STEELE COUNTY Times

MOCK CAR CRASH B1 | **PROM SEASON** B7 & B10

www.steeledodgenews.com | **TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019** | Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

BP Police experiment with body cams

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

A body-worn camera is a device that serves as another tool for police to do their job and to ensure public safety, says Greg Skillestad, chief of police for Blooming Prairie.

Blooming Prairie police officers are in the process of experimenting with body-worn cameras through a trial program offered by Axon.

The body cameras, the size of a deck of cards, are routinely mounted with magnets to a police officer's uniform.

The primary purpose of using body-worn cameras is to capture evidence arising from police-citizen encounters.

Police body cameras are proven to increase officer safety and reduce department liability with decreased use-of-force incidents and reduced false complaints by citizens.

Chief Skillestad has been in contact with Owatonna Police Department Captain Jeff Mundale in evaluating needs for law enforcement agencies to use body cameras.

The size of a police body camera can be compared to a deck of cards. Blooming Prairie Police is currently experimenting with the use of body cameras through a trial program offered by Axon.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Skillestad and his officers have already been using two body cams placed on loan by Axon. "We would like to have four cameras for our full-time personnel and one for our part-time officers to share," says Skillestad.

A Blooming Prairie Police Department policy has been drafted to provide guidelines according to state law which governs the use of BWC's and to administer the data that is compiled by the cameras.

Compliance with these proposed guidelines is mandatory, but it is recognized that officers must also attend to other primary duties and the safety of all concerned.

Demonstrations on the body cams will be available at a public BP Police Department Open House from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14 at the Police

SEE **BODY CAM, A3**

CASE CLOSED

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

One of the parting gifts Sgt. Gary Okins received last week at his retirement party was a wooden replica of his badge. His daughter and granddaughter are in the background. Okins retired after 31 years with the Steele County Sheriff's Office. He has been investigating crimes for the past 19 years, including several major homicides, plane crashes and robberies.

Detective kept pulse on major crime for nearly 2 decades

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

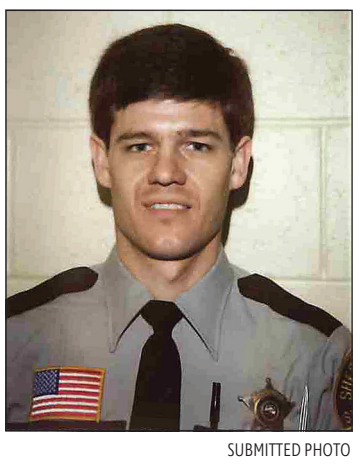
As Steele County's top detective for almost two decades, Sgt. Gary Okins provided the pulse on nearly every major criminal investigation in the county. Last week it came to an end as the veteran law enforcer hung up his badge for good.

Okins retired from the Steele County Sheriff's Office after more than 31 years as a deputy. He served as a detective for the past 19 years. In all, he leaves behind 36 years of law enforcement experience as he worked for a couple other police agencies prior to coming to Steele County in 1988.

As he reflected on his long career, Okins marveled at how he never found a shortage of major cases to investigate in what is one of the smallest counties in Minnesota. "For the size of Steele County, I can't believe all the bad stuff that has happened," Okins said, noting he has seen his fair share of murders, robberies, home invasions and plane crashes. "For 19 years, I've been a part of them all."

Sheriff Lon Thiele said Okins' vast experience will be sorely missed around the department. "He was a wealth of knowledge," Thiele said. "With 31 years, he was able to remember people, where they hung out and who they associated with,"

SEE **RETIREMENT, A3**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Gary Okins from his earlier days as a deputy with the Steele County Sheriff's Office. He started with Steele County in 1988.

Voters to decide fate of new high school Tuesday

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

After months of preparation, it all comes down to the voter's booth next week for residents in the Owatonna School District.

Voters will head to the polls Tuesday, May 14 to decide the fate of a $116 million bond referendum for a new high school in Owatonna. The referendum is reduced from the original price tag of $138 million after several businesses have pledged funding to build a new school.

The special election will take place from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday. Absentee voting is also available this week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SPECIAL ELECTION
OWATONNA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Tuesday, May 14
7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Voters to decide fate of $116 million bond referendum to build a new high school

SEE **REFERENDUM, A3**

Arkema earns top safety award

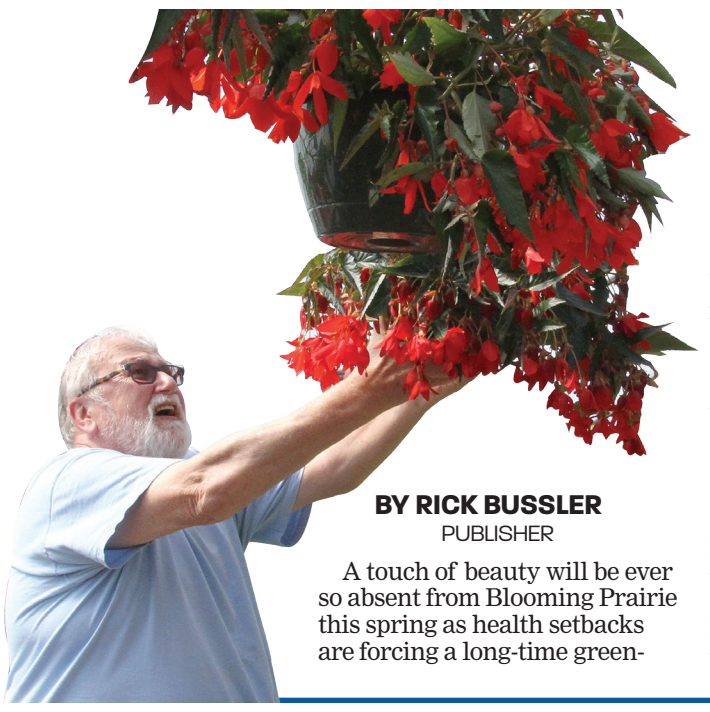
The Arkema Inc. plant in Blooming Prairie will be recognized for excellence in workplace safety and health during the Governor's Safety Awards ceremony on Tuesday, May 7 during the 85th annual Minnesota Safety & Health Conference at Mystic Lake Center. Arkema Inc. is one of 294 employers to be honored through the awards program, coordinated by the Minnesota Safety Council.

"Every day in Minnesota, about 100 workers get injured or ill to the point that they can't go back to their job the next day," said Paul Aasen, president of the Minnesota Safety Council. "Congratulations to Arkema Inc. for their hard work to make sure their employees are not part of this statistic."

"This is a great recognition of the hard-work our employees do every day to keep themselves and their coworkers safe. We are very proud of our team's commitment to safety, and we appreciate the Minnesota Safety Council's continued support of these efforts," said Michael Green, plant manager for Arkema Inc.'s Blooming Prairie facility.

Since 1934, the annual Governor's Safety Awards program has honored Minnesota employers with exceptional safety performance. Applicants

SEE **ARKEMA, A3**



Health concerns end a spring tradition in BP

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A touch of beauty will be ever so absent from Blooming Prairie this spring as health setbacks are forcing a long-time greenhouse to go without bringing flowers and plants to the area.

After 28 years of serving the Blooming Prairie area, Frank & Tom's Greenhouse will not be operational this year on the south edge of town. Owner Frank Vorlicek, 73, is battling several health concerns and is currently a resident of Prairie Manor Care Center, according to his wife, Diane Vorlicek.

"He can't stand on his feet," Diane told the Times. "He has trouble walking."

Diane said the decision to not operate the greenhouse was "really hard" for Frank. Their sons thought about keeping the tradition alive, but decided against it because of other professional commitments.

The Vorlicek's daughter-in-law, Jacqueline Reiter Vorlicek, operates Prairie Home Floral in downtown Blooming Prairie. She plans to offer some flowers and pots in "The Back 40" behind her store, Diane said.

If Frank's health permits, he may assist at the store a few times this spring. "He loves visiting with the people," Diane said.

Frank & Tom's generally opened in early May and stayed open until the end of June.

During an interview with the Times last year, Frank said, "I love this place. If I die out here, I'll be happy."

Tom Walters approached Frank Vorlicek 29 years ago about running a seasonal greenhouse in Blooming Prairie. They paired up for about 10 years before Vorlicek took over the operation on his own.

Even though the greenhouse won't be around this year, it may not be permanent. "Frank is hoping to be back in the future," Diane says.

Diane also has been facing her own health struggles. For the past two years, she has been waiting for a kidney transplant.

Frank is a retired teacher from the Blooming Prairie School District.

$1.00 | Volume 127, No. 41

507-583-4431 | bptimes@frontiernet.net

INSIDE

Opinions A2
Public Safety A4
History A5
Faith A9
Hometown Living B1
Community Calendar B3
Sports B4
Public Notices B8
Classifieds B9
BP Prom Photos B10

AREA DEATHS

Harriet Regina Jirousek, 102, Owatonna

Dona M. Jacobson, 90, Austin

Serving Blooming Prairie and Steele County since 1893

OUR VIEW

Mental health: Something to take seriously

Almost every month, there is something that is being celebrated or is dedicated to bringing awareness to a topic.

This month is dedicated to one of the most important topics that is often not talked about nearly much as it should be.

That topic is mental health.

Although many people may think that they are immune to mental health issues, the reality is they are not.

Whether it's their friend, family member, neighbor or co-worker, chances are someone they know suffers from some sort of mental health condition. And, of course, the reality is someone may be suffering from a mental health condition, even if it's minor and may never know or only find out years later.

In March, we dedicated a special section in our newspaper to bringing up important issues that had to do with the unfortunate tragedy that occurred outside of Blooming Prairie last year when David Reese was murdered allegedly at the hands of his wife.

In that section, one of the topics that we wrote extensively on was the topic of mental health.

Through those stories, we wrote about mental health in a number of different ways, talking about things like dual diagnosis, about addiction and even talking about the shortage of mental health providers in the state.

The reality is that mental health is something that has an effect on many different things like education, criminal justice, the work force and in general society. The more people are aware of different things relating to mental health, the more likely they will be able to make a difference in someone's life, whether it's getting them the help they need, or being able to lend a ear to them, and help them when their having a bad day.

In our local area, different organizations, including schools, do their obligated duties when it comes to mental health. For some they may even go beyond that. The truth is though more should and can be done to help bring awareness to the public about one of the most important topics in our society, not just for those who work with people struggling with mental health conditions, but instead everyone in our society.

Helping those who struggle with mental health conditions isn't something that is going to be completely fixed overnight, and it's not something that will be done by only a few people.

Helping those who struggle will happen as a society coming together to help their friends, co-workers, family members and whoever else in their lives, everyday.

But the only way this will happen is by empowering the entire community with education about different mental health conditions, what to look for and how to help.

Our hope is that those who understand mental health the best will be willing to educate every day folks in the community so that they can help those closest to them, or at times even a stranger.

By doing so those who are struggling will reap the benefits from it.

YOUR VIEW

Time to call out COPE members

To-the-Editor:

Regarding the upcoming vote on the ISD-761 School Bond Referendum, it is appropriate at this time to call out the members of COPE, especially its leaders who are bent to create enough dissonance that may convince voters in the District not to vote 'yes.'

A good deal of the material the opposition group is putting up as rational thinking is, to put it mildly, misleading. Moreover, it is vital for voters to know that the organized opposition is not accountable for anything it says or prints. The School Board, however, is fully tasked with the responsibility and accountability to tell the truth about the need for a new OHS and how that facility will come to be.

COPE's goal is to create indecision in the minds of voters who may be on the fence about the upcoming referendum. It seeks to lay out 'reasonable' alternatives to remodel the existing structure. Sadly, those alternatives are nothing but stop-gap measures that will guarantee the School District comes back to the voters over the next few years to ask for more funding, and to somehow continue the fix-up/patch-up method espoused by the opposition.

Finally, COPE claims the District's residents cannot afford a new school. That school districts like Medford, Kasson-Mantorville, and a number of other districts across our State can afford them tells a different story, especially in a School District such as ours that has a relatively healthy economy.

COPE mustn't go unchallenged. Don't let their leaders mislead you into helping them torpedo a project whose time has come. Let's not allow ourselves to think about the unintended consequences a failed vote might bring to our School District and community. Vote "YES" on May 14 (or before)!

Peter Connor
Owatonna

Step up to the plate and vote yes

To-the-Editor:

We have a very important issue in front of all of us on May 14… that being the Owatonna school bond referendum.

In 1998, I was a member of the Owatonna School Board. The community was faced with many of the same issues that stand before us today. We had building issues, ADA issues, security issues, educational delivery concerns, and on and on. These needed to be addressed. After a number of surveys, public forums, community input, the community said we'd support a remodel project but we will not support a new project. The improvements had to be done, so the "remodel project" route was chosen, passed. Folks this was a 10-year band-aid solution.

Here we are 21 years later, and the community is being asked to support the building of a new high school. Is it a good time to build a new school? No. Was it a good time in 1921 when the school bond referendum question was asked? No. It's never a good time. But think, what if in 1921, our community didn't stand up and say, for the kids, we have to do this. What might have Owatonna looked like today if our forefathers didn't do what they felt was right in 1921.

These issues are not going away. As aesthetically and historically pleasing the 1921 building is, we can't keep putting band-aids on and patch it together. It's a 1921 building. Much has changed in the past 98 years and frankly, our children and grandchildren deserve better!

The business community has so graciously stepped in to support this critical initiative with monetary and in-kind donations, which demonstrate the pride and commitment they have to Owatonna. The Owatonna Public School system is a factor why businesses continue to be in Owatonna and people want to raise their families in Owatonna.

Think back to when you were kids. What sacrifices did others make to mold you into what you are today? Maybe it's time for all of us to step up to the plate and do what we can to mold our future leaders of tomorrow, today!

Please vote YES on May 14.
Tim O'Connor
Owatonna

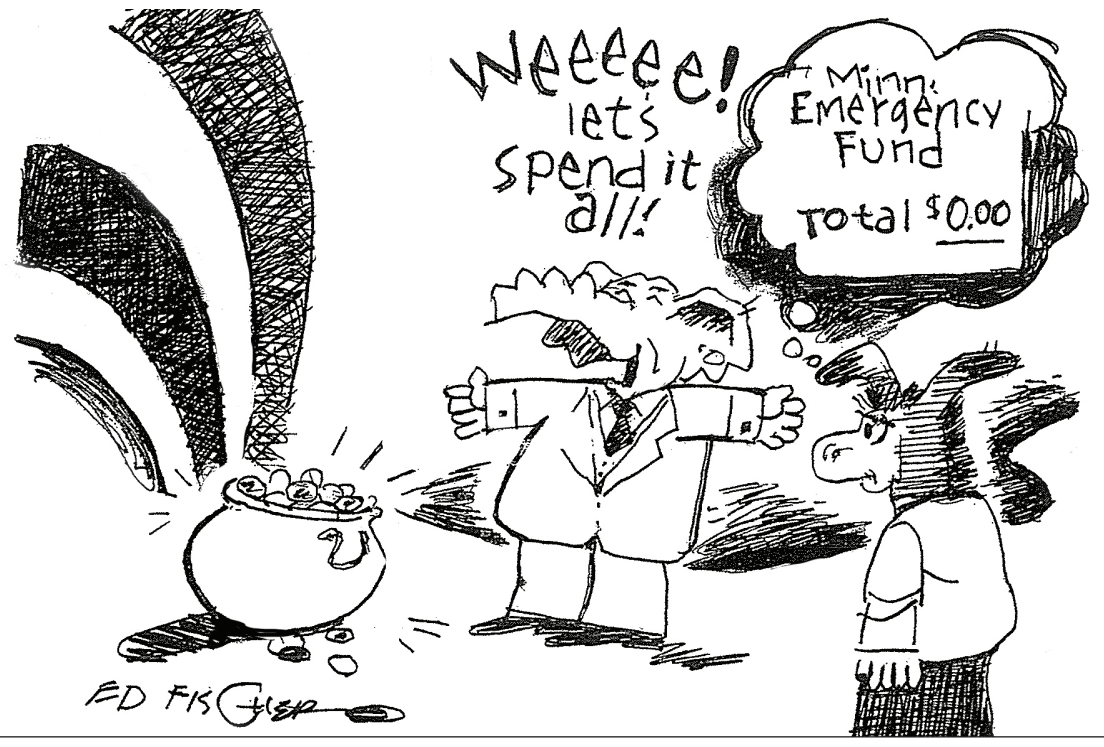
Vote yes for new Owatonna High School

A new and modern OHS is a step in the right direction for the future of Owatonna. Two Riverland administrators and I received a private tour of the current facility on Friday, Jan. 18. It was a very cold January day. We saw some of the classrooms, science laboratories, industrial arts workshops, the theatre and the boiler room. There is no doubt that parts of the current facility are outdated, and a retrofit would be expensive and difficult to maintain. More importantly, today's facilities will not promise the quality of education tomorrow will require.

To stay true to its mission, "Inspiring excellence. Every Learner, every day" the Owatonna Senior High School has worthy goals to revise curriculum through 10 - 12 grade career pathways and areas of study that align with workforce of today and the future. The capstone experience, internships, mentorships, curriculum and iStudy projects are evidence of an innovative K-12 educational system. Riverland Community College is eager to receive graduates of OHS that are college and career ready. The college is fully in support of the curriculum clusters: global studies; business, communications and information technology; engineering, manufacturing and agricultural science; and health sciences and human services.

A yes vote for OHS is forward-looking. Join me and others who long to see Owatonna continue to be a leader in preparing our youths for career and college. Vote for community growth. Support the path that will benefit our community for many decades to come. A YES vote is an invaluable investment.

Adenuga Atewologun, PhD
President, Riverland Community College



Reliving the worst day of his life

Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

One could have heard a pin drop last Friday morning at Medford High School as a packed gymnasium listened to a father share the heart wrenching story of losing his son nearly four years ago.

Through the video, Lasting Impact, followed by a live presentation, Matt Maas shared his tragic story yet once again. Maas is the emergency management director for Dodge County, a city council member for Dodge Center and a volunteer firefighter. But he's become most known because of his efforts in saving the lives of teenagers across southern Minnesota.

Matt's entire life changed just days before Christmas in 2015 when he received the devastating news while Christmas shopping in Rochester that his 18-year-old son, Logan, a senior at Triton High School, was killed in a motor vehicle crash.

Since that fateful day on top of everything else he has going on, Matt has taken on the role of educating teens about wearing their seat belts. His son didn't and never saw graduation day.

Sgt. Troy Christianson of the Minnesota State Patrol came up with the idea to produce a video on Logan's crash and approached Matt's family with the concept. They agreed and now the well-produced video is being shown with hopes of hitting every high school in Minnesota over the next year.

Matt says he feels it's his responsibility to carry the message for teens to buckle up. "They need to know they're not invincible. It happens right in their back yard," Matt said.

Asked how he pushes forward to do as much public speaking as he has about the tragedy, Matt said: "It's very, very hard. Reliving the worst day of my life publicly, but the message is so important."

Logan was Matt's middle child. Matt recalls one day after Logan's death that he began laughing about something. Instantly, he says, he became overcome with anger and grief asking himself how dare he laugh after losing his son.

Logan's senior project at Triton was to put on a mock car crash in spring before prom and graduation. Ironically, he didn't follow through himself with the lifesaving message he would have delivered to his classmates of buckling up.

Matt hopes the video and his speaking provides a wake up call for teenagers. Matt copes with the tragedy to this day by keeping himself busy all the time whether it's with his career, volunteer work or opportunities to educate teens. Most importantly, he hopes his son is looking down on him with approval.

"I hope my son would be proud of the message we are showing and prevent others from going through what we have," Matt said.

It's a message that can't be repeated enough. Anyone who gets behind the wheel or rides in a vehicle needs to go in hot pursuit of buckling up.

GUEST COLUMN

Newspaper survival depends on you

BY DON HEINZMAN

Dear readers,

In your hearts you know why you came to your community to live and raise a family. You like small-town living, a good school system, a vibrant business community, a church of your denomination and residents who like to be involved in community-building organizations.

It's been proven that every successful community supports and needs a good newspaper that informs you of news and events closest to you and helps you live a better life.

This newspaper is not the publisher's; he provides it to you hoping to make a living, ever so small in the process of working long hours and attending important meetings for you.

So, this paper you are reading, headed by a publisher with your news values in mind, is YOURS, and at this time, your newspaper needs your financial assistance.

Before thinking how you can keep your hometown newspaper alive, consider the following VALUES:

Publishes advertisements from stores and services that save you money in reduced prices on certain items. If you shop local stores with savings and coupons, you can save more than enough for your subscription.

Prints want ads of all types, particularly help wanted ads that tell you the jobs that are available.

Publishes legal notices to alert you to what's happening around you and particularly the legal minutes of public meetings, your city council, school board and county board.

Tells you the city services you are getting for your local tax dollars.

Hires qualified staff trained to dig out news, write it fairly and present it in eye-catching page designs.

Gives you an alert of agendas from commissions, particularly the planning commission, that shape your community, even affecting your property.

SEE GUEST COLUMN, A3

STEELE COUNTY Times
Founded in 1893
Bussler Publishing, Inc.
www.steeledodgenews.com
Email: bptimes@frontiernet.net

USPS 058-340
Published Weekly on Tuesdays
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Steele County Times
P.O. Box 247
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
Phone: 507-583-4431
Fax: 507-583-4445

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

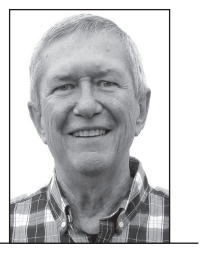
Publisher ..... Rick Bussler
Sports Editor ..... Dennis Marshall
Advertising Director ..... Annie Anderson
Staff Writer ..... Howard Lestrud
Staff Writer ..... LeMar Nelson
County Writer ..... Chris Baldwin

DEADLINES
News: Noon Fridays.
Web: 11 p.m. (Daily)
Advertising: 4 p.m. Thursdays.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Steele, Dodge, Freeborn & Mower $46
Elsewhere in Minnesota $49
Out of state $52

A state and national award winning weekly
MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
2019—7 state awards
2018—6 state and 4 national awards
2017—2 state and 3 national awards
2016—8 state and 6 national awards
2015—7 state and 4 national awards
2014—3 state and 3 national awards
2013—7 state and 2 national awards
2012—2 state awards
2011—4 national awards
(Awards presented by the Minnesota Newspaper) Association and the National Newspaper Associations)

Hunter Pence is still the real thing



Reflections
HOWARD LESTRUD

He definitely has some gas left in the tank.

We are talking about Hunter Pence, outfielder for the Texas Rangers. Pence's five-year $90 million contract with the San Francisco Giants expired at the end of last season and he was cut loose by the Giants.

The Pence name is very well known in the Geneva, Minn. locale. His aunt is Dawn Gross of Blooming Prairie. Her brother Howard, former Geneva resident, is Hunter's father.

HUNTER PENCE

I worked with Howard when we were both employed by the Albert Lea Tribune over 50 years ago. In fact, I met my wife of nearly 52 years when attending Howard's first wedding in Ellendale.

Lots of years have passed by and our lives have switched directions. Howard headed south and ended in Texas where Hunter was born.

I was visiting my brother Dave in Colorado a few years ago and went to a Colorado Rockies-Houston Astros game. At this time, the Astros were still in the National League and the Astros were still Pence's first team.

My brother and I sauntered down to the Astros dugout where we watched Hunter warm up. When he finished taking batting practice, we edged closer to the dugout where Hunter was headed.

"Hunter, Geneva, Minnesota," I hollered out. "I know where that is," he quickly replied. We exchanged pleasantries, and he signed an autograph for me.

I have followed his brilliant career as it continued with the Philadelphia Phillies and then with the San Francisco Giants where Pence earned two World Series championship rings.

While he was with the Giants, my wife Judy, Dawn Gross and Dwayne Gross took a two-day trip to Milwaukee where we watched Pence as a member of the Giants. He even hit a home run in the first game we saw.

