



VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

CORKY EBELING

Steele County Commissioner

• EXPERIENCE

• COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

• VISION

(8 years previously as county commissioner)

Prepared and paid for by Corky Ebeling, Owatonna, MN



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER
The Cox family of Owatonna enjoys a beautiful Sunday afternoon at the Johnson Apple Orchard in rural Ellendale. Casen Cox, 8, is ready to grab an apple while his brother, Sam, 5, and sister, Cora, 3, just enjoyed munching on some tasty apple sundaes with caramel. They found it was awesome to the core. The children came to the orchard with their mother Lindsay. See Hot Pursuit column on Page A2 for more details on Steele County's only orchard.

'It really wipes you out'

Steele commissioner's wife battles COVID-19

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Debra Gnemi is exhausted more than she has ever been in her life.

Since last week when she became hospitalized, Gnemi has been on oxygen 24/7 with a plastic tube sticking in her nose and receiving steroid treatments. She was diagnosed with COVID-19 on Sept. 21.

"It really wipes you out," Gnemi said from her hospital bed late last week. She is the wife of Steele County Commissioner Rick Gnemi. She expected to be in the hospital for at least five days with hopes of getting out on Tuesday after this edition went to press.

Gnemi, 65, went into the emergency room three or four

times with nausea, headaches, fever and an overall feeling of being tired. "The fever just goes on for days and days and days and days and days," she said. She describes the fever as a roller coaster where it comes and goes. She has found it to be "very erratic."

"It's very, very debilitating. It really does a number on you. There is no way to describe this," Gnemi said. Finally, on Oct. 1, she was admitted to the hospital when her oxygen levels started dropping.

While in the hospital, Gnemi undergoes an infusion once a day. She receives a shot in her stomach to keep her blood from clotting. The steroid medication is used to keep her lungs open. Doctors have been watching



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Debra Gnemi is shown with her three grandchildren. Gnemi is battling the coronavirus after being hospitalized last week in Owatonna.

her kidneys and liver closely for possible side effects. She is on bed rest, but doctors don't want her laying down all the time.

Gnemi is in an emotional prison of

sorts. She is in a room by herself, and she can't have any visitors. The nurses are suited up "just like you see on TV," she said.

SEE IT REALLY, A3

Senator arrested for DWI

BY RICK BUSSLER
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A state senator representing several area counties, including Steele, has been busted for drunken driving just weeks before the election.

Senator John Jasinski, was cited with fourth-degree DWI and DWI with a blood



SEE SENATOR ARRESTED, A11

John Jasinski

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SEE ATTORNEY CLAIMS, A14

New director aims to share nerdy excitement over history

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He specifically points to the historical structures being moved on sight in their original form at the village next to the History Center in Owatonna. "It's an incredible great resource," Hinrichsen says. "The fact that they

are the original structures is amazing," he said, noting that having such a set up is unusual for history centers around the country. And Hinrichsen should know. As he

SEE NEW DIRECTOR, A11



STAFF PHOTO
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It Doesn't Have To Be This Way...
Elect *Respectful, Accountable Leadership*
Vote Tom Shea 24a State Representative

Prepared and paid for by Elect Tom Shea 24a Committee, P.O. Box 187, Owatonna, MN 56001

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AREA DEATHS

David Swenson, 76, Albert Lea
Henry Winzenburg, 83, Owatonna

Serving
Blooming Prairie
and Steele County
since 1893



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Prepared
and paid for
by Corky
Ebeling,
Owatonna,
MN



Wednesday, October 7, 2020
www.SteeleCountyTimes.com
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

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OUR VIEW

A role not taken lightly

The immense challenges we have all dealt with this year clearly underscore the fact that America needs journalists and communities need their local newspapers.

In celebration of National Newspaper Week, we are sending out our newspaper to most residents in Steele County.

This is a great way for people to get to know us a little bit better.

We hope you will agree with us that this year more than ever America needs journalists, who can help you navigate through some rough times like the coronavirus pandemic. Newspapers are providing important local information to help you understand the scope of COVID-19, among many other issues taking place in our communities.

The Times has a unique relevance to Steele County. We are a community newspaper solely focused on publishing hometown news about your friends, neighbors and acquaintances. We provide a niche that is special to the residents of the county.

In this day of cell phones and iPads, people often find information quickly at their fingertips. But there are often many different versions of what happened online. As the cartoon suggests below, the local newspaper provides the whole story with accurate reporting.

Local journalists are the reason we have the information we need to make decisions about our lives and our leaders. Without their passionate dedication to newsgathering and superb storytelling, we would understand so little of the world around us.

In these dark times, we need inspiration in our lives. The most potent tool we have is the spotlight. Our newspaper routinely shines it on human-interest stories of ordinary people who do extraordinary things. We shine it on problems that need to be addressed and on solutions that ought to be considered. We also shine it on stories that are heartwarming and uplifting.

As we set aside this week to salute newspapers for the important role they have played in our nation, we offer a special deal to new readers so they can enjoy us every week and find out for themselves why newspapers are vital to society. (See offer on page A7.)

Yes, America needs journalists, and it is a role we don't take lightly.

BP administrator takes exception to editorial

Blooming Prairie City Administrator Andrew Langholz takes exception with a Steele County Times editorial stating that "the Blooming Prairie Council was in the wrong when Mayor Curt Esplan failed to vacate the chair before making a motion at a council meeting on Sept. 14."

Langholz said this procedure is not legally required.

The Times accepts the argument that it may not be legally required but maintains that this procedure of vacating the chair is commonplace in governmental and organizational meetings under Robert's Rules of Order. This is not law, however.

The Times also acknowledges the fact that the council in good faith is committed to abiding by the open meeting law.

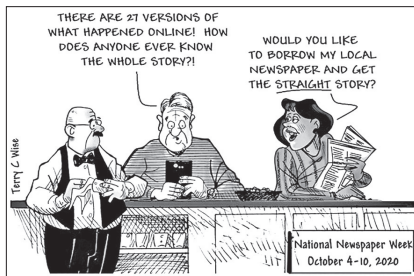
Evaluation of city employees is important and the public should be kept informed as to when a situation like this comes before the council.

The department head evaluated was Greg Skillestad, the city's police chief. The closed meeting on Sept. 14 was held to hear the appeal of Chief Skillestad's performance evaluation, written reprimand and performance improvement plan.

Open discussions on matters where The Times may have disagreed with the council's position are indeed healthy.

We applaud the council for airing out the issue.

We also apologize to Mayor Curt Esplan for an apparent misinterpretation of a meeting procedure.



YOUR VIEW

Shea would be great addition to state house

To the editor:

I want to endorse Tom Shea for state representative, District 24A.

I appreciate his stand on the issues, including on education, respect for science and gun safety. I appreciate his breadth of experience in public and private endeavors. You can read about those things on his website: <https://www.tomshea24a.com>.

But, more importantly, I appreciate his character. Tom has been a good friend to me, helping me in my career several times. He is a good friend in general. He likes people; he is very genial; he works well with others. He has a good sense of humor.

I trust him. He is honest and you never have to wonder what he's thinking.

I believe he'll represent our district's constituents — not his political party.

Because of all those qualities, I believe he will be a great addition to our Minnesota Legislature.

Please join me in voting for Tom!

And, most importantly, please vote! It is our right and responsibility as citizens.

Brenda Delhanty
Owatonna

Awesome to the core at Johnson's Orchard

A sign at the end of Gary and Judy Johnson's driveway perhaps captures it best. The sign reads: "Applelovers Lane."

If you love apples, the Johnson Apple Orchard in rural Steele County is the place to be.

For almost 30 years the Johnsons have been delighting area residents with fresh apples at their orchard in Lemond Township. They are back at it once again this fall as they are open Sunday afternoons. The orchard is a hidden gem tucked away in the lovely countryside between Owatonna and Elendale.

Gary says some of the apple varieties are smaller in size this year, which he finds some what puzzling given the ideal growing conditions this season. But, he stresses, what they lack in size, they more than make up for in taste.

It's almost comical what the Johnsons planned to do with the orchard. In the late 1980s, Gary planted his first apple trees and opened the orchard a few years later in the early 90s. "I thought this would be a good thing to get into when I retire," Gary said, noting the main driving force to start came because there were no other orchards in the county. And, now almost three decades later, the same is true.

Johnson's orchard remains the only apple haven in Steele County. The funny part is Gary, who is approaching 81, hasn't really ever retired. He's still snipping hair at the barber shop he sold a year ago in Owatonna, though he has cut back to about a day and a half a week.



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

He's been clipping away for 62 years, including 58 years at the same downtown shop.

The Johnson orchard swelled to around 900 trees a few years back, but they have scaled it back to about 500 now. "We're just trying to cut down," Gary says. "Too much for old people."

Every Sunday, Gary

pick them when they are ripe. That's why they are so tasty."

Gary's favorite is Fireside. "It's sweet and crunchy," he said. But, he quickly added, it's pretty hard to beat a Honeycrisp apple.

One thing is for sure the Johnsons do not plan to add any new varieties. "We're trying to cut down," he said. "This is a lot of work."

Despite the intensity of maintaining an orchard, the Johnsons love the end result. "It's rewarding to finally see your product come to maturity. Reap the harvest," Gary said.

As the Johnsons push into their 80s, they aren't sure how long this tradi-



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Sam Cox, 5, of Owatonna finds apples awesome to the core at the Johnson Apple Orchard in rural Steele County.

said, has been busy with people coming out wearing their masks and buying apples. Many sit around and enjoy apple sundaes topped with caramel, whipped cream, nuts and a cherry. "We enjoy Sunday afternoons visiting with people," said Gary. "It's really good for socializing. People come for the apple sundaes if nothing else."

The Johnsons sell 11 different kinds of apples. "We have many bushels," he said. "We

tion will continue. "Each year we say it's our last, but we go another year," Gary said. "Maybe we can get some help."

For now, the Johnsons will be open every Sunday afternoon until mid-November or until the apples run out. But Gary assured me that's unlikely to happen with the amount of apples they have.

Apple lovers can go in hot pursuit of finding apples awesome to the core at the Johnson orchard.

YOUR VIEW

Feigned outrage

To-the-Editor:

At the time of writing, Senator Jasinski is facing DUI and fourth-degree driving while impaired. Senator Jasinski's encounter with the law and subsequent charge is not the real issue. A fourth-degree DUI carries no mandatory consequence and there were no previous DUI offenses within the last 10 years. The county said he was released shortly after he was booked, according to the Star-Tribune. It takes 1-10 hours for alcohol dissipate from your system, depending on the concentration. Is the catch and release?

Senator Jasinski says he takes full responsibility and will wait for the court to sort it out. He regrets the consequences for his supporters and family are notable. But an expression of remorse is missing. As Assistant Majority Leader of the Senate, Janinski's conduct should be exemplary. Is the intent of the law to make the

roads safer or to feign justice?

There are several red lines for DUI. At 0.08% blood alcohol content (BAC) emotional instability, loss of critical judgment, impairment of memory and comprehension, decreased sensory response, mild muscular incoordination are exhibited. At 0.16% is the upper limit for a fourth-degree DUI, the person exhibits confusion, dizziness, exaggerated emotions (anger, fear, grief) impaired visual perception, decreased balance, staggering gait, slurred speech, moderate muscular incoordination. For someone under the age of 21, the alcohol level tolerated is 0%. A police officer must have another reason to stop someone for DUI and then establish if there is cause for an arrest.

Senator Jasinski is the Assistant Senate Majority Leader. When is the last time you heard of an important person spending the night in jail to dry out? Would it be the same for a person

of color or low-income? What is the difference between a 19-year-old and a 50-year-old driving with a BAC over 0.08%?

In countries where drunk driving is taken seriously, laws are simple and enforced. In France, the new law is simple. If you go through a check point (yes police can screen anyone) and have over 0.05% for experienced drivers and 0.02% for drivers with less than 3 years' experience, you have a choice. Over the next five years... A) Lose your driver's license or B) Have a device installed in your car so it will not start unless you have less than 0.02% BAC, at your expense which is about \$1,000. The law gets to the heart of the problem. Get drunk drivers off the road. But, then we are exceptional. Right?

Roger Steinkamp
DPL Senate Candidate
Faribault

For more letters to the editor, see page A5.

STEELE COUNTY Times

Founded in 1993
Bussler Publishing, Inc.
www.SteeleCountyTimes.com
Email: bptimes@frontiernet.net

USPS 058-340
Published weekly on
Wednesdays
Postmaster: Send
address changes to:

Steele County Times
P.O. Box 247
Bloomington, MN 55917
Phone: 507-583-4431

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
Office Assistant.....Sherrie Pechan
Staff Writer.....Howard Lestrud
County Writer.....Karen M. Jorgensen
County Writer.....Chris Baldwin

DEADLINES

News: Noon Fridays.
Web: 12 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	
2020—9 state awards 2019—7 state awards 2018—6 state and 3 national awards 2017—2 state and 3 national awards 2016—3 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 Association)	

Mayo to close down Blooming Prairie clinic

The medical clinic serving Blooming Prairie appears to be the latest victim of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Thursday, Mayo Clinic Health System announced that it will not renew lease agreements with the facilities in Blooming Prairie and Kenyon at the end of the year. In making the announcement, Mayo called it a "difficult decision."

The part-time clinics were open one to two days per week. They have been closed since March when the pandemic began, to ensure safety measures were met and to return staff to their main locations to meet higher patient demand. The staff will continue to work at their main locations; no positions will be eliminated, Mayo said in a statement.

Mayo is committed to patients and will continue to serve all ages in these communities by offering in-person visits five days per week in nearby Mayo Clinic Health System locations including Owatonna, Faribault, Austin, Cannon Falls and Zumbrota. In addition, convenient virtual care options will continue to be available. Patients may

also choose to schedule a video visit with their provider, via telemedicine, without leaving the comfort of home. Mayo Clinic Health System will continue to serve skilled nursing patients in these communities as part of a pilot program. As better virtual and mobile care tools become available, Mayo Clinic Health System is working to

find the right balance between in-person visits at our facilities and expanded access to more convenient virtual care. As always, the needs of patients come first as Mayo evaluates physical space needs and staffing resources in the communities it serves. "We are confident that we will be able to continue meeting patient needs across

the region through an innovative combination of virtual and in-person care access models," Mayo said. "We will continue to work closely with community leaders, local officials and our providers to ensure a smooth transition for all patients and ensure they continue to receive high-quality care, close to home."

Hy-Vee targets school health

Hy-Vee, Inc. announces that Hy-Vee KidsFit is launching a free, downloadable Wellness Week guide. The guide includes in-person, virtual and hybrid methods to help students prioritize healthy choices in school and at home.

This school year, Hy-Vee KidsFit is offering the free Wellness Week guide consisting of a downloadable toolkit that contains fun education-based activities, at-home assignments and challenges that encourage healthy lifestyles and physical exercise. The program is designed for students of all ages and abilities in an effort to connect school to home with family participation.

This fall, 50 schools across Hy-Vee's eight-state-region will host Hy-Vee KidsFit Wellness Week devoted to educating students about the importance of nutrition and fitness. Students will complete daily activities, physical challenges and assignments for the chance to earn prizes. Participating schools will receive:

- A \$250 Hy-Vee KidsFit health and wellness grant upon completion of program survey
 - Hy-Vee KidsFit cloth masks
 - Hy-Vee KidsFit hand sanitizer
- Schools will have the chance to win Fitbits, t-shirts and KidsFit All-Ability and Sensory Halfway Movement Break Kits to ease the hardships of physical activity for students with special needs and abilities.

