooming Prairie: 1988-923-6828 Fax: 507-583-2389

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

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

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

FARMERS INSURANCE
Mike Bishman
121 W. Broadway St.
Owatonna
507-451-0193

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

WANT TO SUBMIT SOMETHING TO THE WORSHIP SCHEDULE?
Contact us by email,
phone, or mail:
bptimes@frontiernet.net
507-634-7503
P.O. Box 247,
Blooming Prairie, MN
55917

MOVIE: *Everyone is talking about Lois Riess*

FROM PAGE A3

“It is not a reflection of what kind of community Blooming Prairie is.”

~Mayor H. Peterson
Blooming Prairie

getting bombarded by phone calls from the media.

The hunt for Riess also made the national news on The Today Show and on Good Morning America.

“The families need answers before we can begin speculating on what has happened,” said an early morning shopper on Main Street in BP.

“Nobody wants to say anything that would hurt the kids or others in the family,” commented another regular

at one of three hot coffee spots: The Bakery, Casey’s and Subway.

“I bet she is heading for Mexico.” That comment was repeated by many who were asked this question while walking the streets of BP.

Here’s some other comments from around town:

“She is cold and calculating. This is not the way we want to be put on the map. . .”

“It’s somewhat shocking to the community but it should not have a lasting effect on the community.”

“She’s done well to avoid being captured. When it first happened, people were nervous.”

“Our forensic science class taught by Dave Pfeifer talks about this case every day.”

A ninth grader at BPHS said, “The world is just tragic and full of crazy people and stuff. If she were smart, she would go to Mexico.”

“She’s greedy and wants money; it’s something that shouldn’t happen here,”



Staff Photo by Howard Lestrud
The small town of Blooming Prairie has been in the national news the past few weeks because of a hunt for a woman suspected of killing her husband. She also allegedly killed a woman in Florida and assumed her identity.

another high school student said.

“I hope they find her before she hurts someone else.” That is a statement echoed by many.

At the local library, it was said that this is a place where

things like this should not happen.

“It is not a reflection of what kind of community Blooming Prairie is,” said Mayor H. Peterson. “It will soon pass,” he predicted.

CAPTURED: *Riess to be extradited*

FROM PAGE A3

Lee County authorities and Sheriff Rose of Dodge County.

“This case struck me as odd because when you look at her appearance. She looks like anybody’s mother or grandmother, but yet she is an absolute cold blooded murderer,” Marceno said.

He added, “There is no I in TEAM” and said he was proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with the U.S. Marshals. “This is a great example of what we do every day in law enforcement to show that nationally we can come together and we win.

“Today is a huge win because she cannot strike again and that was our main concern. We ran a killer off the streets. Now, we want her back in Fort Myers.”

Marceno said the help of local and national media helped capture Riess.

Berger said, “Now, victims’ friends and

families can take time to heal.” He said Riess was not surprised upon her arrest. “She knew it was coming. You all did a good job at pushing out our story and everybody knew who she was.”

Berger also said there was no indication that Riess was going to head to Mexico, with the border only an hour away.

Marceno, responding to a reporter’s question about Riess not changing her appearance, said, “she’s running but guess what, she is not changing her appearance.” He referred to Riess using Hutchinson’s identification.

“This is a stone cold killer,” said Marceno. “It is a sense of relief now because this killer is off the street. No matter where she went or hid, we were going to get her,” Marceno concluded.

INVESTIGATORS: *Continue to build case*

FROM PAGE A1

Beach. Another hurdle investigators were trying to clear is interviewing Riess about both homicides in hopes of gaining confessions, according to Rose.

Officials in both states have not released many specifics of either murder scene. However, it’s believed that both victims were shot to death while bathing. “Pamela was in the bathtub covered with towels with the window open, the same as Dave Riess,” said Tess Koster, a Blooming Prairie business owner who knew the Riess family and was vacationing in Florida at the time of Hutchinson’s murder. Koster was interviewed by police in Florida after coming face-to-face with the alleged killer in Fort Myers Beach prior to Hutchinson’s death.

Thursday night’s capture capped off an intense week of local and federal authorities stepping up their efforts to catch Riess.

On April 17, the U.S. Marshals upgraded the Riess case to a “major case.” In addition, a \$6,000 reward was announced for information leading to the arrest of Riess. The reward was being offered by the marshals as well as the Florida Crime Stoppers.

In order to help generate tips about Riess’ whereabouts, the U.S. Marshals also launched electronic billboards in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California and Nevada just several days prior to her being found. The billboards featured an image of Riess and encouraged people to call police with information.

Just one day before Riess was found, Sheriff Rose released a new video and asked the media and others to share it in hopes of getting to Riess. The video was surveillance video obtained by investigators early on in the case from the Kum and Go gas station next to Diamond Jo’s Casino in Northwood, Iowa. Florida officials had been sharing videos of Riess for nearly two weeks already.

The newest video to be released showed Riess approaching the cashier to purchase a sandwich and ask directions to get south out of state. The video was taken on March 23 at about 6:30 p.m.

Rose also released more information about what Riess did on the day her husband’s body was found shot to death inside their Blooming Prairie home. Rose said investigators believe

that on March 23 she drove to a bank in Glenville and cashed over \$10,000 in stolen and forged checks from her husband’s personal and business accounts. She later spent most of the day gambling at Diamond Jo’s before stopping at the gas station. She is then believed to have traveled to Florida.

“This is the only video investigators have located to date with audio of Riess speaking,” Rose said in releasing the video. “Investigators hope that her voice on this video, in addition to other videos and images released, will help someone recognize her and report her whereabouts so she can be taken into custody before anyone else gets hurt or killed,” he said.

Authorities said their efforts in finding Riess kept increasing as the days passed. “We were concerned for the public’s safety because of her actions in Florida,” Rose said, adding he also had worries about her coming back to Dodge County as well.

Less than 24 hours later, Riess was captured in South Padre Island, Texas, a beach resort community of about 3,000 people 27 miles from the Mexico border.

Sheriff Rose said Riess did not seem one bit surprised as federal marshals took her into custody while she was dining at a restaurant. He noted a citizen who saw Riess on a news broadcast alerted authorities of her whereabouts.

Rose said authorities had alerted the border patrol about Riess since the beginning of this case. The border patrol had later been notified about Riess using the alias of Pamela Hutchinson, the woman who she is accused of killing during her multi-state crime spree. Rose indicated there would have been a minimal chance of her slipping by the border and fleeing into Mexico.

After the arrest in this dramatic case, Rose thanked the media for their efforts. “From the media standpoint, we couldn’t have done this without you guys,” Rose said. “The amount of coverage that we had nationwide is why she was arrested.”

Riess’ capture brought an extraordinary amount of relief to many people across the country, especially in Minnesota and Florida where she is accused of taking two lives.

BP COUPLE: *Sought out by accused killer in Florida*

FROM PAGE A1

“Such relief,” Tess says. “It’s like a big weight has taken off me. I can quit looking over my shoulders,” she said.

As Tess counts her blessings, she also realizes two families weren’t as fortunate. “I feel so bad for Dave and Patricia’s families,” Tess said.

About a week after David Riess was murdered to death in his home outside of Blooming Prairie, Lois Riess surfaced in Fort Myers Beach and sought out the Kosters. Tess had an unexpected visitor in the driveway of one of her Florida properties while cleaning the garage on a sunny Florida afternoon April 2.

“Our eyes met, my heart skipped a beat, it was Lois Riess,” said Tess, who was trembling with fear hoping Lois would not recognize her. Lois quickly looked down shaking her head and muttered, “Wrong house, wrong house,” and walked away to leave the area in the vehicle authorities had been looking for since her husband’s murder.

After Lois drove away, Tess quickly ran inside to let her husband Rod know what had just happened. They weighed their options as to what to do next. Tess wondered if they should follow Lois and call 911. But Rod advised against it saying, “She has a gun. We are not following her.”

Tess’ contact with Lois turned out to be the first solid lead on her whereabouts since she fled Blooming Prairie on March 23.

For the next several days Tess lived in fear. “I woke up with a bad case of the nerves,”

Tess said relating what she felt like the morning after seeing Lois. “Throwing up that morning, I couldn’t shake the feeling that Lois was watching me or us. Everywhere I went I was noticing pearl Escalades (vehicle driven by Lois).”

The next day didn’t turn out to be any better for Tess. “The hair was still standing up on the back of my neck and I was sick again,” she said.

By the weekend the Kosters felt Lois may have left the area, especially after finding out her vehicle had been found abandoned in a park about a mile from their home.

But then Tuesday, April 10 hit.

“The bombs started dropping,” Tess said.

Tess awoke to four SWAT team members in black protective gear converging on one of her next door properties. Tess did not know at the time that police were investigating a homicide just a block away.

Within a few days, police brought Tess in to identify Lois on video surveillance taken at the Florida murder scene. It’s at that point police realized Lois had allegedly struck again in what now became a 2-state killing spree.

Tess learned from police that there had been some striking similarities with both homicides. Lois Riess allegedly used the same murder weapon both times and struck in the same manner. “Pamela was in the bathtub covered with towels with the window open, the same as Dave Riess,” Tess said, adding both victims had been dead for several days before being discovered.

It’s uncertain what Lois Riess’ intentions really were with the Kosters back on April 2, but Tess has her theories. “I thought she wanted to rob us at first knowing about her gambling problem,” Tess said. “But now in thinking back I think she had more in mind driving all the way from Minnesota to us and checking out our properties like she did. I now think her original plan was to move into one of our five properties, steal my identity and probably murdering both Rod and I in the process.”

Tess counts herself lucky that she was outside when Lois initially made contact with them. “I think her plan was that I would be inside, she would knock on the door, push her way in, hold us at gunpoint, steal our valuables and my ID and maybe even kill us,” she said. But because she was outside in the open with people walking by and renters on both sides, Lois’ plans obviously changed.

Since Tess went to police in Florida, sheriff’s deputies stepped up patrols in the area, which Tess believes may have been another factor in keeping Lois at bay from harming them. Also during that time, Lois switched plates on her Escalade to another state, Tess said. “Every Escalade I saw or the sheriff’s department saw we were checking for a Minnesota plate.”

Added Tess: “Pearl white Cadillac Escalades are everywhere. I did not know how popular they were until that week.”

KOSTER: *‘It might have been me’*

FROM PAGE A3

husband’s murder.

I couldn’t believe there weren’t more charges against her since hearing the murder stories from the Minnesota media and friends back in Blooming Prairie.

They figured she had crossed the bridge and headed off island. I was very upset considering she could still be on island, watching us, waiting to steal from us, squat in one of our houses, although they were all booked that week, or worse yet, murder us.

Later my renters next door will tell me a story of the same lady in a white Cadillac SUV walking up the steps of my rental house, 870, that same day and saying she was staying there. Their sons said “No your not, we are.” She left.

That night was Chip Night (BOGO) at the Tiki Bar, part of the Lighthouse Resort, which is one block from our house, where we met up with a lot of our local friends.

I packed my purse full of our valuables explaining, “ Rod, we are not staying in our house! We are staying here at the Lighthouse. I’m scared to go home.”

An hour later, our deputy friend and his wife showed up. He said, “Don’t worry. She is long gone!” At his advice we walked home walking right past Smokin Oyster Brewery where later a bartender from there would say Lois was sitting at the bar by herself getting drunk.

He was quoted on the news thinking “Well, she’ll have a headache in the morning.” Rod and I were careful to lock our doors that night and every night after that.

Tuesday morning I woke up with a bad case of the nerves. Throwing up that morning, I couldn’t shake the feeling that Lois was watching me or us. Everywhere I went I was

noticing Pearl Escalades. They were everywhere but none had a Minnesota plate.

Later, I learned she had switched plates with another Escalade from a different state. I cleaned two of my rental homes. The Sheriff was good about driving by all my houses many times that day.

Wednesday April 4, the hair was still standing up on the back of my neck and I was sick again. Pearl Escalades were everywhere I went. That evening was a blessing. Three of my girlfriends flew in from Minnesota to stay with us through the weekend.

Thursday morning, April 5, another couple moved into our downstairs apartment. There is safety in numbers. Now there were 7 people staying in our house. Lois was seen at Smokin’ Oyster Brewery laughing and making friends with Pamela Hutchinson.

She may have made friends with her on Tuesday or Wednesday because the week after Pamela’s murder the sheriff told us “ She befriended her, moved in with her, then murdered her. Same gun same MO as her husband’s.” Again my three girlfriends, Rod and I walked right past her on our way to the Tiki Bar. Friday morning April 6, Lois was caught on camera walking to Pamela’s car and driving away like she doesn’t have a care in the world. Later that day, the sheriff towed away the 2005 Escalade Lois had left at Bowditch Park, which is at the northern tip of the island one mile from our house. They stopped by and

“Our eyes met, my heart skipped a beat, it was Lois Riess .”

~Tess Koster

told us about the Escalade, but they didn’t know about Pamela yet.

The weekend went by and my girlfriends kept me busy until they flew out Sunday April 8th. Monday was uneventful and I started to feel like maybe she had left the island.

Tuesday morning, April 10, the bombs start dropping. I was up early and downstairs

doing a few things by the pool. I walked out front to get the paper and my neighbor said “Tess. Cops” pointing to the 870 rental house.

Four Sheriff’s swat team members in black protective gear each with their own unmarked vehicle were on my renters steps. I said “I’m Tess. Pretty sure you’re looking for me and not my renters.”

We walked out into the driveway and they asked me to tell the story of seeing Lois. They asked how long I had known her. What she was like and what the stories were from up north about her husband’s murder.

I also said “You guys are eight days late. She was here eight days ago.” Not knowing there was a homicide a block away at Snug Harbor, which had been discovered the night before.

At 11 a.m., Rod and I were in our SUV working at our rental houses and drove past Snug Harbor. There were news people set up in the parking lot.