For breakfast one day, we met up with Hunter at a downtown hotel. He was very congenial and in no hurry to leave us at our breakfast table. He told us about his fiancé who he has since made his wife.

Dawn and Dwayne in fact went to Hunter's wedding in San Francisco.

It became clearer and clearer as his $90 million contract came to an end, that Hunter's days with the Giants were numbered.

It was rumored that he might retire. We fans of his and his relatives in Minnesota were hoping he would stay in the Major Leagues for a while yet.

Minnesota Twin Joe Mauer retired and he entered the Majors the same year as did Hunter.

It was great news when we heard Hunter had signed a minor league contract with the Texas Rangers. We were even happier when we heard he made the Rangers' roster for 2019.

My son Troy, who is now a resident of Arizona, caught up with Hunter during Spring Training a couple of months ago. Troy told Hunter about me knowing his father. Troy said he was impressed with Hunter's conditioning. "He looked healthy," Troy said.

We have been watching his progress this season and have been pleased to see Hunter picking up considerable playing time as a left fielder, as a designated hitter or as a pinch hitter.

The other day, we checked the Ranger stats and saw that Hunter had clubbed his third home run this season and was batting .321.

Giants Manager Bruce Bochy told us when we visited with him in Milwaukee two years ago that Hunter "never has a bad day and he's an inspiration to all of us." He further stated that Hunter was one of the best players he's ever managed.

Good luck Hunter and stop by Geneva some time. We would like to meet you once again.

11 Steele County FFA members receive State Degrees

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN
TIMES COUNTY WRITER

FFA members from schools in Steele County headed to the Twin Cities last week for the 2019 State FFA Convention.

Eleven members received their State Degree and two placed in the Proficiency Awards categories.

Receiving their State Degrees were Kaiden Finley and Tim Wolf of Blooming Prairie High School; Beth Ann Hanson, Anthony Manderfeld and Cal Schultz of Medford High School and Maryn Cowell, Wyatt Garlin, Ryan Good, Hunter Jensen, Josh Katzung and Emily Keck of Owatonna High School.

The State FFA Degree is given to the top members of a state FFA Association. In order to receive the State Degree a member must have received the Chapter FFA Degree, been an active FFA member for at least two years, completed the equivalent of at least two years instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level which includes a supervised agricultural experience program and have earned and productively invested at least $2,000 or worked at least 600 hours in excess of class time or a combination of both in a supervised agricultural experience.

In addition they must demonstrate leadership ability by performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law, giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or FFA and serving as an officer and/or committee chairperson of a chapter committee; have a satisfactory scholastic record; participate in the planning and completion of chapter activities; participate in 20 FFA activities above the chapter level and participate in at least 25 hours of community service.

Proficiency awards honor FFA members who have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers through their supervised agricultural experiences.

Madison Jaster of Medford High School placed third in Beef Production Placement and Emily Keck placed second in Specialty Animal Production.

Nearly 4,000 Minnesota FFA members attended the 90th convention held at the University of Minnesota.

Finally, spring planting begins

The weather finally cooperated to allow farmers to get out into the fields this past weekend. Here, Patrick O'Connor of O'Connor Family Farms outside of Blooming Prairie does some planting. Farmers have been anxious to get into the fields for the past several weeks with hopes of Mother Nature cooperating in the coming days to allow them to get their crops planted.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Wolf, Finley earn State FFA Degrees

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Now that they have corralled the Minnesota State Future Farmers of America (FFA) State Degree award, Tim Wolf and Kaiden Finley hope to collect the American FFA Degree honor.

Wolf, a senior and Finley, a junior, picked up their State Degree awards on April 29 at the annual Minnesota Sate FFA Convention in St. Paul.

TIM WOLF

"This State Degree award is something these two Blooming Prairie FFA members worked hard to receive," remarked FFA advisor Bill Rinkenberger.

The two Blooming Prairie State Degree recipients received a certificate and a gold FFA emblem on a chain. The Blooming Prairie FFA chapter was represented at the state convention by 13 chapter members and by advisor Rinkenberger.

"The award symbolizes all the work and education one has put into FFA," replied Finley when asked what the award meant to him.

"The degree represents the work I invested in the SAD (Supervised Agricultural Experience)," Wolf said. He said meeting the criteria for the award was "like doing a class project."

Wolf is the son of Bruce and Tammy Wolf. They operate a 2,000-acre farm in Westfield Township. Tim has three sisters, Kaylin, Kelsey and Katie. Having no brothers, Tim jokes: "I lived a rough childhood."

KAIDEN FINLEY

Finley has two brothers, Tyler and Blake and a sister, Felicia. He is the youngest in the family. He lives on his parents' 1,400-acre farm in Freeborn County on the edge of the Blooming Prairie school district where crops and 300 head of beef cattle are raised.

Wolf is current president of the Blooming Prairie FFA. Finley is vice president and likely will move into the presidency next year.

Following high school graduation, Wolf plans to attend the University of Wisconsin River Falls, majoring in agricultural business and minoring in agronomy. He also plans to play football.

Finley plans on attending Riverland Community College in Albert Lea following high school graduation.

Wolf said he has met a lot of extraordinary people and developed some lasting friendships through his six years of membership since seventh grade in the FFA.

"FFA has helped me with my public speaking, and I'm not shy any longer," he says. "Being involved in FFA has also expanded my agricultural knowledge and overview," Tim added.

Finley says he never was a sports kid and prefers the hands-on type of learning and likes meeting all kinds of people. Agriculture is much more than farming, he says.

When not involved in FFA, Wolf participates in four sports: football, basketball, baseball and trap shooting. He loves snowmobiling and enjoys working with heavy equipment.

Both of the state winners love the outdoors and are hunters.

They are also 4-H members, Wolf belonging to the Merrylane 4-H Club and Finley part of the Red Rock Rangers 4-H Club.

Proud to be a resident of the Blooming Prairie area, Wolf says it contains nice, dark soil that is deep in nutrients. It attracts farmers who take care of the land for future generations.

Blooming Prairie, Finley says, has always been known as an agricultural community, one that produces food and watches it grow.

REFERENDUM: *Owatonna*

FROM A1

and again on Monday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Any questions about voting may be directed to the Steele County Auditor's Office at 507-444-7410 or the school district at 507-444-8610.

Residents are being asked to approve the referendum for a new 342,000 square foot building with capacity for 1,700 students. The new school would include improved security, safety and accessibility as well as adequate parking and traffic safety improvements.

The tax implication for homeowners would be about $23 per month on a $175,000 home.

The Community Task Force on Facilities made a recommendation to the school board in December to build a new school. The task force included a group of community members, parents, teachers, staff and students. It spent the past four years studying the facilities.

A new high school would replace the existing 100-year-old building that has undergone many renovations over the years and is simply too costly to continue making improvements.

Officials have held several public information sessions and tours of the old school over the past several months as a way to educate residents about the district's needs for a new school.

Donations from at least three major businesses in Owatonna have helped drop the cost of the new school by at least $22 million. Leading the way has been Federated Insurance with a pledge of $20 million to the school. Wenger Corp. has offered about $2 million in its music, theater and athletic products while Viracon has promised to provide all of the glass at cost.

The district plans to utilize about $2 million toward buying land, $3 million toward demolishing the old school and about $9 million toward a stadium.

GUEST COLUMN: *Heinzman*

FROM A2

Records news of arrests and police calls, so you can keep track of police activity that could be close to where you live.

Includes a sports section, that not only builds community pride but encourages young athletes to try harder for the glory of their community, and commends the many volunteer coaches.

Highlights the achievements of the school system the quality of the staff and the progress of the students, like printing the complete Honor Rolls.

Most importantly, your newspaper prints edited news that's accurate. Otherwise, members of your community would get information through the grapevine, not a good source.

Your newspaper publishes news about the views and qualifications of those running for office and makes sure you have an informed vote, so vital to our way of life.

Offers an opinion page, opinions about issues that affect you, but also allows you to write your opinions that do affect policy makers' decisions, so vital to our Democratic way of life.

So, what can you do to keep your newspaper coming to you every week?

Subscribe to it, all of those services for 88 cents a week, that easily can be captured by savings when you purchase goods and services.

Get just one other friend to subscribe to the newspaper.

Patronize local stores and tell them you saw their advertisement in your local newspaper. Advertisers need to know their advertisement is working. A little feedback goes a long way.

Finally you need to volunteer to help the newspaper by going to an event, particularly at night, and take a photograph for the paper, particularly for the out-of-town events while consulting with the Editor.

Judging from the Page 1 appeal in last week's newspaper, you need to contribute to the Save Your Newspaper Campaign.

After all, it's your newspaper's life to protect and to preserve!!

Don Heinzman is a veteran community journalist who has worked in the newspaper business for more than 50 years.

BODY CAM: *experiment*

FROM A1

headquarters contained in the Blooming Prairie City Center.

Copies of a temporary policy developed during the testing phase of the cameras will be available at the open house. "We welcome all public input," Skillestad says.

Under the temporary policy, officers will be required to activate the cameras when responding to all calls for service, during all law enforcement related encounters and activities and during any police-citizen contact that becomes adversarial.

Officers have no duty, Skillestad says, to inform people that a camera is being operated. If officers are asked, they must clearly tell citizens if they are or are not being recorded.

A copy of the body camera policy has been given to City Attorney Jason Iacovino for review. The city council will likely discuss the department's wishes for body cameras at an upcoming council meeting.

Skillestad said to outfit the BP Police Department with five body cameras could cost somewhere between $8,000-$10,000.

The chief and a superior would be required to have a licensed secure site for the material gathered by body cameras.

"Right now, we had been learning on positioning the wireless cameras," Skillestad said. "Again, it is a good idea for us to use and it is not fail safe because it will not show everything," Skillestad added.

These cameras will hold police officers and the public accountable, Skillestad believes.

The cameras would be routinely turned on by an officer for every incident they encounter, Skillestad said.

The chief or his designee may provide specific instructions or standard operating procedures for BWC use to officers assigned to specialized details, such as carrying out duties in courts or guarding prisoners or patients in hospitals and mental health facilities.

"Improved technology pertaining to body cameras is amazing," Skillestad comments.

All body camera data shall be retained for a minimum period of 90 days, the policy states. Certain data must be retained for six years, including the use of deadly force or other sufficient type of use of force and incident that result in an adversarial encounter.

ARKEMA: *award*

FROM A1

are judged on several years of injury data as it compares with their industry's national statistics, and on their progress in implementing a comprehensive safety program.

WINNERS ARE RECOGNIZED AT THREE LEVELS:

- Meritorious Achievement (170 winners): Incidence rates that are better than the industry average for at least three years, and a score between 50 and 74 on a 100-point safety program evaluation scale.
- Outstanding Achievement (83 winners): Continuing improvement and/or a continuing outstanding record with incident rates that are 51%-90% better than the industry average, and a score between 75 and 90 on the safety program evaluation scale.
- Award of Honor (41 winners): Incidence rates at least 91% better than the industry average, and a score between 91 and 100 on the safety program evaluation scale.

Arkema Inc. received an Award of Honor for exemplary workplace safety efforts in 2016, 2017 and will receive the same for 2018.

The Governor's Safety Awards recognition is part of the 85th annual Minnesota Safety & Health Conference, coordinated by the Minnesota Safety Council. The conference is the oldest and largest gathering of workplace safety and health professionals in the region. The Minnesota Safety Council, founded in 1928, is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Minnesota by preventing unintentional injuries.

A designer of materials and innovative solutions, Arkema shapes materials and creates new uses that accelerate customer performance.

BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT: Crash: At 8:31 p.m., officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 3rd St. NW and Memorial Dr. NW. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.

Come meet the men in blue

BP Police set open house during police week

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

In connection with National Law Enforcement Week, the Blooming Prairie Police Department is scheduling a public open house, from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14.

Chief Greg Skillestad and his officers recently have added some luster to the police headquarters by painting the walls. "Just a few hours of painting has added some new personality" to the police headquarters located in the Blooming Prairie City Center, Skillestad said.

The open house is the first one ever for the local PD.

Some of the highlights of the open house include:

• Meet your local officers and discuss issues/concerns

• Squad car tours (a chance to look at police equipment). Thedepartment has three fully equipped squad cars. Each vehicle includes a traffic radar, audio/visual camera system, AED for cardiac emergencies and a laptop computer connected to dispatch to better assist on traffic stops and emergency calls.

• Copies of body camera policy will be available for public input

• Body cameras will be on display and demonstrations are planned.

Officers meeting the public include: Chief Greg Skillestad, Sgt. Mark Lang, Cpl. Jake Peterson, Officer Rick Ellingson, Officer Dan Peach, Officer Matt Miller, Officer Aaron Frieson and Officer Craig Helgeson. Officer Shane St. John is on military duty at the present time.

The department handles an estimated 3,000 calls on an annual basis.

In addition to patrolling the city of Blooming Prairie, the department routinely assists Steele, Dodge, Mower and Freeborn counties.

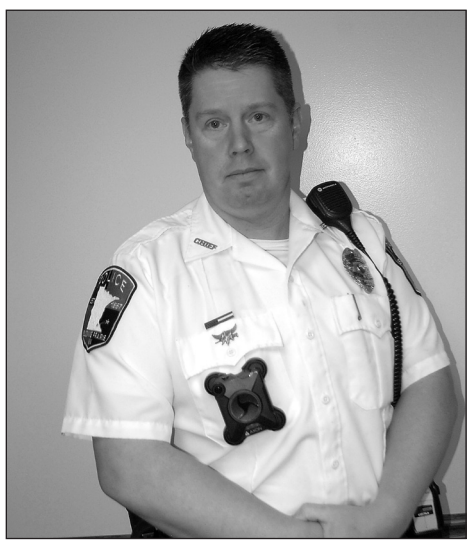
"The open house will provide opportunities for people to talk to us," remarks Skillestad. "It will be a question and answer time; if they want to pull us aside and talk to us about a specific issue, they can," he added.

Another highlight of the open house will be an opportunity to examine body cameras currently being used by the Blooming Prairie Police Department on a free trial basis.

Visitors will be encouraged to study the body camera policy, which includes parameters for use as outlined by state law.

The open house will allow the local police department to field praise as well as criticism. "We want to listen to everyone's concerns," Skillestad said.

"We listened to the public when they told us they would like 24-hour police coverage," Skillestad pointed out.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Blooming Prairie Police Chief Greg Skillestad and some of his officers will demonstrate body cams during a BP Police Department Open House from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14. Skillestad has a body cam mounted on his police uniform.

CRIME BRIEF

WANTED FUGITIVE SNAGGED IN OWATONNA

TAVEAN MCRELLY

A tip from a citizen led to the arrest of a wanted fugitive in Owatonna.

Police responded to a residence in Owatonna on May 2 after receiving a tip of a wanted person in the house. The tip proved to be successful as officers found the man, who was also found to be in violation of a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order prohibiting him from being at the address.

Officers arrested Tavean Mcrelly, 24, of Owatonna for a felony warrant for domestic assault by strangulation. He also faces an additional gross misdemeanor charge for violating a court order.

COURT NEWS
Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 22 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

Amanda M. Baker, 38, Cleveland, previously appeared and was convicted of felony theft. Baker was sentenced to $221, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state and 3 years of supervised probation.

Jeffrey J. Krieger, 47, Faribault, previously appeared and was convicted of felony theft. The defendant was sentenced to $7,035.50 and 23 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 22 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Shane R. Grundhoffer, 37, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony domestic assault. He was sentenced to $131 and 26 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

Chris A. Rivas, 23, previously appeared and was convicted of felony domestic assault. Rivas was sentenced to $381, 65 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, anger management, attend AA and 4 years of supervised probation. The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 22 – 28:

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Gregory D. Green, 58, Austin, revoked license, $281; Zachary J. Mely, 21, New Richland, expired tabs, $111.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Taryn C. Adams, 20, Rochester, speeding, $121; Shanna J. Andresen, 37, Albert Lea, speeding, $141; William S. Anglin, 52, Litchfield, IL, no license and no insurance, $381; Ryan C. Borwege, 17, Owatonna, speeding, $131; Sarah C. Clayton, 22, Faribault, speeding, $121; Maria I. Contreras, 37, Urbandale, IA, speeding, $141; David L. Fratzke, 70, Winona, speeding, $121; Nasteho A. Idle, 33, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Thomas N. Nesvik, 27, West Union, IA, unsafe equipment, $121; Ethan E. Norby, 18, Willmar, speeding, $131; Brian D. Schmidt, 61, Claremont, seat belt, $106; Ryan T. Zander, 20, Rochester, speeding, $131.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hinda M. Ali, 21, Faribault, wrong way on one-way street, $181; Cody J. Bussert, 18, Owatonna, failure to yield, $131; Kirsten T. Conry, 37, Owatonna, DWI, $1,106, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel, 220 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Bobbie Jo L. Dewitt, 48, Owatonna, DWI, $381, 1 day in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Alexander F. Gromelski, 25, Austin, expired registration, $111; Dan R. Henrikson, 59, Owatonna, failure to stop for traffic control signal, $131; Jorge Lopez, 59, Owatonna, invalid license, $181; Camille H. Lowell, 18, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, $131, 7 days in county jail, obtain employment, no contact with victim, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Hanah R. Maas, 17, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Jose B. Martinez, 27, Owatonna, DWI and revoked license, $406, 5 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; Vance T. Matejcek, 18, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Abdulkadir M. Mohamed, 28, Owatonna, DWI and controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, $381, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, substance abuse subtle screening inventory, 200 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Royelio E. Padilla, 32, Owatonna, revoked license, $281; David M. Perez, 56, Rochester, violation of restraining order, $131, 2 days in county jail, no contact with victim, obtain permission to leave the state, 200 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Altaaf J. Persaud, 20, Columbia Heights, revoked license and possession of marijuana, $331; Trey S. Plocher, 20, Owatonna, permit violation, $131; Eric J. Radig, 46, Rochester, theft and criminal damage to property, $29.73, 3 days in county jail and 30 days of unsupervised probation; Elizabeth A. Reineke, 47, Owatonna, suspended license and improper information on license, $301; Scott K. Sawesky, 48, Owatonna, domestic assault, $381, 41 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, domestic abuse evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, mental health evaluation and 2 years of supervised probation; Dillin R. Schultz, 26, Owatonna, assault, $1,014.67, do not enter liquor establishments, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of supervised probation; Michael A. Sommerfield, 35, Rochester, theft, $161 and 2 days in county jail, Nyariri K. Thor, 25, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, $481; Sintia G. Vielma Gonzalez, 22, Owatonna, invalid license, $181; Dion E. Wadley, 20, revoked license, $131 and 2 days in county jail; Thomas A. Weber, 42, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Dafydd G. Williams, 69, Owatonna, speeding, $221.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Michael W. Alcott, 58, Owatonna, speeding, $121; Alexis R. Ayers, 20, Waseca, speeding, $141; Megan M. Caywood, 17, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Amanda B. Collins, 20, Owatonna, speeding, $141; Ricardo F. Corrales, 20, Iowa City, IA, speeding, $141; Gary W. Hase, 54, Waseca, speeding, $121; Garrett S. Johnson, 22, Owatonna, DWI, $406, 4 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, substance abuse subtle screening inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Leah A. Kent, 54, Blooming Prairie, speeding, $121; Kirk O. Kiel, 48, Medford, speeding, $121; Brianna R. Nemec, 22, Silver Lake, speeding, $121; Mike P. Peterson, 51, Faribault, failure to stop for traffic control signal, $131; Daniel J. Schmidt, 31, Honolulu, HI, seat belt, $106; Joel Valle Alonso, 22, Worthington, speeding and revoked license, $331; Rohit Vij, 46, Dublin, CA, speeding, $121; Jennifer A. Wolf, 46, Waseca, speeding, $121.

POLICE BLOTTER
Steele County

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE

April 26

Crash: At 8:31 p.m., officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 3rd St. NW and Memorial Dr. NW. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.

April 27

Arrest: Officers arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Highway Ave. S. and 4th St. SE at 8:41 p.m.

April 28

Juvenile: Police responded to a juvenile complaint in the 100 block of Main St. W. at 11:39 a.m. They issued a citation.

May 1

Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 400 block of 2nd St. SE at 3:35 p.m.

May 2

Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 100 block of 3rd St. SE at 10:06 a.m.

Owatonna Police

April 26

Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 200 block of Bridge St. W. at 12:10 p.m.

Disturbance: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Allan Ave. SW at 9:45 p.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

April 27

DWI: Police arrested motorists for driving while intoxicated at North St. E. and Cedar Ave. N. at 1:06 a.m., the 200 block of University St. E. at 3:25 p.m. and the 1900 block of St. Paul Road NE at 9:47 p.m.

Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 400 block of Elm Ave. N. at 2:31 a.m.

Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 200 block of University St. E. at 5:31 p.m.

April 28

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 300 block of Main St. E. at 10:38 a.m.

April 29

Juvenile: Police received a juvenile complaint from the 1900 block of Greenwood Dr. NE at 11:35 a.m.

Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 1600 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 2:42 p.m.

April 30

Domestic: Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of 21st St. NW at 12:58 a.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Arrest: Officers assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 400 block of Pine Ave. NE at 6:33 p.m.

May 1

Warrants: Police made warrant arrests in the 400 block of Broadway St. E. at 9:50 a.m. and 11:07 a.m.

May 2

Domestic: At 12:03 a.m., police arrested a subject following a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW.

Domestic: Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of Riverside Ave. NW at 2:26 p.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Probation: Police arrested a subject for a probation violation in the 600 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 3:05 p.m.

Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 300 block of 22nd St. SE at 7:02 p.m.

Steele County Sheriff

April 27

Arrest: Deputies arrested a motorist during a traffic stop in the 17700 block of Old Highway 14 in Woodville Township at 12:01 a.m.

DWI: Deputy made a DWI arrest in the 7500 block of County Road 3 in Somerset Township at 1:41 a.m.

April 28

Domestic: Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 5000 block of County Road 45 S. in Somerset Township at 2:46 p.m.

Theft: At 6:14 p.m., a motor vehicle was reported stolen from the 100 block of Landmark Dr. NE.

Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 7:27 p.m.

April 29

Juvenile: Deputies received a juvenile complaint from the 500 block of Central Ave. W. in Medford at 2:17 p.m.

Threats: Deputies responded to a subject making threats in the 2400 block of County Road 45 S. in Owatonna Township at 9:47 p.m.

April 30

Fraud: Deputy took a report of a fraud incident in the 100 block of Bixby Place in Aurora Township at 3:49 p.m.

May 1

Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest in the 100 block of Main St. E. in Owatonna at 3:43 p.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 4100 block of 66th St. NW in Medford Township at 7:34 p.m.

May 2

Theft: Deputy took a theft report at County Road 45 S. and 98th St. SE in Somerset Township at 8:35 a.m.

Weapons: Deputies responded to a weapons-related incident in the 700 block of 2nd Ave. NE in Medford at 1:13 p.m.

ARRESTS
Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE

Christopher Michael Heise, 42, arrested at 5:20 a.m. April 30, felony order for protection violation, domestic assault/assault, domestic assault by strangulation and terroristic threats, held for court.

Tyler Matthew Lutz, 29, arrested at 12:10 a.m. May 1, DWI and cancelled license, held for court.

Yosseline de la Paz Carranza, 24, arrested at 6:55 p.m. May 1, warrant arrest, $400 bail.

Luis Alonso Zelaya-Rivera, 32, arrested at 3:30 a.m. May 2, domestic assault/assault, interference with 911, DWI and suspended license, held for court.

3-vehicle crash injures elderly couple

An elderly couple received non-life threatening injuries in a motor vehicle crash north of Blooming Prairie Sunday.

Joseph Schammel, 86, and his passenger, Irene Elizabeth Schammel, 87, of Rose Creek were injured in the crash along U.S. Highway 218 north of Blooming Prairie around 10 a.m. Sunday. They were taken by ambulance to Mayo Clinic Health System in Austin.