"During these unique circumstances, Hy-Vee remains committed to building relationships with schools across its eight-state region," said Daira Driftmier, director of Hy-Vee KidsFit. "Hy-Vee KidsFit and its flexible school wellness program helps create positive, enjoyable experiences centered on health and wellness that students will remember for years to come."

Hy-Vee KidsFit is an at-home program that has promoted health, exercise and nutrition among kids and families since 2015. To learn more about Hy-Vee KidsFit Club or to receive a free downloadable wellness kit, visit hyveekidsfit.com. If you are a school representative who would like to register your school to participate, please email KidsFit@hy-vee.com.

Displaying COVID roadside



We didn't even know what COVID-19 was until earlier this year. Now, the coronavirus is a household word. When traveling to Bayfield, Wis. recently, we captured this COVID display on a side street.

COVID strikes another 30 people in Steele

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

About 30 cases have been added to the number of positive COVID-19 cases in Steele County, pushing the overall total to 589, Public Health Director Amy Caron reported Monday.

Of Steele County's cases, one person is hospitalized and 527 have recovered. The county remains at two deaths.

In Dodge County, there have been 26 new cases, bringing the total to 283 with no deaths and no hospitalizations. The recoveries are at 227.

Mower County has climbed to 1,370 cases with six deaths while Freeborn is at 559 cases and four deaths.

Case investigations in Steele County, Caron said, reveal that "six feet of social distancing is really important." The county completes trace investigations on every reported case to find out among other things how COVID is spread.

Caron fears that the county is getting COVID fatigued.

"They are lax on it and want to get back to normal life," she said. The best advice, she added, is to continue practicing social distancing and wear a mask.

Public Health has also found that the cases have involved people from young to old. "The ages have been all over the board," said Caron. "It's hard for us to make any connections and that indicates community spread."

As the temperatures get cooler, Caron worries about what that will mean to the overall COVID cases. "I worry about our winter months," she said. "The virus will spread more when we are indoors," she added.

Caron continues to praise the work of local school leaders. She said they let Public Health know right away when they have a case so that trace investigations can be done in a timely manner. "The schools are working wonderfully with us," she said. "This is helping to contain the spread in school."

Commissioner self quarantines as wife battles COVID

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Steele County Commissioner Rick Gnemi has been under quarantine at his home in Owatonna since his wife, Debra, tested positive for COVID-19 on Sept. 21.

Debra was initially battling the coronavirus at home prior to being hospitalized Oct. 1 when her oxygen levels dropped.

While at home, the Gnemis took extra precautions by having Debra living upstairs and Rick staying in the basement. The biggest issue they face is having one bathroom. "We have a disinfect bottle and spray down anything that we touch," Debra said. "We don't share dishes and we wash everything in bleach. We are washing our hands constantly."

Since Debra's positive test, Rick has been tested twice and

come back each time with negative results, according to Debra.

"It's hard for him to be under quarantine because he is in the middle of a campaign," said Debra.

Rick is making a bid to keep his seat on the

county board. He was first elected to the board in 2016.

The Gnemis also work out of their house as they operate an appraisal business. "All campaigning and appraising has come to a screeching halt," Debra said. "As active as he is, you can imagine how tough this is for Rick," she added.

As for the county business, Debra assures citizens he is attending meetings virtually through Zoom, though she says Rick struggles with technology. And it doesn't help that she has now been hospitalized. "He's doing his best," she said.

IT REALLY: wipes you out FROM AI

And the ordeal is playing mind games on Gnemi. "You feel all kinds of things. You're anxious and wondering how many people you gave it to without knowing," she says. "When you get sick, you immediately wonder who you gave it to because you don't want anybody to get sick."

On Friday, she was hospitalized and couldn't see Rick on his 69th birthday.

She has been helping her husband with his campaign to get re-elected to the county board. Gnemi also runs the office for the couple's appraisal business. "Everything comes to a screeching halt," she said.

Gnemi has taken on a whole new appreciation for the medical staff left to deal with the pandemic and care for COVID patients.

"I don't think people realize the danger they put themselves in every day," she said.

Further complicating things is that nobody really knows much about COVID. "It's very hard for the medical community to give you answers because they are in the dark just like anybody else," Gnemi says. "You can tell they feel helpless."

She shared frustration over how some people react to COVID. Out of respect

"It's very, very debilitating. It really does a number on you. There is no way to describe this."

Debra Gnemi
Suffering COVID-19

to people, she said her husband wore a mask while campaigning. Some were very put off by him wearing a mask. "We are living in very dangerous times right now," Gnemi said.

Gnemi isn't certain where she picked up COVID, but believes it may have resulted from getting together with a group of women at Hy-Vee on Sept. 15. They got together wearing their masks and practicing social distancing. The daughter of one of her friends in the group had been home and later tested positive for COVID.

"I don't know if I was exposed by her daughter," Gnemi related. "I could have been exposed by someone else. You just don't know. It's very strange," she added.

For now Gnemi is focused on her recovery, though she has no idea how long that may take. She has learned to be patient and to give it

in one week while others are dealing with it for 30-40 days. "COVID is one of those weird things," she said.

During this scary time, Gnemi has been thinking about her family, especially her three grandchildren, who are with a father after he died of brain cancer at 37 years old. Her grandchildren are 14, 11 and 9.

"I'm asking God if it's his will to get me through this and see my grandchildren again," Gnemi said. "You realize how little control you have in your life. This life we have here is temporary. It's in God's hands. He knows what he is going and you have to trust him."

After what she has been through over the past couple weeks, Gnemi has one piece of advice.

"Don't let anyone tell you this is a plain garden-variety flu because it's not," she said.

COVID-19 UPDATE			
World.....	35,300,000	Freeborn.....	559
Deaths.....	1,040,000	Deaths.....	4
Recovered.....	24,600,000	Recovered.....	4
U.S.	7,660,000	Mower.....	1,370
Deaths.....	214,000	Deaths.....	6
Recovered.....	4,880,000	Recovered.....	6
MN.....	104,000	Deaths.....	0
Deaths.....	2,083	Recovered.....	227
Recovered.....	94,416	Deaths.....	2
Steele.....	589	Dodge.....	283
Deaths.....	2	Deaths.....	0
Recovered.....	527	Recovered.....	227

AS OF OCT. 5, 2020

BLOTTER
SPOTLIGHT

BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT: At 12:18 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 1600 block of Cedar Ave. S.

Woman, son face felony charge over barking dog

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A barking dog turned into a little more bark than an Owatonna resident ever planned would happen.

Charlena Crawford, 43, of Owatonna has been charged with first-degree burglary after allegedly breaking into a residence and assaulting a person. In addition, Crawford's juvenile son also faces the same charge.

Owatonna Police responded to the 2700 block of 28th Street NW Sept. 29 around 9:30 a.m. Crawford reported to police that a man hit her in the head

with a black baton. She told officers that what started it all was her dog barking and that she was trying to kennel train him. Crawford said the neighbor went off on her about the dogs barking every morning.

During the incident, Crawford told police she and her son kicked the door in and told the neighbor he needed to leave, according to the criminal complaint.

Once Crawford got into the apartment, she fell onto the bed with



Charlena Crawford

the neighbor. Crawford's son then came over and began punching the neighbor.

Crawford told police that she thought it was appropriate to kick in the door to someone's apartment because the victim threatened to stab her son, the complaint said. She said they were yelling through the door until the door was kicked open. All the rooms in the complex are rented out separately.

Police found the victim had a lower lip split open from the

burglary. Officers also discovered a dead bolt and molding on the door was pulled away from the wall about two inches. Parts from the dead bolt were also laying inside the room next to the bed.

The victim told police that he yelled at the dog to shut up. He accused Crawford's son of threatening to beat him up. The son allegedly sent a group chat telling the victim, "I will stab you am sick of your threats."

If convicted, Crawford would face at least six months in jail and a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a \$35,000 fine.

CRIME BRIEF

Wanted man flees police



Shayne Bowers

A man wanted for several outstanding warrants took off running from police before finally being captured.

Owatonna Police arrested Shayne Bowers, 30, of Winona on Sept. 25 on six warrants and some new charges of fleeing police on foot and marijuana.

A detective spotted Bowers in the downtown area as police had been on the lookout for him recently. As patrol of-

ficers moved into the area, he began running and jumped a fence into the Alexander Lumber yard. Officers set

up a perimeter and found Bowers hiding behind a stack of dry-wall. Bowers claimed he had just ingested pills and illegal street drugs. He was transported to Owatonna Hospital.

After receiving medical treatment, Bowers became combative and was taken to jail.

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Sept. 21 with Judge Joseph A. Buetel presiding: Trid L. Mason, 30, Brainerd, previously appeared and was convicted of felony motor vehicle theft and misdemeanor DWI. Mason was sentenced to \$565, 66 days in county jail, 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. James C. Schmidt, 25, Fairbault, previously appeared and was convicted of felony burglary. He was sentenced to \$375, 33 days in county jail, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no contact with victim, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state and 3 years of supervised probation. The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Sept. 21 - 27:

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Domingo D. Deluna, 19, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, failure to yield and careless driving, \$425; Mitchell L. Johnson, 31, Fairbault, hands free violation, \$125; Tyler E. Roe, 26, Austin, expired tabs, \$105.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Michael E. Adelmann, 67, Prior Lake, speeding, \$115; Brooklyn Park, speeding, \$135; Austin L. Ahlbrecht, 26, Burnsville, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$145 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Lindsay E. Anderson, 19, Columbia, MO, speeding, \$125; Alyssa R. Barrientos, 28, Naperville, IL, seat belt, \$100; Brandon B. Blaszyk, 37, Andover, speeding, \$115; Johnathon R. Brand, 27, Cleveland, speeding,

\$115; Linda J. Cabasal, 54, Waseca, speeding, \$215; Edward W. Collins, 27, Brooklyn Center, speeding, \$215; Imanol R. De la Rosa, 22, Owatonna, speeding, \$115; Allen I. Esquivel, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$125; Jordi Herrera, 20, Prior Lake, speeding, \$275; Hunter J. Jensen, 18, Owatonna, open bottle and underage possession of alcohol, \$275; Christopher M. Johnson, 40, East Bethel, revoked license \$275; Nyoka S. Kazaneh, 19, Urbandale, IA, speeding and no license, \$235; Helena Kilbride, 37, Eden Prairie, speeding, \$125; Lemay L. Kodl, 41, Omaha, NE, speeding, \$125; Tabitha J. Kramer, 34, Dundas, speeding, \$215; Bryan K. Kuhns, 31, Moriortown, suspended license, \$275; Patrick Owusu Boampong, 38, Woodbury, speeding, \$115; Leon-Cristian Pop-Buia, 40, Vancouver, WA, move over law violation, stay of adjudication, \$145 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Knorred D. Pour, 37, Champlin, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$75 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Mustaf H. Rashid, 34, Rochester, speeding, \$145; Lucie E. Roust, 18, Queen Creek, AZ, speeding, \$125; Aislinn G. Tietz, 22, Farmington, speeding, \$125; Stephanie M. Urostegui, 25, Vadnais Heights, speeding, \$115; Donald K. Williams, 62, Stockport, IA, speeding, \$115.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Spencer C. Braemer, 27, Owatonna, DWI, \$150, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; Charles Brooks, 54, Owatonna, DWI, \$150, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; Madelin R. Bruessel, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$115; Jesus E.

Cantu, 46, Hartland, DWI, \$400; Tangelia R. Corral, 27, Lewisville, TX, invalid license, \$175; Ryan C. Cremons, 18, Blooming Prairie, minor consumption and underage possession of alcohol, \$275; Nathan-Adam Curiel Chavez, 18, Owatonna, assault, stay of adjudication, \$50, 3 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain and maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, psychological evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, cognitive skill training and 2 years of supervised probation; Talirica C. Einfeldt, 29, Owatonna, theft, \$175, no trespassing at Casey's and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Brooke M. Erler, 34, Owatonna, seat belt, \$100; Jovonne Espinoza, 20, Owatonna, invalid license, no insurance, \$575; Allen I. Esquivel, 20, Owatonna, seat belt, \$100; Robyn M. Hawkins, 43, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$175 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Lance M. Huston, 31, Owatonna, hands free violation, \$125; Tristan D. Langford, 20, Jamesville, theft, stay of adjudication, \$692, diversion program and 1 year of supervised probation; Zahra S. Mahamad, 32, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$125; Fatuma S. Mursel, 28, Owatonna, failure to signal and permit violation, \$175; Lorena G. Navarro, 44, Owatonna, suspended license, \$275; Miles S. Olson, 34, Pipestone, seat belt, \$100; Angela A. Padilla, 54, Owatonna, theft, stay of adjudication, diversion program and 1 year of supervised probation; Ashley D. Schandorff, 33, Pine Island, expired tabs, \$105; Anthony W. Schuler, 32, Medford, seat belt, \$100; Sierra T. Un, 29, Owatonna, DWI, \$150, 15 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; William H. Vornudun, 18, Medford, speeding, \$115.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jimale M. Abdi, 32, Owatonna, hands free violation, \$125; Abdirahman M. Ali, 43, Columbus, OH, speeding, \$135; Loida E. Aragon, 47, Owatonna, speeding, \$135; Jacob M. Borland, 26, Mankato, speeding, \$115; Joshua R. Chlan, 23, speeding, \$215; Braum J. Cremons, 21, Owatonna, terroristic threats, stay of adjudication, diversion program and 2 years of supervised probation; Kaitlynn A. Davidson, 25, Medford, speeding, \$275; Joseph A. Foley, 34, Fairbault, speeding, \$125; Veronica E. Gonzalez-Robles, 18, Medford,

speeding, \$115; Ismaray Herrera Martinez, 34, McAllen, TX, speeding, \$115; Paul D. Hiett, 74, Owatonna, restraining order violation, stay of adjudication, diversion program and 1 year of supervised probation; David J. Klecker, 39, Owatonna, permit offense and revoked license, \$375; Hannah R. Maas, 19, Owatonna, DWI, \$250, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, do not enter liquor establishments, no alcohol or controlled substance use, attend MADD impact panel and 2 years of supervised probation; Ava E. Marsh, 19, Plymouth, speeding, \$115; Jack R. Martin, 22, Owatonna, stop sign, \$125; Melissa M. McCollig, 42, New Richmond, speeding, \$115; John T. Norton, 19, Stillwater, speeding, \$275; Justin A. Peterson, 28, Apple Valley, no insurance, \$275; Braden M. Schroeder, 18, Fairbault, speeding, \$115; Dennis J. Sepulveda, 31, Orlando, FL, speeding, \$115; Tiffany D. Sundt, 26, Fairbault, speeding, \$115.

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE

Sept. 25 Shoplifting: At 9:26 a.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 300 block of Highway Ave. S. **DWI:** Officer made a DWI arrest at Center Ave. NW and 8th St. NW at 8:43 p.m. **Oct. 1 DWI:** Officer made a DWI arrest at 2nd St. SE and Center Ave. S. at 4:03 p.m.