I got out and asked a camera man what was going on. He said “there was a homicide in room 404” I yelled at the familiar Sheriff guarding the door to 404 “Does this have anything to do with Lois?” He said, “Not sure.

I’ll be over later.”

He came by our pool area in our backyard later that afternoon at the same time our Deputy friends wife was at our house also worried about us. She had brought us her handgun, but neither one could tell us anything but be careful.

Tuesday night, the local news stations had the news about the homicide but no details. Wednesday morning April 11, a plain clothes detective stops by and has me repeat everything again, but still not able to give me any details.

Thursday night April 12, at 7:00 I was called to the Sheriff’s Department in Fort Myers to identify Lois on video and pictures. By the 10 o’clock news, the details were out. The hunt was on for Lois Riess.

The murder weapon was the same one used to shoot Dave Riess in Minnesota. Pamela was in the bathtub covered with towels with the window open, the same as Dave Riess.

Lois texted with Pamela’s cell phone and called the rental people pretending she was Pamela asking to stay longer. The smell brought attention to the room 404.

She had been dead for days, the same as Dave Riess. Covering up the fact that Pamela was dead, the same as Dave Riess. The news stations interviewed many bartenders, and we found our Lois was at Smokin Oyster Brewery, Sunset Beach, and Salty Crab that week. All are within blocks of us. Saturday April 14 the story hit national news and has gone viral. She was now the most wanted female in the United States. The deputies wife who is a friend of ours said, “In hindsight, her sights were on you first. Your long blonde hair is similar to her’s. Glad you are still with us!”

WRESTLING

Benjamin reaches pinnacle of broadcasting career

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Longtime Owatonna wrestling announcer Dale Benjamin has earned many awards and accomplishments during his 40-plus-year career as a tremendous voice and contributor to the sport of wrestling.

However, on Saturday at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Austin, Minnesota, Benjamin received what was perhaps his most prestigious and meaningful honor of his career when he was inducted in the Minnesota Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

"I didn't get into it for recognition," Benjamin said. "I did it because I enjoyed it and wanted to make positive spin on wrestling. I think I did that, however, the recognition and all this stuff is awesome too."

Benjamin was named the Minnesota State Broadcaster of the Year in 1993 by the Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association. Later that year he was named the National Wrestling Broadcaster of Year by Wrestling USA Magazine. "They are all humbling and important," Benjamin said. "I hope my grandchildren appreciate it."

Benjamin played football, basketball, wrestled and ran track while attending Gilmore City-Bradgate High School.

He then graduated from the Brown Institute in Minneapolis with an associate degree in TV/Radio Broadcasting.

Benjamin said when he was growing up he planned on being a veterinarian, but after contemplating about the seven or eight years of coursework required to become a vet he decided to focus on broadcasting.

"We toured Brown Institute on a senior trip, and it was 100 percent placement and 40 weeks," he said. "So went from seven or eight years to be a vet to 40 weeks with 100 placement and I thought, well I'll do that."

Benjamin said he had never stepped foot inside of radio station until he started working at one. We started out with baseball," he said. "Then we did basketball and football and then wrestling came around and it just clicked. I was kind of a gift."

Benjamin went on to broadcast numerous NCAA National Wrestling Tournaments for radio stations in Iowa. He also broadcasted Owatonna High School wrestling for more than 30 years for KRFO Radio and Charter Communications Inter-Cable Television.



PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL
Dale Benjamin stands for photo with National Wrestling Hall of Fame Jacket and Plaque.

With his dynamic voice Benjamin has served Minnesota Wrestling well beyond the local team. In addition to countless other events, he was the broadcaster of the state's largest open wrestling tournament, the Owatonna Open, for more than 20 years and he has also been the announcer for the Minnesota USA Freestyle State Tournament for approximately 20 seasons.

Benjamin said he never anticipated having such a lifelong bond and commitment to the sport of wrestling. "If anything I would have wanted to be the Twins' Broadcaster," he said. "But we have always the best guys in the business from Herb Carneal to John Gordon to the guys who do it now."

Not only is Benjamin a great broadcaster, but he has been instrumental in the success of the Owatonna Wrestling Program. He served as a youth coach for several years, and also served as Community Vice President of the powerful Owatonna Wrestling Association. He received the Owatonna Wrestling Association's highest honor in 1998, the OWA Service Award. He has put in many hours helping in whatever way he can contribute over the years. Benjamin has also never accepted money for broadcasting services. When offered money Benjamin's response is also, "I can't because it's for wrestling."

Benjamin and his wife, Sheri, and have four children and seven grandchildren. They are active members in the Owatonna Eagles Club "People helping People" where has helped emcee their annual cancer auction fundraiser for several years. He has served as President and was named Eagle of the Year in 2009.

Benjamin and his wife enjoy getting away to their summer cabin at Okoboji and taking part in charter fishing trips on Lake of the Woods.

Benjamin also started the Superior Trophy Company several years ago with the primary purpose to help reduce costs to local wrestling programs in purchasing awards for tournaments and awards banquets. This business has thrived because wrestling programs deal with him due to his low costs and top quality awards.

"I just want to continue to promote wrestling," he said. "I want to kids to who so hard to get the recognition that they deserve."

Beyond all his contributions on the state and local levels, Benjamin has become an avid Minnesota Gopher Wrestling fan. This is no small feat for an Iowa native who grew up an Iowa State Cyclone supporter. He has attended several Big Ten championships and over 30 NCAA championships.

"It's been a fun ride," he said. "It's just crazy."

Benjamin will be honored with the eight other 2018 inductees: Tim Penny, Donny Wichmann, Gerry Bakke, Gary Hindt, Dr. Ted Lelwica, Marty Morgan, John Oxtton and J Robinson.

SPORT



PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL
Medford's Journey Anderst catches a pop fly during the Panthers' 8-7 victory over Gopher Conference rival New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva.

Tigers hang on for pair of victories

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Medford Tigers softball team (3-0) picked up a pair of Gopher Conference wins at the Packer Dome in Austin on Friday. Medford defeated New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva (0-2) in the first game 8-7.

"We are feeling good," Medford coach Alyssa Strunk said. "We fought until the very end. It's hard to be the away team and have to hang on, but we did."

Medford was first on the scoreboard when Lily Roehrick hit a two-run home run in the top of the first inning.

"That was huge for us," Strunk said. "That got us going right away in the first inning. That's a great way to start the game,

getting those two runs in the first inning."

The Tigers also scored two runs in the second inning to extend their lead to 4-0, however, the Panthers scored three runs in the bottom of second inning to narrow the score to 4-3.

NRHEG's Sarah Johns hammered a solo home run in the bottom of fifth inning to tie the game 4-4.

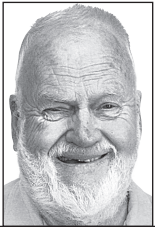
The Tigers regrouped and scored two more runs in the sixth inning to take a 6-4 lead, but the Panthers answered with two runs of their own to tie the game back up at 6-6.

Medford score two more runs in seventh to take a 8-6 advantage going to the bottom of the inning.

SEE TIGERS, B2

IS IT REALLY OVER?

Certainly, this month of April is one for the record books. It has seemed the most snow in April ever and it has put us in the top dozen of most one-event snowfall in any month. It has relegated local high school sports to the latest start in spring activities that any sports fan can remember.OT



Outside the Lines
LEMAR NELSON

Now, with warmer weather over the past few days, people are suddenly contemplating the possibility that the longest winter ever has finally relaxed its grip on the community and spring may finally be on the horizon. For spring sports, it has already been established that this will be the busiest few weeks ever as baseball and softball teams will be playing doubleheaders. The track and field and golf teams compete at least twice a week now until playoff time in sub-section and sub-section play.

That doesn't take into consideration some possible postponements for rain and other inclement weather. I guess we should feel ourselves lucky that any contests can take place, but it certainly has evolved into the latest spring in almost anyone's memory. It has been an exercise in patience, that is for sure, and a spring to remember.

CRIME HITS HOME

We pride ourselves on living in a safe and caring community, but every once in a while even we are jolted out of our comfortable existence. To have a murder committed in our area is almost unthinkable, but that is what we are dealing with at the present. A Blooming Prairie resident, Lois Riess, that many people knew and were friends with, was arrested this past Thursday in South Padre Island, Texas.

Riess is alleged to have murdered her husband in their home here and later a woman that resembled her in Florida. She was finally arrested just a few miles from the Mexican border. She faces murder charges, both in Florida and here in Minnesota.

Our community certainly didn't want the notoriety that we are now receiving, and we will have to stay strong to preserve the reputation of a wholesome and caring community that we have earned over the years. In the meantime, we can all pray that this horrendous affair will come to a conclusion soon.

PLAYING A WAITING GAME

While the spring sports teams wait patiently (sometimes impatiently), the squads have resorted to a variety of pursuits to keep both the bodies and minds in shape. Blooming Prairie athletes held a dodge ball and pizza party one day to break up the boredom of indoor practices, and the baseball team came

in second at a conference bowling contest at Waterville.

The teams and their coaches have become quite masterful in providing release from the tiresome daily routine, while spring takes its time melting the snow so outside practices and games can begin. This week so far has provided some hints that the long wait for the outdoors may finally be over, with the softball team getting a couple of games in at last, and the junior high track teams having a home meet. The varsity track teams run in an invitational meet at Medford today.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Among the recent events of note, the Court of Honor that celebrated DJ Stender's achievement of Eagle scout rank this past Sunday at First Lutheran Church was an impressive ceremony, and a tipoff the hat goes to tender for a remarkable accomplishment. The rank of Eagle Scout is one of the highest ranks a scout can attain, and DJ is a deserving individual.

Saturday April 28, is the annual Dancing with the Steele County Stars, and the event at Medford High School will undoubtedly be a sellout affair once again. We have always had excellent representation from local couples, and this year is no exception. Good luck to those involved.

Saturday also featured the Designer Purse Bingo at the Servicemen's Club, which proved another fundraising success for the local cancer group. I marvel at the creativity and ingenuity that those individuals display when it comes to new and novel ways to raise money for the needs of community residents who battle cancer.

Rides to treatment, gas cards and home visits are all part of the good work and helpful service that this group provides, and I can attest from personal experience what a help and comfort it all is. It is just another small way that illustrates how caring and helpful a community in which we live.

Wednesday is Administrative Professionals Day, and employees can show appreciation in many ways. It is also Girls' Night Out from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Touch of Charm, with 25 percent off throughout the store. Then there will be wine tasting and wine sales at J & H Liquors, with treats and door prizes. Once again, that is proof that there is always something going on in our community.

Finally local graduate Dean Ulland will visit the local library and talk about local history back in the 30's and beyond.

As I mentioned at the outset, we may finally be turning the corner to spring, and activity will be rampant throughout the area. If that truly is what happens, continue to think spring, cheer for the spring sports teams, and we'll talk again.

BASKETBALL

NRHEG's Hannegrefs signs with UW-River Falls

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Multi-sport student-athlete Ryan Hannegrefs of New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School signed to continue his football and track career at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on Tuesday.

Hannegrefs said he was torn between River Falls and Gustavus Adolphus College at in the recruiting process, but he made his decision after he visited River Falls.

“It just felt like a family,” he said. ““Every time I went and talked to the coaches I felt like I was at home.”

Hannegrefs plans to major in business administration, and he said River Falls’ business program definitely played a factor in his decision.

He said the Falcons’ facilities and the distance from his friends and family were important to him.

“I wanted to stay pretty close to home,” he said. “I didn’t really want to move too far away.”

Hannegrefs is still relatively new to NRHEG. He moved to New Richland about three weeks

after the football season ended and was a member of the Panthers’ basketball team this past season, but prior to that, he spent the previous three and half years at Mankato East High School.

Hannegrefs said he changed school because he was looking for something different.

“I was a complicated situation,” he said. “I was going to MSU for all my first semester courses and I didn’t really have that mental connection to Mankato East that I thought I should have my senior year. I ended up making the decision to move over to New Richland. I knew a couple of guys over there from basketball already and I already had a good bond with them.”

Hannegrefs hauled in 10 receptions for 205 yards and two touchdowns this past season as the Cougars’ tight end. He also played middle linebacker where he made 38 total tackles and two tackles for a loss in seven games.

Hannegrefs said the Mankato East athletic department was supportive of him and respected his decision.

“They were definitely onboard with it,” he said. “I had a good relationship with the athletic director being a three-sport athlete the three years I was there. He was really good about it

and he helped me every step of the way, and so did the athletic director at New Richland. I give them a lot of credit for doing what they did to get me over there and becoming eligible.”

Hannegrefs said he will likely play defensive end at River Falls, which isn’t unfamiliar territory for him. He played defensive end for Mankato East his sophomore and junior seasons.

“Whatever happens, happens,” Hannegrefs said. “I’m just going into camp with an open mind.”

In addition to playing football, Hannegrefs plans to compete as a member of the Falcons’ track team.

“From everyone that I have asked, I know it’s going to be tough to do,” he said. “But they have a lot of resources their athletes. I know the mandatory study tables are going to be a huge part of first semester getting into football.

“I’m thankful that we have three weeks of camp before schools starts so that we have time to learn the playbook and aren’t having to do that on top of all the schoolwork,” Hannegrefs said. “Balancing those two will be challenge, but school comes first.”

He said he looking forward to meeting all of teammates and forming bonds with his new

band of brothers the most.

“When you join a college football team you have 100 friends immediately,” he said. “You don’t have to worry about making friends. I’m just looking forward to create that bond and hanging out with the guys there. I’m more excited about the family aspect and going out there and playing with them than anything else.”

Hannegrefs said he has set a lot of goals for himself, but the most importantly, he wants to reach his full potential.

“I want to be the best players I can be,” he said. “I feel like I can do that at River Falls and I can be one of the best players to come out of there and out of the [Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference].”