According to the State Patrol, Joua Vue, 25, of Taylorsville, N.C., was driving north when she slowed down to turn left into a private drive. Vue was hit by the vehicle driven by Joseph Schammel. The impact spin into a minor sideswipe of the northbound pickup truck driven by Christopher Craig Anderson, 28, of Cambridge.

All drivers and passengers in the crash were wearing their seat belts, the patrol said. No alcohol is suspected.

Blooming Prairie Fire, Mayo Ambulance and Steele County Sheriff's Office assisted at the scene of the crash.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Part of U.S. Highway 218 north of Blooming Prairie was shut down on Sunday morning as emergency personnel cleared an area of a two-car crash. The Blooming Prairie Fire Department was called to assist and did so by blocking the roadway north and south on Highway 218. An elderly couple from Mower County received non-life threatening injuries in the crash.

court.

COURT NEWS
Dodge County

The following case was heard in Dodge County District Court the week of April 21 with Judge Jodi L. Williamson presiding:

Andrew R. Berndt, 34, Rochester, previously appeared and was convicted of felony fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle and possession of marijuana. He was sentenced to $130 and 17 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of April 21 – 28:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dominic A. Bjerke, 32, Dodge Center, place fictitious emergency 911 call, $380, write letter of apology and 1 year of probation; Joshua R. Carstensen, 38, Mantorville, assault, $380, domestic abuse evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no contact with victim, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Tajuan A. Davis, 40, New Brighton, parking violation, $32; Anthony Johnson, 51, Hammond, IN, speeding, $140; Ricky J. Johnson, 57, Dodge Center, parking violation, $32; Mark W. Ott, 37, West Concord, parking violation, $32; Nestor G. Reyes, 21, Dodge Center, no insurance, $280; Marshall D. Tennermann, 48, Dodge Center, parking violation, $32; Jamie M. Tierce-Trent, 24, Dodge Center, parking violation, $32; Daniela Villagrana, 17, Kasson, failure to yield, $130; Isnelda Zamarripa, 29, Coon Rapids, parking violation, $32.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Justin G. Annis, 30, Mantorville, revoked license, $280; Brandon J. Bjerke, 29, Kasson, stop sign, $130; Paige E. Demary, 25, Rochester, parking violation, $32; Leanne M. Greenslade, 39, Kasson, texting while driving, $130; David J. Hansen, 23, Austin, parking violation, $32; Emily A. Johnson, 33, Dodge Center, parking violation, $32; Jason L. Jonsgaard, 43, Lewiston, parking violation, $32; Nicholas L. Leisen, 20, Kasson, texting while driving, $130; Brittney R. Ulrich, 24, Rochester, possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, $180.

MN DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Timothy R. Burtis, 29, Kasson, operate OHM without registration, $130.

MN STATE PATROL

ROCHESTER

Jeffrey E. Bakkedahl, 60, Hayfield, seasonal load restriction weight violation, $1,680; Kyla L. Haas, 19, Madison Lake, speeding, $130; Randy G. Janes, 59, Hayfield, speeding and seat belt, $165; Nathanial A. Loy, 18, Mantorville, speeding, $120; Mariel M. Wheelock, 30, Northfield, expired registration, $110; Thomas K. Wilcox, 78, Mantorville, seat belt.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Josh A. Adams, 40, West Concord, parking violation, $32; Kristin M. Diderrich, 36, West Concord, parking violation, $32; Troy E. Rasmussen, 49, Kenyon, parking violation, $37; Kristine A. Schroeder, 25, Garden City, parking violation,

OWATONNA FIRE

Medical: Fire rescue assisted with a medical emergency on Oakview Place SE at 10:50 a.m.

APRIL 30

Medical: Medical emergencies occurred in the 2200 block of Hartle Ave. SE. at 3:57 a.m. and the 1000 block of Oak Ave. S. at 10:27 p.m.

MAY 2

Crash: Firefighters responded to a motor vehicle accident on U.S. Hwy. 14 at 6:47 a.m.

Smoke: At 7:58 a.m., fire personnel assisted with smoke removal in the 2100 block of 3rd Ave. NW.

Fire: Firefighters responded to a building fire in the 100 block of Rice St. E. at 1:28 p.m.

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago
May 5, 2009
DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

"Dare to Dream" was the theme at this year's prom in Blooming Prairie. It featured a black runner bordered by lights for the attendees to walk on and two grand arches to go through. The couples were announced by juniors Amanda Wanous and Brad Wocelka.

It's been a month since the Blooming Prairie Country Club opened on April 1 and the golfers are starting to pour onto the course. On April 18, the club held a Kick-Off Dinner to gear up for the season. Jay Klemmensen is the club's assistant manager.

20 Years Ago
May 4, 1999
ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

Fourth of July buttons go on sale this week. Cost of the button is $2. Blooming Prairie will celebrate an old-fashioned Fourth of July as it has for several years. Prizes of BP Bucks will be given away based on a drawing of unique numbers with the buttons. Top prize is $100.

Although the first year in business proves many times to be the most difficult, Nick and Amanda Siefert are glad that local support has made that transition a little easier. The Sieferts will celebrate a year in business at Dairy Queen in Blooming Prairie with an open house on Mother's Day weekend. "We are very happy with the way the first year went," Siefert said.

Blooming Prairie eighth graders improved their reading scores but math still lagged behind the statewide average in the most recent basic skills test results. The percentage of BP eighth graders who scored at or above 75 percent on the reading section of the graduation standard tests increased 15 percent over the 1998 results.

50 Years Ago
April 30, 1969
VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

A single-engine airplane containing three Minneapolis men was forced to make an emergency landing on Highway 30 just west of Blooming Prairie around 9:30 p.m. April 26. Fortunately, the plane was safely landed on the black-top highway without damage to the craft or injury to any of the occupants. The plane buzzed over Blooming Prairie several times at about 200 feet to attract help for a landing.

A taxpayers' protest meeting has been scheduled for April 30 in the Community Building in Blooming Prairie. The meeting has been scheduled by irate property owners who are objecting to large real estate hikes this year.

Three Dodge County juveniles were apprehended last Sunday afternoon and charged with stealing gasoline on the Al Jorgensen farm just east of Blooming Prairie. The youths were arrested by Blooming Prairie Police and turned over to Dodge County authorities.

Arlie Olsen and Leslie Hansen will receive their State Farmer degrees for FFA. The Blooming Prairie chapter will be well represented at the State Convention May 4-6 as six teams have earned the right to compete for state honors.

75 Years Ago
May 4, 1944
FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

Lyle Cole for several years an efficient and courteous attendant at Prairie Oil Service Station has resigned his position. Lyle has been accepted for military duty in Uncle Sam's Navy. Wm. Mainer, who has had considerable experience as a mechanic, has been secured by E.J. Betlach to take Cole's place. He will have charge of the "grease room."

Congratulations are in order to the Cozy Inn, Blooming Prairie's popular restaurant and café. State hotel and restaurant inspector awarded the Cozy Inn the coveted "Certificate of Cleanliness." Mr. and Mrs. Louie Coufal are mighty proud of the award.

After serving this town and community for 15 years in the transfer and trucking business, J.J. Betlach and Clarence Ille dissolved their long friendly business relationship Tuesday. Due to his health, Betlach was advised by his doctor to give up long truck driving trips.

Eagles awards four scholarships

The Owatonna Eagles have announced the winners of four $1,000 awards from 2019 Don Tuerk Memorial Scholarship.

They include: Robert Kniefel with a major in law enforcement at Minnesota State Mankato; Benjamin Witikko attending Alexandria Tech with a major in law enforcement; Julia Hansen with a major in law enforcement at Minnesota State Mankato and Samantha Hovden-Marlin studying alcohol & drug counseling at Minnesota State Mankato.

The funding for these generous awards is from the Don Tuerk Endowment. Don Tuerk was a community-minded Owatonna native, long-time Eagles member, and Owatonna fireman.

In addition, the Eagles have donated more than $40,000 to local sports teams and organizations throughout Owatonna and Steele County in the past year. As part of their "People Helping People" Motto, the Eagles are offering free first year memberships to all first responders, firemen, law enforcement, veterans and military personnel.

FOE #1791 Owatonna Eagles Aerie and Auxiliary have honored Brett Carlson as their "Eagle of the Year." Pam Arnold was named "Mrs. Eagle of the Year," and Jim and Mary Karsten were named "Mr. & Mrs. Eagle of the Year."

District Governor visits BP Lions

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The governor was in Blooming Prairie last week.

No, it was not Minnesota Governor Tim Walz. It was Lions Clubs International's District Governor Diana Kroells, who represents District 5M2 that includes the Lions Club of Blooming Prairie.

She visited Blooming Prairie on Tuesday night, April 30 for a zone meeting at the Pizza Cellar and she made a club visit on Wednesday night, May 1 (May Day) to the Blooming Prairie club at the BP Servicemen's Club.

Kroells of Hamburg, Minn., said the Blooming Prairie Lions club with its 55 members is one of the larger clubs in District 5M-2.

Accompanied by her husband, Lion Duane Kroells, she praised the Blooming Prairie club for its active involvement in the community.

She said the BP Lions have routinely donated to the Parade of Green at multiple conventions and has also supported Journey to Service.

Speaking directly to each Blooming Prairie Lion in attendance at the May 1 meeting, Kroells said, "You are so important when you're not there, you are missed."

During her presentation about Lions clubs involvement around the world, Lion Duane helped Kroells build a puzzle that outlined these pieces:

• Clubs -- a good foundation is needed at the club level. There are 48,000 clubs in the world.

• Zone -- There are nine zones in the district.

• Districts -- There are 12 districts in Minnesota and part of Canada.

• International -- Lionism around the world represents 1.3 million men and women in 202 countries and geographic areas. The first Lions female president Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir from Iceland takes over the leadership on July 1.

-- Membership
-- Increase leadership
-- Promote fellowship in Lions
-- Share your story
• Service
• Learning
• FUN

Putting all these bullet points together, the Kroells created a puzzle outlining the Lions' emblem.

Kroells also informed the BP Lions that one of Minnesota's own, Lion Brian Sheehan of Bird Island, will become International president in 2021.

She apologized to the BP Lions for not having chevrons of service pins available for the local Lions. She said she will send them to President Greg Skillestad and encouraged him to present the awards at an upcoming meeting.

Skillestad said officers will be elected at the next meeting. Here's the slate: Chris Staloch, president; Jerry Mausbach, first VP; Cory Johnson, second VP and third VP, open; Paul Fiebiger, secretary; Waco Vandal, treasurer; Dean Zilm, Lion Tamer; Harland Hinzman; tailtwister; H. Peterson, membership chairman; Greg Skillestad and Per Kvalssten, past presidents.

Doug Miner was installed by Kroells as a new member. He is sponsored by Lion Kurt Blume.

President Skillestad welcomed Lions members who were "snow birds" or fighting health issues: Paul Stender, Nels Lee and Frank Hennefield.

Skillestad also read thank yous and said the club received a Legacy patch.

Lion Dean Zilm informed members that the Sons of the American Legion are sponsoring a Spring Fling on Saturday, May 18.

Lion Jerry Ingvalson, chair of the Gopher 50 races, said the event is planned for July 6. Lion H. Peterson informed members that the annual pancake breakfast will again be held on July 4.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Doug Miner, left, was installed as a new member of the Blooming Prairie Lions Club on Wednesday, May 1. He is sponsored by Lion Kurt Blume, right. District Gov. Diana Kroells led the installation.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Lions District 2 Governor Diana Kroells visited the Blooming Prairie Lions Club on Wednesday, May 1. She is shown with BP Lions Club President Greg Skillestad.

2020 Census Offers Temporary Jobs Ideally Suited for Retirees

THE SAVVY SENIOR
Brought to you by: Prairie Manor Care Center
Prairie Manor Care Center & Heather Haus
220 3rd St. NW, Blooming Prairie
583-4434

Dear Savvy Senior,

The U.S. Census Bureau is in the process of recruiting thousands of workers for temporary jobs to help collect valuable data for the 2020 Census, and retirees are ideal candidates. Can you write a column to get the word out? Thanks for your help!

Census Recruiter

Dear Recruiter,

I'm happy to oblige, and I agree. This once-a-decade job opportunity is a great fit for retirees that have some free time on their hands who wouldn't mind earning some extra income while helping the community.

ATTENTION RETIREES!

The United States Census Bureau is currently in the process of recruiting over 500,000 temporary workers to help carry out the upcoming 2020 Census national head count of every person living in the U.S.

The U.S Census helps determines each state's representation in Congress, how funds are spent for schools, hospitals, roads, and provides information to guide many decisions made by government agencies, private businesses and institutions.

Jobs within the census vary from working in the field canvassing, updating maps, doing follow up interviews with citizens in your community, or working in the office as a clerk doing administrative tasks or office operation supervisor, who oversees the field staff.

Some jobs will begin this summer, but the majority of positions will begin in late April 2020 and last a month or two.

These temporary part-time positions are located in every county throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Some positions require evening and/or weekend shifts because you must be available to interview members of the public when they're at home. And all positions require several days of online and classroom training. The pay ranges between $13.50 and $30 per hour depending on position and location. To find the pay rates in your area, see 2020census.gov/en/jobs/locations.html.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS

To be able to work for the 2020 census you must be:

• Be at least 18 years old.
• Have a valid Social Security number.
• Be a U.S. citizen.
• Have a valid email address.
• Complete an application and answer assessment questions.
• Be registered with the Selective Service System or have a qualifying exemption, if you are a male born after Dec. 31, 1959.
• Pass a Census-performed criminal background check and a review of criminal records, including fingerprinting.
• Commit to completing training.
• Be available to work flexible hours, which can include days, evenings, and/or weekends.

In addition, most census jobs require employees to have access to a vehicle and a valid driver's license, unless public transportation is readily available. And have access to a computer with internet and an email account to complete training.

HOW TO APPLY

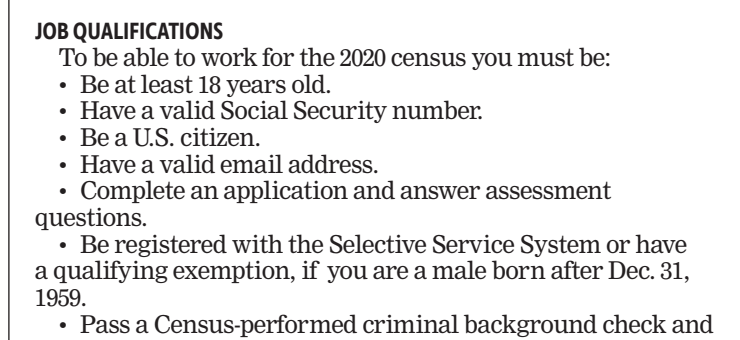
The first step is to complete the online job application at 2020census.gov/en/jobs. The process takes about 30 minutes and will include some assessment questions about your education, work, and other experience.

If you're a veteran who would like to claim veterans' preference, which provides preference over nonveteran applicants, you'll need supporting documentation.

For more information on the 2020 Census, or if you have questions or problems with the application process call 855-562-2020.

After you apply, an interviewer will reach out to potential hires to conduct a phone interview, but not all applicants will be interviewed. Job offers are made verbally, but candidates will also receive a letter by email.

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.


Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
"we understand small business because we are a small business"
DANIEL E MINER, CPA TAMZEN R JOHNSON, CPA
AMY R DOERHOEFER, CPA
314 E Main St • Blooming Prairie • 583-7528
685 W Bridge St. Suite 6 • Owatonna • 451-9136
133 N Broadway • New Richland • 465-38100
johndoercpa.com

PASS TIME IN LINE. READ STEELE COUNTY Times

The Steele County Times
Subscribe today and stay connected with your community.
www.steeledodgenews.com

100 Year of Hits at BP Elementary

With their hands over their hearts, these fourth grade music students, Sophia Esplan, Macy White and Veronica Brown sing the National Anthem to open a spring concert at the Blooming Prairie Elementary School on Friday, May 3.

STAFF PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD

It was a fun afternoon at the Blooming Prairie Elementary School on Friday, May 3 as students in grades 4-6 performed a spring concert, "100 Years of Hits." Ella Salinas, fifth grade music, got into the act of remembering hits of the 1960s.

Putting her heart into her music as she plays the baritone is Regan Donnelly, fifth grade band member. She performed during a spring concert at the Blooming Prairie Elementary School on Friday, May 3.

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Turn back the clock and enjoy the music of years past.

That's what happened at the Blooming Prairie Elementary School on Friday, May 3 when fourth, fifth and sixth grade music students put on an entertaining concert.

The gymnasium was packed with family members and friends of students in grades 4-6. The concert was entitled "100 Years of Hits" and featured the fifth and sixth grade choir, fifth and sixth grade bands and fourth, fifth and sixth grade music classes.

The concert pieces were directed by Kari Bottin (choir), Krista Reeder (general music) and Ross Reishus (band).

Here's the agenda for the performance:

Always Sing Your Song, 5th-6th grade choir; Beauty and the Beast, 5th-6th grade choir; Star Spangled Banner, 4th grade music; Hits of the 1920s-40s, 4th grade music; Banana Boat Song, 5th grade band; March of the Cyclops, 5th grade band; Hits of the 1950s-70s, 5th grade music; Ayre and Dance, 6th grade band; Stick Figures, 6th grade band; Hits of the 1980s-2000s, 6th grade music and Hopes and Dreams, 4th-6th grade music.

Members of the 5th-6th grade choir were: Aubryana Alwes, Zoey Alwes, Catelyn Bartlett, Carter Bishop, Allison Blume, Allison Bruggeman, Cleopatra Carlson, Cooper Cooke, Zoe Ehlers, Ruby Evans, Nash Fawver, Audrey Fort, Miley Fulton, Sandz Hamersma, Addison Haugland, Samantha Hefling;

Leah Hockers, Mairead Holmes, Mackenna Jensen, Mia Johnson, Abby Jordison, Jazlyn Kapach, Brady Kittelson, Abrianah Kopischke, Addison Lyman, Madily Madsen, Lillahna McDaniel, Sierra Miller, Ariana Paulson, Ella Salinas, Sophia Schiller, Lainey Schultz;

Claire Schwarz, Elijah Skillestad, Ella Smith, Caitlyn Stangl, Grady Steckelberg, Abigail Suchanek, Will Sunde, Jayden Van, Kaydance VerHey-Schumacher, Khloe Wacek, Cole Wangen, Chole Weber and Bo Zwiener.

Members of the fifth grade band were:

Clarinets -- Allison Bruggeman, Addison Haugland, Samantha Hefling, Ella Salinas and Khloe Wacek.

Alto Saxophone -- Allison Blume, Madelyn Harvey, Claire Schwarz, Chole Weber.

Trumpet -- Jonathan Heimgartner, Natalie DeVries, Ruby Evans and Colby Johnson.

Baritones -- Regan Donnelly, Justin Nease and Drew Reinke.

Percussion -- Tyler Anderson.

Members of the sixth grade band were:

Flute -- Caitlyn Stangl.

Clarinet -- Mairead Holmes, Sophia Schiller, Ella Smith, Will Sunde and Lexi White.

Alto Saxophone -- Cooper Cooke.

Trumpet -- Elsie Arnold and Carter Bauer.

French Horn -- Naomi Lebak.

Trombone -- Ethan Beauseigneur, Jack Bruns, Alex Lea and Gage Mullenbach.

Percussion - Carter Bishop and Nash Fawver.

Upcoming events include: May 13, choir concert in BPHS gym, 7 p.m.; May 17, Prairie Fire's Wizard of Oz, 7 p.m., BPHS gym; May 22, 7-12 band concert, 7 p.m., BPHS gym and May 31, last day of school, early dismissal at 1 p.m.

RETIREMENT: *Okins* FROM A1

he said, adding that kind of knowledge played a key role in solving crimes.

After being promoted to investigator in 2000, Okins didn't have much time to waste before dealing with serious crime. Just months into his job as detective, he investigated the homicide committed by Roger Schleicher near the Steele-Waseca county line.

Schleicher called 911 to report his friend had been accidentally shot on his elk farm. Knowing Schleicher and his history of mental illness, Okins immediately knew something wasn't right even before responding to the farm. Okins' intuitive nature proved to be a life saver.

Okins kept other officers back from responding to the farm. Investigators later learned Schleicher had a whole line up of rifles waiting to shoot every police officer that responded to the murder scene. Officers used a road grader as a battering ram to arrest Schleicher without further incident. He later told police he didn't follow through with his plan because of the number of legs he saw behind the road grader and that there were more people than he could shoot.

The worst cases Okins dealt with during his career involved multiple deaths in two different plane crashes. He says the most gruesome case came in June 2004 when four people were killed after the pilot of a small plane became disoriented and crashed into a farm house east of Owatonna.

What made the scene especially difficult for Okins was the human carnage. "You couldn't tell who was who," he said. "There were body parts all over the place." He noted that the investigation utilized 2,000 flags as evidence markers to identify as many body parts and other evidence as possible.

Another plane crash that will be memorable for Okins took place at Owatonna's Degner Regional Airport in July 2008 after a massive rain storm. A corporate jet carrying businessmen from the East Coast skidded off the runway and plowed into a corn field. Eight people died in the crash.

Throughout his career, Okins has come face-to-face with human evil. In 2009, Okins investigated the murder of Katie Anderson who had been stabbed 109 times by Ryan Hurd and dumped in a field west of Owatonna.

And as Okins found sometimes crime takes on bizarre and ironic twists. In June 2016, a teenager was stabbed "just feet" from where Anderson was murdered. The irony? The teenager was also stabbed 109 times like Anderson, but survived the injuries.

Solving crime takes on many challenges for detectives like Okins. In 2016, Okins handled the meth-related homicide of Richard Jurgensen on a gravel road northeast of Owatonna. Okins and other investigators had their hands full sorting out the truth with many different witnesses and suspects. All the people involved in the case had criminal records and did not want to cooperate with police. In the end, two people were charged and pleaded guilty to second-degree murder.

"It's tragic for our small county to have the homicides that we've had," said Okins. But he takes great pleasure in knowing there are no unsolved homicides or major crimes as he leaves the sheriff's office. "We have solved it all," he said.

Okins credits his success in solving crimes to the ground work that officers put together in developing informants and contacts. He said it's important to "know the people you're protecting in the county."

Through the years, Okins said the key to his success has been the teamwork displayed by the rest of the department. "We all worked together. It's not just one person handling it," he said, adding he will miss the people he worked with the most.

He says he has survived in law enforcement as long as he has because of one major reason. "It's just a job. Never take it personal," Okins said. "I have never taken it personal. You still have to try to put on a smiley face in hopes of solving the case."

Okins admits there have been times when he would have liked to reach across the table and grab suspects by the shirt collar and shake them. But he has always kept a professional demeanor in order to get a confession and let the rest play out in court.

"The goal of law enforcement is to go home every day safe at the end of your shift," Okins said. He said he can see how the pressures of the job can get to people. But, he added, "You just can't take anything personal."

As Okins heads into retirement, he has one regret. He's not real keen on how the world perceives law enforcement these days. He says it amazes him how the people who dislike law enforcement so much reach out to call police the first chance they get when they're in trouble needing help.

In retirement, Okins, 58, plans to work a part-time security job in the Twin Cities area with the potential of it becoming full-time.

Thiele said a sergeant promotional process will be taking place in the near future to replace Okins.

Panther of the Week

Jaren Surat

Steve's Smokey Acres
Award Winning Home-Cured Meat Products
ESTABLISHED 1973

This week's Panther of the Week is Jaren Surat. Jaren lives in New Richland and his parents are Lisa and Robert. He is the youngest child in his family. Jaren's brothers are Jadyn, Jacob, and Joshua and his sister's name is Maci. Jaren is in Mrs. Ihrke's 2nd grade class at NRHEG.