OWATONNA POLICE

Sept. 25 Warrant: Officers made warrant arrests in the 400 block of 16th St. NE at 5:31 a.m. and the 400 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 2:45 p.m. **Theft:** Police took theft reports in the 500 block of North St. W. at 9:26 a.m. and the 300 block of School St. W. at 6:30 p.m. **Fraud:** Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 400 block of Kim Lane SW at 10:51 a.m.

Sept. 26 Theft: Police received a theft report from the 200 block of School St. W. at 8:27 a.m.

Theft: Motor vehicles were reported stolen from the 200 block of Riverside Ave. NW at 10:31 a.m. and the 300 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 10:47 p.m.

Burglary: Police began a burglary investigation in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. E. at 2:25 p.m. **Vandalism:** Property damage was reported at 26th St. NE and Cedar Ave. N. at 2:40 p.m. **Property:** Stolen property was recovered at Oak Ave. N. and North St. W. at 3:25 p.m.

Sept. 27 Littering: At 9:35 a.m., a littering incident occurred

in the 300 block of 14th St. NE.

Burglary: Officers responded to a burglary in the 300 block of Main St. E. at 12:55 p.m.

Restraining Order: Police arrested a subject for a restraining order violation in the 700 block of 15th St. SE at 9:52 p.m.

Welfare: Officer conducted a welfare check in the 200 block of 21st St. NW at 11:39 p.m.

Sept. 28 Hit and Run: Hit and run accidents occurred in the 300 block of Mineral Springs Road NE at 12:38 a.m. and the 400 block of 26th St. NW at 4:34 p.m.

Welfare: Officer conducted a welfare check in the 1200 block of Grove Ave. S. at 2:04 p.m.

Sept. 29 Assault: Police arrested a subject for an assault in the 2700 block of 26th St. NW in Owatonna Township at 9:33 a.m.

Criminal Sexual Conduct: Police began investigations of criminal sexual conduct in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 10:51 a.m. and 11:11 p.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 300 block of School St. E. at 2:51 p.m. and 6:29 p.m. **Theft:** Police took theft reports in the 100 block of Landmark Dr. NE at 7:57 p.m. and on 12th Place NW at 10:35 p.m.

Sept. 30 Restraining Order: At 7:36 a.m., a restraining order violation occurred in the 400 block of School St. E.

Shoplifting: Officer issued a shoplifting citation in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 11:33 a.m. **Theft:** Officer took a theft report in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 2:17 p.m.

Counterfeit: Police received a report of counterfeit money in the 400 block of North St. W. at 3:21 p.m.

Hit and Run: At 5:12 p.m., a hit and run accident occurred in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW.

Intoxication: Police responded to an intoxicated subject in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 10:02 p.m.

Oct. 1 Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. E. at 12:27 p.m.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Sept. 26 Theft: Deputy took a theft report in the 4700 block of Crane Creek Road in Meriden Township at 12:58 a.m.

Arrest: Deputies arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Hoffman Dr. NW and State Ave. NW in Owatonna at 5:55 a.m.

Sept. 28 Fraud: Deputy took a report of a fraud incident in the 12800 block of 64th Ave. SE in Blooming Prairie Township at 2:44 p.m.

Sept. 29 Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 7:28 p.m.

ARRESTS Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE
Charlena Marie Crawford, 43, arrested at 12:31 p.m. Sept. 29, felony burglary, aid and abet assault and assault, held for court.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Clinton Christopher Albert Juring, 35, arrested at 12:29 p.m. Sept. 29, felony domestic assault, held for court.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Sept. 20 - 27:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dakota R. Cisneros, 24, Claremont, possession of marijuana, stay of adjudication, \$125, 20 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical assessment, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Lucas J. Gannon, 31, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120; Dominic J. Smith, 26, Rochester, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$180 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Evan G. Walsh, 40, Dodge Center, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$220 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

James G. Baudoin, 61, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Emily S. Chladek, 30, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Jasmin Hamzic, 21, Elgin, speeding, \$130; Jacob A. Lundquist, 20, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Roger A. Pfeiffer, 74, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$105; Benjamin R. Roussopoulos, 18, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105; Darien G. Simon, 20, Rochester, suspended license, \$280; Caleb D. Timmerman, 18, Rochester, speeding, \$220.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Payton F. Addink, 17, Sun Prairie, WI, speeding, \$220; Brian M. Cheese, 45, Johnston, IA, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$100 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Dana L. Collins, 47, Milwaukee, WI, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$180 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Alexander A. Gruber, 16, Dodge Center, speeding, \$280; Dylan J. Miner, 25, Hayfield, speeding, \$100; Christopher G. Rilling, 38, Kasson, tandem axle weight violation, \$180.

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Helping Seniors Recognize Fake News and Propaganda



THE SAVVY SENIOR
Brought to you by: *Prairie Manor*
Prairie Manor Care Center & Heather Haus 220 3rd St. NW, Bloomington, IL 61701
583-4434

Dear Savvy Senior,
Are there any reasons that you know of that can help seniors detect fake news? My 75-year-old mother shares a lot of misinformation with her family and friends that she sees on Facebook. I've talked to her about it, but for some reason she has a difficult time deciphering real news from fake news and propaganda.

Frustrated Daughter

Dear Frustrated,
Unfortunately, the digital misinformation problem your mom is experiencing is not uncommon. According to researchers from Princeton and New York University, people aged 65 and older are up to seven times more likely to share fake news and dubious links on social media than their younger counterparts.

Why?
There are several theories. The first is that many seniors started using social media sites like Facebook only within the past five or six years and may lack the digital literacy skills to identify false or misleading content.

Some other possible theories are that most seniors experience some cognitive decline as they age, making them more likely to fall for hoaxes. Many older Americans also suffer from chronic loneliness which can cause them to share misinformation as an attempt to make connections with other people. And studies have shown that older people are generally more trusting than younger generations, which can make them more gullible.

All this is particularly concerning now as we sit in the midst of a global health pandemic and a 2020 election season, both of which are ripe with misinformation, rumors and conspiracy theories. And seniors are prime targets of this false/misleading information because they are much more likely to vote than their younger cohorts and are much more vulnerable to getting sick and dying if they contract COVID-19.

Where to Get Help
To help your mom detect and combat online misinformation there are several great resources she can turn to that offer free courses and tips. One is MediaWise for Seniors, a project of the Poynter Institute, which offers two free online courses to help seniors detect and combat online misinformation – see [Poynter.org/media-wise-for-seniors](https://www.poynter.org/media-wise-for-seniors).

The first four-week course has already filled up, but your mom can still enroll in a self-directed course called "Hands-On Lessons to Separate Fact and Fiction Online." It is hosted by Christiane Amanpour and Joan Lunden, and is scheduled to begin Sept. 24, but she can take the course anytime.

In addition, Poynter has worked with AARP to produce Fact Checkers interactive videos and a webinar on spotting and filtering misinformation at [AARP.org/facttracker](https://www.aarp.org/facttracker).

Some other free course options you should look into include Senior Planet, which is offering a one-hour online course on "How to Spot Fake News" at [SeniorPlanet.org](https://www.seniorplanet.org). The News Literacy Project that provides the Checkology virtual classroom, which was initially created for middle and high school students, is now offering an independent learners option that is ideal for older adults – see [Get Checkology.org](https://www.getcheckology.org). Their lessons will help your mom detect the difference between news, opinion and propaganda.

And Coursera, a free world-wide online learning platform, which offers an in-depth six-week course called "Making Sense of the News: News Literacy Lessons for Digital Citizens," which she can access at [Coursera.org/learn/news-literacy](https://www.coursera.org/learn/news-literacy). There are also many good websites, like [PolitFact.com](https://www.politifact.com), [Snopes.com](https://www.snopes.com) and [FactCheck.org](https://www.factcheck.org) that will help her identify fact versus fiction. These sites have most likely already fact-checked the latest viral claim to pop up in her news feed.

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

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago

Oct. 12, 2010

RICK L. BUSSLER, PUBLISHER

The 8th grade girls' volleyball team remains unbeaten after their win against the Rebels. BP won the first three games in its match; the Rebels captured the final game. As Coach Mary Worke commented, "The girls really wanted to win this match as USC had defeated them as 7th graders last year. The girls played very well in earning this victory."

Ag instructor Bill Rinkenberger came back to school to find a nice surprise waiting for his students. Honda donated 27 engines to the high school. Dennis Heimerman of Metal Services learned of this program through Great Northern Equipment salesman, Larry Achterhoff. Dennis brought the idea to Superintendent Barry Olson. "This is a great benefit to our students," said Olson. Metal Services jumped right onboard and their quick action made these engines available to the school. Rinkenberger noted, "I really wanted to get engines back in the curriculum, but it is a big expense. Each engine costs about \$200. Metal Services jumped right on the \$300 freight charge. Thanks to them! It is nice to have these engines for the students, otherwise they are trying to teach small engines with everyone's old lawn mowers."

20 Years Ago

Oct. 10, 2000

ELSIE SUNINGER, PUBLISHER

The Blooming Prairie had beautiful weather and many well-wishers on board as they celebrated Saturday, Oct. 14 with an open house celebrating their 100th year of business. The were given, refreshments and rides were given during the three-hour open house.

Several people attended the Merry Lane 4-H potluck picnic at the Blooming Prairie City Park. The club has installation of new officers. New officers are: Craig

Invalson, president; Justin Krell, vice president; Jill Trotman, secretary; Sarah Krell, treasurer; Justin Krell, reporter/historian. The leaders for the 4-H year are Rhonda and Roger Toquam.

50 Years Ago

Oct. 14, 1970

VICTOR, VERNON & VYRLIE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

Golden Wedding Anniversaries. Mr. and Mrs. Ross Hollowell, highly esteemed Blooming Prairie couple will observe their Golden Anniversary on Friday this week at their home 316 3rd St. SE. The open house is hosted by the couple's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Wheeler. Mr. and Mrs. Halver Todalen, Blooming Prairie will observe their 50th wedding anniversary at an open house on Sunday, Oct. 18 at the Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church. Hosts at the event will be honored couples' children, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Todalen of Austin, John Todalen of Waterloo, Iowa and Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Varpness of Minneapolis.

The Waltham Winners 4-H club installed new officers at their October meeting. They are: Richard Schlichting, president; Bruce Leek, vice president and reporter; Lonnette Wendorf, secretary; Shirley Reynolds, treasurer; Dale Schlichting, flag keeper; Ruth Chrutinas and Muriel Wachlin, song leaders.

75 Years Ago

Oct. 11, 1945

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

An announcement was made by Col. Ole Olson, Blooming Prairie's popular auctioneer and one of the most widely-known 100th year of business. His part of the state. Mr. Olson has been "crying" personal property sales for the past 25 years during which time he has built a large clientele of satisfied patrons. He will no longer be available to sell their personal property at auction. Col. Olson is not leaving

the auction entirely as he states in his announcement. After "selling" the sales he now has booked, he will devote his time to clerking and financing of public sales and selling of real estate at public auctions. Olson will head a company of local men to be known as the Auction Service Company. His new company will be able to handle any size auction sale.

Impressive memorial services were held at the Lutheran Church her last Sunday for Pfc. Obed Morris Kirkebon, Staff Sgt. Kermit Iver Oltstad and Pfc. Lester Nordean Hanson who were members of the congregation. More than 400 people attended. The church was appropriately decorated with flags and flowers and a choir of eight ladies led in the singing.

Owatonna Photo News –

31 Years Ago

Oct. 5, 1989

TOM SHEA, PUBLISHER

Dr. Lori Griffin and her husband, Dr. Richard Griffin and their son, Ben and daughter, Charlotte lived through Hurricane Hugo, which recently struck Charleston. The Griffins are family practice doctors, serving in the U.S. Navy. A former Owatonna resident Dr. Lori Griffin is the daughter of Dan and Marilyn Voss. The 1989 Cross-Country boys' and girls' team of Owatonna High School are Keith Dibble, Holger Klug, Vincent Ducrotois, Kevin Eisen, Chris Coats, Wade Jessop, Vic Tolzman, Chad Brinkman, Kurt Klecker, Mike Stark, Brad Faltheysek, Ed Conley, Casey Conlin, Jason Wilker, Nick Trancheff, Karl Kingland, Becky Schilts, Jen Paine, Nikki Amunrud, Gina Easvold, Krisia Skaliky, Shannon Oberle, Megan Housland, Amy Reineke, Jenna Pelk, Rachel Kriska, Stacy Hines, Linda Raichle and Wendy Sandstrom. The teams are coached by Coach Kuehn and Coach Nelson. They have one more home meet and the regional meet will be held on Oct. 26.

YOUR VIEW

Disgusted with partisan rancor

To the editor:

After 41 years of marriage, three political campaigns for State Representative in our first five years of marriage, followed by many more campaigns over the following 20 years for County Commissioner – why would I agree to going through another campaign? Well, because I feel like my husband, Tom Shea felt – voters deserved a choice in the election for

District 24A this year and at 4:30 p.m. on the last day of filing, there was no opponent for the incumbent representative. Tom asked and I said yes. He filed at 4:50 p.m. and we started the campaign.

Not only did I feel the voters deserved a choice, I know that Tom is the best man for the job. I watched over all these years the dedication that he has for the people of this

area. I saw how hard he worked as a State Representative and County Commissioner and how much he was able to accomplish working together with his colleagues. He didn't do it for himself – he did it for us.

I wasn't always happy that his work took precedence over some of the things I thought were important, like vacations, time with friends, time together.

And now we're retired, and quite honestly, we're enjoying it very much. But I said yes, and I'm all in. We are both disgusted with the partisan rancor that has permeated politics and we believe it doesn't have to be this way.

Tom Shea will work to bring respect and dignity back to the process as your representative. Vote Shea24a.

Stephanie T. Shea
Owatonna

Sign thefts violate free speech

To the Editor:

With the Presidential Campaign along with Congressional and State campaigns in high gear partisan emotions run high among some voters. Everybody has the right to express their opinion in a respectful manner and one way of doing that is putting up campaign signs on your personal property.

In the past few weeks, there has been a rash of campaign signs

stolen from people's properties supporting different party candidates. The theft of signs is a violation of free speech, which is a guaranteed right under the First Amendment to our United States Constitution and as stated in Minnesota Statute Section 609.52 Subdivision 3 (5) is punishable with up to 90 days of imprisonment up to a \$1,000 fine or both.

A male middle

school student has been identified in Owatonna along with sightings of several other young adults in Steele County. Theft has occurred in Olmsted County and law enforcement has security camera footage of individuals stealing signs there with prosecution to follow.

To young adults and to some older adults stealing signs may seem to be "no big deal," however, the time, mon-

ey and effort taken by individuals to express their political views by putting up candidate campaign signs should be respected. There seems to be an increasing lack of respect among people for anybody that disagrees with their individual opinion I think that should not be tolerated and needs to stop. What do you think?

Philip Heim
Medford

Gnemi deserves to stay on the job

To the Editor:

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just four years can make!

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THE BOLD LOOK OF KOHLER

The current Steele County commissioners made tremendous strides toward sensible, affordable government. Rick Gnemi is finishing his first term as Third District Commissioner. I appreciate all they've accomplished.