Hannegrefs said he also has set goals he hopes to accomplish as a team like make deep runs in the postseason and eventually win a National Championship.

“River Falls is on the upswing,” he said. “They have been competing with the top teams in the WIAC. In my opinion that’s the best conference in the national for Division III football.”

SOFTBALL

Panthers lose heartbreaker



PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

NRHEG's Sarah Johns fires a pitch towards home plate on Friday at the Packer Dome.

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

A doubleheader loss marked the opening for New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva softball as the team finally got the 2018 season underway.

Waterville-Elysian-Morristown scored four runs in the first three innings to defeat the Panthers 4-1 in the finale of the doubleheader, after Medford edged the girls 8-7 in the opener. Both games were played in the Packers Dome in Austin, Minnesota on Friday April 20.

Against WEM in the second game, hits were a scarcity, as the Bucs managed just four hits and the Panthers three. The Bucs counted single runs in the first and second innings, and then added two more in the third. NRHEG scored its only run in the fifth of the five-inning game on an RBI single from Sarah Johns.

Trista Hering picked up the win in the circle for WEM, while Sophie Stork took the loss for NRHEG. Ava Kylo and Sidney Schultz had the other two hits for the Panthers. WEM had four runs on four hits and zero errors. NRHEG had a run on three hits and

two errors. Hering struck out nine and zero walks. Stork struck out four WEM batters and walked three. Only two of the four runs she allowed were earned runs. The loss dropped NRHEG to 0-2.

The teams were tied 4-4 after five innings, before each team counted two runs in the sixth. The Tigers countered with two runs in the top of seventh and held the Panthers to a single run in the bottom of the inning to capture its third win of the young season.

Johns and Stork combined to allow the eight runs on five hits, but Mackenzie Paulson picked up the victory, despite giving up twelve hits. Six of the runs allowed by both teams were earned runs. Johns led the Panther attack with a home run over the fence, and Cloie Arndt went 3-for-3, including a double and a triple. Medford had eight runs on three hits and two errors; NRHEG had seven runs on 12 hits and 2 errors. Johns struck out nine batters, but also walked nine.

Stork allowed a hit in one inning, but she walked four to force in a run. This week will be a busy one for the team, as the season gets underway in earnest.

SOFTBALL



PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

A Blooming Prairie player throws the ball to the cutoff man.

BP drops opener

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Although the result wasn’t to their liking, the Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossom softball team looked happy just to get a game played in a 7-1 loss to one of Gopher Conference favorites, Waterville-Elysian-Morristown. The opportunity to get a game finally in came at the Packer Dome on Friday, April 20.

WEM took a one-run lead in the first inning, counted two more in the third, and then put the game out of reach with three more runs in the fourth. The Blossoms managed only four hits in the game, but even more troublesome were the six errors the team committed that lead to several unearned runs. BP scored its only run in the bottom of the fourth on an RBI

single by Lila Carlson.

Linnea Sunde, Emma Christianson and Julia Worke had the other three hits for the Blossoms with Worke’s hit being a double. Riauna Bishop took the loss for BP, giving up seven runs (five earned runs) and six hits. She struck out four and walked five in the game. WEM had seven runs on six hits and committed an error.

The Awesome Blossoms play Bethlehem Academy at Faribault on Monday, April 23 and then will travel to Mankato, Tuesday, April 24. Weather permitting; it will be a hectic next three weeks for softball contests.

Stork allowed a hit in one inning, but she walked four to force in a run. This week will be a busy one for the team, as the season gets underway in earnest.

Tigers: Hold for pair of victories

“I knew it would come down to pitching in the end because they were starting to hit our pitcher,” Strunk said. “I had to make a decision of whether I was going to let our pitcher go another inning or switch her out and give them a different look. Luckily, we made the right call but it was way to close. Those are the fun games though.

“We had some errors, but overall we were pretty solid,” she continued. “We were pretty disciplined at the plate and we got a lot of walks and when we got on base we were aggressive with our base running.”

Sophomore pitcher Mackenzie Paulson earned the win after pitching six complete innings and leaving the game with Medford holding a 6-4 lead. Paulson had six strikeouts while giving up four earn runs on nine hits.

“She did what she needed to,” Strunk said. “I don’t think we walked anyone, which is what I want from my pitchers. I want them to throw strikes, be consistent and make our opponent earn their runs. I don’t want to give them free

bases by walking them. She did a great job.”

Sophomore Izzy Reuvers pitched the seventh inning and earned a save.

“She did great as well,” Strunk said. “She was consistent and threw strikes.”

Sophomore standout Emma Kniefel seemed to be well adjusted since making a position change from centerfield to catcher.

“Emma was solid behind the plate,” Strunk said. “She stopped everything and made plays.”

“She has definitely stepped up for us,” she continued. “She’s in control back there and that’s what we need from our catcher. We need someone that’s going to be vocal, aggressive and make some throws.”

Kniefel said she was pleased to return to behind the plate because she really enjoys playing catcher.

Although Kniefel made a number plays, she was quick to divert the attention to her teammates.

“Izzy and Lily are our power hitters,” she said. “They really came alive, helped us and hit when it was really needed. I’m

just proved of us because we never gave up. Even when things weren’t going our way, we still maintained our composure, got it under control and got things done.”

Roehrick finished the game with four RBIs and Kniefel and Reuvers each had two RBIs.

Madison Klein had a double and Kiley Nihart scored two runs and stole two bases.

Next up, Medford defeated Blooming Prairie (0-2) in five innings, 2-1.

The Tigers and Awesome Blossoms each scored a run in the second inning, but Medford scored the deciding run in the third inning.

Paulson had an RBI earn another win by pitching all five innings. She struck out three while surrendering one run on three hits.

Roehrick had two singles, Jordyn Stadler added a single and a stolen base and Reuvers had two stolen bases.

The Tiger return to action on Thursday, April 26 when they travel to United South Central High School to take on the Rebels (0-0) at 4:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Medford's Izzy Reuvers stares down a batter before delivering a pitch at the Packer Dome on Friday.

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Blotter Spotlight: Trespassing: Officers responded to a subject trespassing in the 1600 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 5 p.m.

Riess murder produces challenging times at sheriff's office

To say we've had a challenging four weeks here at the Sheriff's Office would be an understatement at best. Dispatchers taking tips from all over the country, records staff serving as the public information contact for our office, all three Investigators working an incredible amount of hours following up on leads, and our patrol staff helping in any way they can with our Investigators on the new cases coming in daily. Media calling from all parts of the state and country following the case – some polite, some not so much. National media flying to Minnesota unannounced expecting an interview simply because they are the “national” media – calling dispatch



Behind the Badge
SCOTT ROSE

pretending to be friends with staff trying to get an interview for their big TV news shows. I have to say I couldn't be more proud of our staff - their teamwork

and all the hard work everyone has done to get us through these last four weeks, especially our Investigators! We are blessed to have an amazing group of men and women serving our office and our community. The national media has sensationalized this case with several colorful story headlines: Losing streak Lois, Grandma killer and Fugitive grandmother. The real story here in Dodge County that we all need to remember is we have a local family who has lost their father at the hands of their mother who's now devastated another

SEE **RIESS MURDER, B6**



Dominguez

An Owatonna woman jumped into the back seat of her vehicle in an attempt to mislead police that she was not driving while intoxicated. On April 15, an officer observed a vehicle driven by a female with long, black hair make a moving violation on St. Paul Rd. near 23rd St. NE. When the officer approached the vehicle after pulling it over, he found the vehicle driverless with a male in the front seat and a female with

long, black hair putting on her seatbelt in the backseat. After directing Laura Dominguez, 25, of Owatonna back to the driver's seat, the officer detected signs of impairment. She failed field sobriety tests at the scene and was taken into custody. Dominguez was found to have a breath alcohol content of 0.15. During a later interview, Dominguez admitted to driving and that she got into the backseat because her passenger told her to. She has been charged with two counts of gross misdemeanor DWI.

COURT NEWS
Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 9 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

Charles C. Bridgeman, 38, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony domestic assault by strangulation. He was sentenced to \$1,081, 45 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, no contact with victim, no possession of firearms, psychological evaluation and 5 years of supervised probation. **Carrie S. Cook**, 40, Waseca, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana and felony check forgery. Cook was sentenced to \$1,081, 177 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation. **Michael C. Falvey**, 26, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony domestic assault. The defendant was sentenced to \$381, 15 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state, domestic abuse diagnostic assessment and 3 years of supervised probation. **Steven A. Hamson**, 57, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony violate predatory offender registration requirement. Hamson was sentenced to \$1,081, 30 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, attend sex offender program, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state and 5 years of supervised probation. **Ryan B. Lane**, 32, Fargo, ND, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana and misdemeanor DWI. He was sentenced to \$1,081, 90 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training and 5 years of supervised probation. **Carlton E. Martin**, 62, Minneapolis, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. Martin was sentenced to \$131, 2 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state, 30 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation. **Blake A. Yearling**, 20, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony burglary. He was sentenced to \$885.25, 180 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance, do not enter liquor establishments, no contact with victim, domestic abuse diagnostic assessment, obtain permission to leave the state and 5 years of supervised probation.

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

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Thomas E. Kinder, 53, Austin, cancelled license, \$181, 41 days in county jail, no alcohol

or controlled substance use and 1 year of unsupervised probation; **William M. Stotlar**, 33, Austin, revoked license, no insurance and expired tabs, \$511.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER
Akua A. Appiah Num, 37, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; **Isbet Barrientos**, 38, Bensenville, IL, speeding, \$131; **Margaret E. Britton-Mehlis**, 22, Lees Summit, MO, speeding, \$141; **Adolfo R. Chavez Barrios**, 42, Bulverde, TX, speeding and no license, \$241; **Jacob M. Christenson**, 23, speeding, \$131; **Samuel J. Fonder**, 18, Green Bay, WI, speeding, \$121; **Joseph L. Gleason**, 18, Clear Lake, IA, impeding traffic, \$131; **Kami M. Haider**, 19, Rochester, speeding, \$141; **Katie M. Holtorf**, 22, Rochester, speeding, \$141; **Matthew R. Howard Clark**, 30, Manitowoc, WI, speeding, \$141; **Evan S. Huemoeller**, 16, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; **Cori F. Kennedy**, 21, West Concord, suspended license, \$281; **Nicolas Likulia Metusala**, 22, Fridley, seat belt, \$106; **Lin Lin**, 36, Clarks Grove, speeding, \$131; **Sheena B. Moren**, 32, Farmington, possession of marijuana, \$281; **Ana R. Palacios Hernandez**, 35, Owatonna, no license, \$181; **Elizabeth A. Pratt**, 38, Waterville, seat belt, \$106; **Nicholas D. Prusha**, 18, Medford, seat belt, \$106; **Benjamin C. Schandorff**, 43, Albert Lea, revoked license, no insurance and seat belt, \$506; **Hirut E. Sello**, 36, Austin, seat belt, \$106; **Sarah J. Shadle**, 18, Clive, IA, speeding, \$221; **Amanda A. Shepherd**, 41, Faribault, no license, \$181; **Randall J. Siegert**, 31, Cottage Grove, speeding, \$121; **Farrell A. Terry**, 51, Austin, speeding and possession of marijuana, \$181; **Joseph C. Thomas**, 25, Owatonna, DWI, \$581, 30 days in county jail, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state, 228 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; **Isaac Trujillo**, 35, Minneapolis, possession of marijuana, diversion program, 30 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation; **Zachary J. Vasey**, 30, Wichita, KS, no license, \$181; **Hawo A. Yusuf**, 40, Owatonna, no child passenger restraint system, \$131.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT
Elsa Barragan-Limon, 37, Austin, no license, \$181; **Jeremiah J. Bauer**, 31, Owatonna, DWI, \$581, 109 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; **Levell D. Booth**, 24, Rochester, revoked license, \$281; **Crystal L. Buchanan**, 39, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, 1 day in county jail, attend MADD impact panel, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; **Victor M. Contreras**, 29, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, \$281; **Gary D. Crownover**, 34, Owatonna, theft, \$318.97, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised probation; **Brady L. Edwards**, 28, Owatonna, theft, \$131 and 2 days in county jail; **Gabrielle R. Flemming**, 17, Owatonna, following vehicle too closely, \$131; **Ezekiel N. Garza**, 24, Owatonna, no insurance and no license, \$381; **Naomi R. Gasner**, 64, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; **Kirk E. Grev**, 58, Wells, theft, \$131; **Kenneth M. Griswold**, 38, Owatonna, school bus stop signal, \$381; **Skylar A. Guggisberg**,

25, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; **Jesse C. Guy**, 38, Owatonna, keeping to the right violation, \$131; **John C. Harris**, 41, Sioux Falls, SD, stop sign, \$131; **Ahmed M. Hassan**, 50, Owatonna, failure to yield right of way, \$131; **Lori J. Helmer**, 55, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; **Sylvia A. Hibbler**, 58, Owatonna, revoked license and seat belt, \$306; **James D. Hoggard**, 26, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; **Stanley P. Honsey**, 70, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; **Jilliena M. Jackson**, 24, Owatonna, theft, \$161, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; **Alize L. Johnson**, 19, Dodge Center, speeding, \$141; **James I. Kilanowski**, 19, Owatonna, texting while driving, \$131; **Eugene R. Knutson**, 74, Owatonna, failure to yield right of way, \$131; **Allen M. Krippner**, 65, Owatonna, theft, \$131; **Simon G. Lang**, 24, Owatonna, possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, \$281; **Rachel A. Madison**, 41, Owatonna, no insurance and revoked license, \$481; **Bradley P. McNally**, 53, Austin, revoked license, \$281; **Carol B. Mueller**, 64, Owatonna, improper turn, \$131; **Erika L. Powell**, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$100; **Tishyra L. Powell**, 24, Owatonna, invalid license, \$181; **Theresa M. Schoolmeesters**, 23, Lonsdale, no insurance, \$281; **Maedell Straub**, 62, Oakdale, DWI, \$156, substance abuse subtle screening inventory and 1 year of unsupervised probation; **Marcos A. Trevino**, 25, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; **Kelly A. Tysdale**, 31, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; **Linda M. Williams**, 47, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Rogelio R. Aguilar, 24, Owatonna, criminal damage to property, \$823.45 and 90 days in county jail, **Dean Antonakis**, 56, Lakeville, speeding, \$121; **Tyler D. Burke**, 23, Owtaonna, speeding, \$121; **Raquel A. Dvorak**, 44, Waseca, speeding, \$131; **Krystle C. Fehrman**, 34, St. Paul, speeding, \$121; **Kenneth E. Gossman**, 79, Clarks Grove, revoked license, \$281; **Brady S. Heaney**, 21, Owatonna, DWI, \$581, 2 days in county jail, substance abuse subtle screening inventory, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; **Tanner J. Heaney**, 25, Medford, DWI, \$381, 1 day in county jail, substance abuse subtle screening inventory, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; **James J. Hinton**, 56, New Richland, speeding, \$121; **Angela B. Keilen**, 48, Medford, seat belt, \$106; **Donald R. Lee**, 49, New Richland, speeding, \$121; **Bernadette R. Metzger**, 55, Geneva, speeding, \$121; **Tina M. Peterson**, 47, Faribault, suspended license, \$281; **Nathan P. Schmidt**, 34, Waltham, cancelled license and no insurance, \$481; **Derek R. Shaw**, 24, Medford, DWI, \$1,081, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel, obtain permission to leave the state, 120 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation.