He loves to learn and especially enjoys math at school! He is a soft-spoken leader and his classmates look up to him. Jaren is kind, thoughtful, and helpful to everyone. He's a great role model in our class because he is always showing Panther Pride. Jaren is very respectful to his teachers and works hard every day at school. Jaren's favorite foods are tacos and pepperoni pizza. He likes to play outside and play board games with his family.

Jaren also likes read, especially funny books and chapter books. Keep up the great work Jaren!

MELODRAMA AUDITIONS!

Auditions for all summer melodramas will be:

Sunday, May 19 and **Monday, May 20** at **6:30 pm**

At the historic Mantorville Opera House.
No preparation needed.
Bring your summer schedule, to make sure yours fits with ours.

MANTORVILLE THEATRE COMPANY
Year Round Community Theatre at the Historic Opera House

Each show runs for 3 weekends
Fri & Sat 7:30, Sun 2

PLAY DATES:
Melodrama 1: June 14-30
No Melodrama July 5-7
Melodrama 2: July 12-28
No Melodrama Aug. 2-4
Melodrama 3: Aug 9-25

www.mantorvilletheatrecompany.com

Blooming Prairie High School

ACADEMIC STARS 3rd Semester Honor Roll

Senior High A Honor Roll

Front row, from left: Asha Lighthizer, Bobbie Bruns, Riauna Bishop, Maren Forystek, Julia Worke, Adam Larson and Kisha Aquino; middle row: Rachael Oswald, Bradley Simon, Isabelle Sunde, Melanie Winzenburg, Reese Millam and Megan Oswald; back row: Payton Simon, Seth Peterson, William Cardenas, Rachael Riley, Maggie Bruns and Luke Larkoski. Missing: Ashleigh Alwes.

Junior High A Honor Roll

Front row, from left: Annaka Forsberg, Lily Schammel, Abigail Hefling, Rachel Winzenburg and Ava Smith; middle row: Molly Robins, Claire Foster, Macy Lembke and Ty Forystek; back row: Benjamin Riley, Aidan Slowinski, Kolby Vigeland, Addison Doocy and Mason Simon.

A Honor Roll

Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Addison Doocy	Abigail Hefling	Bobbie Bruns	Ashleigh Alwes	Kisha Aquino	William Cardenas
Annaka Forsberg		Asha Lighthizer	Maggie Bruns	Riauna Bishop	Rachael Oswald
Tyler Forystek		Bradley Simon	Maren Forystek	Adam Larson	Seth Peterson
Claire Foster		Isabelle Sunde	Luke Larkoski	Julia Worke	Payton Simon
Macy Lembke		Melanie Winzenburg	Reese Millam		
Benjamin Riley			Megan Oswald		
Molly Robins			Rachael Riley		
Lily Schammel					
Mason Simon					
Aidan Slowinski					
Ava Smith					
Kolby Vigeland					
Rachel Winzenburg					

A- Honor Roll

Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Anna Haberman	Olivia Anderson	Ethan Ehlers	Lillian Abbe	Zachary Archer	Jackson Baltazar
Shanna Halverson	Hosea Baker	Judy Larisa	Charlie Heimerman	Gabriel Hagen	Raeann Grundmeier
Kadynce Hansen	Lilyanna Baker	Parker Kubicek	Dylan Johnson	Gemini Johnson	Zachary Haberman
Jaxon Harberts	Morgan Camery	Josie Lorenz	Allison Krohnberg	Jarrett Larson	Mckenzie Jensen
Luke Heimgartner	Haven Carlson	Marquette Millam	Emily Kubicek	Maya Lembke	Alexyss Magnuson
Derek Kubicek	Micah Donnelly	Emily Miller	Luke Larkoski	Luke Rennie	Riley Millam
Grant Magnuson	Stirling Hart	Gustaof Ogren	Rose Michaud	Grace Robins	Clint Peterson
Logan Marzolf	Ava Krejci	Xavier Rennie	Christopher Naatz	Dondi Stender	Trenton Swenson
Elizabeth Miner	Sierra Larson	Lauren Schammel	Joseph Pirkl	Parker Vaith	Emily Trihus
Jamie Reinke	Madison Lea	Alivia Schneider	Jessica Ressler	Jayde Wacek	Timothy Wolf
Benjamin Riley	Ethan Marzolf	Carson Wacek	Christopher Shepard		
Jaylee Schleicher	Samuel Michaud		Halle Strunk		
Hailey Schumacher	Anna Pauly		Gretchen Sunde		
	Samuel Pirkl		Michalyn Trihus		
	Anna Reese		Wyatt Voss		
	Clare Rennie		Taylor Wurst		
	Joie Ruhter				
	Susan Smith				
	Madelaine Stoen				
	Madison Thurnau				

B+ Honor Roll

Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Holly Davis	Brittany Johnson	Lindsey Baltzar	Thomas Donnelly	Kassidy Borgen	Jaclyn Hyland
Elizabeth Dohrmann	Jenna Johnson	Carson Brennecke	Brian Jimenez	Elizabeth Bramstedt	Hannah Kinny
Sienna Fyksen	Tyler Miller	Payton Fristedt	Shyane Jorgenson	Isaac Ille	Ian Wayne
Layla Lembke	Lucas Schammel	Colin Jordison	Anna Kittelson	Heather Pirkl	
Shawntee Snyder	Cyprus Schleicher	David Kartes	Mackenzie Madsen	Marti Snider	
Sophie Thomas	Samuel Smith	Samuel Skillestad	Grace Magnuson	Karson Vigeland	
	Anika Sunde		Alexander Miller	Viridiana Villarreal	
	Jacob Weinberger		Kiya Thompson	Jayde Wacek	

B Honor Roll

Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Keily Averhoff	Jesse Cardenas	Emily Anderson	Adrianna Bermea	Lila Carlson	Caleb Kubista
Cameron Blume	Cade Christianson	Yembi Espinoza	Abby Braaten	Hope Johnson	Matthew Wurst
Cale Braaten	Hailey Hensrud	Garret Farra	Boone Carlson	Jack Matson	Antonia Zamarripa
Gabriel Hein	Heidi Judy	Isabella Heiber	Cole Christianson	Jacob Mchenry	
Zackary Hein	Alexis Steckelberg	Tyler Iverson	Rylie Cisneros	Dylan Nirk	
Maxmar Ogren	Leah Thorson	Drew Kittelson	Mitchell Fiebiger	Matthew Pryor	
Karson Strand		Piper Lund	Gavin Halverson	Gracie Rudlong	
Lilly Wacek			Sydney Mccarthy	Kaden Thomas	
			Jacob Naatz	Jillian Wigham	

This message sponsored by these education-minded businesses:

Koster's
CAR KORNER
Rod & Tess Koster, Owners
507-583-2018
Hwy. 218 • Blooming Prairie
www.kostercarkorner.com
ALL VEHICLES UNDER BOOK

usbank
Blooming Prairie Branch
236 East Main St. 507.583.6627 usbank.com
Member FDIC

FLOOR TECH
Your source for all your flooring needs
Carpet • Vinyl • Laminate Wood • Ceramic
Call Us Now for a Consultation!
Tim Wacek • 583-2276 • 322 E. Main, Blooming Prairie
Derek Reichl • 552-1637 • 2201 E. Main St., Albert Lea

The Cutting Edge
583-2304
128 3rd Street SW • Blooming Prairie

Prairie Plumbing and Heating
Heating
Ventilation
Air-Conditioning
Plumbing
507-583-7266
Larry Christianson
owner
438 NW Highway Ave S, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

DARRICK'S
PREFERRED AUTO
Darrick Schewe
Owner - Darrick's Auto
507-583-9994
Located in NAPA Auto Parts Building

OBITUARIES

Dona M. Jacobson, 90, Austin

Dona M. Jacobson, age 90 of Austin, passed away Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie.

Dona Mae Snell was born on Oct. 13, 1928 in Austin, the daughter of Geo and Esther (Johnson) Snell. She grew up in the Austin area and graduated from Austin High School in 1947.

On Nov. 5, 1949, Dona was united in marriage to Don Jacobson in Austin. The couple resided on a farm near Blooming Prairie, where they raised their two children, daughter Cindy and son Lynn. She loved her role as homemaker, wife, and mother.

In 1972, Don and Dona moved to Colorado, while there Dona worked as a restaurant hostess. Don passed away in 2001 and Dona moved back to Austin in 2003. Dona enjoyed afternoon rides in the country and loved to go shopping. In 2014, she moved to Heather Haus Assisted Living in Blooming Prairie due to complications from Alzheimer's and in January of 2019 moved to Prairie Manor. She will be dearly missed.

Survivors include her daughter, Cindy (Stan) Lindquist of Blooming Prairie; three grandchildren, Sarah (Jon) Esplan of Blooming Prairie, Cody (Madison) Lindquist of Duluth, Shanna (Shawn) Iverson of Albuquerque, N.M.; four great grandchildren, Nathan, Sophia, Payton, and Bresley; brother-in-law, Bob Barker of Evergreen, Colo.; sister-in-law, Joan Snell of Chicago; many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Geo and Esther Snell; husband, Don Jacobson; son, Lynn Jacobson; brother, Robert Snell; and sisters, Hope Buringa, Ann Barker.

Memorial services were held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at Worlein Funeral Home Chapel in Austin with Rev. Heidi Heimgartner officiating. Interment was at Oakwood Cemetery, Austin.

Memorials are preferred in lieu of flowers. It was Dona's wish that she be part of the Mayo Clinic Brain Donor Program in hopes that this research will provide a future cure for dementia related diseases. Services are prearranged and performed with Worlein Funeral Home of Austin. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Harriet Regina Jirousek, 102, Owatonna

Harriet Regina Jirousek, 102, of Owatonna, died Friday, May 3, 2019 at her home in Park Place Assisted Living.

Harriet was born on Nov. 20, 1916 in rural Steele County, the daughter of Frank and Julian (Hruska) Kubista. She attended country school. Harriet married Walter Jirousek on Nov. 20, 1937 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The couple worked together on the farm raising their family. Harriet considered herself a homemaker and farmerette.

She was a life long member of Sacred Heart Cathlolic Church. She was also a member of Catholic Daughters, Saint Blanche Guild, and Somerset Card Club.

Harriet loved flowers, gardening, baking, canning, sewing, and quilting. She also enjoyed caring for her lawn, playing cards, gambling, and traveling in her later years. She was an excellent mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

She is survived by her daughter, Joan Skou and Dave Kukacka of Faribault; son, Dean Jirousek of Ellendale; grandchildren, Paula (Mike) Noel of Northfield, Taylor and Georgia Jirousek of Owatonna; and great grandchildren, Jake, Jillian, and Sydney Noel of Northfield.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Walter, her parents, and her nine siblings.

Visitation will be at Michaelson Funeral Home on Tuesday, May 7 from 5-7 p.m. and at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Wednesday, May 8 from 10-11 a.m. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Interment will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery in Owatonna.

Memorials are preferred to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Senior Place, or the donor's choice.

Arrangements are being handled by Michaelson Funeral Home of Owatonna.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!
Contact the Steele County Times Today!
Steele County Times
Always local, all the time.
507-583-4431

Recipe Corner

BUTTERSCOTCH LAYER DESSERT

FIRST LAYER:
1 c. flour
1/2 c. margarine
1/2 c. chopped nuts

Mix and pat in a 9x13-inch pan. Bake 15 minutes at 350°. Cool.

SECOND LAYER:
1 c. powdered sugar
1 c. Cool Whip
8 oz. softened cream cheese

Spread on the first layer.

THIRD LAYER:
2 sm. pkg. instant butterscotch pudding
3 c. milk
1 tsp. vanilla

Mix together. Spread over cream cheese layer. Chill.

FOURTH LAYER:
Cool Whip, as desired

Also decorative sprinkles of chopped nuts or colored sugar crystals.

Note: Other flavors of pudding such as pistachio or chocolate can be substituted instead of butterscotch.

Sponsored by
Krejci Ford
15th Presidents Award Winner
Blooming Prairie, 583-2046

BOOK NOOK

Consider becoming a Friend of the Library

NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Sometimes when school groups visit, I ask them, "Who owns the library?" (Usually they will think that I own it!) But I always tell the groups that the library is owned by everyone.

The Blooming Prairie Branch Library is funded by the tax dollars that are paid in to Steele County, the City of Blooming Prairie, the State of Minnesota, and even some from the federal government. We always try to make good use of the funding and resources that are entrusted to the library. We are especially grateful for the support from the city administration and staff who handle the day-to-day bills for us.

However, there are times when we have some special projects that may need money that was not in the city budget for the year. For those occasions we are able to turn to the Friends of the Library. Businesses and individuals contribute to the Friends group; money is also raised from our book sales. Within the past years, the Friends have helped to purchase a new projection system for the city, new book shelves, a laminator, literacy interactive area, lanyards for children's library cards and other projects

The Friends are having their Membership Drive during the month of May. The dues to join the organization are affordable - $5 for adults, and $2.50 for students. As a member you will receive emails and newsletters keeping you up to date on events and projects. Some members are willing to volunteer to serve refreshments at events or to help during the Book Sales. Others show their support by paying their dues without any other commitment. It is your choice. Membership forms are available at the library.

Please consider becoming an official Friend of the Library!

Jensen Heating, A/C, & Plumbing
Registered Showroom
24 hour service for all your plumbing & heating needs
We'll treat your home as if it were our own.
256•4712
Geneva, MN
THE BOLD LOOK OF KOHLER.

D.O.T. HEALTH CARD PHYSICALS
...without the HEADACHE!
- No Waiting
- Fast-in-and-out Examination
- No Hidden Fees
- Appointment Reminders
SCHEDULE YOUR D.O.T. PHYSICAL TODAY
866-5DR-CHAD OR 507-583-2271

INTENSELY LOCAL Coverage
Blooming Prairie
We have the news you want to know and the hometown coverage you expect.
Community Focused. Community Driven.
Steele County Times
Always local, all the time.

Vandal's Family Market
Proudly Presents
SUPERMARKET SWEEP
Saturday
May 11th, 2019 • 2 pm
Vandal's Family Market
Free Local Delivery

Birthdays

May 7
Lyndon Johnson
Danielle Hein
Charlie Heimerman
Logan Underwood
Meghan Butler
Kyrie Bussler

May 8
Gemini Johnson
Gary Dallman
Scott Swenson
Vi Iversen

May 9
Levi Skillestad
Jeff Erickson
Rebecca Ingvalson
Vivian Ulrich
Mandy Doocy
Sarah Johnson

May 10
Jason Manges
Arden Anderson
Lisa Kubista
Rosalie Shaw Kerrigan

May 11
Amy Chladek
Natasha Smith

May 12
Doug Hilson
Alexandria Thompson
Barb Brewington
Kirsten Paulson

May 13
Randy Lea
Greg Johnson
Cody Schmeling
Aubryana Alwes

May 14
Alex Lea
Tammy Wurst
Ron Schmeling

Anniversaries

May 7
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Manges

May 9
Alan & Judy Schaefer

May 10
Sean & Kristin Robbins

May 11
Thomas & Shirley Schneiderit

May 12
Rick & Linda Kittelson

May 13
Dave & Cheri Klug and Harvey & Nancy Farr

May 14
Roger & Lisa Toms

Best kept secret!
Deli Sandwiches Daily Specials
ALL COME WITH A COOKIE & CHIPS
Tuesday - Ham
Wednesday - Turkey
Thursday - Your Choice
Friday - Beef
The Bakery
Main Street • Blooming Prairie • 583-4433

Word Search Corner
Presidents

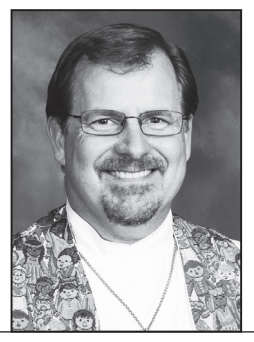
E D H R S R M N N R N L R N X
P I M A E M O N H O O I E I P
H Z S A R S A O X O T N V X Z
E I G E L D X D C S N C O O H
O A H I N P I L A E I O O N S
N B W I L H E N L V L L H Z U
D P A D K V O P G E C N P W B
P L R M E G N W L L R A E F S
N O E L A O S A E T A F T J O
F A A I S M W G U R E T R A C
O N M N F Y E L N I K C M X T
D U H U R R K E N N E D Y R T
C O E Q R T A Y L O R P U K B
J V Q S Z T U G Y N W M S T K
T N A R G A R T H I P F Y I N

ADAMS
BUSH
CARTER
CLEVELAND
CLINTON
EISENHOWER
FORD
GARFIELD
GRANT
HARDING
HOOVER
JOHNSON
KENNEDY
LINCOLN
MCKINLEY
NIXON
OBAMA
REAGAN
ROOSEVELT
TAFT
TAYLOR
TRUMAN
TRUMP
WILSON

Sponsored By

VALLEYVIEW ASSISTED LIVING
1212 W Frontage Rd Owatonna, MN
507-451-0722 • valleyviewofowatonna.com
- Newly Remodeled
- County Assistance Accepted
- Pet Friendly
Make new friends.

"One Got Out!"



Pastor Paul Hauschild
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, HAYFIELD

Pastor Phil Callaway tells of driving his 5-year-old son past a local cemetery. Of course, 5 year olds sometimes have an interesting perspective on things. Noticing a large pile of dirt beside a newly excavated grave, the boy pointed and said, "Look, Dad, one got out!!!" Calloway laughed at the time. But, he writes, "… every time I pass a graveyard, I'm reminded of the One who got out."

This One is Jesus Christ our Lord! He is risen! He is risen indeed!

I think I actually got high on sugar this year! I ate so many jelly beans, peanut butter eggs and peeps. Felt good at the time, but now I have to deal with the extra pounds, cavities, and get back to the daily struggles in life.

Perhaps this Easter season you are feeling some despair. If death has taken someone you love, you wish this Easter season that you might be sure, absolutely sure, that they have eternal life. Or if advanced age or cancer is laying hard claim on your body, you may want to know with profound certainty that this is not the end. Whatever struggle we might be going through, we need more than bunnies and spring flowers. We want to be sure of the risen Christ.

Before Jesus died he told his disciples of a new commandment: Love one another. However, this isn't so new is it? But when we are facing death, struggle, illness and the like, this commandment to love takes on a new meaning. We could despair, but Jesus tells us to love. We could complain, but Jesus tells us to love. We could shut ourselves off, but Jesus tells us to love. I think LOVE and RESURRECTION equate. I think LOVE and HOPE are synonyms. When life is a whirlwind, simply respond by loving those around you to the best of your ability with the love of Jesus. And this love will center you each day.

And then you, too, will smile and say: "One got out!"

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

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: Sunday at 9 a.m.
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
Senior Pastor:
Rev. Heidi Heimgartner
Associate Pastor:
Rev. Mike Walerius
507-583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com
Worship Service- 9 a.m.
Sunday School- 10 a.m.

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
Pastor Greg Schlicker
Pastor Mark Neumann
507-451-4125
goodshepherdowatonna.com
Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
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
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 Brennan
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. JOHN LUTHERAN-- ELCA
1301 Lincoln Ave.
Owatonna
Pastors Dave Klawiter and Jacie Richmond
507-451-7293
stjohnowatonna.org
Worship: 5 p.m. Thursday & Saturday; 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Summer Services: 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Sunday

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: Rev. Dean Smith
507-451-2165
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m..

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
507-451-4520
tlcowatonna.org
Pastors: Todd Buegler & Amanda Weinkauf
Deacon: Kris Oppegard
Worship: 5 p.m. Saturday; 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Sunday
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
8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

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: Rev. Dean Smith
Worship: 8:30 a.m.

CATHOLIC

CHRIST THE KING
205 Second Ave. NW, Medford
507-451-6353
Father James Starasinich
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Mass: 5:30 p.m. Sat.
Mass: 9 a.m. Mon. & Fri.

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, Pastor
507-451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com
Sunday Mass:
9:30 a.m.c with Children's Church
Reconciliation:
8:45 a.m. - 1st & 3rd Sundays
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.:
Faith Formation for K thru Confirmation
Second Sunday of month:
Family Faith Formation
Litomysl Finance Council:
2nd Thursday
Litomysl Pastoral Council:
2nd Thursday every other month

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 James Starasinick
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 PENTECOASTAL
230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Eliazar Talamantes
507-363-2240
Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday; 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 Cirksena
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 (Pathways): 9 a.m. Sunday

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
2515 Harvest Lane NW
Owatonna
Pastors Joe & Vicki Braucht
www.destinycc.org
Worship: 6 p.m. Sat.

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
507-413-0209
Worship: 10 a.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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
P.O. Box 66, Claremont
507-528-2320
Pastor Douglas Walters
10 a.m. Worship

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
2373 Seventh Ave. NE, Owatonna
Pastor Brian Beavers
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.

FIRST BAPTIST (Owatonna's oldest church)
123 E. Main St., Owatonna
Pastor Cindy
507-451-2803
www.firstbaptistowatonna.com
Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

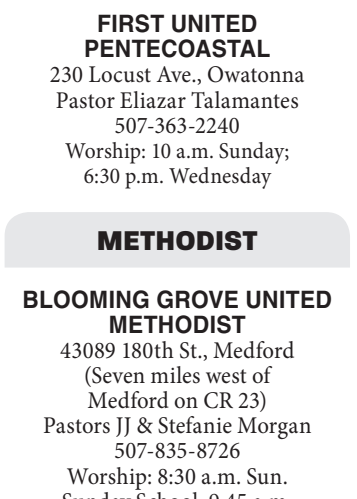
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

VICTORY LIFE
105 2nd St NE
Geneva
Pastor Diane Butler
507-402-0960
Worship on Sundays
Prayer Service: 7:30 a.m.
Church Service: 9:30 a.m.
Children's Church: 9:45 a.m.

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


ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST
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 | 888-933-6828 | 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

VALLEYVIEW OF OWATONNA
assisted living

1212 W Frontage Rd Owatonna, MN
507-451-0722
valleyviewofowatonna.com

A little safety goes a long way

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Blooming Prairie area students look at a display of long guns during a safety course offered this past weekend. Justin Doocy was the gun safety instructor on Saturday and Sunday at the Blooming Prairie City Center. Fourteen youths participated in the class. Joe Wacek assisted with the instruction.

Please join us at the annual
Blooming Prairie Ambulance Open House

FOOD
PRIZES
BOUNCE HOUSE

Tuesday May 21st, 2019
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

At the Blooming Prairie Ambulance garage
South edge of Blooming Prairie on Hwy 218

Jason Louks (center), and Aron Louks (right) received a check for $35,169.20 from Steve Lonning, Energy Sales at Central Farm Service in Owatonna, Minnesota, for Cenex Total Protection Plan® coverage on their John Deere 6125R tractor.

"We feel that there's great value with the Cenex Total Protection Plan.® We're firm believers in it."

– Jason Louks, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

Protect your agricultural equipment for up to 10 years or 10,000 hours with Cenex® Lubricants, Cenex® Ruby Fieldmaster® Premium Diesel Fuel and the Cenex Total Protection Plan®. No deductible. No hassles. No worries. Contact the local experts at Central Farm Service by calling (507) 456-7658.

A BRAND OF CHS © 2019 CHS Inc. **Visit cenex.com/tpp for more information.**

HERE IS MY CARD

ACCOUNTING

Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
ACCOUNTING AND TAX SERVICES FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND INDIVIDUALS
314 East Main St., Blooming Prairie | 507-583-7528 | Fax: 507-583-2389

AUTOMOBILE

Mike's REPAIR
870 32 Ave. NW
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-455-0388
Fax: 507-455-0486
After Hours: 507-455-0483
Tire Service
AG & Heavy Truck
Complete Truck Parts and Service
Mike Hartle
Owner

COLLISION

THE ONLY AREA SHOP certified to work on the 2015 Ford Aluminum F150
ASSURED PERFORMANCE COLLISION CARE
CSI:
www.csiaustinmn.com
Collision Specialists Inc
507.437.2837

CONSTRUCTION

Johnson Construction & Tree Service
Tree & Stump Removal • Trimming & Topping • Tree Moving
Lot Clearing • Backhoe/Skidloader • Hauling General Construction
24 Hr. Emergency Services • Year Round Work • Licensed & Insured
KYLE JOHNSON • 507-583-7592
AUSTIN & BLOOMING PRAIRIE

J.A. Gwilt Siders, Inc.
Siding, Windows, Gutters, Roofing & Decks
Call 507-456-1504 for your FREE estimates!
Serving Steele County for 20 years.
Known for our exceptional quality of material and labor.