What a turnaround! No one wants to return to the "tax and spend" policies and double-digit budget increases we used to see in the

county portion of our property taxes. Keep the momentum going! Keep Rick Gnemi on the job!

Will you join me in voting for Rick Gnemi Nov. 3 to make sure he stays working for us? He'll make your tax dollars work for you, and not the other way around. On Nov. 3, vote for Rick Gnemi. Frances Rasmussen
Owatonna

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Escape to fall splendor at Wisconsin's smallest city



Reflections
HOWARD LESTRUD

Everyone has a yearning at one time or another to escape to another world.

Judy and I did that recently to mark our 53rd wedding anniversary by taking a two-day trip to Bayfield, Wis. Bayfield, located in the northwest part of the state, is often called the smallest city in Wisconsin. Its population is listed at 487. Bayfield's climate is tempered by its proximity to Lake Superior and is protected by rolling hills.

Bayfield is located about 85 miles straight east of Duluth and it is harbored on one of the Great Lakes, Lake Superior.

We have made the trip about five times before but not recently. It has not changed much, except being stifled somewhat by the coronavirus. Some of the downtown shops are closed and many others have curtailed their hours.

We always made the trip the weekend (late September) before Apple Fest, which draws over 50,000 people. This year, we made the trip the weekend of what should have been Apple Fest. The celebration



Making apple pies is an art as evidenced by these workers at Erickson's Orchards and Country Store in Bayfield, Wis. Erickson's is one of 15 orchards located on the Bayfield Fruit Loop.

was cancelled because of COVID-19.

Even though COVID has had its effects on tourism in general throughout the world, Bayfield remained a popular landing place for many people. One of the big draws to Bayfield has been its apples and berries.

Orchard owners said the apple crop this fall is outstanding. "We have been busier than ever," remarked one orchard owner. "Just

look at the trees, they are still loaded with apples," the owner continued.

Our first stop after checking in at the Seagull Bay Motel on Lake Superior was to pick up some information at the Bayfield Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center. An updated map was given to us, showing locations and hours of the 15 apple orchards in the Bayfield area.

Prior to reaching

Bayfield, we learned that one of our favorite shops, the Candy Shop, was closed permanently because the owners had retired.

We always patronized the Candy Shop to buy wine bread. Since it was now closed, what do we do? We found out from the chamber that there was an apple orchard that featured wine breads. Yeah!

We then made a quick trip to Hillcrest Orchards to pick up

some wine bread. Right across the street was Apple Hill Orchard, which specializes in raising apples and making caramel apples.

I have always loved caramel apples and Apple Hill makes the best. The former owner is still making them and the weekend before we visited, she made 800 caramel apples. Wow!

One of the most active orchards on the Bayfield map is located at Erickson's Orchards

& Country Store. Enter the store and find lots of "knick-knacks." Go further into the store and find an entrance to the back room where apples are being graded and made ready for sale.

Behind a glass partition, you will find three women making fresh apple pies. Their artwork in making pie crusts is amazing.

We also visited Hauser's Superior View Farm, which featured varieties of apples and berries. Hauser's had wines, too.

In addition to the four orchards I have mentioned, jot down names of these orchards: Bayfield Apple Company; Blue Vista Farm; Garage Mahal Orchards; Good Earth Gardens; Highland Valley Farm; Homestead Gardens; North Wind Organic Farm; Rahideaux's Orchard; Rocky Acres Berry Farm; Sunset Valley Orchard and The Apple Branch Shoppe and Weber Orchards.

When we weren't making rounds to the apple orchards, we tried out a few restaurants. Our favorite was Gruenke's. I had a mushroom and Swiss burger one night and we tried a vegetable omelette for breakfast.

We also spent some time relaxing in our motel room, able to glance out our deck and see the beautiful Lake Superior.

Only a few good fall weekends remain. If you don't make the trip this year, put it on your calendar for the fall of 2021.

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Harvest season brings potential dangers to motorists

Motorists traveling on Minnesota highways this fall need to be aware of large, slow-moving farm equipment transporting crops to markets, grain elevators and processing plants.

Farm equipment is large and heavy, making it hard for operators to accelerate, slow down and stop. The machines also make wide turns and sometimes cross over the center line. They also can create large blind spots, making it difficult for operators to see approaching vehicles. All of these factors require all drivers to exercise

extra caution during harvest season. "Harvest season is in full swing and farmers in every corner of the state are out using the highways," said Brian Sorenson, state traffic engineer. "Motorists need to be prepared to encounter slow-moving farm vehicles, especially on rural, two-lane roads now through November. Also, remain patient, as most farmers will try to allow vehicles to pass them in an area where it is safe to do so." Approaching farm equipment with caution can help prevent crashes. In the last five years (2015-2019), 14 people

died on Minnesota roads as a result of a crash involving farm equipment. "In the last five years (2015-2019), 29 people suffered life-changing injuries as a result of a crash involving farm equipment. "Many factors play a role in farm equipment crashes, but distractions and lack of patience are two of the biggest factors," said Lt. Gordon Shank, Minnesota State Patrol. "Drive smart by practicing patience when behind farm equipment, parking the phone and putting all distractions away."

Motorists

- Watch for falling debris or debris in the road.
- Don't veer for debris, it could result in a head-on collision or a driver going into a ditch.
- Wait for a safe opportunity to pass. Farm equipment operators often make wide left turns, which can indicate to a motorist that the operator is moving right and it is safe to pass.
- Wear seat belts.
- Drive with headlights on at all times.
- Park the phone and put the distractions away.

Farm Equipment Operators

- Use lights and flash-



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRAUD
The dust is heavy as the soybean harvest cranks into high gear these past few weeks. Yields have been reported at high bushels to the acre amounts. With farmers getting into full swing this week, motorists and farmers alike are urged to practice extra caution while traveling around the area as combines and other heavy equipment move from field to field.

ers to make equipment more visible.

- Use slow-moving vehicle emblems on equipment traveling less than 30 mph.
- Consider using a

follow vehicle when moving equipment, especially at night.

- Wear seat belts.
- Park the phone and put the distractions away.

Most A quick corn update corn has reached maturity



On The Farm
CLAIRE LACANNE

Claire LaCanne, Extension Educator, Rice and Steele Counties As of Sept. 27, 85% of corn in Minnesota has reached maturity, according to the USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS). This is 22 days ahead of last year and 13 days ahead of the 5-year average. As a brief update, corn harvested for grain has started and is 6% complete, ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Statewide corn condition is encouraging at 78% good to excellent.

Corn hybrids planted in Minnesota typically reach maturity at about 55 to 60 days after silking. At maturity, kernels no longer contain milk and the kernel milk line is no longer visible. Additionally, kernels have reached maximum dry weight and a black layer is present at the tip of kernels where they connect to the cob.

Grain moisture is around 32% when kernels first reach maturity. The optimal grain moisture at which to begin harvest is a balance among several factors, including the risk of ear loss due to stalk lodging or dropped ears, the likelihood of wet weather, grain price, and drying cost. Based on these factors, it is often optimal to begin corn harvest once grain moisture has reached 24 to 22%. Harvesting when grain moisture is greater than 26% can reduce grain quality and increase risk of threshing losses, and can also result in high costs for drying.

The rate of in-field dry-down of grain varies, but typical in-field dry-down rates for corn

grain in Minnesota are:

- 0.75 - 1.0% per day, Sept. 15-25
- 0.5 - 0.75% per day, Sept. 26-October 5
- 0.25 - 0.5% per day, Oct. 6-15
- 0 - 0.33% per day after Oct. 15

To help make your harvest timing decisions, scout fields for stalk quality after corn has reached maturity.

When scouting, note the percentage lodged plants, indicated by a stalk that is broken below the ear. Also assess stalk quality of non-lodged plants. This can be done by pushing plants 10 inches to the side at ear level, or pinching the stalk in the first internode above the brace roots.

Stalks that break after being pushed or pinched are at risk of lodging. Examine several plants in multiple places in each field. Fields with 10 to 15% or more of the stalks lodged or breaking after being pushed/pinched should be harvested early.

While you're checking fields for stalk quality, also scout for ear rots by removing husks from ears on several plants in multiple places of each field. Ear rots can be especially problematic when there are prolonged wet conditions during the fall prior to harvest. Fungi responsible for ear rots can grow until grain moisture drops below 15%. In fields with high amounts of ear rot, consider harvesting early and drying the grain to less than 15%, rather than waiting for in-field dry-down of grain.

You may also want to prioritize harvesting fields where ear drop is expected to increase. One dropped ear in 1/100th of an acre is equivalent to a loss of about 1 bushel per acre.

Claire LaCanne Claire LaCanne is the agricultural extension educator with the University of Minnesota for Steele and Rice counties. Her column appears in this newspaper regularly.

PRODUCING ORGANIC MILK The Schrohts

Aaron Schroht is one of only two organic milk producers in Steele County. Schroht milks 75 cows on his 200-acre farm in rural Owatonna. He has Holsteins and Brown Swiss dairy cows. Joining him on the farm are his three children: Adeline, 12; Weston, 8 and August, 7.

He took over the farm operation from his parents, Randy and Audrey Schroht. His grandparents, Jerry and Bernice, started the farm many years ago.

Schroht produces organic milk for Organic Valley in Wisconsin. Being an organic producer means that Schroht doesn't utilize any chemicals or pesticides in daily treatment of the animals. He transitioned to organic in 2013.

One of the advantages of organic milking for Schroht is that his milk price is determined before the year starts. "We don't have the ups and downs of the market," he said. "It works out well."

In July and August, Schroht takes a break and doesn't milk the cows. Instead, he focuses on breeding when his cows have calves usually in September and October. During those two months, he has about 100 calves born on the farm. "I just had seven born in the last two days," he said on Friday.

Besides the dairy operation, the Schrohts also grow corn, alfalfa and oats. Last week he was busy unloading silage wagons.

Asked about his favorite aspect of farming, Schroht said, "I like the livestock part of it. I grew up showing animals. I enjoy working with the animals and being around them." He also enjoys setting his own schedule and making his own priorities for what needs to be done.

Schroht is a past 4-H member as he was involved in the Deerfield Get There Club. He showed dairy, swine and beef. His children are now involved in 4-H as well.

He is looking forward to hosting the Steele County American Dairy Association's Breakfast on the Farm event next June. He was scheduled to do it this year, but it was canceled because of COVID-19.



The Schroht farm family includes, Aaron Schroht and his children, Weston, Adeline and August.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Holds candles
- In possession of
- Rodents
- Type of cofactor (Brit. sp.)
- Hard candy on a stick
- Animal of the weasel family
- Things that should not be overlooked
- "Silence" author
- Dried, split lentils
- People native to Ghana
- Barros and Gasteyer are two
- British thermal unit
- Large oblong hall
- Ethnic group in Asia
- Holiday decoration
- Milliliter
- Open
- Health physics concept (abbr.)
- Tantric meditation
- Where golf games begin
- Birth swine
- Rip
- Remove
- Putts together in time
- Rotary engines
- Skeletal structure
- Member of a labor organization
- Japanese classical theater
- Undergarments

CLUES DOWN

- "Snake Tales" cartoonist
- Religious group
- Singer Redding
- ___ and tuck
- Head honcho
- Second sight
- Composer
- About aviation
- Senior officer
- Forecasts weather
- Seasoned Hungarian soup
- Town in Hesse, Germany
- Thought to derive from meteorites
- Hit lightly
- Seemingly bottomless chasm

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BP Toys for Tots collection surpasses \$11K

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The 2020 Toys for Tots drive in Blooming Prairie is now history. Harvey Farr, local organizer in Blooming Prairie, said the drive was handicapped this year because fundraisers were cancelled due to COVID-19 virus.

In spite of the pandemic holding down collections this year, Farr reported \$11,570 raised in the annual drive. Most of the monies in the past have come from the BOB (Bikers

of Blooming) annual motorcycle ride. The BOB ride was cancelled for 2020.

Over the 21-year period, Farr says he believes the BOB ride has contributed over \$135,000 to Toys for Tots.

The BOB Ride was started 21 years ago by Harvey and Nancy Farr of J & H Liquors.

"A group of guys were in the store one day and said they wanted to start a motorcycle ride," recalls Nancy. "I made a few more contacts and the ride was born," added Harvey.

The total raised in 2019 was \$17,500.

Farr said he solicited the money this year. He then turned the money over to Steele County Toys for Tots coordinator Don Overlie of Owatonna. Overlie said typically, Blooming Prairie has been the leader in turning over funds for Toys for Tots in Steele County.

Another key Steele County Toys for Tots promoter was the late Jerry Shore of Owatonna. He passed away this past summer.

Toys for Tots in Steele County has been in

existence for more than 30 years. It operates within the national U.S. Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots program, which began in 1947.

Its objective is to collect and distribute new and unwrapped toys to Steele County needy children at Christmas. Cash and gift cards received are used to purchase toys as per directives from our national organization.

For more information about Steele County Toys for Tots visit the Facebook page for updates www.facebook.com/pg/SteeleCountyToys4Tots.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Harvey Farr, left of J & H Liquors of Blooming Prairie, last week turned over a check totaling \$11,570 to the Steele County Toys for Tots coordinator Don Overlie, right.

Mayo president to retire

Bobbie Gostout, M.D., president of Mayo Clinic Health System, will retire at the end of the year after 24 years of excellence in clinical practice, research, and education, as well as administration.

As president of Mayo Clinic Health System for the past five years, Dr. Gostout set the strategic vision for Mayo Clinic's community practice in the Midwest, including 18 regional hospitals and 68 regional clinics. Together with the leaders in Northwest Wisconsin, Southwest Wisconsin, Southwest Minnesota and Southeast Minnesota regions of Mayo Clinic Health System, she led the integration of knowledge and strengthened the health system's practices in the Upper Midwest.

Gostout joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester in 1996. She was the first woman to take part in Mayo's gynecology oncology fellowship and the first woman to join the Division of Gynecology Surgery in Rochester. She also served as chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Rochester from 2007 to 2016.

The president has served as a member of the Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees and Mayo Clinic Health System's regional Boards of Directors. In addition to her leadership accomplishments, Dr. Gostout has made many contributions to clinical practice and research. She is a nationally recognized expert and leader in gynecologic oncology. Her clinical interests include robotic surgery, and endometrial and ovarian cancer. Her research focuses on quality and safety in surgical care, and physician well-being. She is a professor of obstetrics and gynecology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, and has authored 125 peer-reviewed journal articles and abstracts, advancing the science of gynecologic surgery and gynecologic oncology.

"Dr. Gostout leads with grace, has passion for Mayo Clinic's values and instinctively puts the needs of patients first," says Gianrico Farrugia, M.D., president and CEO of Mayo Clinic. "Please join me in thanking her for making an incredible career at Mayo Clinic and wishing her well in retirement."



Dr. Bobbie Gostout

S'CREAM THANKS!



Gale and Nancy Crandall and their staff wish to thank area residents for a memorable season at the home of the Giant Twist. They are closed for the season, but can't wait to see you again next spring when they will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Giant Twist Sausage.



Shea cautions about campaign tactics

Tom Shea, candidate for State Representative in District 24A, is cautioning residents to be on guard for "whisper campaigns" and false negative mailings from outside independent expenditure groups in the final four weeks of the campaign.