POLICE BLOTTER
Steele County

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE
April 15 Mental Health: Police

assisted with a mental health incident in the 500 block of 4th St. SE at 4:15 p.m.

OWATONNA POLICE
April 13 Shoplifting: Police issued shoplifting citations in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W. at 9:46 a.m. and the 400 block of North St. W. at 10:06 p.m. **Crash:** Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at McKinley St. E. and Cedar Ave. S. at 1:16 p.m. They issued a citation to one of the motorists. **Restraining Order:** Police responded to a restraining order violation in the 300 block of School St. E. at 1:18 p.m.

April 14 Arrest: Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop in the 100 block of 22nd St. NW at 12:29 a.m. **Fraud:** Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 200 block of 22nd St. SE at 10:54 a.m. **Hit and Run:** At 11:52 a.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 400 block of North St. W. **Threats:** Police responded to a subject making threats in the 300 block of School St. W. at 11:05 p.m.

April 15 DWI: Police arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at St. Paul Rd. NE and 23rd St. NE at 1:55 a.m. **Theft:** Officer took a theft report in the 2600 block of 3rd Ave. NE at 9:37 p.m.

April 16 Missing Person: Police received information regarding a missing person from the 400 block of Broadway St. E. at 4:51 a.m. **Child Protection:** At 11:08 a.m., police received a child protection report from the 1000 block of Robert Place SW. **Disturbance:** Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of School St. E. at 1:50 p.m. **Crash:** Police issued a citation to a motorist following a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 18th St. SW and Cedar Ave. S. at 1:57 p.m. **Shoplifting:** Shoplifting incidents occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 2:35 p.m. and 3:56 p.m. **Arrest:** Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Cedar Ave. N. and North St. E. at 9:48 p.m.

April 17 Thefts: Police took theft reports in the 400 block of Dartt Ave. NE at 9:30 a.m., the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 1 p.m. and the 400 block of Crestview Lane NE at 7:16 p.m. **Juvenile:** At 12:17 p.m., police received a juvenile complaint from the 200 block of Main St. E. **Shoplifting:** At 4:09 p.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. **Arrest:** Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at 24th Ave. NW and Lewis Dr. NW at 11:08 p.m.

April 18 Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 1900 block of Diablo Dr. SE at 3:44 p.m. **Shoplifting:** At 7:58 p.m., police arrested a subject for shoplifting in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

April 19 Theft: At 2:32 p.m., police arrested a subject for theft in the 1200 block of Oak Ave. S. **Arrest:** Officers assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 400 block of Broadway St. E. at 2:52 p.m. **Theft:** A citizen reported his or her identity had been stolen in the 2100 block of 3rd Ave. NW

at 4:02 p.m. **Trespassing:** Officers responded to a subject trespassing in the 1600 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 5 p.m. **Drugs:** Officer issued a citation for drug activity in the 1500 block of St. Paul Rd. NE at 5:18 p.m. **Shoplifting:** Police issued a shoplifting citation in the 100 block of Broadway St. W. at 7:53 p.m.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF
April 14 Mental Health: Deputies responded to a mental health incident in the 19000 block of 168th St. SW in Summit Township at 2:50 p.m. **Crash: At 6:10 p.m.,** a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 2600 block of County Road 45 S. in Owatonna Township.

April 16 Crash: Paramedics and deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on U.S. Highway 14 in Owatonna Township at 4:57 a.m.

April 17 Theft: Deputy took a theft report in the 100 block of 5th Ave. W. in Ellendale at 9:04 p.m. **Warrants:** Deputies made warrant arrests at the detention center at 9:15 p.m. and 9:45 p.m.

April 18 Crash: At 3:09 p.m., a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 5900 block of Crane Creek Road in Meriden Township.

April 19 Burglary: Deputies began a burglary investigation in the 300 block of 5th St. N. in Ellendale at 11:45 a.m.

ARRESTS
Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE
Peyton Nicole Crow, 24, arrested at 10:07 p.m. April 16, warrant arrest, \$2,000 bail. **Jacob Matthew Cichos**, arrested at 11:45 p.m. April 17, warrant arrest, \$1,000 bail. **Stephanie Ann Thompson**, 42, arrested at 9:50 p.m. April 18, apprehension and detention arrest, held for court. **James Edward Wimbush Jr.**, 43, arrested at 1 a.m. April 20, probation violation warrant arrest, held for court.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF
Michael James Hondl, 48, arrested at 9:55 p.m. April 17, warrant arrest, held for court. **Andrew Olaf Nordby**, 41, arrested at 6:45 p.m. April 19, possession, no insurance and theft, held for court.

MN STATE PATROL
Andrew Joseph Haman, 30, arrested at 9:36 a.m. April 17, felony controlled substance crime, held for court.

COURT NEWS
Dodge County

The following case was heard in Dodge County District Court the week of April 9 with Judge Jodi L. Williamson presiding: **Justin L. Iverson**, 28, Winona, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana and misdemeanor revoked license. He was sentenced to \$1,155, 59 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, mental health evaluation, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of April 9 – 16:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Jesse L. Beaver, 32, Mantorville, parking violation, \$32; **Breanna A. Bovia**, 20, Kasson, speeding, \$140; **Jeffrey A. Herrley**, 47, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; **Heather A. Holmen-Rysavy**, 44, Austin, DWI, \$505, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; **Danver L. Johnson**, 40, Dodge Center, parking violations, \$96; **Daniel S. Kramer**, 52, Mantorville, parking violation, \$32; **Jeremy D. Lau**, 43, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; **Robert P. Lindstrom**, 32, Maplewood, parking violation, \$32; **Quinn L. Long**, 30, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; **Michael L. Majerus**, 38, West Concord, speeding, \$130; **Logan C. Olson**, 19, Oronoco, speeding, \$220; **Lindsay M. Parson**, 29, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; **Luke B. Quimby**, 22, Mantorville, revoked license, \$280; **Cynthia S. Ulland**, 59, Kasson, parking violation, \$32.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Nicholas A. Bendik, 30, Rochester, stop sign, \$130; **Chad R. Bennerotte**, 39, Stewartville, parking violation, \$32; **Kora L. Bretzman**, 18, Mantorville, speeding, \$130; **Rebekah A. Brown**, 22, Beaverton, OR, speeding, \$220; **Willie B. Kleckley**, 43, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; **Samuel J. Mielke**, 31, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; **Joel R. Mindermann**, 49, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; **Luke B. Quimby**, 22, Mantorville, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; **Seth T. Sorenson**, 24, Rochester, stop sign, speeding, no insurance, seat belt and possession of marijuana, \$555; **Zachary T. Wellman**, 27, Kasson, parking violation, \$32.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER
Michelle L. Dempsey, 37, Medford, speeding, \$120; **Brenda S. Deneui**, 58, Hayfield, speeding, \$140; **Yesenia Hernandez**, 25, De Pere, WI, speeding, \$120; **Tanner C. Hodgman**, 25, Mantorville, speeding, \$120; **Katie M. Klingsporn**, 25, Rochester, speeding, \$140; **Jessica D. Maes**, 32, Dodge Center, speeding, \$130; **David J. Miller**, 33, Hayfield, stop sign, \$130; **Joshua J. Schimek**, 36, speeding, \$140; **Jynnylee L. Welgemoed**, 33, Wanamingo, speeding, \$140.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
Wayne P. Clark, 84, Kenyon, speeding, \$120; **Hussein T. Dube**, 58, Minneapolis, speeding, \$140.

OWATONNA FIRE

April 13 Fire: Firefighters responded to a building fire in the 3000 block of 84th Ave. SE at 2:22 a.m.

April 18 Cooking Fire: At 3:36 p.m., firefighters responded to a cooking fire, confined to a container in the 500 block of Adams Ave.

April 19 Lock-Out: Fire personnel assisted with a lock-out in the 100 block of McKinley St. W. at 5:36 a.m. **Carbon Monoxide:** Firefighters responded to a carbon monoxide incident in the 1000 block of Cherry St. NE at 8:43 a.m.

How to find great volunteer vacations

Dear Savvy Senior,
My husband and I are approaching retirement and are interested in learning more about volunteer vacations. Can you give us some information on this travel option, and refer us to some good organizations that offer these types of trips.
Love to Travel

Dear Love to Travel,

Dear Love,
If you're looking to do more on your next vacation than relax in the sun or go sightseeing, volunteer vacations – also known as voluntourism – which combine travel and volunteer work, are a great alternative and a growing trend among retirees.

Volunteer Vacations

There are many organizations today that offer short-term volunteer vacation projects in the U.S. and abroad, lasting anywhere from a few days to a few weeks.
Common program themes include teaching English, working with children and teens, building and repairing homes and schools, and assisting with community or environmental projects.

In addition, volunteer vacations also give travelers the opportunity to experience the culture more fully and connect with the local people – much different than your run-of-the-mill sightseeing vacation.
Most volunteer vacation groups accept singles, couples and families and you don't need to speak a foreign language. Costs usually range from around \$1,000 to \$3,000 per week, not including transportation to the country your site is in. Fees typically cover pre-trip orientation information, room and board, on-site training, ground transportation once you get there, the services of a project leader, and a contribution to the local community that covers material and services related to the project. And, if the organization running your trip is a nonprofit, the cost of your trip, including airfare, is probably tax-deductible.

Where to Look

While there are many organizations that offer volunteer vacations, here are some good ones that attract a lot of retirees.
• Global Volunteers (GlobalVolunteers.org): A pioneer in global travel, this group tackles hunger, poverty and educational needs. It offers a variety of one, two and three-week service programs in 17 countries, including the U.S.

- Earthwatch Institute (Earthwatch.org): With an emphasis in environmental conservation and research, they offer dozens of one and two-week expeditions in countries all over the world.
- Cross-Cultural Solutions (CrossCulturalSolutions.org): Based in New Rochelle, NY, they focus on health, education, and economic volunteer opportunities in Central and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa.
- Biosphere Expeditions (Biosphere-expeditions.org): Offers wildlife conservation expeditions in 13 countries.
- Habitat for Humanity (Habitat.org): Offers international house-building trips through its Global Village Program in more than 40 countries.

How to Choose

With so many different volunteer vacations to choose from, selecting one can be difficult. To help you decide, you need to think specifically about what you want. For example: Where you want to go and for how long? What types of work are you interested in doing? What kind



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of living situation and accommodations do you want? Do you want to volunteer alone or with a group?
Once you figure out what you want and spot a few volunteer vacations that interest you, ask the organization to send you information that describes the accommodations, the fees and what they cover including their refund policy, the work schedule and work details, and anything else you have questions about. Also, get a list of previous volunteers and call them.

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

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago
APRIL 22, 2008
DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

Anyone driving by the Main Street Dental Office has undoubtedly noticed a little construction happening. Last week workers on Main Street were greeted by the sight of a pile of bricks that had fallen off of the dental office. Crews are currently trying to repair the damage and put the bricks back on the building.
Prairie Manor Care Center of Bloomington is joining in a statewide effort to fight budget cuts. Groups rallied at the State Capitol for increased funding for nursing homes.
Two artists from Bloomington won Best of Show recognition at the Section 1-A Visual Arts Festival in Rochester. They are Christine Nichols in the drawing category and Courtney Driessen in the printmaking category.

20 Years Ago
APRIL 21, 1998
ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

Volunteering is just a part of life for Karen Beede of Bloomington. She has served on countless committees as a volunteer. She also works at Main Street Dental in Bloomington.
Holly Wencil of Medford was crowned Steele County Dairy Princess Friday night in Owatonna. Wencil, a senior, will be accompanied on county dairy duties with Jenny Schiller of Owatonna and Katie Nelson of Bloomington. The annual dairy banquet was held at the Eagle's Club.
Army Spec. Jeremy P. Cochlin has graduated from the 72-day Ranger training course at the Infantry School at Fort Benning in Georgia. He is a 1995 graduate of Bloomington.