EXCAVATING

SEPTIC SYSTEMS • Design • Installation • Compliance Inspections
State License # 1844
Serving the Area Over 12 Years
BISHOP EXCAVATING, INC.
• Excavation • Basements
• Demolition • Dozer Work
Commercial & Residential Sitework
507 583-2999
Aggregates • Hauling • Washed Sand • Black Dirt • Fill • Gravel

GARBAGE SERVICE

SKJEVELAND ENTERPRISES
YOU CAN COUNT ON US!
Sanitation & Recycling Services
Pride in service since 2007
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL
• Sanitation & Recycling Services
• Roll-Offs & Dumpsters
• Rubbish & Garbage Removal
Contact Skjeveland Enterprises today!
507-528-9900

ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

Dr. Deborah J. Lien, DDS, MBS
132 2ND AVE. NE BLOOMING PRAIRIE
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST
FREE CONSULTATIONS
Building Healthy Smiles!
drdeborahlienorthodontics.com
507.583.6613

PREPLANNING

You Know You Should,
PREPLANNING
Why Not Today?
Personalized Pre-arrangement
Secure & Flexible Prefunding
Purple Cross Plans
SECURE
FLEXIBLE
PEACE OF MIND
Worlein FUNERAL HOME
1801 4th Street NW
Austin, MN
www.worlein.com
Call Mary Kittelson
NFDA Certified Preplanning Consultant
433-5000
NFDA NATIONAL FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION
Pursuit of Excellence
AWARD RECIPIENT 2018

PETS

Bennett's PET HAVEN CEMETERY, INC.
"Professional Cremation and Burial Services for your loving pet"
Larry & Donna Bennett
4151 N. City Rd. 45
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 451-2203
Cell: 507-456-3562
Shorty & Sue Schroht
857 Mosher Ave.
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 455-3204

ROOFING

Contact us for all of your roofing needs
PIEPHO ROOFING,INC
Unparalleled Service
James Piepho 507-451-1686
5098 SW 18th Street, Owatonna, MN 55060
www.piephoroofing.com Lic. #BC679096

State moves forward on wind farm

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN
COUNTY STAFF WRITER

The Minnesota Department of Commerce has officially announced its Scoping Decision regarding the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement for a the Dodge County Wind Project proposed for Steele, Dodge and Olmsted Counties. The project is being proposed by Dodge County Wind, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Next Era Energy Resources.

In the time leading up to the scoping decision, which was announced by the state on April 25, staff gathered public input on the project through a public meeting and an associated public comment period.

As a result of that information, the state has identified the impacts and mitigation measures that will be analyzed in the EIS. The EIS will be conducted by the Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) staff.

DCW is proposing a project that will generate up to 170 megawatts (MW) of electric energy and deliver it to the electrical grid at Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency's (SMMPA) exiting Byron substation via a newly constructed 345 kv transmission line. The project involves up to 70 turbines that would be located in Steele and Dodge Counties as well as underground electric collection lines, a new collector substation, an operation and maintenance building, permanent meteorological towers and gravel access roads.

The turbines would be between 80 and 140 feet tall with approximately 400 to 1,200 feet between structures.

DCW proposed two possible routes for the transmission lines and after considering public input, the EERA has been directed to consider additional routes along existing lines to the north of DCW's proposed route.

Before the project can be built, the Public Utilities Commission must approve three separate items: a certificate of need, a site permit and a route permit. All three items are being processed jointly.

Letters were sent out to affected property owners on May 2 explaining the proposed routes and EIS process.

It is anticipated that the draft EIS will be completed in June. Following the completion of the EIS public meetings will be held and an additional comment period will follow.

Public hearings are anticipated in August. An administrative law judge (ALJ) from the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings will preside over the hearings and after they are completed the ALJ will submit a report with recommendations for the Commission to consider in evaluating the certificate of need and the site and route permit applications.

A Commission decision on the applications is expected in late 2019.

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Emergency personnel from Steele County zip up a white body bag with a dead student in it during a mock car crash Friday morning at Medford High School. Mortician Glen Meger of Medford Funeral Home, standing, awaits to take the body away in his hearse with students intently looking on.

Lasting Impact delivers a punch for teen drivers

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Matt Maas knows exactly how a single teenage mistake can leave a lasting impact.

His son, Logan, was out joyriding with some friends in northern Dodge County in December 2015 when the driver lost control, sending the unbuckled 18-year-old out the window and onto the gravel road where he would be pronounced dead minutes later.

Matt is sharing his family's pain through a video called, "Lasting Impact," in hopes of reaching other teenagers so they don't make the same deadly mistake his son made. The video was shown for juniors and seniors at Medford High School Friday morning just hours before they would participate in the spring prom.

"It's very, very hard for our family. I'm reliving the worst day of my life publicly, but the message is important," Matt confesses. "It's still hard every day. We have a lot of emotions and heartache. It has changed our whole world."

> "I'm reliving the **worst day of my life** publicly, but the message is important."
>
> **Matt Maas**
> Unbuckled Son Killed

Logan was a senior at Triton High School in Dodge Center when the crash happened. At the time, he was a volunteer firefighter in Dodge Center. Matt admits his son knew better than to not be buckled up in a motor vehicle, but for some reason he didn't wear his seat belt that day.

Matt and other family members were Christmas shopping when they received the devastating news from Matt's boss, Sheriff Scott Rose. Matt is the emergency management director for Dodge County.

"My wife collapsed to the ground screaming and my daughter tried to comfort her," Matt said. "What do you think Christmas was like for our family that year?" Matt asked the Medford students as they intently listened to his story.

Matt recalls notifying his younger son that his brother had died. "It's absolutely the worst thing I've ever done as a father," he said.

Lasting Impact, Matt says, serves as a wake up call. "It can really happen," he stressed. "It was a preventable crash. A simple decision affects your family, friends and community," he said.

Matt urged the teenagers in attendance to make good decisions regarding driving. "I'm just hoping the students think about this and the reality of it," he said. "I want to prevent what our family went through and change behaviors behind the wheel."

As he travels around the state sharing his message through Lasting Impact, Matt says he's doing it for his son. "I hope my son would be proud of the message we are sharing and prevent others from going through what we have," Matt said.

Lasting Impact is being shown

SEE **LASTING IMPACT, B2**

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

A couple of girls were in disbelief as they watched the mock crash unfold before their eyes Friday in Medford.

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Gold Cross paramedic Rick Ellingson helps an injured passenger at the mock crash put on for juniors and seniors at Medford High School.

Seniors ready for work

OHS hosts Steele Co. Works signing day

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, May 1, Owatonna High School played host to the first Steele Co. Works signing day. During the event, seniors were able to showcase their commitment to pursue a career after graduation.

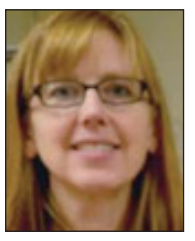
The Owatonna Chamber of Commerce and Tourism is partnered with Steele Co. Works, Owatonna Workforce Development Inc., and United Way of Steele County, with the purpose of familiarizing local students with career opportunities.

Nine students were recognized and were given support by representatives from local employers, including Viracon, Daikin, Federated, and AmesburyTruth.

Chamber President Brad Meier thanked all those who have partnered with Steele Co. Works before sharing his thoughts on the inaugural event. "We're really happy to have the entire county

SEE **STEELE CO. WORKS, B2**

May is Mental Health Month



Steele Talkin'
LISA WAYPA

When you or someone you love is dealing with a mental health concern, sometimes it's a lot to handle. It's important to remember that mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being, and mental illnesses are common and treatable.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and it was started 70 years ago by Mental Health America, to raise awareness about mental health conditions and the importance of good mental health for everyone.

A healthy lifestyle can help to prevent the onset or worsening of mental health conditions, as well as chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. It can also help people recover from these conditions. For those dealing with a chronic health condition and the people who care for them, it can be especially important to focus on mental health.

During May, Mental Health America is looking at how these topics may be especially beneficial to people who are living with chronic physical illnesses as they ramp up to MHA's 2019 Annual Conference – Dueling Diagnoses: Mental Health and Chronic Conditions

SEE **STEELE TALKIN', B2**

Future heroes

Owatonna Explorers shine at state competition

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

They can perform traffic stops, know how to deal with situations such as those involving burglars and quick decisions, they can cite rules and laws, and many of them are still only in high school.

The Owatonna Explorer program is a great way for young people to learn about law enforcement and the state's laws. Although it is not only for those who wish to pursue a career in law enforcement, many of those who take part in the program have promising futures in law enforcement ahead of them.

Explorer Advisors Melissa Michael and Derrik Quinlan, who are officers with Owatonna Police, explained the positive impact the program has on those who participate. "They basically go through any and every situation that could occur in real life as a law enforcement officer," Officer Quinlan said. "The Explorer Program is a big pathway to a career in law enforcement."

The program is open to young people ages 14 to 20 and seeks to familiarize participants with scenarios and learning activities that will provide them with invaluable experience which will help them in a career in law enforcement, or in any career.

It is a national effort aimed at educating young people on law enforcement. A state competition is held each year in April, while a national one is held after that. The

SEE **OWATONNA EXPLORERS, B2**

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Owatonna Explorers include back row, from left: Officer Melissa Michael, Garrett La Plount, Liam Miller, Griffin Flemming, Julia Hansen, Ellie Youngquist, Maddie Ziegler and Officer Derrik Quinlan; front row- Dietrich Piepho, Jerimiah Wencl, Gabbie Flemming, Tristan Wencl and Abby Morriss.

Traffic changes in effect by Albert Lea

Westbound traffic on Interstate 90 between Highway 13 in Albert Lea and Freeborn Co. Rd. 46 near Petran has been moved into the eastbound lanes beginning on Monday, May 6, and Freeborn 46 traffic will be detoured Tuesday-Thursday, May 7-9 for the removal of the westbound bridge deck, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The traffic switch is expected to last through the summer. Traffic will travel in both directions in the eastbound lanes with vehicles using single lanes for each direction.

A number of westbound ramp closures will also be in effect beginning on May 6. Detours will be signed.

· The Freeborn 46 westbound I-90 entrance ramp is closed. Motorists can use the Freeborn Co. Rd. 26 westbound I-90 entrance ramp during the bridge deck removal next week.

· Westbound I-90 exits to Interstate 35 are closed. Motorist can detour by continuing west to exit at Freeborn Co. Rd. 22 and return eastbound I-90 to take ramps to I-35.

· I-35 exits to westbound I-90 are closed. Motorists can take I-90 east to Freeborn 26 exit and then return to I-90 westbound.

· Highway 13 westbound I-90 exit is closed. Motorists can use the Freeborn 22 exit, travel north to Freeborn Co. Rd. 14 west to Highway 13.

Other ramps along I-90 will be closed at later stages of the project. MnDOT will announce those changes in advance.

Ulland Brothers Inc., a MnDOT contractor, is paving a 12-mile stretch of the westbound lanes with concrete in a process called a concrete overlay. The $17.2 million concrete paving project includes the replacement of the westbound bridge deck over Freeborn 46. Construction is expected to be complete Sept. 1.

STEELE CO. WORKS: *Signing day* FROM B1

involved in this effort," he said.

"We think this is just as important, if not more important, that you're here working in our community," Meier said when comparing the decision to other post-high school options.

Workforce Coordinator Anisha Zak explained her passion for helping students decide on their future. "We continue to seek a college or career going culture for our students," she said. "The ultimate goal of every parent is to have their child working, making a good wage, and being happy."

"Today's resolution is just a start to continue in our efforts to bring more students and parents attention to prosperous career options that Steele County offers people," she said. "Today is a day to celebrate these bright young individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to prove they have the work ethic, talent, and persistence to achieve a great career."

OHS Principal Mark Randall thanked area businesses that have helped to bring more students into the workforce. "I think there's mutual benefits there," he said. "We want to continue to provide opportunities for the students to go into the work force."

"I want to congratulate our students, because that's what we're here for," Randall said. "You guys are the best and the brightest of the students entering the work force because of the work that you've done. You have a vision, you have something that you know that you want to do in the future, and you're executing it at a very young age."

Those who spoke prior to the signing all expressed pride in these nine students. "Some people ask me what is your favorite part about being a superintendent," Owatonna Superintendent Jeff Elstad said. "What I would tell you, is this right here. This is why I do this job."

"In a little over a month, I'm going to shake your hand with a diploma in your hand," Elstad said. "Leadership to me is communicating people's potential so clearly that they begin to see it themselves. I can tell you that the partnerships we've established here between our businesses, and our school, and our parents, and most importantly our students, that's leadership."

Elstad feels that this is a positive trend in modern education and that by focusing on both college readiness and career readiness, the district will be better serving its students. "Education is more than taking tests, it is more than learning out of books," Elstad said.

"We are realizing a new vision of what 21st century education looks like and that is interjecting as many relevant and authentic experiences into what you do every day," he explained. "It's an important evolution in education, and you're on the front end of that."

After the students and business representatives were introduced, the signing got underway with students signing letters of intent for employers.

Mayor Tom Kuntz was proud not only of the students, but also of the positive benefits career-oriented education can have for the community. "I think it's just a great opportunity for Owatonna and for our students who are committed to entering the workforce and committed to staying in the community," Kuntz said. "This is where it all starts."

STEELE CO. WORKS: *Signing day* FROM B1

The Owatonna group meets regularly from September until the spring time, when they ready themselves for the competition season.

At this year's competition, the Owatonna Explorers received high marks and earned fourth place in domestic crisis. "We have to give a lot of props to our Explorers, because it is a lot of work," Officer Michael said. "They do it well."

The competition was held in Rochester and featured a myriad of different tests and situational competitions. Liam Miller, a three-year veteran in the program, explained that when it comes to each situation, "it's not just the what, it's the why. We need to be able to tell citizens why we're doing things, and know it rationally."

Miller credits the program with not only helping him on his future pathway to a career in law enforcement, but also in building his own character. Once less confident, he now participates on the speech team and helps out at community events such as safety camp. "We really enjoy doing that," Miller said about working within the community.

Although not all enrolled in the program are seeking a career in law enforcement, Miller seems to have found his calling. "It just so happens that I ended up finding my niche," he said. In the fall he will be attending Minnesota State University – Moorhead to continue his law enforcement education.

"I can't say enough about the 12 Explorers that we have," Officer Quinlan said of their group. "They're all great young adults, they're all going places. This is just the starting step if you have an interest in law enforcement and an inkling in what you want to do."

Miller credited his advisors with their team's continued success. "These guys definitely do a great job at advising us," he said while also praising the program. "It's a good place to start and get a good foundation."

"I think what Explorers are for those who are interested in it," Miller explained. "It's not just if your certain about a career in this, it's just if you're interested, and if you are and you stick with it you might have your career, and if you change your mind that's good too."

Both Officer Quinlan and Officer Michael hope to continue to grow the program and help young people build upon their career foundation. They credit local organizations with aiding this goal, including the Owatonna Eagles which recently donated $1,200.

Those who wish to learn more about the program can contact the officers. They can also visit the Owatonna Police Department for fliers and additional information on the program.

LASTING IMPACT: *Mock crash* FROM B1

through the assistance of the Minnesota State Patrol. The video has been played at 16 high schools across southeastern Minnesota since it was unveiled earlier this year.

Prior to Friday's video showing in Medford, area emergency personnel enacted a mock car crash in the school's parking lot. Actors staged a two-vehicle crash with multiple injuries and a death.

One of the actors was Samantha Lustig, a senior at Medford. She portrayed an injured passenger. "This is a good experience to see this happen in real life," Lustig said. She hopes her fellow classmates will realize that serious crashes can happen to them. "It felt real," she added.

The mock crash involved personnel from the Steele County Sheriff's Office, State Patrol, Medford Fire, Gold Cross Ambulance and Medford Funeral Home. A hearse showed up at the end of the crash to take away a student who was killed in a white body bag.

"We want to make sure everyone makes it home safely," said Sheriff Lon Thiele, who coordinated the crash. "These people care so much about happens to you. We want you to stay safe," he told the students.

Candidates sought for community leadership academy

The Owatonna Community Leadership Academy is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 program year starting with a kick-off picnic in August.

This localized program was designed by the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism to develop candidate knowledge and understanding of our community…its assets, complexities and potential. All sessions are facilitated locally and focus on topics directly affecting our community. The intent is to engage, encourage and empower future leadership in and for the community.

A learning experience geared toward providing an in-depth look at eight key elements of the community: education, economic development, government, healthcare, public safety, quality of life, agriculture and culture and diversity. The program will provide opportunities for candidates to exchange ideas, build networks and begin the process of identifying and solving important community issues.

Candidates are drawn from business, industry, education, public and private agencies, civic groups, and virtually all other facets of the processional community. Class size will be limited. Leadership requires a serious commitment of time and energy. Candidates meet the second Tuesday, a full day each month starting in September through May with a graduation presentation in June. Tuition cost is $750 payable upon acceptance in the program.

Applications available online or by contacting the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism at 507-451-7970 or view the flyer and application at www.owatonna.org. Due date is Friday, May 24. Questions should be directed to Rhonda Guthier, director of operations at rguthier@owatonna.org.

STEELE TALKIN': *Mental Health Month* FROM B1

in Children and Adults, June 13-15 in Washington, D.C. where MHA will be discussing the impact and intersection of chronic conditions and mental health.

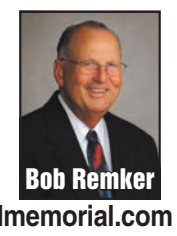
It is important to really look at your overall health, both physically and mentally, to achieve wellness. A healthy lifestyle can help to prevent the onset or worsening of mental health conditions, as well as chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. It can also help people recover from these conditions. For those dealing with a chronic health condition and the people who care for them, it can be especially important to focus on mental health.

When dealing with dueling diagnoses, focusing on both physical and mental health concerns can be daunting – but critically important in achieving overall wellness. There are things you can do that may help. Finding a reason to laugh, going for a walk with a friend, praying, meditating, playing with a pet, or working from home once a week can go a long way in making you both physically and mentally healthy. Explore the topics of animal companionship, spirituality and religion, humor, work-life balance, and recreation and social connections as ways to boost mental health and general wellness. A pet can be a source of comfort and can help us to live mentally healthier lives. And whether you go to church, meditate daily, or simply find time to enjoy that cup of tea each morning while checking in with yourself – it can be important to connect with your spiritual side.

Mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being, and mental illnesses are common and treatable. So much of what we do physically impacts us mentally – it's important to pay attention to both your physical health and your mental health, which can help you achieve overall wellness and set you on a path to recovery. Steele County Public Health wants everyone to know that mental illnesses are real, and recovery is always the goal. Living a healthy lifestyle may not be easy but can be achieved by gradually making small changes and building on those successes. Find the balance between work and play, the ups and downs of life, physical health and mental health.

MHA has developed a series of fact sheets (available at www.mentalhealthamerica.net/may) to help people understand how their lifestyle affects their health. For more information on May is Mental Health Month, visit MHA's website at www.mentalhealthamerica.net/may.

Lisa Waypa is a registered nurse with Steele County Public Health in Owatonna. Steele Talkin' is a regular column featuring authors representing various organizations throughout Steele County.

BERTRAND MEMORIALS
• Uncompromising Quality
• Timeless Remembrance
• Enduring Beauty
• Allow us to help you select a memorial that is right for you
• Locations in Rochester & Austin
• Serving Southern MN and Northern IA

Bob Remker
507-363-9275 • 877-754-0592 • www.bertrandmemorial.com

CELEBRATE NATIONAL NURSES WEEK MAY 6-12, 2019
Nurses
THE HEARTBEAT OF HEALTHCARE
DURING NATIONAL NURSES WEEK
Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie wishes to take this time to thank its nurses for the extraordinary care they provide residents throughout the year.
We value our nurses!
Prairie Manor
CARE CENTER
www.prairiemanorinc.com

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

MAY 9
4 p.m. – Police Commission Meeting

MAY 11
5:30 p.m. – FFA Banquet, BPHS Commons

MAY 13
7 p.m. – City Council Meeting
7 p.m. – BPHS Choir Concert, BPHS Gym

MAY 14
10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library
2:30 p.m. – BP Public Utilities Meeting
4:30 p.m. – Fire Commission Meeting
5 p.m. – Ambulance Commission Meeting

MAY 15
10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library

Dr. Deborah J Lien
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST DDS, MBS
GIVE THEM EVERY REASON TO SMILE
583.6613
132 2nd Ave NE | Blooming Prairie MN

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

MAY 9
3:30 p.m. – Community Ed-Kids Kitchen, NR Room E104
7 p.m. – NRHEG Middle School Band/Choir Concert, NR HS Gym
7:30 p.m. – Ellendale City Council Meeting, Community Building

MAY 10
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building
3:30 p.m. – Community Ed-Mother's Day Gift, Ellendale Cafeteria
3:30 p.m. – Girls Scout Meeting, NR HS Lower Commons

MAY 12
8 a.m. – Just for Kixs Dance Recital, NR HS Gym

MAY 13
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building
6 p.m. – Band Boosters Meeting, NRHEG HS
7 p.m. – Berlin Township Meeting, Community Building

MAY 14
6:15 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do, Ellendale Gym North
7 p.m. – NRHEG Elementary Choir Concert, Ellendale Gym

MAY 15
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

MAY 9
9 a.m. – Jr. History Detectives, History Center
2 p.m. – Movies at the Library, Owatonna Library
5 p.m. – Airport Commission Meeting, Airport Lounge
5:30 p.m. – Wine & Wisdom, Cedar Chiropractic
6:30 p.m. – History Detectives, History Center
6:30 p.m. – Owatonna Police Officer of the Year Recognition Banquet, VFW

MAY 10
9 a.m. – Cabela's Job Fair, Cabela's
6:30 p.m. – Americana Showcase: Songwriters in the Round, History Center

MAY 11
OHS Prom, Four Seasons
7 a.m. – Farmers Market, Central Park
8 a.m. – Tour of OHS for May 14 Election
10 a.m. – A Taste of Art, Arts Center
Noon – Mother's Day Photo, Cabela's
7 p.m. – Medford High Spring Play, MHS Auditorium

MAY 12
9:30 a.m. – Mother's Day Brunch, Owatonna Country Club
Noon – Mother's Day Photo, Cabela's
2 p.m. & 7 p.m. – Medford High Spring Play, MHS Auditorium

MAY 13
4 p.m. – Owatonna Park & Rec Board Meeting, City Admin Building
7 p.m. – AAUW Owatonna May Meeting, Trinity Lutheran
7 p.m. – Medford Zoning Board Meeting, City Admin Building

MAY 14
11:30 a.m. – County Board-Fair Board Meeting, Mother's Rest
1 p.m. – So Many Books...So Little Time, Owatonna Library
4 p.m. – County Board Meeting, County Admin Building
5 p.m. – Owatonna Human Rights Commission Meeting, City Admin Building
5 p.m. – Owatonna Planning Commission Meeting, City Admin Building

MAY 15
4 p.m. – Owatonna EDA Meeting, City Admin Building

AAUW sets May meeting

The American Association of University Women of Owatonna invites AAUW interested guests and potential members to attend its meeting on May 13, 7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church Lounge.

The program for the evening will feature Linda Boorman and Eileen Newhouse sharing highlights of their recent trip to Egypt. We will learn about the evolution of pyramid building, the splendors of the temples and tombs along the Nile, and the longest reigning female pharaoh, Hatshepsut. In addition, members will celebrate the past year and plan the future year.