"According to reports filed with the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board, over \$33 million of independent expenditure ads, mostly negative, were made in Minnesota in the 2018 campaign," Shea said. "These ads were placed without the consent or control of the candidates and usually are negative in nature with dubious accusations about the opposition candidates."

Shea indicated that he rejects any independent expenditure mailing or advertising promoting his campaign. "I've let it be known that if any political party or organization misrepresents Representative Petersburg or his positions, I will not only disavow the charge, but I will also come to his defense against them," Shea asserted.

Shea also cautioned about an older negative campaign tactic, the whisper campaign. "If someone starts a conversation about the election or candidate with 'they heard', or 'people are saying', maybe 'did you see', you should be skeptical of the validity of the comment," Shea said. "To be sure, if the source of the comment is named and credible, that is perfectly legitimate dialog, which is healthy and should be encouraged. Rumor and innuendo, however are corrosive and destructive to the election process."

Shea concluded that he welcomes and encourages anyone with a question or concern about him, his campaign or positions on the issues to contact him at 507-451-9716, email, tomshea24a@gmail.com or visit his web site, TomShea24a.com to set up an in-person zoom visit.



Tom Shea

MnDOT offers grants for Greater Minnesota projects

Minnesota communities, schools and their partners are invited to apply for funding on local projects that enhance transportation goals, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

More than \$6.2 million is available in federal funding through the Transportation Alternatives program in Greater Minnesota (each region has a sub-targeted fund). This program offers a competitive grant for communities, schools and regional agencies to fund pedestrian and bicycle facilities,

historic preservation, Safe Routes to School and more.

For the 2020-21 solicitation, applicants first submit a letter of intent to be considered. A regional representative will contact applicants to help review the project proposal and the steps necessary for delivering a funded project. Applicants will then submit a full grant application.

Projects selected for the Transportation Alternatives program must be implemented in 2025.

Grant solicitation timeline:

Oct. 30 - Deadline for applicants to submit letters of intent.

Jan. 8, 2021 - Deadline for applicants to submit full applications.

April 15, 2021 - Grant recipients announced.

For grant details see the Transportation Alternatives website at <http://www.mndot.gov/ta/>.

The Metropolitan Council conducts a biennial solicitation for Transportation Alternatives projects in the seven-county Twin Cities Metro Area.

Companies enhance sales teams

Minimizer's acquisition of Premier Manufacturing in January 2020 has led to the creation of one strategic sales team, with new directors, regional managers, and redesigned regional coverage to streamline communication with a focus on customer satisfaction.

In this new sales resource optimization, Derek Quys has been named director of sales, while Greg Renberg will serve as director of national accounts. "Combining Minimizer and Premier sales activity creates a customer-centric approach aimed at distributors and end-user

customers with a clear and concise integrated message," Quys said.

"We've identified a goal of total customer satisfaction and the sales reorganization was vital in order to establish one sales team with a unified and clear message both internally and for our customer base," Renberg said.

Within the new sales structure, Quys will have five regional managers and 12 territory managers serving as a hybrid of the Minimizer and Premier legacy sales teams.

"We've added clear structure to our team with territory managers and regional sales managers all working

together to achieve specific goals," Renberg said. "We also have a refined focus on working with key national accounts to help drive business through specific channels, making our products accessible for both distributors and fleet customers."

"These changes address the need for one sales team, one message, and the ability to sell both brands in the market," Minimizer/Premier President & CEO Christopher Thorpe said.

For more information, and to meet the new sales team, please visit www.minimizer.com and www.premier-mfg.com.

Back to School

Blooming Prairie Schools welcome eight new teachers and staff members for the new 2020-21 school year. They have joined either the elementary school or high school. We want to salute all educators in our schools for the great work they are doing during difficult times.



Eric Hanson, custodian at BP Elementary School



Erik LaRock, 3rd Grade



Heidi Brasher, elementary music



Lexi Shaw, 2nd Grade



Monica Anderson, BPHS secretary



Sara Burkhart, 2nd Grade



Tina Quail, Elementary Para



Cheri Krejci, District office

Surrounded by apples



Ezra Boerner, 10, left, and her sister, Izley, 11, of New Richland are surrounded by apples at the Johnson Apple Orchard outside of Ellendale Sunday afternoon. Ezra is a fifth grader at NRHEG Elementary in Ellendale and Izley is in sixth grade at NRHEG Middle School in New Richland. The orchard has been offering apples of all varieties for nearly 30 years. See Hot Pursuit column on Page A2 for more details about the orchard.

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSLER

Unemployment rate falls in August

Minnesota's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to move lower, falling to 7.4% in August, according to numbers released last week by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). Minnesota added a seasonally adjusted 40,500 payroll jobs in August, up 1.5% from July. The U.S. gained 1.371 million payroll jobs in August, up 1.0% from July. The national unemployment rate is at 8.4% for August.

"We are continuing to see steady job growth and a decline in unemployment in Minnesota, but it will take some time to replace jobs lost during the pandemic," said DEED Commissioner Steve Grove.

"While job growth in Minnesota was stronger in August than in July, growth continues to be uneven across industries and occupations. People

in lower income occupations continue to be most impacted by job loss."

Minnesota unemployment has dropped steadily since reaching a high of 9.9% in May, which was the month with the highest pandemic-related unemployment. In June, Minnesota's unemployment rate was 8.6% and in July it was 7.6%.

Some groups of Minnesotans have been more affected by unemployment than others during the pandemic. Based on six-month moving averages (March to August 2020 data), the unemployment rate for Black Minnesotans is 16.3% in August, up nearly 11 percentage points from 5.4% one year ago, in August 2019.

For Hispanic Minnesotans, unemployment was 9.7% in August, up from 3.9% in August 2019. White Minnesotans have an unemployment rate of 6.7% in August, up from 3% one year ago.

PUBLIC RECORD

STEELE COUNTY BIRTHS NOVEMBER 2019

Charley Jennifer Oulligan, Parents: Jennifer and Bryan, Nov. 1.
Aria Marie Johnson, Parents: Alexandra and Skyler, Nov. 2.
Brayden Daniel Burns, Parents: Sarah and Jon, Nov. 8.
Noah Anthony Hager, Parents: Kristen and Benjamin, Nov. 4.
Corwin Michael Esch, Parents: Sarah and Jon, Nov. 8.
Nora Jean Anderson, Parents: Jennifer and Marcus, Nov. 8.
Dawson David Soderstrom, Parents: Jennifer and Kyle, Nov. 11.
Idris Osman Noor, Parents: Saadiya Abdul and Osman Aden, Nov. 13.
Emily Marilyn Walker, Parents: Heather and Matthew, Nov. 13.
Isa Rose Steuck, Parents: Bethany and

Kevin, Nov. 15.
Owen Scott Ripka, Parents: Chelsea and Cody, Nov. 18.
Maddox Gary Krueger, Parents: Tia and Justin, Nov. 19.
America Anne Seha, Parents: Amanda and Jeremy, Nov. 21.
Klara Rae Macy, Parents: Mykajla and Jacob, Nov. 22.
Roman Michael Damien Kennedy, Parents: Jessieanna and Shawn, Nov. 22.
Justus Adriel Troe, Parents: Kaisha and Jonah, Nov. 23.
Fowzan Mohamad Abdisamed, Parents: Tasnim Abdul and Mohamed Ahmed, Nov. 23.
Ozzy Drew Caron, Parents: Jade Froehlich and Schuyler Caron, Nov. 23.
Eloise Mary Hughes, Parents: Margaret and Seth, Nov. 25.
Jace Eugene Nathaniel Walsh, Parents: Anne

and Thomas, Nov. 26.
Catarine Marion Ryan, Parents: Britta and Michael, Nov. 26.
Anwar Yasin Ahmed, Parents: Muno Hussein and Yasin Ahmed, Nov. 28.
Zhayne Yano Lodahl, Parents: Ilyn and Brandon, Nov. 29.

STEELE COUNTY DEATHS NOVEMBER 2019

Sharon Lee Meixner, 80, Owatonna, Nov. 2.
Eileen Rose Stibal, 97, Owatonna, Nov. 2.
Janice Mae Hoel, 88, Blooming Prairie, Nov. 3.
Dora Ludmilla Pumper, 100, Owatonna, Nov. 4.
Enma Rosina Muesman, 98, Owatonna, Nov. 8.
Ruth Anne Emro, 79, Owatonna, Nov. 7.
Eugene Ordell Froseth, 91, Owatonna, Nov. 7.
Mary Ann Bennett, 90, Owatonna, Nov. 7.
Violet Jean Oulman, 93, Owatonna, Nov. 12.
Barry Lee Warren, 75,

Owatonna, Nov. 12.
Robert James Krell, 82, Blooming Prairie, Nov. 13.
Burt Junior Cramer, 92, Owatonna, Nov. 13.
Veronica Kay Frohling, 60, Owatonna, Nov. 13.
Ella Minnie Hanson, 99, Medford, Nov. 14.
Francine Marilee James, 88, Blooming Prairie, Nov. 14.
Ardel Jean Dahling, 90, Owatonna, Nov. 15.
Lorraine Evelyn Irlke, 94, Owatonna, Nov. 17.
Kenneth William Winzenburg, 84, Blooming Prairie, Nov. 17.
Carol Lynn Alvina Watts, 71, Owatonna, Nov. 19.
Marcia Kay Ferguson, 69, Owatonna, Nov. 19.
Julie Kay Louks, 68, Owatonna, Nov. 19.
Jay Wayne Logan, 57, Lemond Township, Nov. 20.
Elizabeth Ann Logan, 52, Lemond Township, Nov. 20.
Deetta M. Young-Erickson, 92,

Owatonna, Nov. 20.
Gordon Leroy Kittelson, 83, Owatonna, Nov. 21.
Judith Anne Schaefer, 74, Owatonna, Nov. 21.
Peter M. Johnson, 77, Owatonna, Nov. 23.
Katherine May Hattberg, 55, Owatonna, Nov. 26.
Margaret Justine Deml, 99, Owatonna, Nov. 28.
Alvin Darrell Hohenstein, 85, Owatonna, Nov. 29.

STEELE COUNTY MARRIAGES NOVEMBER 2019

Donovan Michael Hart and Amy Christine Flattum, Nov. 3.
Christiaan Hercules Pettit and Kathryn Gayle Stordahl, Nov. 8.
Molly Mae Walsh and Christopher John Slater, Nov. 11.

Christopher William Hazelton and Lauren Marie Schlobohm, Nov. 23.
Eugene Harry Gadacz and Lori Kay Klemmensen, Nov. 30.

STEELE COUNTY DIVORCES NOVEMBER 2019

Erin Lee Smith and Matthew Alan Smith, Nov. 4.
Tammy Lynn Davis and James Lee Davis, Nov. 7.
Patrick John McDermott and Karl Lynn McDermott, Nov. 15.
Delmer Arthur Borwege and Lillian C. Borwege, Nov. 19.
Martin Perez Perez and Jessica Ann Perez, Nov. 19.
Michelle Sue Shaw and Darren DeWayne Shaw, Nov. 20.
Adam Lee Swartzendruber and Stacy Linn Swartzendruber, Nov. 26.

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BY TIM PENNY

In this new virtual world we find ourselves in, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed by the number of online events, gatherings and trainings that are being offered on a seemingly daily basis. However, connecting virtually has its benefits and can open doors to exploring new ways of learning and building relationships. At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF), offering continuing education opportunities in our 20-county region has been an important way to support people during this difficult time.

At SMIF, we have offered high quality trainings in our region at low or no cost for many years to help early childhood professionals, entrepreneurs and our Affiliate Fund members. This can be a critical opportunity for people who have limited budgets and time, preventing them from traveling far to conferences that have high registration and overnight costs. This year we expanded on the number of trainings we

typically offer and focused a large portion of the sessions on adapting to the current environment. In all these sessions we are honored to partner with trainers who are experts in their field.

This summer we offered more than 20 training sessions for early childhood education professionals, family child care business owners and child care center leadership. These session topics ranged from tips for running a successful child care business to techniques for self-care. Additional sessions focused on how early childhood education professionals can collaborate with parents, teachers and outside agencies to enhance their programming. Our last training of the month on Sept. 29 focused on the importance of building positive child-teacher relationships through respect and quality interactions.

Another series of trainings we recently held was for our Affiliate Fund members. SMIF supports 84 Affiliate Funds, including community foundations and designated funds. In addition to providing the

administrative and 501(c)(3) infrastructure needed to support philanthropy in our region for these funds, we also provide trainings each year to support their organizational and philanthropic goals. The board members who attended these sessions learned about endowment fundraising, how to be conscious of different perspectives in their community and techniques for recruiting qualified and energized board members.

SMIF's trainings for entrepreneurs have included topics like marketing, business plan development, branding and financial forecasting. This summer we held a session on marketing tips for businesses that are seeking a competitive advantage in this time of change and uncertainty. Additionally, we held a support session for entrepreneurs who used the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan funds from the Small Business Administration and needed help navigating the forgiveness portion of the loan.

We are looking forward to hearing business pitches from southern Minnesota undergraduate students as

part of our annual student business competition.

While this year looks different, and we are all getting used to seeing each other online more than in person, we are honored to be able to provide quality trainings for our partners during this time. We know that continuing education is critical for growth – both professionally and personally – and that we can play an important role in supporting southern Minnesota professionals as we navigate this new territory.

If you would like to receive notifications about upcoming trainings, email inquiry@smifoundation.org, or visit our website at smifoundation.org for details.

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

Tim Penny is the president and CEO of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation in Owatonna. He represented Minnesota's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1982-1994.

Prepare Yourself

The final full moon of the summer, which occurs just every three years, signals a change in the weather, fall is just three weeks from here.

Sept. 22 is the autumnal equinox, it is the second equinox of the year, the harvest is on, soon the leaves will be gone, this is our warning that winter is near.

We have complained about heat and humidity, during those few short months of hot weather, let's appreciate them for the time they're here, our winters are much worse, they're not better.

Are you ready for winter, well neither am I, to escape the misery of the "Minnesota hunch," I'd like to load up the car and just say goodbye, then return back home in about 6 months.

It's too bad that COVID-19 will alter those plans, we were looking forward to getting sun tans, but that isn't possible wearing a mask on your face, nor do we want to be sickened in a faraway place.

Bud Peka
Owatonna

Stop accepting healthcare losses

BY THOMAS MARTINEZ

Mayo Clinic's continued pattern of service removal and clinic closures across Southern Minnesota is very concerning. Blooming Prairie is the latest small town to experience a clinic closure. At the onset

of the pandemic, Mayo told residents that it needed to close its doors "temporarily" due to COVID-19, but Mayo has recently released a statement saying it will not be reopening the clinic, making it more difficult for rural residents to access the healthcare they need.

This latest closure came after Mayo reported \$3.22 billion in 2nd quarter revenue and \$153 million in operating income. Operating in the black at this time is not the case for many rural hospitals, which only highlights the fact that Mayo is choosing to put profits over the

needs of rural patients. It is also worth noting that Mayo Clinic has received \$173 million in COVID-19 emergency relief funds from the CARES Act. That is taxpayer money designed to prevent this sort of thing from happening. We must protect rural healthcare

services and look for new solutions instead of accepting these losses. We must also defend Minnesota's Medicaid expansion under the ACA, which has increased overall payments to rural health providers. This pattern of consolidating services is unsustain-

able for rural Minnesota. Our leaders need to fight for our healthcare services or step aside.