50 Years Ago
APRIL 18, 1968
VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

Miss Julia Spartz was awarded the Bishop Fitzgerald Medal for her 38 years of faithful service as a housekeeper for the late Father Raymond Krebsback at the 10 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday at St. Columbanus Catholic Church in Bloomington.
Next Sunday, April 21, starting at 2 p.m., members of the Bloomington Jaycees chapter will be ringing door bells to sell light bulbs as a money raising project. The Jaycees will have a variety of bulbs to choose from ranging from 40 to 100 watts.
Garness Feed Service familiar name in Bloomington's business district for the past 15 years will discontinue operation effective May 1. The firm, located behind the Super Valu store, has been a dealer for Kent feeds and operated mobile feed mills in the area.
The Bloomington Parent-Teachers' Association will hold its regular monthly meeting next Tuesday April 23 at the high school. Installation of officers for the 1968-69 school year will be held. Elected to office at the March meeting were Gene Francis, president; Mrs. Charles Holmes, vice president and Mrs. Don Morrison, treasurer. Mrs. Calvin Paulson continues her term as secretary for a second year.

75 Years Ago
APRIL 29, 1943
FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

The first military funeral of this was to be held in Bloomington will take place Thursday, April 29 from the Methodist church. Earven Leo Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Peterson, a young soldier died at Headquarters Army Air Base in Salt Lake City on April 23 at 8:30 a.m. He was 26 years old.
A postal telegram received here Wednesday morning from the War Department informed Dr. B.D. Betlach of his commission as first lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Dr. Betlach has been ordered to report for duty at Dallas, Texas.
Bloomington's fire ladders received a taste of "city life" last week when aid to extinguish three rural fires come on three consecutive days. The fire department made runs to Carl M. Swenson farm, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ingvalson farm



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Submitted Photo

First Lutheran kids raise more money

Rod and Tess Koster of Blooming Prairie were staying at their Florida home in early April when accused killer Lois Riess showed up in their driveway one afternoon. The couple is thankful to be alive, especially knowing that Lois allegedly killed another woman about a block from the Kosters in Fort Myers Beach.

RIESS MURDER: Challenging times at sheriff's office

FROM PAGE B4

family forever - and the whole country has watched this drama unfold. How do you process that as one of her kids, or worse yet, one of her grandkids? Unfortunately, this is just the beginning of a long road for this family with what we expect will be a long and grueling court process in two states. How incredibly sad this whole case has become for these two families.

When you talk about this case, please remember to be respectful to the family members affected by it. We don't have the answers yet as to why things happened as they did. Maybe we never will. However, we do ask that you please keep the Riess family in your thoughts and prayers during the next few weeks and months. They are going to need our support now more than ever.

Your Sheriff,
Scott

Scott Rose is in his first term as Dodge County Sheriff. He announced in February that he will be seeking a second term in this fall's election.

Congressman Walz holds listening session

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

First District Congressman Tim Walz has a habit of listening. Walz greeted community leaders of his First District at a listening forum held at the Starfire Event Center in Waseca on April 12. Walz, in his sixth term as a First District congressman, praised attendees for their progressive, challenging and rewarding ideas. This was the last of three regional vitality summits held in the First District. The others were held in Luverne and Winona earlier in the week. “Congressman Walz listens and puts into action what he is going to do,” said Waseca Mayor Roy Srp in his introductory remarks for Walz. Walz said a spirit of cooperation and collaboration is needed to accomplish progress in the region. “We are stubborn, optimistic and hopeful,” Walz said. He called those in attendance, visionaries. The First District is the ninth largest agricultural district in America, Walz claimed.

He said he was sure of three things: more energy, food and water are needed. Walz praised the region for being the home to the Mayo Clinic which provides the highest quality care, he believes. “We are home for every can of Spam that is produced and also the home for the building of tractors, garbage trucks and cement trucks. This makes for a diverse economy. Walz made mention of the 37th anniversary of the first Space Shuttle launch on April 12. “I am excited you are all here and thank you for the opportunities you provide others in our district,” Walz said. “I appreciate your curiosity,” he concluded. David Beurle, a world renowned expert on community, regional and organizational economic revitalization, was next on the program agenda. He spoke about global trends, strengths



Staff Photo by Howard Lestrud
First District Congressman Tim Walz addresses a crowd of 80 at a regional vitality summit meeting Thursday, April 12 at the Starfire Event Center in Waseca.

and challenges. Beurle's work extends from the local and regional to corporate and governmental levels with a focus on futures thinking and long-term planning. Beurle asked summit attendees to look into the future and to identify areas of optimism or concern. Changes in agriculture, work force availability and health issues were further discussed. Between 2010-50, it is expected that 100 million people will be added to the cities in the U.S., and a big shift will be made in the Asia Pacific. Beurle talked at length about the agricultural, industrial and knowledge/experience economies of the future. Energy, water and climate are change factors of the future, he said. Newest trends in the technology revolution were outlined by Beurle. Precision agriculture and robotics

represent technological change. “Ride the wave or be left behind,” he challenged. During lunch, attendees listened to a panel consisting of Roy Srp, mayor of Waseca; Pam Bishop, vice president economic development, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation; Joseph Brown, senior, superintendent of Fairmont Area Schools and Sam Ziegler, director of GreeSeam, LLC. Bishop asked leaders to identify champions of the future and to have conversations over coffee about the future of the First District. Bruce Schwartau of the Minnesota Extension Service also spoke about future growth in our communities. “We live in a community, not an economy,” he said. Attendees then were placed in groups and discussed roles the federal government plays in our lives.

Foundation looks to give out grants

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) is currently accepting applications for its Economic Development Incentive grant program. This grant opportunity is available to nonprofits, units of government, and other public agencies throughout SMIF's 20-county region. Requests of up to \$20,000 will be considered. SMIF's economic development grants are designed to support new collaborative initiatives that support entrepreneurs. Projects which provide specialized training to new and expanding entrepreneurs and businesses, create new collaborations, develop new business resources, or create new opportunities for entrepreneurs will be considered. Examples of projects include business incubators, coworking spaces, and business training programs. Previous grant projects include the Red Wing Innovation Incubator and the Albert Lea Entrepreneurial

Advancement Program. “Building resilient economic development processes to enhance business growth is essential to creating sustainable economic prosperity,” said Pam Bishop, vice president of economic development at SMIF. “We are excited to see the new ideas and innovative projects submitted from southern Minnesota communities, which result in expanding and starting new companies as well as boost collaborations and partnerships.” SMIF is simultaneously seeking applications for the FEAST! Smart Start grant and the Paint the Town grant. Applications for this Economic Development Incentive Grant round are due to SMIF by May 15. Awardees will be notified in June 2018. For more information or to apply visit our website at www.smifoundation.org or contact Jennifer Heien at 507-214-7040; jenniferh@smifoundation.org.

SALUTE TO VETERANS



Bruce Kubicek

Branch of service:	U.S. Army Reserve
Special training:	208th MP Company, 5th USA
Dates of service:	October 16, 1965
Discharge date:	October 16, 1971
Where served:	Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
Unit served:	328th Ordnance Company -Faribault Army Reserves 417th Light Equip. Maint. Company -Faribault Army Reserves

My Story:
I joined the U.S. Army Reserve Unit in Faribault in October of 1965. I reported to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri on May 1, 1966 for my basic training. After basic training, I was assigned to the 208th MP Company at Fort Leonard Wood for mechanic training. After completing mechanic training, I reported back to the 328th Ordnance Company in Faribault. I was assigned to be a wrecker operator/mechanic as my MOS. I attended weekend training every month and two weeks of summer training at Camp McCoy Wisconsin. In January of 1968 my MOS was changed to radio operator/repair man. Also in 1968 our unit received specialized training in riot control, due to the riots that were taking place in the country at the time. In 1968 and in 1969 our training was accelerated to two weekends a month due to the possibility of being sent to Vietnam. For my last summer camp in 1971 our unit went to the United States Army Depot in Atlanta, Georgia for two weeks. While I was gone my third son was born in Owatonna, which made it difficult for my wife. My discharge date was Oct. 16, 1971.

I wanted to be more active in my community after I retired from being a Steele County commissioner, so in 2016, I decided to join the Blooming Prairie American Legion Post #52. I also became a member of the Blooming Prairie combined Honor Guard and Color Guard, where I am proud to be able to honor those who have served before me. I am presently the Blooming Prairie Legion vice commander.

A special thanks for your bravery and sacrifice in defending our country!

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Ebeling greets people as they funnel into the Owatonna Elks Club to celebrate his retirement from the Owatonna Parks & Rec department. It was even commented that the party should have been held at the Four Seasons Center to accommodate the large crowd.



BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

After working for the Owatonna Parks and Recreation department for 40 years including serving as the director, Corky Ebeling has met quite a few people, impacted the community and cemented long-lasting

friendships along the way. On Friday evening, those who knew him best were all in attendance at his retirement party held at the Owatonna Elks Club, which corresponded perfectly with Ebeling's birthday. According to Ebeling, when he saw that his birthday was going to be on a warm, spring Friday, he realized it was the right time to hang it up. The event featured live music and was filled to the brim with those wanting to share their appreciation for all that he has done for the community. Scott Kozelka, a friend, says that Ebeling means a lot to the community, and that he's been a great leader and mentor for Kozelka's son, who was employed at Owatonna Parks and Rec. Kozelka commented on

how vital Ebeling was to the community during his time with Parks and Rec, the Steele County Free Fair Board and the annual softball tournament he organized. But he also realizes that it's Ebeling's time to unwind and take it easy. "We need the Corky's around, but it's his time now to relax and have fun." Ebeling's family was also there, including his cousin Cindy, who drove down from the Twin Cities to see him. "He's great guy," Cindy said, but joked that he might want to spend his retirement doing some chores around the house. "He should clean out the garage." Cindy says that Ebeling had always been someone prone to organizational skills, explaining that he even organizes and puts on all of their family reunions. Also in attendance were

Ebeling's aunt and uncle, LaDonna and Ruben Ebeling. "He's a very dedicated person, but this is the best time of his life right now," LaDonna exclaimed. Both LaDonna and Ruben said that they can trace back the Ebeling family roots in Steele County across five generations, when a railroad worker named Paul Ebeling liked the town so much he decided to stay. Since then, the Ebeling family has flourished, counting Corky as just one of many important Steele County residents from their family. Many of Ebeling's friends were there to share stories and celebrate his career. Friends like Kirk Johnson, who remembers fun times on fishing trips together.

SEE **CELEBRATING, C2**

CELEBRATING 40 years of community involvement

Waking the Tiger



Medford School claws its way into phase two of branding project

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

The Medford Tigers have finished their hunt for a new logo. At last Monday's School Board meeting, Superintendent Mark Ristau showed off renditions of the school's branding featuring its new logo. "We've come to the end of phase one on this project," Ristau announced at the meeting. He reported that 63 percent of participating voters decided on the new logo, which features new art of the Medford Tiger and a reworked Medford 'M.' Ristau and the school are currently pursuing different means of promoting the new logo; meanwhile booster clubs have already stepped up to sponsor the new signage. At the meeting, the board was excited about the new mockups for the project, which will include glass for the gymnasium and several other additions, all in an effort to personalize the building a little more. Viracon has already expressed interest in donating glass for the project after Ristau met with Mark Bock, Director of Supply Chain at Viracon. "He was adamant that he wanted to do something for Medford," Ristau said of Bock. The Medford Education Foundation will also be stepping in to help with the project, agreeing to sponsor a wrap on the glass wall near the school's main entrance. Additionally, the Medford Basketball Association has chosen to sponsor an additional wrap to help the project along. During the school board session, Ristau and his board also suggested other additions. "We need some directional presence above the offices," he said on the prospect of designating wraps above the school's offices. Although the project is far from complete, Medford School has pounced its way through the initial steps. "We'll get together again to decide on the final designs and locations," Ristau confirmed to the board. "All I can say is exciting," Medford High School Principal Kevin Babcock exclaimed. School Board member Bill Cronin was also looking forward to the new designs, but suggested that they reach out to more organizations and businesses, hoping to inspire them to follow Viracon's lead. There are also some thoughts being circled on the school's media center. "We're looking to utilize that space in a different way," Ristau said. "I think the space and the technology could be used more efficiently."

Other plans for next year include
SEE **MEDFORD, C2**



This scene hopefully will be happening soon in our local agricultural area. Lots of snow and cold weather have prevented farmers from getting in the field

Staff Photo by Howard Lestrud

FARMERS READY TO PLANT

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

"It's not panic time yet," says Bruce Rumpza of Farmers & Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie. Rumpza wears two hats, one as a banking officer and agricultural loan specialist and the other as a hardworking farmer in the Blooming Prairie area with his son David. "We would sure like to get the farmers in the field as soon as possible and hopefully by the first of May," says Rumpza. Late snowfalls have prevented area farmers from getting out in their farm fields. Reports are still common, saying there is a lot of frost in the ground, Rumpza said. The attitudes of area farmers "are not terrible," Rumpza said. Economically, there is hope, says Rumpza. He says prices are not great with corn at \$3.36 a bushel and soybeans at

\$9.50 a bushel. "Those are not horrible prices, but they could be better," he said. Area farmers are hopeful that the snow is over for the season. He recalls 2013 when 14 inches of snow fell on May 2. May was a very wet month, Rumpza recalls. He says farmers around this area "are pretty patient and know they can't control the weather. This, too, will pass. Rumpza and his son plant canning crops and are part of a fairly large group of area farmers who produce canning crops. Farmer Jerry Ingvalson of Ingvalson Farms is one of those farmers planting canning crops. Like Rumpza, Ingvalson is optimistic that farmers will be soon planting their crops. "We are not behind yet," says Ingvalson. Looking back in his records, Ingvalson said farmers got behind in 2013 with late snow. In 2016, farmers

started planting on April 14 and continued through April 23. Soybean planting started on April 23 and rain then halted planting until May 3. In 2017, Ingvalson said he planted some on April 24. A cold rain halted planting until May 4. About 300 acres was planted in April. "We could be on schedule since our pace is like last year," Ingvalson informed. "If it can straighten up and stay dry we could plant a lot of corn in a hurry," he said. Ingvalson said there is still a fair amount of corn stockpiled from last year's bumper crop. "We spent a lot of time drying last year," he said. Warmer weather approaching the low 60s will dry up the farm land very quickly, other area farmers believe. They are waiting for the ground to be ready for action.