Woman's Club seeks applicants for funding

The Civic Contributions committee of the Woman's Club of Owatonna is seeking applicants to receive funds from its annual Charity Event, which will be held on Nov. 16 at the Owatonna Eagles Club.

All proceeds from the event are given to non-profit organizations or to benefit community projects in Steele County. Applicants who have received this funding in the past three years are not eligible.

Please submit a written inquiry for the application form to Sandy Boss, 603 E Phelps St., Owatonna, MN 55060 or sandyboss@charter.net by May 15.

Village of Yesteryear Tour Season underway

The Village of Yesteryear tour season has begun.

Guided Village tours are held Tuesday through Sunday, May through September at 1:30 p.m., or by appointment. Knowledgeable tour guides will lead guests through the Village of Yesteryear highlighting a wide range of items in the 19 historic buildings.

The Village of Yesteryear began in 1962 when the Society was offered the Saco Church. The church was originally located 7 miles southwest of Owatonna. The Steele County Agricultural Society offered a permanent lease to a portion of the southeast section of the fairgrounds for a pioneer village. The village layout is similar to the center of Owatonna and its Central Park, which was originally circular. Thus was established the Village of Yesteryear. The Village has grown in the years since and become a full campus with 19 historic structures just north of the History Center.

The History Center Exhibit Hall currently features **Over Here, Over There: The Great War 100**. Students can read first-hand accounts by Steele County residents, experience warfare through sites, sounds and smells, sing along with WWI songs, and more! In addition **Toys and Play, 1970 to Today**, explores how we play and displays some of the iconic toys over the past 50 years. There are many interactive exhibits. Tour both the Village of Yesteryear and the History Center and save $2 per person.

Wildlife bronze collection to be dedicated

There will be a dedication of the John Idstrom bronze collection on Saturday, June 8 from 4-7 p.m. at the Owatonna Arts Center.

The John Idstrom family has gifted a collection of his North American Big Game series of bronzes to the Arts Center. You are invited to the dedication of the bronzes. Wildlife artist and conservationist Jim Killen and John's son, John, will speak briefly at the dedication.

John was a wildlife biologist and artist who painted and worked in bronze. Using the lost wax process, he did a series of North American Big Game. Idstrom is a graduate of St. Olaf College with a degree in biology and was a wildlife biologist. He worked many years researching big game and improving wetlands at the Department of Natural Resources.

History of poetry coming to Steele County

The Steele County Historical Society (SCHS) invites you to join us for History of Poetry in the United States, Jr. History Detectives and History Detectives, FREE interactive children's programming for Pre-K and grades K-6 on Thursday, May 9 at 9 a.m. and at 6:30 p.m. at the Steele County History Center, 1700 Austin Road, Owatonna. The program is FREE and open to the community.

Poetry has been part of American culture since the beginning of our country. Many people enjoy reading poetry. Poetry has also been used for fun, but it has also been used for serious topics and social issues.

This will be the FINAL History Detective program for the spring. A new format will be launched in the fall.

The History Center is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information, please call our office at 507-451-1420.

Event to mark Norway's Constitution Day

The Nortonna Lodge 1-638 of the Sons of Norway will hold its annual Syttende Mai dinner on Monday, May 20, at 6 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 126 East View St., in Owatonna.

Syttende Mai is Norway's Constitution Day. The annual celebration dinner will feature torsk, meatballs, potatoes, vegetable, cucumber salad, lingonberry sauce, lefse, rice creme with strawberry sauce and krumkake.

Guest speaker is Janet Letnes Martin, author and entrepreneur, on "Growing up Rural in a Scandinavian Lutheran Community - with the Smell of Barn and Remembrances of Hot Pads, Hot Dishes, and Hot Flashes!"

Reserve your spot for the Syttende Mai dinner by Monday, May 13, by contacting Trudy Haugen at 507-451-7865. Cost is $12.

If you would like more information on the Nortonna Lodge of the Sons of Norway, contact Cindy or Paul Hokanson at 507-451-9301.

Cannon River Art & Water Festival comes to Northfield

Live music, live animals, and an Insect Safari promise to make the The Cannon River Art & Water Festival the hit of the weekend. It all happens on Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Riverside Park (on the corner of Poplar Street and 8th St. West) in Northfield.

This family-friendly festival is a celebration of our rivers, lakes, and drinking water in southern Minnesota. You'll hear music, create water-themed art, and discover the animals that call the Cannon River home. Adults and teens can check out the rainfall simulator, river table, and a groundwater simulator to learn about how water moves through the landscape, and how we can help keep our water clean. And new this year, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture will be providing free well water testing for nitrate from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Activities:

10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Family-friendly hands-on art and water activities, including the "River Insect Safari," "Fishing Printing," and "Water Windsocks"

10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Free Nitrate Well Testing by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Performances:

10 a.m.: Irish Folk Musician Laura MacKenzie

10:55 a.m.: Louis and Dan & the Invisible Band

11:30 a.m.: MN Zoomobile "Minnesota Animals Show

12:30 p.m.: Irish Folk Musician Laura MacKenzie

1:25 p.m.: Louis and Dan & the Invisible Band

2 p.m.: MN Zoomobile "Minnesota Animals Show

3 p.m.: The Cannon River Currents

This event was made possible with an Environmental Assistance Grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the support of the Cannon River Watershed Partnership.

For more information, visit www.crwp.net/events.

Steele County Arts Exhibition underway

For 67 years, spring has brought the Annual Steele County Art Exhibition. The show runs through May 26 at the Owatonna Arts Center.

"It is an honor to showcase our own talented artists," said Silvan Durben, director of the Arts Center. "Each year there are new and very accomplished artists that participate. It is exciting to see what new artists and artists who have been showing for many years have created," he said, adding people may know some of them as friends, neighbors, or even a relative.

The state of the arts is alive and well in Steele County, Durben said.

Explore the Village at the Freeborn County Historical Society

The Freeborn County Historical Society (FCHS) 18 structure Village opened May 1. Self-guided tours are available Wednesday through Friday, May 1 through Sept. 30; and, on a variety of Saturdays beginning May 11; or by appointment.

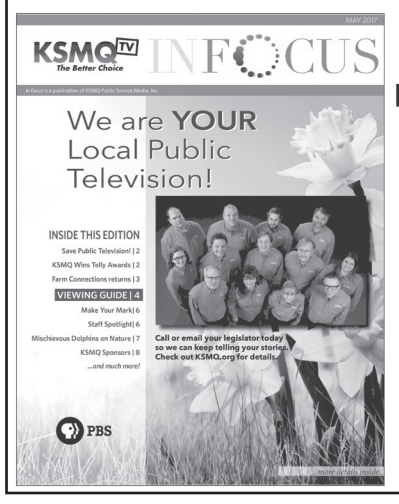
The society is seeking volunteers to act as tour guides for the 2019 tour season in the Village and in the Freeborn County Historical Museum (FCHM). As a tour guide, you will act as an ambassador for the school tour groups offering an engaging, interactive experience for the children in our community, and occasionally a tour group from outside of the area. By joining the team of volunteers, you become an integral part of the FCHS team, share your appreciation of our history, and strengthen the Historical Society by providing an invaluable service.

The Village, with 18 buildings dating from the 1850s to the early 1900s takes you back to a time when eight grades were educated in one room, the general store covered needs not found in the vegetable garden, and one horsepower was a luxury. In addition to the historic buildings, the Village features a large collection of antique farming equipment.

The Museum displays over 40 exhibits featuring businesses, destinations and artifacts. The Museum features a variety of artifacts including a 1955 Fordomatic F-100 turquoise truck owned by actress Marion Ross (Happy Days, That 70's Show, SpongeBob SquarePants), who lived in Albert Lea for much of her youth as well as a large collection of artifacts and a wide range of memorabilia from rockabilly guitarist and accomplished singer/songwriter Eddie Cochran ('Summertime Blues, 'C'mon Everybody').

The Freeborn County Historical Society is a non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1948, committed to building the future by preserving the past. The Society collects preserves and tells the story of Freeborn County's past through museum exhibits, research, collections, tours, and educational programs. The Society is located at 1031 Bridge Ave., Albert Lea.

J&H LIQUOR
Bar Bingo: Mondays @ 6:30 p.m.
Bloomin' Grapevine Club:
Tuesdays @ 7-8:30 P.M. April 16
Wine Tasting Gala: May 7 @ 9 P.M. Benefits BP
Youth Club Tickets: $15 Advanced $20 Door
WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOUR BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, OR RETIREMENT PARTY
340 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie • 583-7557
BUSINESS FOR SALE
Need a career change?
Be your own boss!
Great opportunity to own this hometown bar/off-sale.
Contact Harvey for details
ALL EVENT DETAILS AVAILABLE AT J&H LIQUOR

Don't miss all the "Better Choices!"


Plan your viewing with the IN FOCUS Program Guide!
Delivered to you monthly • 1 Year Member Subscription $35.
email: MBednar@KSMQ.Org or 507.481.2098
KSMQ TV The Better Choice
RTOWN off 90 Farm connections

SOFTBALL

Owatonna chamber recognizes Corky's tournament director Loren Deitz

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Montsta Athletics owner Carl Pegnatori presents Loren Deitz with a a commemorative bat featuring the Corky's 40th anniversary logo.

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce President Brad Meier, Corky's tournament director Loren Deitz, Corky's tournament founder Corky Ebeling, Doug Meier and Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz.

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

In his ten years as the tournament's director, Loren Deitz has seen the field of teams more than double at the Corky's Early Bird Softball Classic.

On Saturday night, the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism recognized Deitz for the economical impact of the tournament.

"We want to recognize that there is a lot effort that goes into this event by the organizers," chamber President Brad Meier said. "It can't be overstated how important the work that they do is. We want to this thing continue into the future because it's so beneficial for everyone."

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the tournament and included about 200 teams playing more than 400 total games in Owatonna, Faribault and Waseca. The tournament gives a healthy boost in income to area business. Tournament officials said as of Saturday night, every hotel within 70 miles was sold out.

"They have done such a great job of attracting teams that it grows every year," Meier said. "They have also been able to figured out how to manage all of the things that come along with having this many teams visiting the area, and it gets better every year. Now it has expanded to Waseca, it's in Faribault and here in Owatonna. As a region, it is a huge deal for our local economy."

Deitz said he's more comfortable being behind the scenes, so admittingly, he was felt a little awkward when he was called on stage by Meier and Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz.

"I do appreciate everyone who was there to cheer me on," Deitz said. "It does lift me up and make me and keep the tournament going for, who knows, maybe another 10 or 20 years. We really want to just keep giving back to Owatonna and the area."

Around the time Deitz began the tournament's director, Facebook was

SEE **DEITZ, B6**

LACROSSE

Huskies struggles continue

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Owatonna boys' lacrosse suffer two painful losses to a couple of Big 9 Conference foes this past week.

The Huskies (1-4, 1-2 Big 9) fell in a heartbreaker, 9-8, at Rochester Joh Marshall (1-4, 1-4 Big 9) on Monday, April 29.

"It was tight game the whole way," Owatonna head coach Scott Seykora said. "We took the lead midway through the fourth but JM scored three unanswered goals. We added one with two minutes left, but were unable to get a good scoring chance in the last two minutes."

Owatonna's Mason Oland put in a clinic on offense by scoring five goals.

Tommy Wall added two goals and an assist; Zack Kirsch had a goal and Luke Kubicek and Dom Wondra each had two assists.

Goalie Korban Stricklin made 10 saves and Noah Brandt won 16-of-20 faceoffs.

"JM played really tough defense against us," Seykora said. "Korban [Stricklin] made some great saves in net and kept us in that game along with Mason Oland's huge effort on offense."

Rochester Mayo (3-5, 3-2 Big 9) won 7-4 at Owatonna on Saturday to give the Huskies their second straight conference loss after the team went a perfect 10-0 and won the conference a season ago.

"Mayo took the early lead and we were able to pull within two goals in the third quarter before Mayo added two more in the fourth quarter to take a four goal lead," Seykora said. "We scored with 46 seconds left to round off the scoring."

The Spartans did an excellent job maintaining possession.

"We had a lot of scoring opportunities but were unable to convert," Seykora said.

SEE **LACROSSE, B6**

SOFTBALL

Bishop impresses as BP splits doubleheader

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Junior Riauna Bishop of Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossoms windups and delivers a pitch to a United South Central opponent in action last week.

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Blooming Prairie softball split a home doubleheader with United South Central (5-7 overall, 2-6 Gopher Conference) on Thursday, May 2.

The split left the Awesome Blossoms with a 6-5 overall record and 4-5 conference mark.

Junior Riauna Bishop pitched the entirety of game one, which BP won 8-3. She surrendered just one earned run on eight hits with three strikeouts and a pair of walks.

The Blossoms used 10 hits to scored their eight runs. Allison Krohnberg had three hits with two RBIs and a stolen base. Julie Worke was the team's only other player with multiple hits. She had two doubles, two RBIs and scored two runs. Maggie Bruns, Maya Lembke, Maren Forystek, Bobbie Bruns and Macy Lembke each also had a hit. Maggie Bruns had a double, stole a base and scored two runs; Maya Lembke had a RBI, and also scored two runs and stole a base; Forystek scored once, had a steal and was walked three times.

BP committed two errors on defense.

The Rebels salvaged the second game by edging the Blossoms, 5-3.

Krohnberg toiled the first four innings and allowed four hits and three earned runs. She struck out five batters and walked four. USC scored all two more runs on three costly errors by BP.

Bishop pitched the final two inning and finished strong for the Blossoms. She had one strikeout, walked one and gave up no hits or runs.

The Rebels committed two errors and scored their five runs on only two hits. BP had three

SEE **BP SOFTBALL, B6**

FOOTBALL

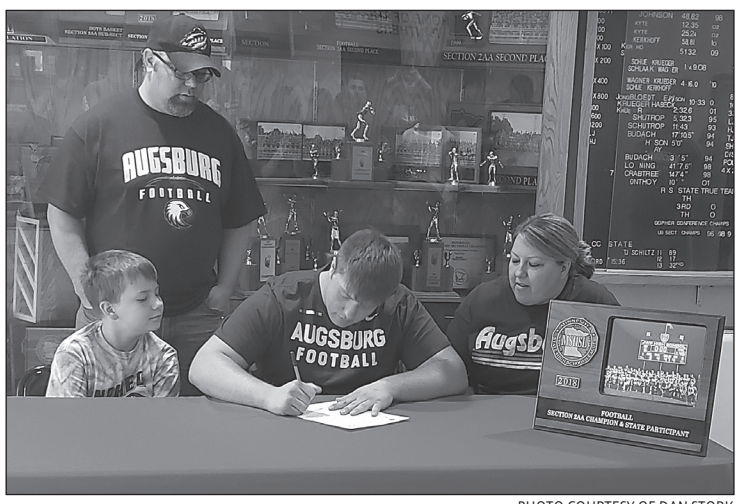


PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN STORK

NRHEG lineman Quinten Arndt signs to play football at Augsburg with his brother AJ, father Justin and mother Sheila in attendance.

Arndt signs with Augsburg

STAFF REPORT

New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva standout Quinten Arndt signed to play college football at Augsburg University in Minneapolis.

Arndt key a key member of the Panthers' team this past season that went 9-3 and and won a section championship. Arndt plays both the offensive and defensive line.

SOFTBALL

Panther softball sparkles

STAFF PHOTO BY MARY NELSON

NRHEG's Paige Knudson makes a throws on Tuesday, April 23.

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva softball completed a most successful week by winning three out of four games that included a home doubleheader sweep of Maple River (6-6, 4-4 Gopher Conference) on Thursday, May 2 and a commanding 9-2 win over United South Central (5-7, 2-6 Gopher Conference) on Monday, April 29.

The Panthers lone loss was a 1-0 decision to a Tri-City United (7-3, 4-4 Minnesota River Conference) on Friday, May 3

"This was probably the best overall game that we've played this year," NRHEG head coach Wendy Schultz said. "The girls made some great plays on defense. Sophie [Stork] pitched well and we were able to get some hits off of a good pitcher."

TCU scored its wining run with the bases loaded and two outs in the bottoms of seventh inning.

"The loss to TCU was a thriller, with Sophie Stork taking the hard luck loss," Schultz added.

Stork surrendered five hits, struck out six and walked three in six innings of action.

Grace Tufte has two of the NRHEG's five hits. Paige Knudson, Sidney Schultz and Sarah Johns had the other three.

The Panthers finished the week with a 9-3 overall record and are currently 7-2 in the Gopher Conference.

STORK STRIKES OUT A DOZEN EAGLES AS NRHEG TAKES 2

The Panthers defeated the Eagles 4-3 in game one of the home doubleheader.

Stork pitched well, again, and had 12 strikeouts, walked two and allowed two earned runs on three hits.

"Good team defense, along with good pitching led to no Maple River runners on base until the fifth inning," Schultz said.

Panthers defeated the Eagles 6-5 in game 2. The win upped the NRHEG record to 9-1 for the season.

Stork allowed just six hits in picking up the win and Sarah Johns pitched the last two innings. Four NRHEG had two hits each and scored two runs as well. Cloie Arndt and Madi Knudson had a triple and a double in the game.

Johns had two hits, scored two runs and had an RBI. Ava Kyllo had two hits, two stolen bases and scored a run.

Cloie Arndt, Stork and Madison Knudson each had a hit.

Arndt and Knudson each also had an RBI and Stork had a stolen base. Schultz scored a run and had two stolen bases.

NRHEG won game two and 6-5. Stork earned another win. She had two strikeouts, five walks and allowed four runs on six hits in four innings. She was relieved by Johns, who struck out six and allowing only two earned runs on two hits. She also did not walk a single Maple River batter.

SEE **NRHEG SOFTBALL, B6**

Orthodontic Specialist
Building Healthy Smiles

New Patients Welcome • Free Consultations
Dr. Deborah J. Lien, DDS, MBS
132 2nd Ave. NE Blooming Prairie
583-6613

BASEBALL

Rebels sweep Blossoms

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Awesome Blossoms baseball team feel twice, 5-1 and 14-6, in a doubleheader against United South Central Rebels (7-4, 6-1 Gopher Conference) on Thursday, May 2.

Blooming Prairie's record fell to 3-8 for the season, and they are just 1-7 in the conference.

In the first game, USC scored its five runs on seven hits. The Rebels did commit three errors, while the Blossoms managed only one run on two hits with five errors.

The Rebels scored single runs in the first, second and fifth innings, and put the game out of reach with two more runs in the sixth.

BP scored their lone run in the fourth inning.

The Blossoms' Ian Wayne pitched well, giving up just one earned run, but the team's only managed a pair of hits and committed five errors drastically decreased his chances on pitching up the win.

Luke Rennie and Wayne had the lone hits for the Blossoms.

REBELS SCORE EASY WIN

In the second game the Blossoms manufactured nine hits, but again, five errors led to their downfall.

USC came away with an easy 14-6 victory.

The Rebels scored four times in the third inning and put the game safely out of reach with seven runs in the final inning.

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Blooming Prairie's Luke Larkoski slides into first base against Hayfield at BPHS on Thursday, April 25.

The Blossoms managed a single run in the first, four in the fourth and one in the fifth, but were shut down in the final two innings. USC had 14 runs on12 hits and only committed one error while BP had six runs on nine hits and five costly errors.

Karson Vigeland had two hits and scored a run, Payton Simon had one hit and two RBIs and Alex Miller had two hits and scored two runs.

BP BLANKS HOUSTON

The Awesome Blossom baseball team made an infrequent trip to Siebert Field at the University of Minnesota on Saturday, April 27, and enjoyed the occasion.

BP knocked out Houston (3-7, 3-4 Southeast Conference) in the five-inning contest 17-0.

Simon pitched the shutout, allowing just four hits in the five innings.

BP hitters pounded out 12 hits, led by Luke Rennie.

Rennie had three hits, scored three times and drove in three runs. Miller added two hits, and Tim Wolf, Ian Wayne, Colin Lerum and Trent Swenson all contributed a hit and a run.

The Blossoms scored their 17 runs on 12 hits and committed no errors.

Houston had four hits and zero errors.

TRACK AND FIELD

Blossoms finish second at GMLOKS Invite

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Blooming Prairie boys and girls track and field teams finished as the runner-ups at the Grand Meadow/LeRoy-Ostrander/KIngsland/Southland Invite on Thursday, May 2 thanks to strong efforts on both sides.

"Many of our athletes performed well and we has a lot of career and season records," Blooming Prairie head coach Chelsea Van Roekel said. "It was very rewarding to see everyone perform well and continue to improve. It is always fun when athletes start to see the efforts they have put in so far this season pay off. It makes moving into this crucial part of our season very exciting."

The GMLOKS teams were heads and shoulders above the rest of the competition. Their boys and girls teams finished first with 185 and 157 points, respectively.

However, both Awesome Blossom were second with the boys finishing with 76 and girls 80.

Xavier Rennie, Mitchell Fiebiger, Isaac Ille and Gabe Hagen were the top performers for the boys.

Rennie finished first in the 110-meter hurdles, 300 hurdles and triple jump. Mitchell claimed gold in the 100 dash and triple jump. Hagen won the shot put and finished second in the discus, and Ille won the 800 run.

Micalyn Trihus was the Blossoms only female athlete to claim an individual gold. She won the shot put and finished second in the discus.

Rachael Oswald was second in the 300 hurdles and third in the 100 hurdles. Megan Oswald was third in the 300 hurdles and Greta Sunde was third in the triple jump.

STAFF PHOTO BY MARK NELSON

Blooming Prairie's Greta Sunde competes in the triple jump.

GRAND MEADOW/ LEROY-OSTANDER/KINGSLAND/ SOUTHLAND INVITE

BOYS

Team Results: GMLOKS 185, Blooming Prairie 76, Rochester Area Christian Educators 49, Lyle-Pacelli 33.5, Schaeffer Academy 7.5.

1,600 relay: RACE (Andrew Krajewski, Sam Fulton, Jeremiah Osterlund, Kevin Hagstrom) 9:10.63.

110 hurdles: 1, Xavier Rennie (BP) 18.67.

100 dash: 1, Mitchell Fiebiger (BP) 12.31; 5, Ezra Kiley (BP) 12.90.

800 relay: 1, Blooming Prairie (Fiebiger, Sam Smith, James Wohlferd, Gabe Hagen) 1:38.68.

1,600 run: 1, Krajewski (RACE) 5:08.92; 7, Tyler Forystek (BP) 6:03.42; 10, Isaac Arnold (BP) 6:52.18.

400 dash: 1, James Howard (GMLOKS) 53.88; 7, Devontae Freese (BP) 1:05.62.

300 hurdles: 1, Kevin Hagstrom (RACE) 46.12; 2, Rennie (BP) 47.15.

800 run: 1, Isaac Ille (BP) 2:13.17; 7, Adam Larson (BP) 2:27.37.

200 dash: 1, Luke Speer 9GMLOKS) 24.94; 5, Kiley (BP) 25.98.

3,200 run: 1, Jesse O'Driscoll (SA) 11:13.01; 3, Hosea Baker (BP) 11:58.08.

1,600 relay: 1, GMLOKS (Blake Ludemann, Jacob Kerrins, Lucas Howard, James Howard) 3:41.61; Blooming Prairie (Ille, Wohlferd, Rennie, Smith) 3:58.04.

High jump: 1, James Howard (GMLOKS) 5-6; 5, Smith (BP) 5-0; 8, Ille (BP) 4-10.

Pole vault: 1, Fiebiger (BP) 9-6.

Long jump: 1, Zachary Hauser (GMLOKS) 18-4; 5, Wohlferd (BP) 16-6.5; 11, Kiley (BP) 15-2.

Triple jump: 1, Rennie (BP) 35-8.

Discus: 1, Noah Watson (GMLOKS) 122-5; 2, Hagen (BP) 120-9; 7, Adam Walsh (BP) 85-9; 8, Jack Matson (BP) 84-4.