Thomas Martinez is a candidate for Minnesota House District 27A running against incumbent Peggy Bennett. Martinez lives in Hayward.



Behind The Badge
SHERIFF SCOTT ROSE

I was really disappointed this week to hear about a local business who did not want to participate in a recent local campaign supporting law enforcement because they support BLACK LIVES MATTER. Not necessarily that they supported the organization BLACK LIVES MATTER, but

they support the current movement towards equality for American's of color. Looking into this further, it was determined that this was not at all accurate and their position was completely misunderstood. They in fact support racial equality and law enforcement, always have, as I suspected. That being said, I still feel it's important to make sure our community knows our position.

When you hear someone in law enforcement who says they don't support BLACK LIVES MATTER, they are saying they don't support the organization BLACK LIVES MATTER, but

that regardless of how well intentioned they may have been to begin with, has created a war on cops by pushing a false narrative that all cops are racist, a narrative that suggests cops "hunt" down people of color, an organization that suggests every incident with people of color is racially driven when there is often no evidence to support that, an organization that not only turns a blind eye to our communities being looted and burned down and innocent people being attacked - but has encouraged it in many cities, and an organization that has created more racial division in

our country than most of us have ever seen. An organization that would have been much better received staying focused on their social message of equality versus jumping on the political bandwagon this year. This organization has done so much harm to all the good work many cops in many agencies across America have done to build trust within their communities.

BLM preaches unity and equality while viciously attacking one of the few professions that actually strives daily fighting for your right to have both! Let that sink in for a little bit.

Our cops want everyone to be treated equally. Our cops want you to be able to have open and honest discussions about racism and how we can work to end it together. Our cops want all Americans to be treated fairly, regardless of color. Our cops want all Americans to feel safe in their homes and in their communities, regardless of color. Our cops want all Americans to trust us, regardless of color. When our cops are called to an incident to help, they don't ask or care about what color, race, religion, gender, or sexual preference you are or have. Our cops

just want to help - that's what we signed up for. Finally, nobody hates a bad cop more than our good cops.

In Dodge County, our cops believe black lives matter. Our cops in Dodge County believe everyone's life matters. You can support your local law enforcement and still stand against racism. Our cops would be disappointed if you didn't.

Your Sheriff,
Scott

Scott Rose is serving his second term as Dodge County Sheriff. He writes for this newspaper regularly.

You can support cops and stand against racism

NEW DIRECTOR: aims to share nerdy excitement over history FROM A1

begins leading the local historical society, he brings with him about 12 years of experience in museum settings at various places around the country. He has worked at the University of Denver Museum of Anthropology, the Molly Brown House Museum, the Denver Botanic Gardens, Amache Historical Society in Granada, Colo., and the Dallas Holocaust Museum. He has also spent time on the East Coast where he went to college in Pennsylvania. He has found a niche with county historical societies because they

allow him to do more hands-on work.

Hinrichsen is also impressed with the overall commitment he is seeing regarding history in Steele County. "This is an area where people care about their past," he said. "There is a passion that makes me want to be a part of it. The support of the community is a breath of fresh air."

The new director found himself taken back when he first saw the newer history center, which he feels comes together well with the older

village. "It's fantastic, it's very welcoming," Hinrichsen said of the center. "It shows the community is invested in history. That shows people care," he added.

He brings with him lots of energy in his quest to get people excited about history. "It's tough to show the nerdy excitement that I have with a mask on," Hinrichsen said during the interview wearing a mask.

Hinrichsen admits it can be difficult to get people hooked on history. He said reaching younger children can

be difficult because it's difficult to compete with all the activities they have available to them.

One of the greatest satisfactions Hinrichsen finds in his role is when people leave the museum and says they are going home to do more research. "There is excitement in catching a piece of history," he said.

History, Hinrichsen says, is important as it has a way of repeating itself. "We can learn from the past," he said. "We don't want to make the same mistakes. The more you learn about

it, the better the person you become."

In his new role, Hinrichsen's goal is to find ways to expand the center's reach into the community. He also wants to forge relationships with area businesses and organizations. "We're in this together," he said. "We are an economic driver where people can come here and end up going to other businesses. We want to help make this area thrive."

He doesn't want people to view the museum as being shut off to

the public. Hinrichsen plans to engage with people as much as possible in an effort to make them feel comfortable around the center.

"I want people to become nerdy about history like I am," Hinrichsen said.

He likes to operate with an open door policy and welcomes people to contact him. "I like to talk to people and hear what they want to expect from me," Hinrichsen said. "I want to make this organization better and stronger to prepare for the future."

Elect Shea 24a Minnesota House

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SENATOR ARRESTED: for DWI FROM A1

alcohol content of .08% or more early Saturday in Rice County. Both are misdemeanor charges. Jasinski, 54, lives in Faribault.

"I take complete responsibility for my actions," said Jasinski. "This case is pending and I am awaiting the legal process. However, I do want to say that I understand my actions affect my family,

friends and constituents. I cannot overstate my gratitude for the public's understanding, support and thoughts during this time."

Jasinski was elected to District 24 Senate seat in 2016 and is seeking re-election for a second term. He is facing a challenge by DFLer Roger Steinkamp, also of Faribault.

The senator is the

vice chair of the Minnesota Senate Transportation Finance and Policy Committee.

Prior to being elected to the senate, Jasinski served as mayor of Faribault from 2008 to 2016. He easily defeated former senator Vicki Jensen of Owatonna in 2016 with 58% of the vote to Jensen's 41%.

District 24 covers most of Steele County

and portions of Rice, Dodge and Waseca counties.

In addition to serving as senator, Jasinski works in real estate. He also served two tours with the Navy in the Persian Gulf.

It remains to be seen heading into the final weeks of the campaign how this latest drunk driving charge will change the senate race.

Defending state champions open at home

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Coach Chad Gimbel's Awesome Blossoms will be defending their Section 1A football title when they open the 2020 abbreviated season at home on Friday night, Oct. 9 against Rushford-Peterson.

Game time is 7 p.m. at McFarlin Field.

The state champion Blooming Prairie Blossoms will be shooting

for another unbeaten season. Last year's championship team ended 14-0.

The Trojans of Rushford-Peterson were 7-3 last year and are coached by Jim Reinhardt.

Gimbel is entering his 24th year as head coach of the Blooming Prairie football team. He is also entering his 27th year as a business education teacher.

The Blossoms graduated 11 seniors from last

year's state championship team.

In spite of losing that many seniors, BP has lots of experience returning because all of its wins last year represented significant margins, thus younger players were able to see varsity action.

Returning this year are seniors Luke Larkoski and Charlie Heimerman on the offensive line. Senior Mitchell Flebiger and Juniors Bradley Simon and Colin Jordison are part of the receiving corps.

Jordison is the team's kickoff specialist. Junior Carson Brennecke kicks extra points.

Larkoski and Flebiger will anchor

middle linebacker positions. Cole Christianson, a senior is returning as an outside linebacker. Simon will play on Defense also, holding down a free safety spot.

The Blossoms lost their starting quarterback in Kaden Thomas. Junior Drew Kittelson played quarterback as a sophomore last year. Tyler Archer will likely be in the backfield with Kittelson.

With four weeks of practice under their belts, the Blossoms have been putting offense and defense systems into play under the tutelage of Coach Gimbel and his assistants.

Coach Gimbel has his same team of coaches available again this

year. Matt Kittelson is defensive coordinator and Nate Piller and Andrew Hardecoff handle the Junior Varsity duties. On the junior high level, coaching is handled by Justin Kiehene, David Lassahn and Carl Steckelberg. Volunteer coaches Elliott Herdina and Josh Johnson routinely attend practices.

"Practice has been going well," Gimbel says. "The kids have been working hard, have a good attitude and have a good grasp of the schemes, all while learning the COVID-19 protocols," he continued.

"Right now, we are working on consistency from day to day, even play to play," Gimbel explained.

Offensive and Defensive lineups have not yet been configured. Gimbel says some of the positions still need to be figured out.

Looking at the opposition, Gimbel says Rushford-Peterson has its starting quarterback returning "and this is always a good place to start developing a team," Gimbel said. He says R-P also has its top wide receiver returning.

Gimbel says the Trojans were a spread team last year. "They also have been a power run team in the past so we have to be prepared for both styles," Gimbel said. Defensively, the Trojans switch it up between a 4-2 and 5-1 alignment, Gimbel informed.

2020 BLOSSOMS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Oct. 9 -- Rushford-Peterson
Oct. 16 -- at Medford
Oct. 23 -- at L-A
Oct. 30 -- Hayfield
Nov. 6 -- Kenyon-Wanamago
Nov. 11 -- at Fillmore Central

Bruns, Baker lead BP cross country teams

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

With a strong breeze and temperatures in the low 50s, runners from Blooming Prairie, Maple River and host Hayfield competed in a triangular Oct. 1.

Two very good boys and girls teams, Maple River and Hayfield, placed ahead of third-place Blooming Prairie in the Gopher Conference race over a 3.1 mile course that started on the Hayfield High School grounds.

In the boys varsity meet, Maple River ran away with the meet, scoring 31 points. Hayfield was second with 37 points and Blooming Prairie ended third at 55 points.

Hosea Baker was the top Blossom finisher with a time of 20:02. Following Baker as one of the top five Blossom boys finishers were Alex Miller in 20:32, Jesse Cardenas in 21:02, Tyler Forsyth in 21:06 and Dylan Johnson in 21:30.

"We had nice balance in our 3-8 place guys which should be a good sign heading into the conference next week," remarked Coach John Bruns.

The Blossoms girls varsity cross country team took second behind a very solid Maple River team, which took first through fourth and sixth places.

Junior Bobbie Bruns broke up the

Eagles' bid for a perfect score of 15 with her fifth place finish. Bruns ran the course in 24:40.

Emily Miller turned in the Blossoms' second best time with a 26:01 clocking. Chloe McCarthy was next in 26:24 and Abby Smith finished in 26:45.

Haven Carlson stepped up with her best run of the year and was the Blossoms' No. 5 girl. She ran the course in 27:17.

The Blossom girls needed a "great run" from Carlson as two of the Blossoms' usual top five runners did not run (Maggie Bruns and Megan Oswald).

The Gopher Conference Cross Country Meet is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 10 at 1 p.m.

The boys Section 1A Meet is scheduled for the Northern Hills



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

The gun is sounded and the Blooming Prairie boys runners begin their stride in a triangular meet with Hayfield and Maple River last Thursday. Shown from left are: Dylan Johnson, Tyler Forsyth, Jesse Cardenas, Alex Miller, Luke Larkoski, Hosea Baker, Boone Carlson and Ethan Grant. Maple River placed first, Hayfield was second and Blooming Prairie finished third.

Golf Club on Thursday, Oct. 15 and the girls Section 1A Meet is scheduled for the Northern Hills Golf Club on Friday, Oct. 16.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Cross country teammates Hosea Baker, left and Jesse Cardenas make a turn during triangular competition with Hayfield and Maple River last Thursday.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

With fall colors in the background at the Hayfield High School grounds last Thursday, Blooming Prairie girls runners make a turn on the 3.1-mile course. Shown from left are: Emily Miller, Abby Smith, Chloe McCarthy and Asha Lighthizer.

Blossom netters open season Thursday

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The on-again, off-again volleyball season for Minnesota high schools is on again and most schools opened this week with their first matches of the season.

Blooming Prairie opens the season at New Richland Hartland Ellendale Geneva (NRHEG) with a 7:15 p.m. game Thursday.

First-year varsity coach Jennifer Wayne has welcomed seven seniors to this year's team. "We are happy to see that experience return to our team," she said.

The senior returnees are: Maren Forsyth (No. 1), Halle Strunk (2), Maggie Bruns (4), Allison Krohnberg (7), Anna Kittelson (8), Micalyn Trihus (15) and Megan Oswald (16).

Others on the Blossoms roster are: Juniors Bobbie Bruns (3), Alivia Schneider (6), Josie Hoffman (9), Melanie Winzenburg (12), Emily Miller (14) and Lauren Schammell (17).

Sophomores include Abby Hedling (10) and Sierra Larson (11).

The lone ninth grader on the roster is Macy Lem-bke (5).

Captains on this year's team are Maggie Bruns and Micalyn Trihus.

Looking at the strength of the Gopher Conference, Coach Wayne says WEM will be a team to watch.

2020 BLOSSOMS VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Oct. 8 -- at NRHEG
Oct. 13 -- at Medford
Oct. 15 -- USC
Oct. 20 -- BA
Oct. 22 -- Maple River
Oct. 27 -- at WEM
Oct. 29 -- Hayfield
Nov. 2 -- NRHEG
Nov. 5 -- Medford
Nov. 10 -- at USC
Nov. 12 -- at BA
Nov. 16 -- at Maple River
Nov. 19 -- WEM
Nov. 24 -- at Hayfield

Record cars race at first night of autumn showdown

BY MATTHEW GRAGE
RACING CORRESPONDENT

The third annual Chateau Speedway Autumn Extravaganza kicked off Friday night with an exciting night of racing action.

A track record 144 cars pulled into the pits for the first of two nights of action. Seven classes of cars provided plenty of action for the fans as

they were all bundled up for the chilly weather for the final two nights of action in the shortened season.

Plenty of travelers hauled their machines in from several states to Lansing for a piece of the action and garnered a few of the wins. First time visitor Zach Davis of Lonsdale took top honors in the USRA B Mod feature out

running Tyler Tesch of Leinnox, S.D. A familiar face took the French's Repair USRA A Mod Main event with Ryan Wetzstein of West Concord scoring his third feature win of the season. KEVVO Outlaw Mini Mods made their first visit of the year to the track with Nathan Kilwine of Glenville leading the way to the checkers in their feature. Blake

Dorweiler of Le Center made his first appearance of the season at the track and took the feature win in the Kruckeberg Services WIS-SOTA Hornet Class. In his second visit to the track this year Scott Splittstoesser of Cottage Grove picked up his first feature win as he paced the field in the Action Builders WISSOTA Midwest Modified

Division. Zach Elward of Hayfield found his way to victory lane for the fifth time this season in the Adams Graphix WISSOTA Street Stock Class. And in Power 96 WISSOTA Pure Stock action 2020 Track Champion Andrew Eischens of Taopi was back in victory lane for the fifth time this year as well.