Blooming Prairie High School junior Riley Millam and Spanish teacher Jennifer Thomas look over the new app on conjugation of verbs in Spanish.

Staff Photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie junior could be called a Geek

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Some might say Blooming Prairie High School junior Riley Millam is a geek. He agrees and doesn't seem to mind being labeled as a geek. The word geek, according to Wikipedia, is a slang term originally used to describe eccentric or non-mainstream people in current use. The word typically connotes an expert or enthusiast or a person obsessed with a hobby or intellectual pursuit, with general meaning of being perceived to be overly intellectual. Riley's connection with this label is because of his intense involvement in computer work. He has helped in experimentation with the

SEE **GEEK, C2**

Steele County 4-H salutes volunteers



MELISSA KOCH

Each year, thousands of volunteers in Minnesota donate their time and energy to make their communities a better place to live. One group that relies heavily on volunteers is the University of Minnesota Extension's 4-H Youth Development Program. Minnesota 4-H supports nearly 11,000 adult volunteers annually who engage young people in a variety of hands-on learning experiences. Volunteers are critical to the success of 4-H programs and making a difference in the lives of youth. In Steele County, over 225 youth and adults volunteer in our county 4-H program. Volunteers, both youth and adult, serve as club leaders, project leaders, committee members, and in advisory capacities for the 4-H Youth Development Program. Volunteers spend numerous hours working on tasks, such as mentoring a child with a 4-H project, leading a project with youth to serve the community, or helping organize an event at the county fair. Steele County is honored to work with youth and adults who give their time and talents to make "the best better" and grow opportunities for youth to explore projects, careers, and hands on learning. This year we will be thanking our adult volunteers at the end of April with a meal and teambuilding fun of an escape room. Giving them a chance to make connections with other volunteers and staff here locally in Steele County. 4-H is growing in leadership with youth and adults leading the way to build a better community and we thank everyone who gives their time. The work of 4-H volunteers is continuous. Every day volunteers lend a helping hand to make 4-H programs more beneficial to the residents of Steele County. Those interested in joining the team of 4-H Volunteers are invited to contact the University of Minnesota Extension - Steele County at 507-444-7685, or through <http://www3.extension.umn.edu/local/steele>.
Missy Koch is a 4-H program coordinator with Steele County. Steele Talkin' is a weekly column featuring various authors representing organizations in Steele County.

CELEBRATING: *Corky Ebeling*

FROM CELEBRATING, C1

“I’ve known him since about the 7th grade,” Johnson recalls.

Johnson can remember back when Ebeling was first starting up the annual softball tournament, and as Johnson remembers it, Ebeling had said, “I hope someday this will be big.” His prediction wasn’t wrong. This year there will be around 178 teams spread out over Owatonna and Faribault’s baseball diamonds, bringing traffic and business to the region.

His friends who know him best describe softball as one of his passions. Wes Jones, another friend who grew up with Ebeling, explains that the tournament started 39 years ago, and that only Ebeling could have envisioned that it would become something so big for the city.

“He put Owatonna on the map with this tournament,” Jones said. “And thanks to all of his work with the city, you can’t find nicer fields than we have here.”

In his time working for the city and the parks as well as helping with the county fair, Ebeling has impacted a lot of lives. Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele remembers that he was instrumental in allowing him to go to Northwestern University to attain more knowledge when he was elected sheriff. “I appreciate everything he’s done,” Thiele remarked.

Friends all describe Ebeling as a man who was actively involved in the community, even from a young age. “I’ve known him for around 50 years I’d say,” Jim Wolters explained. “He was always active, and he’s a lot of fun and just a really good guy.” Wolters added that Ebeling even takes up a leadership role on their fishing trips. “He organizes everything when we go fishing,” said Wolters.

“He is a leader in the community and has shown that over the years with everything he’s done,” another friend, Brad Price, explained.

Tom “Doc” Garmann, enjoying a drink with Price at the party, added, “A lot of what he’s done

for our community speaks volumes for what kind of man he is.”

With the Elks Club filling up with co-workers, family, and friends, Ebeling stood by the entrance and shook hands and laughed with those coming in to wish him well on his retirement.

In between handshakes and greetings, Ebeling said that all the support was phenomenal. “It means a lot to me, it’s outstanding, and I just really appreciate everyone showing up,” he said. One party-goer even remarked that the Four Seasons Center might have been a better venue to accommodate the large crowd.

Ebeling says that he has no serious post-retirement plan, but will spend time with his family and go fishing. “Family is at the top of my list, family, faith, friends, and community,” he said.

Ebeling credits his own success and drive to two mentors: Ted Ringhofer and Leo Rudolph.

“It’s because of them that I’ve hired young people and tried to mentor them. I’m always trying to make a difference,” Ebeling explained. In his time working for Parks and Rec, Ebeling oversaw many important milestones. “This is something that will last a lifetime,” he said of his work there.

When asked what he will miss the most, Ebeling was proud to say that it will be all the people he’s met and worked with in his time as director. “Well, it would probably have to be the people. I’m a people person, and I had really great co-workers and people who I interacted with on a daily basis,” he said.

Despite all that he’s done and what he’s meant to the community, Ebeling feels this is the right time to step away, and he is confident in the team he’s leaving behind. “It’s in great hands. They’re all seasoned people who know what they’re doing. It’s in great shape, and it shouldn’t have a single hiccup,” Ebeling said.

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Since 1957, the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary has been reminding its volunteers how much it respects their service by putting on an annual luncheon in their name for National Hospital Volunteers Week.

This year’s Annual Auxiliary Volunteer Luncheon was held at the Owatonna Country Club on Friday afternoon. The luncheon got started on an appreciative note, with Sharon Jacobson, Volunteer Services Coordinator, thanking the volunteers for all the good work they’ve done.

“Volunteers come in all shapes and sizes, but they are all the real superheroes and saints of this world,” Jacobson said from the podium. “They do it without pay” She added.

Jacobson also explained to the crowd her feeling that, “the hospital could not do this without each and every one of you.” She continued her opening remarks by stating, “It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with all of you thoughtful and caring people, thank you, all of you!”

After the introduction, current Auxiliary President Dave Kenow recited the Auxiliary Prayer before being joined by incoming President Mary Greene in order to remember all of the volunteers who are no longer with us.

Brenda Kollar, Human Resources Director at the Owatonna Hospital, also showed her appreciation. “This day is all about you,” she said to the volunteers in the audience. “You do so much for us, so let us do something for you.”

During her remarks, Kollar explained, “I was in awe when I learned more about what all of you do, and what all of you do is just amazing.”



Staff Photo by Howard Lestrud
Sharon Jacobson delivers opening remarks at the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Volunteers Appreciation Luncheon. The luncheon has been held each year since 1957 in order to thank all of the volunteers who give back to serve the Owatonna Hospital.

In 2017, volunteers donated a total of 23,452 hours of time in service to the hospital and its needs, which in turn saved the Owatonna Hospital and Allina Health nearly \$470,000. Kollar summed up this service by saying, “Your work, and what you do, is very important to the hospital, our patients, the community and the hospital staff.”

Speaking on the great work that volunteers have done over the past year, Jacobson said, “I didn’t realize until I started just how many volunteers there are, you should be proud of yourself in all that you’ve done this past year.”

There was a brief discussion of the Auxiliary Volunteers’ upcoming events for later this year, including the annual Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar, which will be held in early November. In 2017, the Bazaar raised over \$18,000.

After all the thanks and well-wishes,

it was time for some fun, as Marsha Sullivan, the gift shop supervisor, held a brief “fashion show” with some of the products found at the Pink Pantry, the hospital’s gift shop. Even Sullivan got in on some of the appreciation. “I want to thank all of you for what you do for the auxiliary, it has a huge effect on us,” she said during the style show.

After lunch was served, Owatonna Hospital President David Albrecht, delivered remarks before Sharon Jacobson and Dave Kenow took to the podium once more to present volunteers with hourly pins and install new officers.

During lunch, Albrecht was seen traveling from table to table in order to thank all of the volunteers there for their work personally. “Thanks for making the morning coffee,” he joked to one group, admitting that it helps perk him up for his morning work.

MEDFORD: *Waking the Tiger*

FROM MEFORD, C1

Babcock’s idea that the school should consider offering college credits for woodworking and welding, as well as other trade disciplines. “We want to give our students who may not be planning on attending a four-year institution a chance to get some carrots in front of them as well,” Babcock said of the proposed plan.

Superintendent Ristau also announced that the school’s downtown land is being looked at by a potential

buyer, Timbercrest, LLC, which swept in out of the blue to make an offer. According to Ristau, Timbercrest is operated out of the south metro area and primarily builds single family homes and townhomes.

The owner of Timbercrest has been in contact with Andy Welti, Medford City Administrator, in order to run through the process. “I think everything is moving forward, and we’re in a good place,” Ristau said of the potential land

sale. Recently, the Medford School Board decided to lower the asking price on the land from \$200,000 to \$180,000, prompting Timbercrest to swoop in and make an offer. The income from the sale will go into the school’s general fund.

GEEK: *Blooming Prairie junior*

FROM GEEK, C1

high school’s 3D printer, and he has also been a member of the Wrench Warmers, the Blooming Prairie High School robotics team.

Just recently, Riley developed an app (computer application) to help high school Spanish teacher Jennifer Thomas.

Millam said Señora Thomas used an online program to help with conjugation of verbs, but it did not work so well.

Being a member of the robotics team, Riley said he could create a better one as a joke. His teacher took him up on his dare and worked on app development for about eight months.

On April 16, Riley learned that his app had been approved. He then went into Mrs. Thomas’ classroom and published the app in front of her. The app is free and available at the App Store. Students can access the apps from their cell phones.

Riley gave a few examples of the conjugation of verbs in Spanish. “I eat” could be “he eats.” Eat is “comer” in Spanish.

Mrs. Thomas says students were anxious for the app and having used it, they like it, she said. He is continuing to update the app and currently has 225 verbs in his program.

“It’s a work in progress,” Mrs. Thomas stated.

Riley is the oldest of three siblings. Reese is in ninth grade and Marquette is in eighth grade.

By changing the ending of a verb, it changes the meanings. The app is especially helpful to beginning Spanish students, freshmen and sophomores.

Riley hopes to develop more apps in the future. He’s working on one now that will help users search for a word by using a built-in camera. “It’s kind of a weird idea,” he admits. This procedure will help find a word in a large file.

Riley says it “feels nice” to help his Spanish teacher. “I plan on making the app much better,” he says.

Millam, an A Honor Roll student, said he is self-taught in the computer world. “I like to develop things myself,” he related. His early attraction to computers came from his interest and involvement in robotics.

“I’ve learned a lot since I made a joke to Mrs. Thomas,” he says.

Millam likes working with software and hardware. He hopes to go on to college in Minnesota, studying computer science.

He recently received an internship with IBI Data in Brownsdale. He will work with programing and website development. His robotics involvement helped him get the internship

following an interview. He starts his internship when school ends in early June.

A real love for artwork designing and scripting has pushed Riley to attain more knowledge in the design and create world. “It’s kind of like being a mini director,” he said.

Riley hopes some day to create a game. He’s working on one now that is text based. It works like Story Line Books, he says.

Riley enjoys playing video games with “Fallout” being his favorite game. Object of the game is survival. Society rebuilds itself in this game, Riley explains. “We end up creating a better world,” he continued.

When he is not working on programming, Riley is playing basketball with friends or watching movies. He also is involved in school activities including Student Council, Prom Committee and the Wrench Warmers robotics team.

Scholarships hopefully are on the horizon for Riley. He plans on applying for scholarships next year.

“Riley is a trademark type of student, one we are proud of,” commented high school principal John Worke.

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Summer Schedule

T-Ball & Squirts
Cost: \$37, after May 10 - \$47
Locations: Brown, Jaycee, or Manthey/McKinley Fields
Program Dates: Starts the week of June 4, ends 1st week in August
Times: Evenings at varied times - 5:30, 6:30 or 7:30 p.m.
Days: T-ball plays Mondays, Squirts plays Tuesdays
Coaches meeting: May 30 at 5:30 p.m., City Administration Building Lower Level Meeting Room.

Summer Track & Field
Cost: \$35
Location: OHS Track
Program Dates: June 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 26 (rain dates June 27, 28)
Times: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Days: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Youth Swimming Lessons:
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Session 2: Meets July 9-19
Session 3: Meets July 23-August 2

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Location: Lake Kohlmer (and community sites for rain plans)
Dates: June 15-August 10 (excluding July 6)
Times: 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Days: Fridays
Check our website for all up to date information www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation



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Available all day every

Monday, for those living outside of Steele County, not available for league play

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Special Events

39th Annual Corky's Early Bird Softball Tournament
May 3, 4, 5, 6 – games begin at 5 p.m. Thursday
To celebrate 39 years of Corky's Early Bird Tournament, a reunion of all retired softball players and umpires will be held under the SMC Cement Tent at the Fairgrounds, Diamond 1 Parking Lot. As always, there will be music, concessions, pork patties, brats, and a full cash bar. Proceeds from this tournament benefit the Owatonna Youth Scholarship Fund. For complete and updated information go to Facebook: "Corky's Early Bird Men's Softball Classic".

Thursday, May 3: 2 for 1 Pork Patties! Games begin at 5 p.m.
Friday, May 4: 4pm-Midnight Legends of Softball Reunion
7:30 p.m.-Diamond #1: Top 2 teams in the United States battle it out
Saturday, May 5: Games begin at 8am!
Sunday, May 6: Games begin at 8am!