Shot put: 1, Hagen (BP) 44-6.5; 10, Matson (BP) 30-0; 11, Jacob McHenry (BP) 27-8.5.

GIRLS

Team Results: GMLOKS 157, Blooming Prairie 80, Rochester Area Christian Educators 59.5, Schaeffer Academy 19, Lyle-Pacelli 2.5.

1,600-meter relay: 1, GMLOKS (Sydney Alstat, Shelby Beck, Maddy Bhend, Kendyl Queensland) 10:49.21.

100 hurdles: 1, Hailey Hindt (GMLOKS) 16.48; 3, Rachael Oswald (BP) 18.62; 4, Greta Sunde (BP) 19.78; 6, Grace Krejci (BP) 21.89.

100 dash: 1, Lauren Buchholtz (GMLOKS) 13.31; 11, Abby Braaten (BP) 15.58; 12, Abby Hefling (BP) 15.99.

800 relay: 1, GMLOKS (Anika Reiland, Buchholtz, Hindt, Queensland) 1:49.32; 2, Blooming Prairie (Gemini Johnson, Abby Braaten, Madi Lea, Sierra Larson) 2:03.83.

1,600 run: 1, Rory Bickler (LP) 5:55.04; 11, Ashleigh Alwes (BP) 7:22.62.

400 relay: 1, GMLOKS (Reiland, Isabelle Olson, Kassidy Kirtz, Buchholtz) 51.68; 2, Blooming Prairie (Braaten, Krejci, Lea, Hefling) 58.53.

400 dash: 1, Natalie Hagstrom (RACE) 1:02.88; 7, Taylor Wurst (BP) 1:13.46; 10, Isabelle Sunde (BP) 1:17.14.

300 hurdles: 1, Hindt (GMLOKS) 49.02; 2, Rachael Oswald (BP) 53.78; 3, Megan Oswald 58.71; 5, Greta Sunde (BP) 59.74.

800 run: 1, Beck (GMLOKS) 2:39.82; 2, Anna Kittleson (BP) 2:45.03.

200 dash: 1, Reiland (GMLOKS) 26.31; 5, Larson (29.71; 11, Megan Oswald (BP) 32.88; 13, Josie Lorenz (BP) 33.65.

3,200 run: 1, Kayla Christopherson (LP) 12:12.76; 4, Abby Smith (BP) 14:28.95; 5, Asha Lighthizer (BP) 15:02.95.

1,600 relay: 1, GMLOKS (Beck, Jordyn Glynn, Bhend, Alstat) 4:32.94; Blooming Prairie (Wurst, Kittleson, Lea, Larson) 4:47.58.

High jump: 1, Queensland (GMLOKS) 4-10.

Pole vault: 1, Johnson (BP) 8-6; 3, Isabelle Sunde (BP) 6-0.

Long jump: 1, Buchholtz (GMLOKS) 16-9; 8, Johnson (BP) 14-0.5; 11, Braaten (BP) 12-0; 12, Lea (BP) 11-11.

Triple jump: 1, Jordyn Glynn (GMLOKS) 32-7.5; 3, Greta Sunde (BP) 28-8.5; 6, Megan Oswald (BP) 27-6.

Discus: 1, Greta Warmka (GMLOKS) 88-10; 2, Micalyn Trihus (BP) 85-11; 6, Virdi Villarreal (BP) 64-08; 9, Marquette Millam (BP) 56-08.

Shot put: 1, Trihus (BP) 32-05; 8, Anna Pauly (BP) 42-11.5; 9, Villarreal (BP) 23-5.

SOFTBALL

Youthful Tigers learning on the fly

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Medford softball have won two of its past three game after starting the season with five straight losses.

Medford (2-6, 1-5 Gopher Conference) defeated Faribault Bethlehem Academy (2-8, 2-7 Gopher Conference) at home on Monday and lost at Hayfield (6-5, 5-4) on Friday. The Tigers won 7-6 against the Cardinals and fell 13-5 to Vikings.

"Our girls have been doing a great job offensively, putting the ball on play, with getting over 12 hits in the last few games," Medford head coach Amy Hanzlicek said. "We have made a few changes in the lineup and our younger girls have really started to play more aggressively. We have also been focusing on our mental game right out the gate, as our first couple innings is where we have been making costly, fundamental errors defensively."

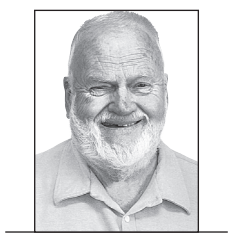
Hanzlicek said juniors Jordyn Stadler and Izzy Reuvers have maintained a solid infield defensively and continued to be the leaders for all younger players on the team, and Julia Niles and Lily Roehrick have been consistent offensively and continue to rack up the RBIs.

"We have some tough games ahead of us this week," Hanzlicek said. "We will continue to practice, work hard and play harder."

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Medford's Journey Anderst makes a catch against NRHEG at the Austin Dome.

THE WEEK IN SPORTS



Outside the Lines
LEMAR NELSON

Weather cooperated again last week to the extent that both the baseball and softball teams were able to get a couple of games in.

Actually, the softball and baseball teams had a bit of a reversal of fortunes with the softball team winning two and losing one, and the baseball team winning one and losing two.

It is refreshing to find all the teams able to compete and the season marches along quite rapidly now to the playoffs in two weeks. I know that the track team and the golf team have also competed, but my coverage of them has been very limited this year.

With prom now past, teams can focus on competition and it will be a quick pace until school ends the first part of June. I do know that the Blossom golf team competed in a conference meet on the home course last week and were able to finish fourth of the teams participating.

PROM PAST

The local high school was fortunate this year in that they had relatively nice weather for their Prom.

I imagine that a number of high school staff members and parents were relieved that things turned out okay and that everyone seemed to have a good time with no problems to mar the festivities.

I recall in days past when prom weekend was always one of the most stressful weekends for those of us on the school staff.

Coming to school on Monday with no incidents to report always made everyone feel a lot better.

Hard to believe that a couple of weeks ago, neighboring schools had to contend with snowstorms for their prom dates.

That unseasonable weather added to the stress for the many teenagers driving here and there to celebrate the occasion. Anyway, another Prom has passed by without incident.

VOLGARINO INTERVIEWED

Todd Walkingstick had an interesting interview with our softball coach Jenna Volgarino in last week's Owatonna Live Broadcast.

Volgarino relived the thrill of winning the state softball tournament as a player after advancing to those playoffs four years straight.

It was a memory that Volgarino will never forget.

Now Volgarino is coaching the girls that she played with just a few years ago, and so far it has been an interesting time for her.

She told Walkingstick that she is learning a lot as a coach and has been satisfied with the progress that the team has made.

The segment interested viewers in the Blooming Prairie area a great deal.

WHAT'S UP

Some interesting events are on the schedule in the next month or so. Blooming Prairie High School held their annual awards night program last night, and as has been the case in the past few years, a huge amount of money in the form of scholarships was presented to the various students.

Several students were also honored with various awards such as the Citizenship Award, Male and Female Athletes of the Year Awards and Music Accomplishments. Although that program is usually not attended by many more than parents, I think it is a valuable part of the high school curriculum and it probably should get a little more attention than it does.

We should make academics just as important as we do the other activities, such as athletics and the arts.

Sunday, May 12, has scheduled the annual citywide garage sale, and it would be a great attraction if the weather would be as nice for that as it has been in the last couple of weeks.

That sale has always been prone to a rainy day and it would be great to avoid that occasion for once.

Besides the citywide garage sale, May 12 is also Mother's Day.

Although we should celebrate our mothers every day, it is at least gratifying to note that one day in the year mothers get a special time for honoring.

IN THE FUTURE

I have mentioned a couple of times already that plans are well underway for the July 4 festivities and the big old-fashioned celebration. As chamber representative Becky Noble has indicated a couple of times, if there is any group that would like to sponsor a game on that occasion to earn some funds for a specific purpose, they would be welcome to.

Then, after the 4 of July, a lot of local golfers will be preparing for the annual Golf Fun Day on July 18.

I mention it each week because it is one of the main fundraising projects of the local Chamber of Commerce, and the chamber depends upon the participation of residents to make it a success.

It is a time when there is a theme and some local residents spend a great deal of time making costumes appropriate for the occasion.

MOVIE NIGHT

A flash from the past occurred Monday night, April 29, when my family and friends got together for movie night and watched the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella.

Having stars from the 1977 high school cast made the occasion a very fun time and several of the viewers were able to sing along and do the dances during the movie.

My own daughter, Teri, and her friend Renae Christianson, played the parts of the ugly stepsisters while Jay Christianson was Prince Charming.

Having all three of them singing and acting provided entertainment for the rest of us.

Last night the group watched The Music Man, the popular movie which starred Robert Preston and Shirley Jones.

Enjoy this continuing spring weather, root for the Blossoms, and we will talk again.

AUTO RACING

Chateau Speedway postponed season opener due to weather

SUBMITTED BY MYRON GRAGE

Unfortunately weather concerns have postponed the 2019 season opening at Chateau Speedway.

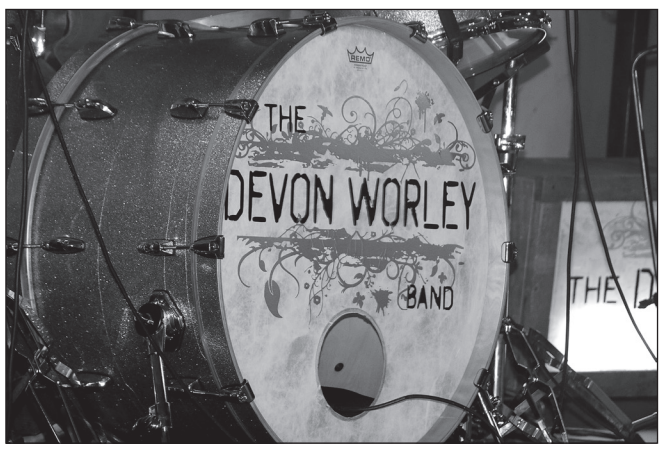
A wet snowy spring had the track behind schedule on the upgrades to the facility, but plans were to still open on time with Test and Tune and the first race on May 3.

However, the snow and rain along with a wet forecast for much of the past week made it obvious the Test and Tune was not going to happen and completion of other upgrades was not likely to be done in time for Friday. Not the least of these upgrades is the repairs to the fence in front of the grandstand. Fans may recall the fence was not straight and jutted in and out in front of the fans.

Much of the fence was taken down this spring and new posts have been put in but the wet weather has prevented the reinstalling of the fencing and the restraining cables. With the wet weather preventing that work cars not be on the Speedway for obvious insurance and safety reasons.

Chateau Speedway will now host a Test and Tune on Tuesday, May 7 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Pit admission will be $30 per car (including driver and pit crew).

A FULL WEEKEND OF FUN AT CORKY'S TOURNAMENT



DEITZ: *Begins Friday*

FROM B4

really starting to grow and he used the social media platform to attract teams from virtually every corner of the country.

"First the tournament grew from a Minnesota tournament to a Midwestern tournament," he said. "Then we started getting teams from even Florida, California, New York. We started to see the best teams from all over the country coming to the Corky's Tournament and it just explode from there.

Deitz said the tournament's famous pork burgers haven't hurt either.

"It's a food staple and I'll heard people say they traveled 2,000 for one," Deitz said. "Which is kind of crazy, but it does help. Everything around it: the competition, the food that we provide and just the atmosphere has led the growth of Corky's Early Bird Tournament."

Not only is the tournament good for area businesses, but the tournament also donates close to $50,000 a year back to community.

This year the tournament plans to donate to We All Play-Owatonna.

"It's a group that it trying to get a inclusive playground and miracle baseball field built," Deitz said. "It's a hard surface playground that is a safe environment for children with special needs. It would give kids in wheelchair and with other disabilities the opportunity to play our great games of baseball and softball.

"I also challenge Owatonna businesses to match of $25,000 donation and a number of them did. Hopefully they can get that project done in the next year or two."

Deitz said also presented a commemorative bat with Corky's 40th anniversary logo from Carl Pegnatori.

Pegnatori is the owner of Monsta Athletics, a bat manufacturer in Calimesa, California, and the manager of the Monsta Athletics Black Sheeps, which were the champions of the Open Division at the tournament.

"in 2015, i put together a team to represent my company," Pegnatori said. "The first two games the crowd was pretty rough on us. The first two games the crowd was pretty rough on us, but by the end of the tournament we loved you guys and you loved us back and we have been coming back ever since.

"Every year we come here its great," he continued. "The people really take care of us when we get here and we play against some great competition."

Pegnatori said before he started his business he also ran tournaments.

"But not 200 team tournaments, more like 12 teams tournaments," he said. "If you have not directed a tournament, you don't know what it is like. Some people think it is all fun, but for a lot of these guys it's not fun if they don't win. So they take it pretty serious and it can be a lot to deal with all of the challenges that come along with that. It's a lot of work.

"Thank you very much for all the hard work you do," Pegnatori concluded."I appreciate it and as long as you will have us, we will come back every year and do our best to help make it a good event."

LACROSSE: *JV wins*

FROM B4

"The players worked hard and put themselves in good position but the Mayo goalie played really well and made some big saves against us."

Wall, Wondra, Oland and Kubicek each scored a goal, and Brandt had an assist and won 9-of-14 faceoffs.

Stricklin made 10 saves for the second game in a row.

"Korban [Stricklin] had a good game in net, again, and our defense played solid as well. A few of the goals were when we were man down."

ON A POSITIVE NOTE

The Owatonna junior varsity team defeated Rochester Mayo 17-4 and improved to 5-0 this season.

Austin Mundt, Wyatt Oldefendt and Lucas Jensen each had a hat trick in the blowout victory.

BP SOFTBALL: *Blanks K-W*

FROM B4

costly errors that led to USC scoring runs.

The Blossoms had three runs on six hits and committed three errors.

BP had six different players record a hit. Snider, Maggie Bruns, Bobbie Bruns and Macy Lembke and Worke Snider, Worke and Bobbie Bruns scored runs. Krohnberg and Worke had a steal, and Macy Lembke had an RBI.

Snider, Maggie Bruns, Forystek and Worke were each walked once.

BLOSSOMS SHUTOUT KNIGHTS

Bishop pitched a gem against Kenyon-Wanamingo (0-8, 0-5 Hiwatha Valley Conference) on Tuesday, April 30 as the Awesome Blossoms defeated the Knights, 6-0, at Kenyon-Wanamingo Elementary School.

She scattering six hits and had 10 strikeouts.

BP scored its five runs on nine hits. Despite no runs, Kenyon-Wanamingo managed six hits. The Blossoms committed a single error, while the Knights had a pair.

Maya Lembke had four hits in the game, and Snider added two hits and a run.

Maggie Bruns, Maren Forystek and Krohnberg all also contributed hits in the game.

NRHEG SOFTBALL: *Panthers rout USC*

FROM B4

"We were ahead 6-1 going into the sixth inning," Schultz said. "Maple River was able to string together some hits to score four runs. In the seventh inning Maple River had a runner on second base with one out, but Sarah Johns struck out the last two batters to end the game."

Schultz, Kyllo and Paige Knudson each had two hits, while Arndt, Madison Knudson and Stork had a hit each.

NRHEG EARNS DECISIVE WIN OVER USC

NRHEG began the week with a convincing 9-2 win over USC.

Stork took the victory in the circle, scattering six hits and allowing just one earned run in six innings.

Johns earned another save after finishing the final inning.

Johns and Kyllo each had two hits to lead the offense and Paige Knudson scored two runs in the game.

NRHEG scored three times in the fourth inning, four times in the fifth and one run in each of the final two innings. USC scored one in the first and one in the third.

"This was a good win for us," Schultz. "We started out slow but were able to get hits later in the game when they really counted. It was the start of a very good week. Sarah Johns had a great game offensively going 2-for-3 and hitting a double and a home run, and Sidney Schultz made a big defensive play when we needed it snagging a line drive at third base and throwing the runner out at first for a double play."

Johns scored three runs and had a single RBI; Arndt scored a run and had a RBI; Schultz had a RBI and a stolen base; Alexis Anderson and Stork each had two RBIs; Stork also scored a run; Paige Knudson scored two runs and stole two bases; Madison Knudson scored a run and Kyllo had a stolen base.

MEDFORD AND NRHEG Prom 2019

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM AGRIMSON

NRHEG's girls show off their prom dresses.

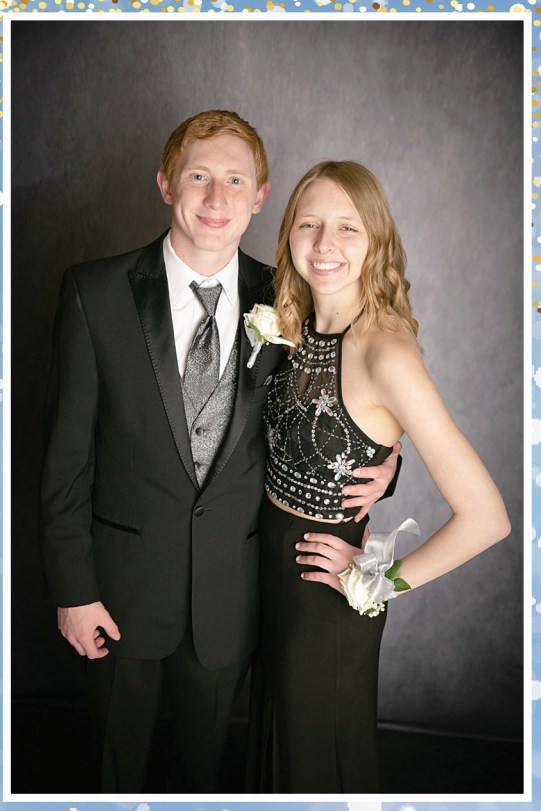


PHOTO COURTESY OF KLIK PHOTOGRAPHY

Medford students Parker Bahnsen and Taylore Keppers stand for a photo during the Tigers' 2019 Prom.

PHOTO BY CHLOE BLOW PHOTOGRAPHY

Medford students Conrad Blome and Logan Keppers dressed as characters from the cult classic Dumb & Dummer. They rode to prom on their moped like they do in the movie to find Mary, and they were named cutest couple.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM AGRIMSON

NRHEG's Olivia Christopherson, Courtney Claassen, Caty Nelson, Laura Worrell, Lexie Ignaszewski, Jacob Schuller, Tyler Jacobson, Alex Buckmeier, Brady Agrimson and Griffin Gonzalez stand for a prom before the Panthers 2019 prom.

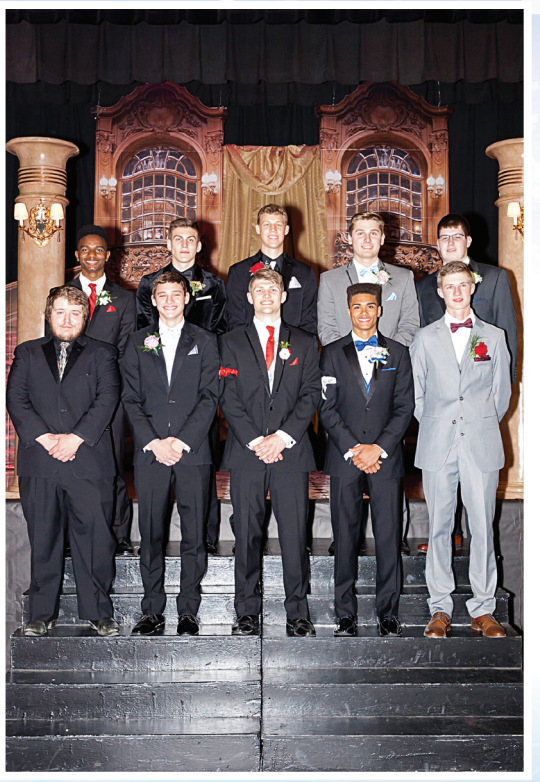


PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM AGRIMSON

NRHEG boys dress to impress during the school's 2019 Prom.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM AGRIMSON

NRHEG's Brady Agrimson and Cierra Schumacher pose for photo during the Panthers' 2019 Prom.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM AGRIMSON

NRHEG's girls show off their prom dresses.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM AGRIMSON

NRHEG boys dress to impress during the school's 2019 Prom.

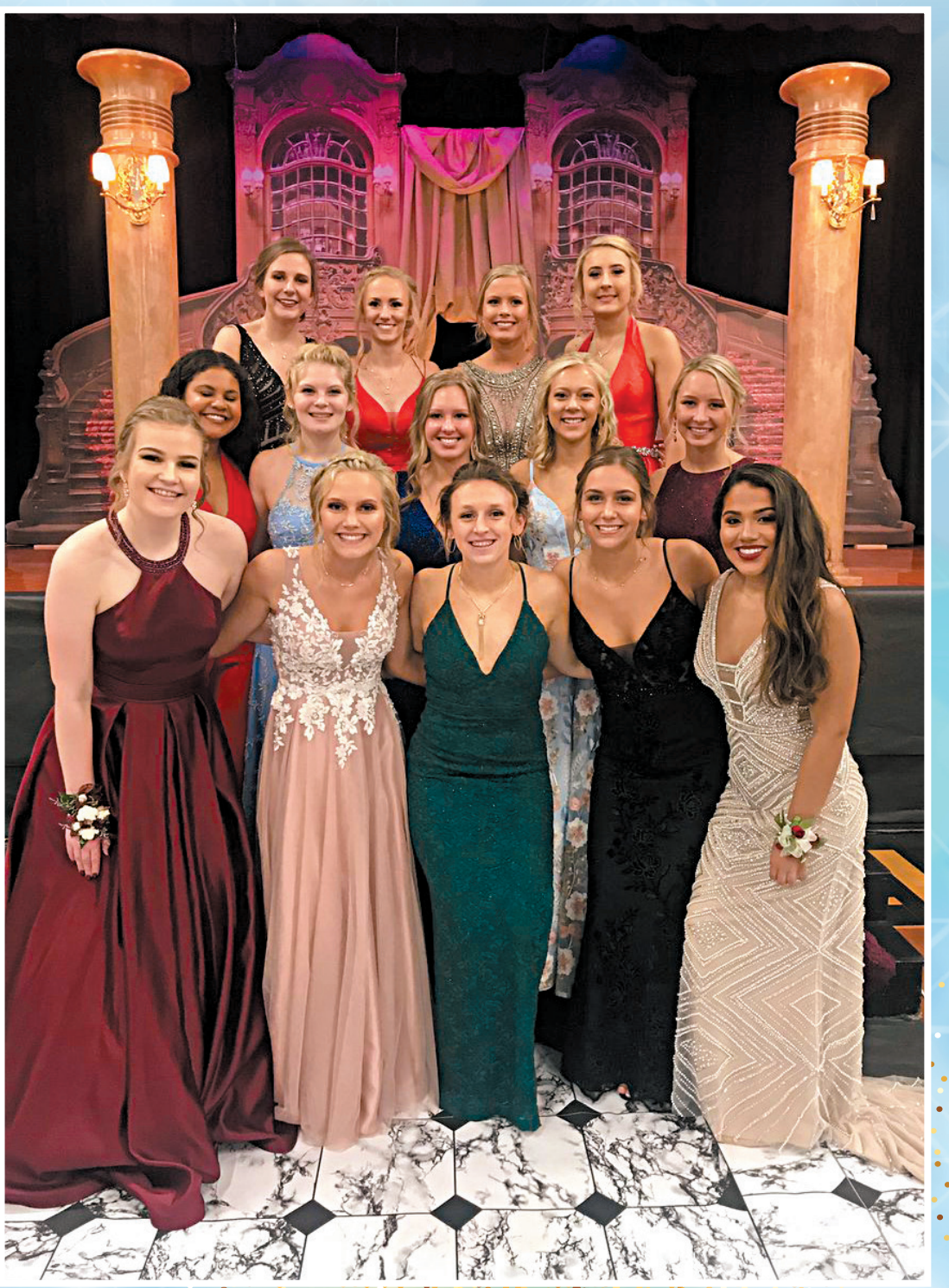


PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM AGRIMSON

NRHEG's girls show off their prom dresses.