SEE RECORD CARS RACE, A13



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RECORD CARS RACE: at first night of autumn showdown FROM A12

USRA B MODIFIED

FEATURE	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	4	1Z		Zach Davis	Lonsdale
2	7	22T		Tyler Tesch	Lennox, S.D.
3	8	55		Body Shaw	Browsdale
4	2	33S		Dustin Steinbrink	Austin
5	5	15		Zach Elward	Hayfield
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	4	36K		Jayden Larson	Mankato
2	1	55		Body Shaw	Browsdale
3	6	21T		Trevor Tesch	Lennox, S.D.
4	5	3A		Taylor Ausrud	Hayfield
5	3	81K		Caleb Korpi	Claremont
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	4	15		Zach Elward	Hayfield
2	2	22T		Tyler Tesch	Lennox, S.D.
3	7	33S		Dustin Steinbrink	Austin
4	6	15A		Curt Ahlers	Flandreau, S.D.
5	5	99E		Bill Engler	Hixen, Wis.
HEAT 3	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	14A		Andrew Ahlers	Baltic, S.D.
2	4	1Z		Zach Davis	Lonsdale
3	6	55H		Gavin Shaw	Browsdale
4	1	45A		Patrick Kelley	Columbia
5	5	65		Rodney Hurst	Merrilland, Wis.
6 DNF	3	55H		AJ Hoff	Mantorville
HEAT 4	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	99		Noah Grinstead	Austin
2	3	4A		Matthew Brooks	Austin
3	5	72		Alex Schubbe	North Mankato
4	1	0D		Thomas Rolles	Carpenter, Iowa
5	4	65JR		Gunner Hurst	Merrilland

USRA A MODIFIED

FEATURE	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	90		Ryan Wetzstein	West Concord
2	3	71		Jason Cummins	New Richland
3	4	4A		Joel Alberts	Mantorville
4	5	44		Darrell Nelson	Hermantown
5	1	78		Brent Prochnow	Colfax, Wis.
6	9	29H		Joe Horgdal	Kasson
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	96		Taton Hansen	Spicer
2	4	4A		Joel Alberts	Mantorville
3	1	51W		JT Wassmund	Pine Island
4	7	0		Mark Gartner	Mapleton
5	3	74		Mark Noble	Bloomington
6	6	72		Doug Hillson	Bloomington
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	71		Jason Cummins	New Richland
2	4	90		Ryan Wetzstein	West Concord
3	1	29H		Joe Horgdal	Kasson

KEVCO OUTLAW MINI MOD

FEATURE	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	6	15		Nathan Kilwine	Glenville
2	3	81		Jerry Larson	Grand Rapids
3	5	2C		Cole Bennerotte	Byron
4	11	14		Michael Bryant	Mason City
5	7	7		Matthew Grobe	Austin

USRA B MODIFIED

A FEATURE 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	44			Matthew Brooks	Austin
2	55H			AJ Hoff	Mantorville
3	21T			Trevor Tesch	Lennox, S.D.
4	3A			Taylor Ausrud	Hayfield
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	21T			Trevor Tesch	Lennox, S.D.
2	99			Noah Grinstead	Austin
3	81K			Caleb Korpi	Claremont
4	3A			Taylor Ausrud	Hayfield
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	33S			Dustin Steinbrink	Austin
2	55H			AJ Hoff	Mantorville
3	44			Matthew Brooks	Austin
4	36K			Jayden Larson	Mankato
HEAT 3	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	75			Cole Suckow	Cresco, Iowa
2	15A			Curt Ahlers	Flandreau, S.D.
3	45A			Patrick Kelley	Columbia

USRA A MODIFIED

A FEATURE 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	44			Darrell Nelson	Hermantown
2	71			Jason Cummins	New Richland
3	51W			JT Wassmund	Pine Island
4	90			Ryan Wetzstein	West Concord
5	4A			Joel Alberts	Mantorville
6	29H			Joe Horgdal	Kasson
7	96			Taton Hansen	Spicer
8	74			Mark Noble	Bloomington
9	77			Tom Brink	Winona
10	72			Doug Hillson	Bloomington
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	74			Mark Noble	Bloomington
2	44			Darrell Nelson	Hermantown
3	71			Jason Cummins	New Richland
4	72			Doug Hillson	Bloomington
5	4A			Joel Alberts	Mantorville
6	23			Darwyn Karau	Kasson
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	90			Ryan Wetzstein	Pine Island
2	29H			Joe Horgdal	Kasson

6	8	25L		Lucas Daniels	Des Moines
7	14	25B		Bobby Daniels	Des Moines
8	15	29		Scott Johnson	Owatonna
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	15		Nathan Kilwine	Glenville
2	1	25L		Lucas Daniels	Des Moines
3	5	81		Jerry Larson	Grand Rapids
4	3	1R		Bobby Ruchlow	Mason City
5	6	29		Scott Johnson	Owatonna
6	4	16		Donald Kirkhoff	Baldwin, Wis.
7	80			Dylan Anderson	Bloomington
8	15			Ben Kraus	Humboldt, Iowa
9	65			Ben Kraus	Britt, Iowa
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	1	95		Dustin Haggard	Humboldt, Iowa
2	6	65		Ben Kraus	Britt, Iowa
HEAT 3	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	1	7		Matthew Grobe	Austin
2	2	34		Dan Kline	Ankeny, Iowa
3	4	2C		Cole Bennerotte	Byron

WISSOTA HORNET	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	6	82		Blake Dorweiler	Le Center
2	12	193		Daniel Knish	Kilkenny
3	4	63		Bailey Wolff	Janeville
4	5	41		Todd Tacheny	Janeville
5	7	14		Justin Schelitzche	Cologne
6	1	88		Matt Tighe	Austin
7	2	15		Bo Noble	Faribault
8	15	59		Andy Knutson	Rochester
9	3	5L		Luke Geisler	Richfield
10	19	16M		Matt Wieman	Owatonna
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	5	82		Blake Dorweiler	Le Center
2	3	15		Bo Noble	Faribault
3	2	29		Tommie Tesch	Waseca
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	4	63		Bailey Wolff	Janeville
2	7	88		Matt Tighe	Austin
3	5	42		Cody Hyatt	Waseca
4	3	59E		Zachary Furbur	Ashburn
5	2	20K		Zach Korpi	Owatonna
6	1	6		Timothy Barnett	Owatonna
HEAT 3	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	1	14		Justin Schelitzche	Cologne
2	4	89		Timothy Gores	Garden City
3	2	97X		Josh Winsky	Rochester
4	5	59		Andy Knutson	Rochester
5	6	16M		Matt Wieman	Owatonna
HEAT 4	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	1	41		Todd Tacheny	Janeville
2	3	5L		Luke Geisler	Richfield
3	4	193		Daniel Knish	Kilkenny
4	2	19H		Robert Schmidt	Owatonna
5	5	21S		Brian Schott	Mazeppa
6	4	45		Matthew Welch	Owatonna

WISSOTA MIDWEST MODS	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	2		Scott Splittsoesser	Cottage Grove

WISSOTA PURE STOCK	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	4	7X		Andrew Eischens	Taopi, MN
2	8	66		Michael Roth	Deerwood, MN
3	3	1		Troy Maas	Faribault, MN
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	5	26		Brady Krohnberg	Walters, MN
2	4	35		Edward Jones	Elko New Market, MN
3	6	1		Troy Maas	Faribault, MN
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	7X		Andrew Eischens	Taopi
2	6	41		Mitch Thompson	New Richland
3	3	17		Michael Wick	Faribault
4	1	11M		Danielle Maas	Owatonna
5	5	44B		Joshua Bentzen	Owatonna

WISSOTA STREET STOCK	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	15		Zach Elward	Hayfield
2	1	32		Jason Newkirk	Austin
3	3	34JR		Braden Brauer	Eyota
4	6	43		Tony Shaner	Owatonna
5	5	34		Mike Blowers	Waseca
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	4	34		Mike Blowers	Waseca
2	6	16K		Kevin Vogt	Rose Creek
3	5	46		Stacy Krohnberg	Walters
4	7	15		Zach Elward	Hayfield
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	34JR		Braden Brauer	Eyota
2	3	43		Tony Shaner	Owatonna
3	4	32		Jason Newkirk	Austin
4	1	39J		Dan Klingfus	Austin
5	6	99		Greg Lammers	Owatonna

WISSOTA PURE STOCK	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	2	2		Scott Splittsoesser	Cottage Grove

WISSOTA PURE STOCK

A FEATURE 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	7			Ryan Hensel	Forest, Wis.
2	14Z			Andy Zimmerman	Altoona, Wis.
3	29			Scott Johnson	Owatonna
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	95			Kamryn Haggard	Humboldt, Iowa
2	25B			Bobby Daniels	Des Moines
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	25L			Lucas Daniels	Des Moines
2	25C			Chase Daniels	Carlisle, Iowa
3	2C			Cole Bennerotte	Byron
HEAT 3	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	14Z			Andy Zimmerman	Altoona, Wis.
2	14			Michael Bryant	Mason City, Iowa
3	29			Scott Johnson	Owatonna

WISSOTA HORNET	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	97X			Josh Winsky	Rochester
2	89			Timothy Gores	Garden City
3	59			Zachary Furbur	Annandale
4	20K			Zach Korpi	Owatonna
5	51JR			Maison Poston	Owatonna
6	6			Timothy Barnett	Owatonna
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	89			Matt Tighe	Austin
2	51J			Shawn Poston	Red Wing
3	59K			Andy Knutson	Rochester
4	97X			Josh Winsky	Rochester
5	6			Timothy Barnett	Owatonna
6	20K			Zach Korpi	Owatonna
7	74			Brett Mickelson	Apple Valley
8 DNF	19H			Robert Schmidt	Owatonna
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	89			Timothy Gores	Faribault
2	51JR			Maison Poston	Red Wing

WISSOTA MIDWEST MODS

A FEATURE 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	18S			Kennedy Swan	Chippewa Falls, Wis.
2	L1			Shane Howell	Buffalo

WISSOTA PURE STOCK	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	18X			Andy Davey	Hibbing
2	97X			Don Schaefer	Eyota
3	98D			Christopher Deno	Kasson
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	L1			Shane Howell	Buffalo
2	11			Peter Leuschner	Comstock, Wis.
3	4			Brayten Cisneros	Bloomington
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	38			Kenny Wytaske	Austin
2	24			Liz Toepper	Hugo
3	23B			Britt Olson Jr	New Richland

WISSOTA PURE STOCK	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	7X			Andrew Eischens	Taopi
2	17			Michael Wick	Faribault
3	26			Brady Krohnberg	Walters
4	96			Kyndra Neis	Chetok, Wis.
5	101			Michael Grover	Owatonna
6	44B			Joshua Bentzen	Owatonna
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	17			Michael Wick	Faribault
2	26			Brady Krohnberg	Walters
3	7X			Andrew Eischens	Taopi

WISSOTA STREET STOCK	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	15			Zach Elward	Hayfield
2	21			Jesse Stahl	Austin
3	KOLJ4			Kolton Brauer	Eyota
HEAT 1	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	15			Zach Elward	Hayfield
2	42			Cody Hyatt	Waseca
HEAT 2	Finish	Start	#	Competitor	
1	43			Tony Shaner	Owatonna
2	46			Stacy Krohnberg	Walters
3	KOLJ4			Kolton Brauer	Eyota

OBITUARIES

Obituaries Sponsor:
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David Swenson, 76, Albert Lea

David "Poppy" Edgar Swenson, age 76 of Albert Lea, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2020 at his home in Albert Lea.

David was born April 27, 1944 in Blooming Prairie, to Russell and Pearl (Madson) Swenson. He graduated from Blooming Prairie High School. Following high school, he enlisted into the United States Air Force serving from 1963 until his honorable discharge.

On March 9, 1991, David married Rita Fuller at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa. He was an avid hunter and loved to fish. David was a creative landscaper and loved his flower gardens. His greatest pleasure in life was his grandchildren and great grandchildren. David will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Survivors include his wife, Rita Swenson of Albert Lea; daughter, Rosalind Swenson of Glenville; step-children, Michael (Melanie) McCarty of Stewartville, Sarah McCarty of Arden Hills; grandchildren, Chelsea Schellenberg, Jeffrey Schellenberg, Jazzlyn Johnson, Sierra Johnson, Taylor Bakken, Austen Hoyer, Anna Hoyer, Emma Hoyer; great grandchildren, Evie Bergstrom, Abigail Schellenberg, Elijah Schellenberg, Carter David Schellenberg; brother, Dennis (Laura) Esplan of Windom; and sister-in-law, Patricia Swenson of Faribault.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Pearl Swenson; brothers, Richard, Darrel and Ronald; sister, Darla Bailey; brother-in-law, Bill Bailey.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10, 2020 at Worleim Blooming Prairie Funeral Home in Blooming Prairie. Visitation will take place one hour prior to the service at the funeral home on Saturday. Interment will be in Red Oak Grove Lutheran Cemetery, rural Austin.

Worleim Funeral Home in Blooming Prairie is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worleim.com.

Henry Winzenburg, 83, Owatonna

Henry Joseph Winzenburg, 83, of Owatonna, died Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020 at Traditions II in Owatonna.

He was born Jan. 12, 1937 in Freeborn County, the son of Merrill and Annette (Peterson) Winzenburg. He graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1955.

He continued his education at Mankato State earning a teaching degree in 1959. During the summers before college graduation, he worked at the canning company in Owatonna and Ulland Construction in Lansing.

After college, he taught one year in Randolph. While in the National Guards, he was offered a teaching position teaching the children of military personnel. He taught in Germany and Okinawa and then began his career in the airlines. He worked for Western Airlines in Las Vegas and Los Angeles. He took early retirement when Delta purchased Western Airlines and began working in golf course maintenance. He ended his work career driving shuttle for Delta Airlines, transporting pilots and crew from the airport to hotels and back.

Henry was an avid golfer and loved watching sports, especially the Minnesota Vikings.

He is survived by brothers, Edward (and Jackie) Winzenburg of Owatonna and George (and Sandy) Winzenburg of Blooming Prairie; brother-in-law, Donald Holm of Rochester; sister-in-law, Lois Winzenburg of Owatonna and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Merrill and Annette; and siblings, Betty (Norbert) Good, Marilyn Holm, Anita (Frank) Earl, Kenneth Winzenburg and Alice (Jerry) Bonat.

A Memorial Service will be held Oct. 9, 2020 at 11 a.m. at Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna with visitation one hour prior. Interment will be in St. Aiden's Cemetery in Bath.

Memorials are preferred to St. Croix Hospice or Traditions II.

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Vets Memorial fundraiser nets almost \$3K

Marilyn Meshke, co-chairwoman of the 2020 Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial breakfast/raffle, said the breakfast and raffle brought in \$2,838.

"We are very grateful for the support we received on the breakfast and raffle," said Meshke.

The breakfast drew 90 people. Meshke said 335 raffle tickets at \$5 each were sold for a

grand total of \$1,675.

Paige Vaith won the patriotic quilt, pieced by Marilyn Meshke and quilted by Ber Wack.

Diane Krejci won the second place prize of \$100 and Kristi Miner won the third place prize of \$50. Both cash prizes were turned back to the memorial.

Jackie Schlichter was co-chairwoman of the event.

ATTORNEY CLAIMS: FROM A

meeting with City Administrator Andrew Langholz and City Attorney Jason Iacovino. In that meeting, both indicated the city is not releasing any details regarding Skillestad's discipline. They also said the case is final unless Skillestad chooses to do something further with it.

On Friday, the Times made yet another written request to the city for the information. Iacovino replied that he would provide "a written explanation for our decision to not release that information in the coming days."

Minnesota Statute 13.43 governs personnel data, which is explicitly for government data on individuals maintained because the individual is or was an employee with the government entity.

"The application of the statute seems very clear in this case," said Mark Anfinsen, a veteran media law attorney who is representing the Times in its quest to have the information released.

"Since the chief was disciplined, the city must not only provide access to the final disposition of the disciplinary action, but also to the specific reasons for the action and data documenting the basis of the action," he said.