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BLOOMING PRAIRIE

April 25
7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. - Pillow Cleaning, First Lutheran
10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library
5 p.m. – 7 p.m. – Girls Night Out, A Touch of Charm and J&H Liquors

April 26
6:30 p.m. – Saloon Owners' Rebellion discussion by Dean Ulland, BP Library

May 1
10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library



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ELLENDALE/GENEVA/HOPE

April 25
4 p.m. – Community Ed (Acrylic Painting Class), NR HS Art Room

April 26
3 p.m. – ASFCME Meeting, NR HS Media Center
7:30 p.m. – Ellendale City Council Meeting, Community Building

April 27
6:15 p.m. – Community Ed (Car Care 101), NR HS South Gym

April 29
11 a.m. – Meatball Dinner, Community Lutheran Church in Geneva

April 30
6 p.m. – ECFFE Special Event (May Day Mahem), Ellendale Elementary South Gym

May 1
6 p.m. – Community Ed (String Art), NR HS Lower Commons
6:30 p.m. – Karate, Ellendale Elementary North Gym



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

April 25
5:30 p.m. – Shade Tree Commission Meeting, City Admin Building

April 26
11 a.m. – 7 p.m. – Youth 1st Baseball and Barbeque, CashWise
2 p.m. & 7 p.m. – Movies at the Library, Owatonna Library
7 p.m. – 100 Years of Immigration – Dreamers from WW1 to Today, History Center

April 27
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, Owatonna Hospital
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Dean Nelson Retirement Celebration, Owatonna Wastewater Treatment Facility
11 a.m. – 7 p.m. – Youth 1st Baseball and Barbeque, CashWise
12:15 p.m. – Arbor Day Event, City Admin Building
7:30 p.m. – My Man Godfrey, Little Theatre of Owatonna

April 28
9 a.m. – Village of Yesteryear Clean-Up Day,

Village of Yesteryear
9 a.m. – Free Running Clinic, Owatonna Shoe
7 p.m. – John Deboer Comedy Show, Owatonna Eagles
7:30 p.m. – My Man Godfrey, Little Theatre of Owatonna

April 29
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Riverland on the Road Bus Tour, Riverland Community College
1 p.m. – Raise the Barre Dance workshop, Dynamic Fitness Studio
2 p.m. – The Thursday Musical Group, Owatonna Arts Center
2 p.m. – My Man Godfrey, Little Theatre of Owatonna
3 p.m. – Corey Casperson Benefit, Owatonna Elks Lodge

April 30
5 p.m. - Día de los niños/ Día de los libros, Owatonna Library

May 1
5:30 p.m. – Rededication Ceremony of the Steele County Courthouse,
7 p.m. – Owatonna City Council Meeting, City Admin Building

Kasper honored as posse member of the year



Submitted Photo
Alexis Kasper has been honored as the Steele County Posse Person of the Year. Presenting her with the award were Capt. Joe Schwering of the posse, left, and Sheriff Lon Thiele at the Minnesota State Posse Conference in Cottage Grove April 7.

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

At one time Alexis Kasper thought she would be interested in becoming a police officer, but she ended up utilizing law enforcement through a volunteer role.

Kasper has been a member of the Steele County Sheriff's Posse since 2013. Her dedication to the organization has earned her the honor of being the Person of the Year for 2017 for the local group that is called upon to assist sworn officers with the Steele County Sheriff's Office. She received the recognition April 7 at the Minnesota State Posse Convention in Cottage Grove.

"I was kind of shocked," Kasper said of winning the honor. She is one of 28 active members with the posse.

As a posse member, Kasper takes part in training, parades, search and rescue incidents and Shop with a Cop program. In addition, she currently serves as the first lieutenant and picks up extra duties by keeping rosters up-to-date, maintaining the website and handling scheduling during the county fair. She also keeps up a scrapbook of all posse activities.

Kasper lives on a farm south of Owatonna with her three horses, which allows her to fulfill one of the main requirements of being on the posse. She utilizes one of the horses to ride and train with various posse activities.

Besides horse training, posse members also undergo CPR, discrimination and search and rescue training throughout the year. They have monthly meetings to fulfill the training requirements. "Anything we can do to continue growing and be better is great," Kasper said.

"I'm trying to be as active as possible," Kasper said. "I'm able to volunteer my time and being a person in our society that's giving back."

One of the biggest functions posse members work at during the year is the Steele County Fair in August. Kasper said attending the fair as a child and seeing posse members was where she actually became interested in the posse. "I always admired them walking around the fair," she said.

In her professional life, Kasper is a steel operator at Al-Corn Ethanol Plant in Claremont.

T.J.. Stender earns Eagle Scout award



BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The ultimate in Boy Scouting was achieved by T. J. Stender, Blooming Prairie High School sophomore.

He was honored at a special Court of Honor on Sunday at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie.

His parents, Dondi and Karla Stender, proudly stood front and center as Frank Moon of the Hayfield VFW presented the prestigious award.

T.J.'s main Eagle Scout project was to create a small picnic area at the Blooming Prairie High School near the front entrance.

The community supported young Stender's efforts by providing lasting contributions.

Submitted Photo
T.J. Stender stands by his parents Dondi and Karla Stender during a Boy Scout Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. Frank Moon of the Hayfield VFW made the presentation.

Crossword solution																								
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Meatball Dinner coming to Geneva

The Community Lutheran Church of Geneva is sponsoring its 16th Annual Meatball Dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 29 at the church.

Worship service is at 9:30 a.m.

The menu includes mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, buns and assorted pies for dessert. Cost is a free will donation.

Tickets for a quilt raffle will also be available at \$1 per ticket and can be purchased at the door from the WELCA women.



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all the time.*

Advocates for Developmental Disabilities hosting dance workshop

Miss South Central 2018 Michaelene Karlen will be hosting a Raise the Barre Dance workshop to give children ages 5 to 14 with disabilities a dance experience on April 29 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

The Advocates for Developmental Disabilities is sponsoring the dance and movement workshop. The workshop will be held at Dynamic Fitness Studio, 606 Hoffman Dr. NW, Owatonna.

To register, call the Advocates for Developmental Disabilities at 451-9769.

Additional information about Miss Karlen and her Raise the Barre platform can be found at <https://www.michaelenekarlen.com/raise-the-barre>.

SCHS announces Villages of Yesteryear Clean-Up Day

The Steele County Historical Society announces the 2nd Annual Village of Yesteryear Clean-Up Day on April 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Village of Yesteryear, 1448 Austin Road, Owatonna.

Our group will gather at the Dunnell house for coffee, donuts and training needed to clean historical artifacts and building structures prior to dispersing to designate areas of the campus. SCHS will provide all supplies needed for this cleaning project.

Volunteers may be cleaning landscape areas; sweeping/ mopping floors; dusting artifacts; vacuuming carpets; or washing windows. This activity is suitable for team building experiences and youth/parent projects.

Volunteers should dress appropriately for weather conditions of the day. It is recommended volunteers wear shoes that cover toes and have work gloves for some projects.

For more information or for volunteer sign-up, please call MaryAnne Higgins at 451-1420. Any amount of volunteer time this day will be appreciated!

National Day of Prayer gathering at West Hills

The community of Owatonna and Steele County is invited to attend a prayer gathering on the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 3 at 5:30 pm by the flag pole in front of the City Center, West Hills in Owatonna.

The Lights of Litomysl will lead with several songs of praise and prayer, and several members of the local clergy and Christian leaders will lead in prayer for unity in our nation, state and neighborhood. In case of rain, the Art Center will be open.

The National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. In 1988, the law was unanimously amended by both the House and the Senate and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on Thursday, May 5, 1988, designating the first Thursday of May as a day of national prayer. Every president since 1952 has signed a National Day of Prayer proclamation.

Locally, Governor, Mark Dayton and Mayor Tom Kurtz have issued proclamations declaring May 3, 2018 as the National Day of Prayer.

Prayer brings people together. Prayer builds bridges between opposing persons and even political parties. Prayer reminds us that we are created in God's image and He desires for us to represent Him everywhere we go. Prayer brings UNITY. In 2018, our theme will be Pray for America - UNITY, based upon Ephesians 4:3, which challenges us to mobilize unified public prayer for America. "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Our hope is that as individuals, churches and spiritual leaders in America, we will humble ourselves and unify in prevailing prayer for the next great move of God in America. Our prayer is that we will come together in clear agreement that this is our greatest need. We pray that we will become a visible union, standing together in prayer. Finally our prayer is that we will pray more than ever before, and practice extraordinary prayer for the next great move of God in America that will catapult the message of the gospel nationally and internationally.

For more information, please call (507) 451-1032 or check out the website at <http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org>



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- **June 23:** Cruise for cancer ride
- **July 3:** Street dance (21 and over only)
- **July 4:** Open 9 a.m. to close
- **July 21:** B.O.B. ride: "Toys for Tots"

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- Maintained 80 government buildings
- Responsible for \$3 million budget

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Though she's a veteran to the education field, Michelle Krell is wrapping up her first year as the director of teaching and learning for the Owatonna School District. She is a graduate of Blooming Prairie and has been a teacher and administrator for various districts around the region.

THE KRELL

Family impacts area education in multiple ways

TRIPECTA

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

One directs the teaching and learning of a school district. Another serves as a classroom teacher. And yet a third governs the overall direction of an entire district.

The Krell family of Blooming Prairie is providing Steele County with an education trifecta of administering, teaching and governing. They may come at it from different aspects, but in the end their mission is the same: to have a positive impact on the education of area children.

And their expertise is being spread across two school districts in the county.

Owatonna residents benefit from Michelle Krell, who within the past year took on the role as director of teaching and learning while Blooming Prairie residents gain from Michelle's husband, Rodney, who serves as the chairman of the school board, and their daughter, Jenna, who is a first year teacher at BP Elementary.

"The Krell family has been and continues to be very supportive of and influential in public education across the area," said Barry Olson, superintendent of Blooming Prairie Schools.

While they bring different perspectives to education, they all have one thing in common. Each of them graduated from Blooming Prairie High School where they developed a love for education and a desire to give back to their community.

Olson has known Rodney and Michelle since he was their teacher and coach. "They have become quality community citizens, which we like all of our graduates to strive for," Olson said.

Life of education

Michelle credits her aunts, who were teachers, for sparking her interest in becoming a teacher. She got an early start by teaching Sunday school and Bible school. "I just really enjoyed it," she said.

Perhaps the toughest lesson in Michelle's pursuit of an education career came when tragedy struck in 1989. Michelle was a passenger in a car crash south of Blooming Prairie in which two other people died, including Rodney's mother, Joyce. "It was a defining moment in my life," Michelle says. "I found there is a purpose to life. That shaped my path and gave me a whole new purpose."

While attending Mankato State University, Michelle crossed paths with a college professor who really inspired her to pursue education. She went on to receive a degree in elementary education.

Michelle began her career at Medford before switching to Lincoln Elementary in Owatonna in 1998. She was later named interim principal at Washington Elementary.

The demands of being a principal and juggling a young

family at the time became difficult for Michelle so she ended up back in the classroom. She taught in Waseca and later became principal at Hartly Elementary in 2005.

Michelle is certain that her energy and passion for teaching rubbed off at home with her children. She remembers celebrating the good things that happened in the classroom around the supper table.

"I will always remember my first class," Michelle said. "That's where I realized how impactful my actions are. You can make an impact with all kids, and all kids can be successful in the classroom," she said.

In 2010, Michelle landed a principal job at Kasson-Man-torville Elementary. She later took on the middle school principal role before jumping back to Owatonna Schools last summer to become the second in command in the district under the superintendent.

"Michelle is very passionate about creating environments that allow students to excel," Blooming Prairie's Olson says. "She has had an excellent career, and I am sure that will continue," he added.

Michelle's passion for education has taken her to Washington, D.C. where she was honored as one of the best elementary principals in America in 2014.

However, her husband Rodney is quick to point out she's not in education for notoriety or awards. "Seeing kids excel and become a productive part of society is what drives her," he said.

"She has a gift," Rodney said of his wife. "She can help people see something better. People respect her decisions and goals."

Michelle credits her strong work ethic to growing up on a farm. And it didn't hurt attending school in a small town. Besides being a three sport athlete, she took part in band, choir, school plays, FFA and 4-H. "You're able to do anything you want and be as involved as you want to be," Michelle said. "It made me a very well rounded person."

Even though she is able to affect the lives of more than 5,000 students in her current role as director of teaching and learning, Michelle misses the classroom where she began her career. "I will always be a teacher at heart," she says.

While her current job keeps her stationed at the district office, Michelle doesn't stay away from students for long. One of her goals is visibility within the many school buildings throughout the district. Being in the schools is a "good way to calibrate my day," she said.

"I'm rarely in the office," Michelle confesses. "It's important for me to see what's happening in the classroom. It's just energizing to be out there. I want to shape the path for improvement."

Michelle considers herself an "outside the box" thinker. "I get the big picture," she said. Upon coming back to Owatonna last July, Michelle said, "I have a new lenses coming in for the district. It helps me bring perspective and try to see things outside the box."

She's not afraid to share her aspirations of becoming a school superintendent. Michelle already has her superintendent's license, but is just happy where she's at for now.



The most recent addition to the Krell trifecta related to education is Jenna Krell, who is in her first year as a fourth grade teacher at Blooming Prairie Elementary, the same school was attended as a child. She is focused on helping kids grow and learn.

Asked what fuels her passion, Michelle says, "The impact we can have on kids and knowing that you can make such a positive influence."

BP board chair

While his main focus is keeping the family's Century Farm operating north of Blooming Prairie, Rodney has served on

Bids away!

St. Mary's School hosts annual Night of Knights Auction



Staff Photo by Chris Baldwin
Start the bidding! Auctioneer Cary Aasness gets the live auction underway at St. Mary's School's 32nd Annual Night of Knights Auction in Owatonna on April 14.

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Not even a historic April blizzard could stop the bidding at the Night of Knights Auction at St. Mary's School in Owatonna. Bidders braved the cold and snow to come out in force and bid on items at the auction on Saturday, April 14.