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: March 20, 2008
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $103,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Larry M. Jarvis, single person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 25, 2008 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 15747 as Document Number T000062717 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All that part of Lot 2 in Block 1 in Luedtke Addition to the City of Owatonna described as follows: Beginning at a point in the line between said Lot 2 and Lot 3 in said Block 1 in the Westerly line of Maple Drive (formerly Larch street); thence Southerly along the Westerly line of said Maple Drive 7 feet; thence Westerly parallel to and with the line between said Lots 2 and 3 approximately 85 feet to a point in the center line of Maple Creek as shown by the plat on file; thence Northerly along the said center line of Maple Creek to the line between said Lots 2 and 3, and thence Easterly along the line between said Lots 2 and 3, 86.19 feet to the place of beginning.
Also all of Lot 3 in Block 1 in Luedtke Addition to the City of Owatonna, excepting therefrom the following: Beginning at a point in the line between said 3 and Lot 4 in said Block 1 in the Westerly line of Maple Drive (formerly Larch Street); thence Southerly along the Westerly line of said Maple Drive 12 feet; thence Westerly parallel to and with the line between said Lots 3 and 4 approximately 107.62 feet to a point in the center line of Maple Creek as shown by the plat on file; thence Northerly along the said center line of Maple Creek to the line between said Lots 3 and 4; and thence Easterly along the line between Lots 3 and 4, 110.86 feet to the place of beginning.
All the above described real estate is conveyed subject to and together with all riparian rights.
REGISTERED PROPERTY
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 510 MAPLE DRIVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-1967
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $68,139.24
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-150-0103
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: June 11, 2019 at 10:00 AM.
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.
to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of sale.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on June 11, 2020.

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 16, 2019

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/
***N. Kibongni Fondungallah,** Esq.*
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(19-0350-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

4/23, 4/30, 5/7
5/14, 5/21, 5/28

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: October 24, 2012
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $112,930.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Anthony B. Decristofaro, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on October 26, 2012 as Document Number A000387582 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 13, Block 1, Ray Nell Addition, Owatonna, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1915 BIGELOW AVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $72,005.09
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-259-0113
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: June 25, 2019 at 10:00 AM.
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.
to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of sale.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on June 25, 2020.
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 29, 2019

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(19-0393-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

4/30, 5/7,5/14
5/21/5/28,6/4

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: CIVIL OTHER/ MISCELLANEOUS

Case No.: 74-CV-19-507

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.,

Plaintiff

vs.

LORI NELSON, solely in her capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Craig Steven Olson, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF
CRAIG STEVEN OLSON,
JOHN DOE and MARY ROE,

Defendants.

THIS SUMMONS IS DIRECTED TO THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CRAIG STEVEN OLSON AND THE OCCUPANT(S) OF 716 S OAK AVENUE, OWATONNA, MINNESOTA.

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: Trott Law, P.C., 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:

The North 4 rods of the East 16 rods of the South 1/2 of Lot 18 in the North East 1/4 of section 16 in Township 107 North, of Range 20 West.
REGISTERED PROPERTY

The object of said action is to obtain a court order nunc pro tunc pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 555.01 to reform the legal description of the subject property in warranty deed Document No. 269719; Plaintiff's mortgage Document No. A000358263, both filed with the Steele County Recorder's Office; and declaring that Plaintiff's mortgage is a valid, first mortgage lien on the subject property.,

TROTT LAW, P.C.

Dated: April 19, 2019

By:
/s/ Samuel R. Coleman
Samuel R. Coleman (#389839)
Attorney for Plaintiff
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
Telephone: (651) 209-9785
samuel@theacademylawgroup.com
(19-0148-LIT02)

4/30, 5/7, 5/14

NOTICE

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: September 11, 2015
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $112,930.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Cory Stucky an unmarried man
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, Ltd., a Texas entity
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on October 2, 2015 as Document Number A000404445 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Pingora Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on July 30, 2018 as Document Number A000419422 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 4, Block 4, Original Townsite of the Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 119 2ND ST NE, BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN 55917
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $111,899.16
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Envoy Mortgage, Ltd., a Texas entity
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Flagstar Bank
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-100-0404
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100273872511022451
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: April 30, 2019 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 October 30, 2019.

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: March 6, 2019

PINGORA LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(19-0081-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the mortgage foreclosure sale referred to in the foregoing Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale has been postponed to:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 30, 2019 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota
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 January 30, 2020.

Dated: May 3, 2019

PINGORA LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Mortgagee

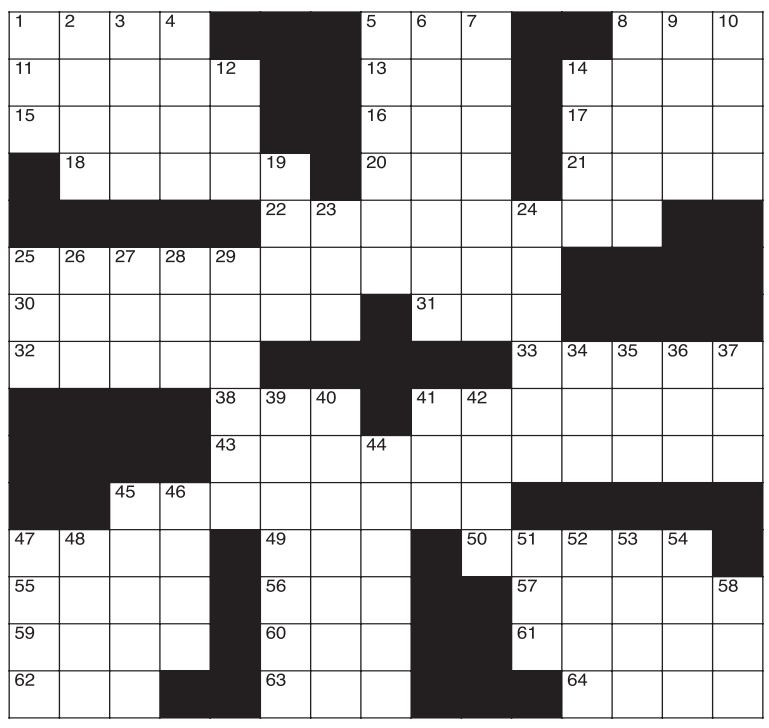
TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(19-0081-FC01)

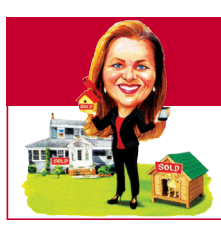
5/7, 5/14, 5/21
5/28, 6/4, 6/11

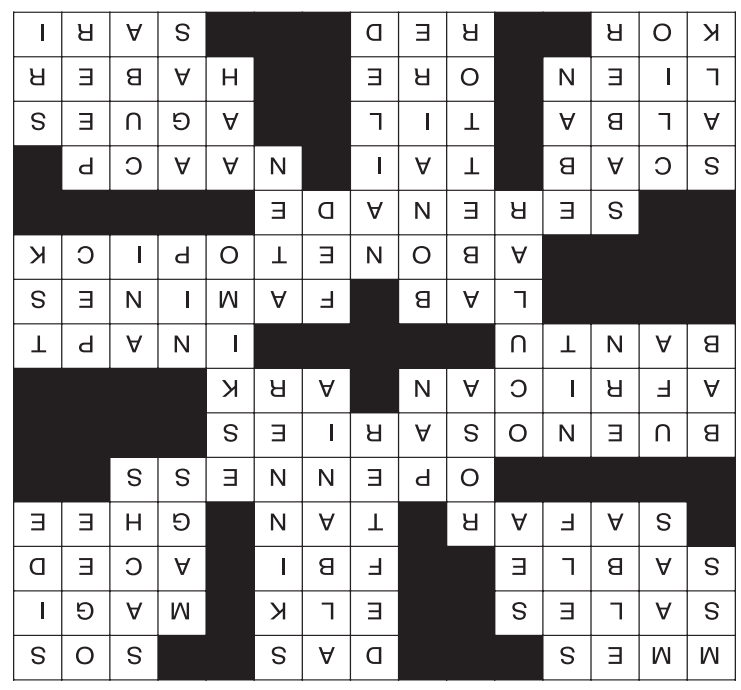
CLUES ACROSS
1. Women (French)
5. Hyrax
8. Distress signal
11. Trade
13. Large northern deer
14. The 3 Wise Men
15. Marten of N Asian forests
16. Hoover's agency
17. Received an A
18. 2nd Islamic month
20. Light brown
21. Clarified butter used in Indian cookery
22. Frankness
25. Argentina's capital
30. Citizen of Kenya or Zimbabwe
31. Noah's boat
32. Family of languages in So. Africa
33. Inappropriate
38. Scientific workplace
41. Hungriness
43. Say to talk about an annoying topic
45. Sing and play for somebody
47. Strike buster
49. A citizen of Thailand
50. Civil Rights group
55. Honest Company's Jessica
56. '__ death do us part
57. Malarias
59. Claim against another's property



60. Mined metal-bearing mineral
61. Dashery
62. Capacity unit
63. Primary color
64. Indian dress

CLUES DOWN
1. Manuscripts (abbr.)
2. Netherlands river
3. Italian island
4. One's own being
5. More adroit
6. Balkan country
7. Psychologist B.F.
8. Investment group Goldman
9. Double curve
10. The plane of a figure
12. Ocean
14. Public presses
19. Civil Rights activist Parks
23. Cooking container
24. Arctic native
25. Founder of Babism
26. Bashkortostan capital
27. Bulky grayish-brown eagle
28. Louse egg
29. About sight
34. ___/Tuck: TV drama
35. Black tropical American cuckoo
36. Chest muscle (slang)
37. Expression of disappointment
39. One who assists
40. Antilles island
41. Served food
42. Egyptian Sun god
44. Performed successfully
45. Cavalry-sword
46. Abba __, Israeli politician
47. Jonas __, cured polio
48. The Muse of history
51. Express pleasure
52. Turkish leader titles
53. Castro country
54. Nobleman
58. ___ Lanka


Let's get you movin'!
Licensed in Minnesota
Serving Serving Steele, Dodge, Mower and Freeborn counties, including Rochester, Byron, Kasson and Owatonna.
KELLERWILLIAMS PREMIER REALTY MLS
Jennifer Walsh
507-438-6676
email: jenwalsh@kw.com
web: jenwalsh.kw.com



DEALS ON WHEELS
Sell your car, bike, RV, trailer, and anything on wheels today!!

CLASSIFIEDS

BARGAIN FINDER
Sell your items for $50 or less. Run it for four weeks. ONLY $5!

Over 25,000 in households | *Serving Steele, Mower, Freeborn, Dodge, and Olmsted Counties* | *www.steeledodgenews.com*

TO PLACE AN AD
Steele County Times
507-583-4431
bptimes@frontiernet.net
411 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

3-WEEK SPECIAL: $32
BUY TWO WEEKS, GET THE THIRD FREE
UP TO 20 WORDS; 10¢ FOR EACH WORD AFTER

TO PLACE AN AD
Dodge County Independent
Dodge County Advantage
507-634-7503 • dci@kmtel.com
121 W. Main St., Kasson, MN 55944

NOTICE

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756 BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 55917 MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019 HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER

PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGENDA

6:00 a.m.
Thursday, May 16, 2019
Regular School Board Work Session –High School Board Room
7:00 p.m.
Monday, May 20, 2019
Open Public Forum–High School Media Center
7:15 p.m.
Monday, May 20, 2019 Regular School Board Meeting–High School Media Center

Any person may raise a question to the School Board. The Board will not act on any item presented to them, which is not on the agenda, until the following Board meeting. Also, the Board would like persons to limit themselves to five minutes, with a maximum of 15 minutes per topic. These limitations are needed for us to run a timely and orderly Board meeting. Persons are requested to identify themselves prior to speaking.

I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL – CLERK

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED

A. Consent Agenda
Minutes
Bills
Treasurer's Report
Resignation
Donations
B. Employment
C. Elementary Principal's Contract
D. Volunteer Coaches
E. Transportation Contract
F. Budget Revision 2018-19
G. Election Status/Timelines

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY
A. Committee Reports
B. Enrollment Data
C. Dates to Note

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

*Agenda may be subject to changes

5/7

NOTICE

Proposed

City of Blooming Prairie
City Council Meeting Agenda
May 13, 2019

7:00 P.M. City Council Meeting

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Agenda
1.Approval of Agenda
2.Approval of Minutes of April 15, 2019 – Regular City Council Meeting
3.Approval of Minutes of April 29, 2019 – Special City Council Meeting
4.Special Event Permit – Youth Club – Rib Fest – Road Closure – 6/22/19
5.Approval of Liquor Licenses and Fees for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Financial Report
Committee/Commission Reports
1.B.P. Public Utilities
2.B.P. Economic Development Authority
3.B.P. Planning & Zoning
4.B.P. Fire Commission
5.B.P. Police Commission
6.B.P. Ambulance Commission

Business
1.Arkema - Discharge Process Stream Update Request
2.Resolution Accepting Donation from Chamber of Commerce
3.

City Administrator's Report
1.SHIP Grant – Water Fountain/Bottle Filling Station
2.SHIP – Study Session (e-cigarettes, vaping and T21)
3.2019 Street Improvement Update

City Attorney's Report

Council Members' Reports

Adjourn

Agenda is Subject to Change

5/7

FOR RENT

2 BD ~ CLAREMONT Open May! Rent from $555 p/mo + elec. Month to month leases and deposit pay plans. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity Wk 20,21,22,23

HAYFIELD-FOR RENT- Great Western Apartments. Large 1 bedroom apartment, includes all utilities, laundry onsite. Available NO. Must have proof of employment, call (507)796-0152 or (701)330-9788. (wk 21-23 chg)

KASSON 1 BD APT for 62+ or disabled persons. Smoke free, month to month leases & Deposit payment plans. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestlyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity. (wk 21,22,23,24 chg)

EMPLOYMENT

BARTENDERS SERVING & KITCHEN Staff Wanted! Experience not necessary but pay is based on experience. Apply directly at the Hubbell House 502 N Main St Mantorville, MN 507-635-8997 wk. 18,19,20 pd

THE DODGE CENTER LIBRARY is looking for a part-time Library Aide to assist with shelving, processing, and service to the public. Applicants must have a high school diploma, enjoy working with people, be tech savvy, and able to multi-task. Some evenings and weekend hours. Previous library or customer service experience preferred. Applications available at the library's website dodgecenter.lib.mn.us or at Dodge Center City Hall. Send cover letter, resume, and application to dc_dir@selco.info or mail to PO Box 430, Dodge Center MN 55927. For more information contact Ingvild Herfindahl at 507-374-2275. WK 19,20,21

ROCK PICKING 1.5 miles South of Kasson. Jr. high to Adults, flexible hours. If interested please call Joe at 507-273-9678 (20,21,22 pd)

FIELD ROCKS FOR SALE. $20 per load, south of Kasson. You load. Call 507-273-9678 (pd 20,21,22)

NRHEG Full Time Secondary Custodian

Interested candidates should submit letter of interest, resume, transcripts/credentials, references, and application, which can be found at http://nrheg.k12.mn.us/pages/NRHEG to:

David Bunn, Secondary School Principal
NRHEG Public Schools
306 Ash Avenue South
New Richland, MN 56072
dbunn@nrheg.k12.mn.us

Full job description on NRHEG website

Place your employment ads with us. Call 507-319-1549 and ask for Annie

BARGAIN HUNTER

LIGHT BROWN OVER STUFFED love seat, like new-didn't use. Purchased at Fleet Farm $200. Selling for $50 Also, a side chair for $10 If interested please call 507-583-2904 (pd 18,19,20,21)

LAND FOR RENT

DAVID AND PAUL STANTON FARMS are looking to expand existing corn and soybean operations in Hayfield and surrounding areas. Call Paul Stanton at 507-951-0914 or David Stanton at 507-951-0915 (51 chg tfn)

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Resident Assistant
- FT & PT 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- PT 4:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- FT & PT 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.
- FT &PT 10 p.m. - 6 a.m.

Dining Assistant
- PT 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Cook
- FT 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Prairie Meadows SENIOR LIVING

Apply at: 800 5th Ave. NW, Kasson, MN • EOE

BUS DRIVERS

Semcac's Rolling Hills Transit, is looking for **Full-Time and Part-Time bus drivers** for their Kasson service area.

Excellent benefit package including paid holidays, vacation, and sick leave. CDL License with passenger endorsement required, or we will help train for it.

More information & application available at **www.semcac.org,** or by contacting Barb Thompson at 507-864-8202 or barb.thompson@semcac.org.

Position open until filled. E.O.E.

FOR SALE

PIANOS, DIGITAL PIANOS, Rodgers Church Organs - New, Used, Sales & Service - Call DEWEY KRUGER MUSIC, Northwood, Iowa, 800-933-5830, deweykrugermusic.com

JOHN DEERE 4430 TRACTOR WITH 5560 hours, 1 owner. John Deere 8285R Tractor with 135 hours and a John Deere 980 30' Field Cultivator. Excellent shape. Retired Farmer. Call 641-425-9300

FOR SALE 14 Gallon Lawn Sprayer with wand-used very little. Asking $150.00 if interested please call Joe at 507-634-6673 (wk 21 pd)

WANTED

WANTED Alfalfa mix small bales for horses, no rain, Byron/Kasson area. Delivered, if possible. (wk 21,22,23 pd)

HELP WANTED

CDL driver, Class B, Route Driver

Need Class B license. Applicant must be personable, dependable and willing to go the extra mile for customers.

No phone calls please.

E-mail to skjevelandenterprises@msn.com.

SKJEVELAND ENTERPRISES

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Hairdresser Needed for Assisted Living

Salon Manager's License Required
Run your own business; 1-2days/week
Call Laura for more info 634-9500

Prairie Meadows SENIOR LIVING

Apply at: 800 5th Ave. NW, Kasson, MN • EOE

One persons bargin is anothers treasure!

BARGAIN finder

SELL IT HERE!

$5
Item must be priced $50 or less!
Runs for 4 weeks

Place your ad and reach over 25,000 households in Steele, Dodge, Olmsted, Mower and Freeborn counties.

Up to 20 words

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Bargain finder classifieds will run in four publications and covers 12 communities. You may cancel your advertisement when your item sells, however, there are no refunds for this special. **Call: 507-634-7503 or email: dci@kmtel.com and place your ad today. Must be prepaid prior to ad running.**

ADvantage DODGE COUNTY | STEELE COUNTY Times | DODGE COUNTY INDEPENDENT

FAWVER AGENCY
Multiple Listing Service REALTOR
609 West Oakland Ave, Austin
www.fawver.com

OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, MAY 11TH
10:30 am - 1:00 pm

13833 34TH AVE. SE
BLOOMING PRAIRIE

From Hwy 218: go West on Hwy 30 to 34th Ave. (5.3 miles), go North 1-mile, property on East side of road.

From I35: go East on Hwy 30 to 34th Ave (about 6-miles), go North 1-mile, property on East side of road.

PEACEFUL, QUIET SETTING

For this 4-year old, super insulated 3BR 2-bath home on rolling 3.7-acre site west of Blooming Prairie. Has nice convenient open floor plan, master bedroom suite, main floor laundry, lovely screen porch, patio & attached heated 4-stall garage. **$325,000. Come see listing #5034131 at our open house.**

433-1111
Multiple Listing Service REALTOR

Employment Opportunities

City of Ellendale has a fulltime City Clerk/Treasurer Position opening.

For full job description, please call the city office at **507-684-2681** or visit the city website at **www.ellendalemn.com** for details.

Position is open until filled, but priority will be given to applications received by 4:00 pm, Friday, May 17, 2019.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE PROM 2019

PHOTO COURTESY OF BP CHEER

Blooming Prairie's Emily Krampitz and Luke Rennie during the school's Grand March.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE RUDLONG

Blooming Prairie students Jacob Southworth, Baylee Sorensen, Zach Archer, Gracie Rudlong, Isaac Ille, Abby Braaten, Zach Weber, Emma Anderson, Gabe Hagen, Marti Snider, Carson Vigeland, Maren Forystek, Austin Behne and Julia Workepose for a photo before the Blossoms 2019 Prom.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CALISTA LEANNA LEMBKE

BP football players Payton Simon, Riley Millam, Collin Lerum, Seth Peterson, Trent Swenson, Ian Wayne and Tim Wolf stand for photo with Blossom head football coach Chad Gimbel.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE RUDLONG

Blooming Prairie's Gracie Rudlong and Zach Archer pose for a photo during the Blossoms' Grand March.

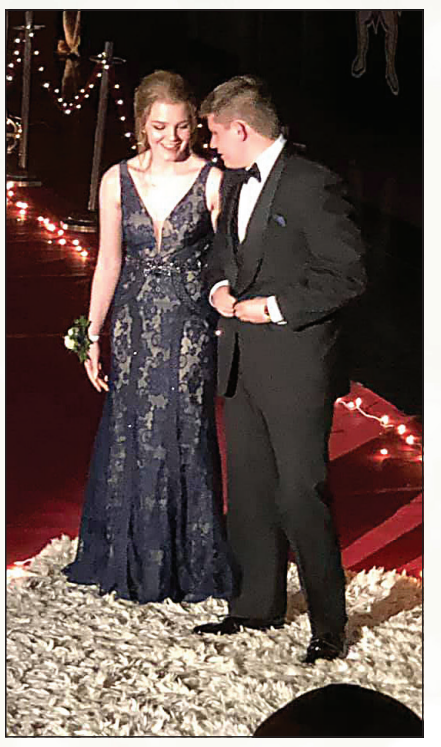


PHOTO COURTESY OF BP CHEER

Blooming Prairie's Alexuss Magnuson and Joey Meyer stop for a short conversation during the Blossoms Grand March.

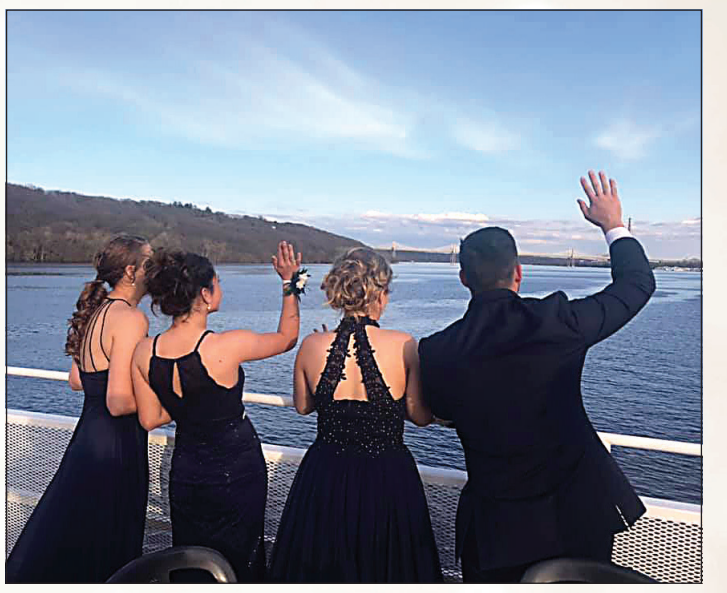


PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSIE CHRISTIANSON

Blooming Prairie student wave goodbye to the land as they set sail for their 2019 Prom.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BP CHEER

Blooming Prairie's Greta Sunde and Riley Millam during the school's Grand March on Saturday, May 4.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BP CHEER

Blooming Prairie's Jacob Southworth and Emma Anderson stand for photos during the school's Grand March.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSIE CHRISTIANSON

Blooming Prairie's Greta Sunde, Maggie Bruns, Taylor Wurst, Abby Braaten, Maren Forystek and Micalyn Trihus stand for photo during the Blossoms' 2019 Prom.