Celebrating its 32nd year of existence, the auction has become a mainstay for the community. The event featured both a live and silent auction. The silent auction was positioned downstairs in the cafeteria where eager bidders could walk through tables with over 300 items, while the live auction got underway upstairs in the Jerry Kent Gymnasium.

If they weren't able to make it through the snowstorm, this year offered bidders the chance to bid using a computer, mobile phone or tablet. It is the third year mobile bidding has been utilized by the auction, allowing bidders to take part remotely.

After the silent auction kicked off the event, attendees shuffled up to the gymnasium to prepare for a night of live bidding and fun.

Following an invocation from Father John Sauer, who wished all attendees a safe ride home and blessed the proceedings, the live auction commenced with raffles and an introduction of the auctioneer, Cary Aasness.

Among some of the larger items this year were a new HVAC unit worth \$8,000 donated by Dave Lax and Central Heating and Refrigeration LLC, a two-hour boat cruise for 25 people on Lake Minnetonka donated by the Pick Family and Owatonna Bus Company, a three-minute supermarket spree donated by Fareway Food Store, a custom designed 14 karat white gold diamond ring donated by Kottke Jewelry, and four Twins tickets along with a \$100 visa gift card donated by Tom and Stephanie Shea and CarTime.

Susan McCabe, along with her husband, Tim, and Chris and Jennifer Candullo, served as a co-chair of this year's auction. She said she didn't want to forget any of the businesses and individuals who donated. "We're just so grateful for every business and person who donated," McCabe said.

McCabe also had much to say of all the people who donated their time for the auction, including students and committee members. "We had a bunch of ladies working tirelessly putting baskets together, and students who babysat so that committee members could be here," she said.

This is McCabe's third and final year on the auction committee, and the last year of the Vegas theme. Next year's theme has already been decided as the 'Great Outdoors.' Of next year's auction, McCabe had only one thing to say, "Next year, I'm ready to attend."

Next year's chairs will be Marie and Tony Olinger and Josh and Karen Spielman. Marie Olinger, who was the lead of this year's silent auction, explains that the committee is composed of couples who volunteer for three years, with the chairs usually serving in their last year on the committee.

Olinger sees serving on the committee as an essential part of the St. Mary's experience. "It's sort of a right of passage for St. Mary's parents," she said.

She was grateful for all the time and effort volunteers and donors put into this year's event. "It's a humbling experience to work with people who love our school and are willing to help us with their time and talents," said Olinger.

Both McCabe and Olinger also thanked Federated Insurance, who matched donations up to \$100,000 during the evening's Spirit of the Knight portion, which asks attendees to donate pro bono to a specific cause. Federated also matched at the event two years ago. The proceeds of this year's Spirit of the Knight will go to pay off the school's building loan.

The loan stems from repairs that were needed on the school's ceiling and floors, totaling \$2.25 million. So far, St. Mary's has raised \$1.5 million to pay down the loan. All other proceeds from

the night's auction will go to directly benefit the school.

This year also continued the tradition of the Car & Cash raffle, where the winner can choose either \$10,000 or a new car. This year's model was a Ford Focus. The Car & Cash raffle is put on through a partnership with Owatonna Motors, who donated the car.

Last year's winner, Dave Lax, chose cash, and decided to give back at this year's event.

With the snow coming down and the auction underway, attendants got to come in from the cold to celebrate and give back in what has become a tradition for the community. St. Mary's School celebrates 140 years of bringing Catholic education to the community.

This year, not even the cold could deter eager bidders. When considering the crowds and the wealth of bids, Olinger said, "It's warm and sunny in here." At the auction, one would be hard-pressed to think that a late-season Minnesota blizzard raged outside.

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FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE 18-108886

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 9, 2015
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$111,600.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Billie J. Douglass and Tonia S. Douglass, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100397204013507311
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed March 31, 2015, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000401474
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 7, Block 9, Original Townsite of the Village of Blooming Prairie, except the North 80 Feet thereof.
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 206 E Main St, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-100-0911
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$108,647.69
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 22, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on November 22, 2018, or the next business day if November 22, 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: March 27, 2018

Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
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

4/3,4/10,4/17
4/24,5/1,5/8

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 7, 2009
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$26,826.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Tyler J. Olivo, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on May 12, 2009 as Document Number A000363971 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The West 75 feet of the East 188.4 feet of Block 3, Brainerd and Olson's Addition to the Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota, and commencing 589 feet West of that point where the West line of Oak Street (now Third Avenue) of said Village crosses the South Section line of Section 25, Township 105 North of Range 19, Steele County, Minnesota, thence North approximately 20 feet to the South line of Block 3, Brainerd and Olson's Addition to said Village, thence West along the South line of said Block 3, 75 feet, thence South to the South line of said Section 25, thence East 75 feet along said Section line to the point of beginning, and commencing 629 feet West of the Northeast Corner of the NW1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 36, Township 105, Range 19, Steele County, Minnesota, thence West 75 feet, thence South 90 feet, thence East 75 feet, thence North 90 feet to the point of beginning..
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 223 3RD ST SE, BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN 55917-1416
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$23,420.70
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-106-0305
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 29, 2018 at 10:00 AM.
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.
to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on November 29, 2018.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE

NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

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

Dated: April 2, 2018

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/

Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(18-0277-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

4/10,4/17,4/24
5/1,5/8,5/15

NOTICE

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: WJM Properties Partnership

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 708 Cherry St. Owatonna MN 55060 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):
Thomas L. Clements
5526 22nd Ave SW, Owatonna MN 55060
Randy L. Clements
708 Cherry St. Owatonna MN 55060
Connie S. Vogland
2280 Cottage Grove Ridge Woodbury MN 55129
Matthew W. Clements
1021 Van Buren Ave. Owatonna, MN 55060
Christina L. Clements
5820 St. Johns Ave Edina MN 55424

I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her 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.

SIGNED BY:
Randy L. Clements
3-7-18

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

4/10,4/17,4/24

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEELE
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: OTHER CIVIL/
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

Court File Number:
74-CV-18-440

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CINDY K. ROGNESS, SCOTT J. ROGNESS, JOHN DOE and MARY ROE,

Defendants.

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CINDY K. ROGNESS.

1. YOU ARE BEING SUED. The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Plaintiff's Complaint against you is on file in the office of the court administrator of the above-named court. Do not throw these

papers away. They are official papers that affect your rights. You must respond to this lawsuit even though it may not yet be filed with the Court and there may be no court file number on this summons.

2. YOU MUST REPLY WITHIN 20 DAYS TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You must give or mail to the person who signed this summons a written response called an Answer within 20 days of the date on which you received this Summons. You must send a copy of your Answer to the person who signed this summons located at: The Academy Law Group, P.A., The Academy Professional Building, 25 Dale Street North, St. Paul, MN 55102.

3. YOU MUST RESPOND TO EACH CLAIM. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaint. In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you believe the Plaintiff should not be given everything asked for in the Complaint, you must say so in your Answer.

4. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CASE IF YOU DO NOT SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE COMPLAINT TO THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THIS SUMMONS. If you do not Answer within 20 days, you will lose this case. You will not get to tell your side of the story, and the Court may decide against you and award the Plaintiff everything asked for in the Complaint. If you do not want to contest the claims stated in the Complaint, you do not need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

5. LEGAL ASSISTANCE. You may wish to get legal help from a lawyer. If you do not have a lawyer, the Court Administrator may have information about places where you can get legal assistance. Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still provide a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

6. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION. The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an alternative dispute resolution process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice. You must still send your written response to the Complaint even if you expect to use alternative means of resolving this dispute.

7. THIS LAWSUIT MAY AFFECT OR BRING INTO QUESTION TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY located in Steele County, State of Minnesota, legally described as follows:

Lot Three (3), Block One (1), in Stormo Addition to City of Owatonna, Minnesota.

The object of this action is to obtain a money judgment against the Estate of Cindy Rogness for the amount due on a promissory note and to foreclose Plaintiff's mortgage which encumbers real property described above, dated September 8, 2014 and recorded on September 9, 2014 in the Office of the Steele County Recorder as Document Number A000398644.

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

Dated: March 28, 2018
By: /s/ Samuel R. Coleman
Samuel R. Coleman (#389839)
Attorney for Plaintiff
The Academy Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
Telephone: (651) 209-9785
samuel@theacademylawgroup.com
(17-1292-LIT02)

4/17,4/24,5/1

FORECLOSURE

18-109128

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 10, 2013
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$195,119.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Carole E. Nordlie and Gary A. Nordlie, wife

and husband
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed January 15, 2013, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000389184
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All that part of the West Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 2, Township 107 North, Range 20 West described as: Commencing at the Northeast Corner thereof and running thence South 0 degrees West 990 feet along the East line thereof, thence South 90 degrees West 396 feet to the true point of beginning and running thence South 0 degrees West 264 feet along the West line of Proposed street, thence South 90 degrees West 264 feet, thence North 0 degrees East 264 feet, thence North 90 degrees East 264 feet to said true point of beginning, containing 1.60 acres, more or less, said bearings being assumed and based on the East line of said West Half of Southeast Quarter being North 0 degrees East.
AND

All that part of the West Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 2, Township 107 North, Range 20 West, described as: Commencing at the Northeast Corner thereof, and running thence South 0 degrees West 990 feet along the East Line thereof, thence South 90 degrees West 660 feet to the true point of beginning, and running thence South 90 degrees West 51 feet, thence South 48 degrees 55 minutes West 163.14 feet, thence North 80 degrees West 276 feet, thence South 57 degrees East 26 feet, thence South 20 degrees East 75 feet, thence South 8 degrees West 39 feet, thence South 33 degrees West 90 feet, thence South 65 degrees West 79.37 feet to a point on the South line of the Northwest Quarter of said Southeast Quarter, thence South 88 degrees 44.5 minutes East 516.02 feet to the Southeast Corner of the West half of said Northwest Quarter of Southeast Quarter, thence North 90 degrees East 272.81 feet to a point last said point being 396 feet West of East line of said West Half of Southeast Quarter, thence North 0 degrees East 38.88 feet, thence South 90 degrees West 264 feet, thence North 0 degrees 264 feet to said true point of beginning, said bearings being assumed and based on the East line of said West Half of Southeast Quarter being North 0 degrees East.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1460 Oakview Drive, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-002-2410
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$178,517.82
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: May 31, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2018, or the next business day if November 30, 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: April 12, 2018

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
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

4/17,4/24,5/1
5/8,5/15,5/22

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEELE
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: Harassment

Court File Number:
74-CV-18-638
(Minn. Stat 609.748.
subd.3(b))

Affidavit and Order for Publication (Harassment)

Marla Bice On Behalf of Vulnerable Adult Petitioner vs.

Robert Hagmann Respondent

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I understand that I must tell the truth. I request that the Court allow publication of the Court's Order dated April 3, 2018 because Personal Services was attempted by the sheriff and was not made because it is believed that the Respondent is avoiding service by hiding or others meads, AND a copy of the Petition and Order or Notice of Hearing was mailed to Respondent's last known address or place of business.

I declare under penalty of perjury that everything that I have stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat 358.116.

Dated April 12, 2018

Marla Bice
Steele County
612 Mound S
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-213-8433
ehrichmarla@yahoo.com.

Joseph A. Bueltel
Dated: April 16, 2018

4/24

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEELE
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: Harassment

Court File Number:
74-CV-18-684

Affidavit and Order for Publication (Harassment) (Minn. Stat 609.748.
subd.3(b))

April Siebold Petitioner vs.

Robert Hagmann Respondent

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I understand that I must tell the truth. I request that the Court allow publication of the Court's Order dated April 9, 2018 because Personal Services was attempted by the sheriff and was not made because it is believed that the Respondent is avoiding service by hiding or others meads, AND a copy of the Petition and Order or Notice of Hearing was mailed to Respondent's last known address or place of business.

I declare under penalty of perjury that everything that I have stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat 358.116.

Dated April 19, 2018

April Siebold
Steele County
565 Adams Ave.
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-456-3142
aprilwood27Q@live.com

Joseph A. Bueltel
Dated: April 20, 2018

4/24

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LEGAL ASSISTANT WANTED

Henefield & Iacovino Law Office is looking for a legal assistant to work 30-35 hours per week.

Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Quicken is preferred. Applicant will be responsible for payroll, bookkeeping duties and must possess strong typing skills, and able to pay special attention to detail. Salary and benefits are negotiable and based upon experience.

Send resume to **Henefield & Iacovinao Law Office, P.O. Box 818, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, 55917** and to **Jason@gmail.com**. Inquires will be confidential.

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STATE OF MINNESOTA – DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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\$13.95 - \$22.13 hourly

Every person needs the support of others. Minnesota Department of Human Services is looking for person-centered, caring people to support individuals with intellectual disabilities, mental illness, brain injury, and other emotional, behavioral, and medical complexities. No experience is required for this role and paid training will be provided for the Direct Support Specialist- Human Services Technician roles. Job ID #13233 (Faribault), 13234 (Rochester).

Behavioral Modification Assistant
\$16.91 - \$23.41 hourly

We are seeking applicants who have experience in direct care, with knowledge in behavioral modification theory or implement behavior management components of treatment plans. Job ID #2672 (Faribault), 2054 (Hastings), and 18787 (Rochester).

These positions are eligible for wonderful benefits. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have a current, with a valid driver's license. To explore these positions and other State career opportunities, go to **www.mn.gov/careers**

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 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**



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DODGE COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

STATE OF MINNESOTA – DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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The Minnesota Department of Human Services is interviewing for multiple positions/locations on Wednesday, April 11 from 9am to 3pm at Riverland Community College, 965 Alexander Drive SW in Owatonna. Bring your resume, driver's license and current certifications for an immediate interview. Interview appointments can be scheduled in advance by calling 651/766-4142.

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