If Skillestad's performance review is the only data that documents the basis for the discipline, and if the review contains the specific reasons for the discipline, then disclosing that document would constitute full compliance with the statute, Anfinsen said.

Otherwise, he added, the additional information specified in the statute would also need to be provided.

Anfinsen is widely considered an expert in

First Amendment and information law in Minnesota. In fact, he has helped craft many of the open meeting and data privacy laws that exist today in the state.

The city's refusal to release details about Skillestad's discipline appears to be the second time city officials have violated state law over this particular issue.

The issue came to a boiling point at the Sept. 14 city council meeting when city leaders violated the state's Open Meeting Law by holding a closed session to discuss discipline against Skillestad.

The council failed to disclose what statute they were relying on to justify a closed session.

After the closed session, the council came back into regular session where members upheld Skillestad's performance evaluation and reprimand. Council member Mary Kittelson tried to rescind the discipline, but her effort failed.

Skillestad attended the council meeting with his attorney, Richard Wylie, of Minneapolis. Wylie is a civil rights attorney.

Since the meeting, the Times has made several requests for the reasons the city has disciplined Skillestad. However, city leaders are adamant about not releasing anything further.

Skillestad declined to comment about the matter and referred all questions to his attorney. Wylie did not return a request for comment from the Times.

Langholz confirmed he alone did the chief's performance evaluation as he does with all city department heads. The evaluation was completed in June and initially came before the council in July.

BOOK NOOK

Speeding things up at the library



NANCY
VAILLANCOURT

The Blooming Prairie Branch Library has been open to the public for computer use and browsing visits for over two months. We appreciate your patience as we have worked out better ways to serve you at this time. We will continue being open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. At first we limited computer use to four days per week, but will now have them available on Monday also.

We recently purchased two new computers, replacing ones that were 7 and

10 years old, practically ancient for computers! Our patrons have noted the speed of the new computers, plus they have newer versions of Windows that work better with updated programs you may be using.

When you come in to browse for something to read, watch, or listen to, grab a Pre-Election Stress Relief Bag while supplies last. It contains some items to help you relax at this trying time.

Don't forget the StoryWalk taking place on Sunday, October 11 from 1-3 p.m. The story if You Give a Mouse a Cookie will begin at Central Park near the water tower. There will be activities, treats, and surprises! Thanks to the Friends of the Library and the Owatonna Public Library for their support both financially and with great volunteers.

COLLEGE NEWS

Owatonna student in class of high achievement

Ethan Sellers of Owatonna is a member of the incoming undergraduate class at the University of Iowa in Iowa City that has topped previous records in achievement with a higher average high school grade-point average (GPA), at 3.78, than any previous class. The average high school GPA for the classes of 2023 and 2022 were 3.76 and 3.71, respectively.

Sellers is classified as an undergraduate - first year and a student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"These newest Hawkeyes are going to bring so much to our campus through their individual talents and perspectives, not to mention the incredible determination and tenacity they have demonstrated over these last months," says Kevin Kregel, interim executive vice president and provost.

"We look forward to making sure they have the breadth and depth of opportunities they deserve and the support they need to achieve their academic goals."

The Class of 2024 is composed of 4,530 students, 456 fewer than last year. A decrease in enrollment was anticipated due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the challenges brought forth by the pandemic, Sarah Hansen, vice president for student life, says the Hawkeye spirit is strong and resilient.

Just as we have overcome adversity in the past, we will overcome the considerable challenges we face with COVID-19. This year's incoming class is as accomplished and diverse as ever, and I know that they will make their mark on the University of Iowa," she says. "The Class of 2024 has already shown their resiliency as their senior year in high school was disrupted. We are so grateful to have them here on campus, and I look forward to working with our new students to continue our commitment to building a diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus community for all Hawkeyes."

Recipe Corner

Pumpkin Oatmeal Waffles

1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 cup oatmeal
 3 teaspoons baking powder
 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
 1 teaspoon cinnamon
 1 teaspoon nutmeg
 1 teaspoon ground ginger
 1 pinch salt
 2 eggs
 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
 1 2/3 cups buttermilk
 4 tablespoons butter, melted and cooled

Mix together flour, oatmeal, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, and salt in large bowl.

In a second bowl, add eggs, sugar, pumpkin, buttermilk, and butter; beat well.

Gently fold in the flour mixture.

Cook according to your waffle iron directions.

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STEELE COUNTY **Times**

BIRTHDAYS	
Oct. 8 Adam Trotman Brandon Haubenschild Ethan Jensen Mark Coughlin Victor Peterson Elisa Wright Jamie Klemmens Brad Bruggeman Kristin Bishop Steve Vaith	Oct. 12 Ian Paulson Travis Doocy Alexa Miner Aaron Anderson Leslie Shawback Jr. Scott Bassness
Oct. 9 Mark Coughlin Victor Peterson Elisa Wright Jamie Klemmens Brad Bruggeman Kristin Bishop Steve Vaith	Oct. 13 Rebecca Rogers Israel Wack Paula Ressler Chad Forystek Cody Burkhardt Lloyd Mans Rosamonde Koenig
ANNIVERSARIES	
Oct. 8 Carl & Kathi Peterson Oct. 10 Mark & Joan McDonald Oct. 14 Shelia & Gary Wiese	Oct. 11 Scott Mussel & Cathy Janning Oct. 12 Maynard & Judy Johnson Oct. 14 Mary & Joel Burr

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A far greater harvest is coming for us



Pastor Matt Fennell
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
BLOOMING PRAIRIE

As the days grow shorter and colder there is an intensity in the air of rural America. Farmers are hustling to gather in the harvest for another

year. This is crunch time, for it is the culmination and reward of all their careful planning and labor. Imagine the surprising shock a farmer would experience if when he begins to harvest the soybean field he had planted instead of soybeans green beans were gathered in! How could this have happened? He goes to Casey's to discuss the matter with all his friends. They begin to rib him for his foolishness. It's simple. If you got green beans it's because you planted green beans. Do you think your field is magic? Or perhaps you

should change your name to Jack because the beans are magick! This, of course, is ridiculous and would never happen. The farmer knows his craft far to well to make such an error. He plants what he desires and barring some catastrophic event receives to a greater or lesser degree his expectation. Let this time of harvest remind us of a far greater harvest that is coming for each of us. The day we receive the fruit from the seeds of our deeds. Consider if you will Galatians 6:7-10: *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man*

soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Notice please that a harvest is assured. It is guaranteed and I have a choice. Each of us gets to decide individually for himself. There is no corporate or familial pressure or influence that can assuage my respon-

sibility. I can sow seeds of selfishness that answer to the desires of the flesh. I can go through life living only to please myself. I can make each day all about me! I can insist in my foolish pride that it is sufficient to rely on myself righteousness and risk the consequences. Yet these will truly be disappointing crops when they are gathered in.

Each day is a field of opportunity. I also have the choice to listen to the Spirit of God as he speaks to my soul. I can choose his path of glorious Salvation of grace through faith. I can show forth that decision by further obe-

dience. As I go through each day I can make a conscious decision to please the Lord I can plant seeds of works that exemplify my faith and the nature of the God in which that faith rests.

In this time of harvest may it remind us to plant seeds worthy of the fields the Lord has given us. May we be blessed above measure in the great time of reaping and hear from the lips of our Lord. The wonderful truth is that if you don't like the crop you planted in the fields of yesterday you have the option of planting better seed in the field known as today.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN AURORA LUTHERAN 6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna Interim Pastor: Rev. Dale Jendrem 507-451-2819 office@auroralutheranchurch.org 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 Radd Ct., Ellendale Pastor Richard Sliper 507-684-2451 Men's Bible Study: 8 a.m. Saturday Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday (Kids church: 9 a.m. & Confirmation: 10:15 a.m.) Jesus and Me: 3:30 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday Call to Prayer: 7 p.m. Tuesday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Wednesday School: 6:15-7 p.m. followed by Youth Group: 7-9 p.m. FIRST LUTHERAN - ELCA 434 First St. SW, Blooming Prairie Senior Pastor: Rev. Heidi Heimgartner Associate Pastor: Rev. Mike Valerius 507-583-6621 firstlutheran.org Worship Service: 9 a.m. Sunday School: 9 a.m. FIRST LUTHERAN - LCMC 8955 SW 57th 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 - LCMC 2500 7th Ave. NE, Owatonna Pastor Greg Schlicker 507-451-4125 goodshepherdowatonna.com Indoor Worship: Sundays 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Online Worship: Sundays 9 a.m. or anytime on website MOLAND LUTHERAN - ELCA 7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon Pastor Nancy Edvardson 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 - LCMC 1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna Pastor Kirk Grubel 507-451-2720 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. Sun. RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN - ELCA 30456 Mower Freeway Road, Austin Pastor Leandra Anderson, Pastor 507-583-2038 or 507-437-3000	www.roglutheran.org Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN - LCMC 4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont Pastor Alan Broadwell 507-528-2404 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN - ELCA 28959 630th Ave., Sargant Pastor Collin Duling 507-251-5568 Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9 a.m. ST. JOHN LUTHERAN - ELCA 1101 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 Dohell 507-567-2474 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN - LCMC 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 Worship: 10:30 a.m. TRINITY LUTHERAN - ELCA 609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna 507-451-4520 tclowatonna.org Senior Pastor: Rev. Todd Buegler Deacon: Kris Opegegaard 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 Henschel 507-477-2248 www.trinityhayfield.org Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. TRINITY LUTHERAN - LCMC 108 Third Ave. SW, Medford Pastor Mark Bieghasser 507-451-0447 Worship: Sunday 9 a.m. in Sanctuary Wednesday 6:30 p.m. outdoor south side lawn, bring lawn chairs First Friday & Saturday TRINITY LUTHERAN - LCMC 5704 306th St., Waltham Pastor Jesse Krusemark 507-567-2272	Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. ZION LUTHERAN - ELCA 7135 SW 59th St., Ellendale Pastor: Rev. Dean Smith Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN - ELCA 1909 St. Paul Road, Owatonna Senior Pastor: John Weisenburger Associate Pastor: Lisa Carlson 507-451-4853 ouraviorsowatonna.com Worship: 8:15 a.m., Traditional, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Education 10:45 a.m., Contemporary CATHOLIC CHRIST THE KING 205 Second Ave. NW, Medford 507-451-6353 Father James Starasnick 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 Pastor Brian Mulligan 507-234-6244 Mass: 5 p.m. Sunday HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL 9945 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna Father John Wilmut 507-583-2784 www.litomysl.webs.com Sunday Mass at 8:30 a.m. Litomysl Finance Council: 2nd Thursday Litomysl Pastoral Council: 2nd Thursday every other month <i>Litomysl Summer Festival has been cancelled for 2020</i> SACRED HEART CATHOLIC 150 NE Second St., Hayfield Father John Wilmut 507-477-2256 Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday Reconciliation: 3:45 pm Saturday SACRED HEART PARISH 810 S.E. Cedar Ave., Owatonna Father John Sten Panchal Vicar 507-451-1588 www.sacredheartowatonna.org Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 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 John Wilmut 507-583-2784 www.stcolumbanuschurch.com Mass: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Reconciliation: 9 a.m. First Friday & Saturday ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH 512 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna	Father James Starasnick Deacon Patrick Fagan 507-451-4845 Saturday Mass: 4 p.m. Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m. Reconciliation: 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 lock required after hours or weekends CHRISTIAN CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT 540 SE 18th St., Owatonna Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor 507-451-1032 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m. PENTECOSTAL FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL 230 Locust Ave., Owatonna Pastor Eliazar Talamantes 507-363-2240 Worship: 10 a.m. 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 Cirkens 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 Rev. Lisa J. Vick Pastor 507-451-4734 www.owatonnamc.org Traditional Worship (Pathways): 9 a.m. Sunday	CEDAR CREEK 30 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Aaron de Neul 507-477-2255 www.cedarcreekchurch.org Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. DESTINY CHRISTIAN 2515 Harvest Lane NW, Owatonna Pastors Rich and Amy Petet 507-456-4775 www.destinyinc.org Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday: 6:30-7:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Wednesday 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 352 14th St. NE, Owatonna Pastor 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 CableCo) Pastor Todd Lundgren 507-451-5661 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday	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 651-955-4032 Worship: 11 a.m. Sat. Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Sat. UCC CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 211 Main St. S., Medford Rev. Richard Waters 507-451-4996 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. ASSEMBLY OF GOD VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 702 Third St. S., Ellendale Pastor Patrick Stitt 507-484-3421 www.vibrantlifeg.org 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 Carla Nelson 507-272-8834 www.firstbaptistowatonna.com Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. BETHEL BAPTIST 1611 Hemlock Ave. Owatonna Pastor Michael Simmerman 507-451-8548 www.bethelowatonna.com Worship: 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
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Cast members rehearse recently for the Little Theatre of Owatonna's production of "Cat's Cradle," a mystery story set in a small English town. The performance opens Friday night.

Little Theatre debuts new mystery after COVID hiatus

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

After a five-month hiatus, the Little Theatre of Owatonna will debut a new mystery play to draw in audiences. The play, "Cat's Cradle," is an intriguing story set in England.

"The plot of the story is there is an inspector named Jack Frost who is about to retire from the police force," director Jon Terrill explained. "He failed to solve a kidnapping years ago and before he retires, he returns to the village to solve it."

This sets up an intriguing mystery of sorts as the inspector tries to solve that old case. "When he returns there to solve the kidnapping, he finds out that no one in the village wants him to solve the case," Terrill said.

Terrill is a veteran of the Little Theatre, having directed 10 plays prior to this

one and having acted and worked behind the scenes on over 40 productions there. One of the things that inspired Terrill to try his hand at directing this play was the cast of characters.

"The characters are really interesting, it's an ensemble cast and everyone gets a moment to shine so it appealed to me in that way," he explained. "I really like shows where everyone has their own motivation."

To bring these characters to life Terrill employs a cast of eight. "It's a mixture of extremely experienced actors and some who haven't acted since their high school days," he said. "It's a really diverse cast."

For Terrill and his actors, part of the joy is returning back to the stage. "It's good to be back. It's almost like we took a five-month break," he quipped.

"We open on Friday and it will be awesome to get back and have people there."

While the Little Theatre will not be running on full capacity, the production will be offered for live streaming on its website for those who are unable to get a seat. "We are doing some filming there on certain nights so that people can watch it live," Terrill said.

"There's a surprise ending to the show," he mentioned while detailing the allure a mystery like this has. "It's a very enjoyable mystery that will keep you guessing on why that mystery is there."

The Little Theatre of Owatonna's production of "Cat's Cradle" will debut on Friday, Oct. 9. It will also be performed Oct. 10-11 and 16-18. For those looking to get into the Halloween mood, this old-fashioned mystery is the perfect place to start.



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Hometown Living

STEELE COUNTY TIMES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020

B1

Kruckeberg acquires new company to be moved to BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Kruckeberg Industries, a business development investment company, has acquired a 20% stake in SafeWood Designs, a Minnesota company specializing in "ballistic" protection.

Primary offerings revolve around the patented ballistic storefront system, which is inclusive of the windows, doors, frames and surrounding walls. The company's manufacturing will be brought to Blooming Prairie.

Ballistic protections can be matched to new

or existing finishes and integrate with furniture or other interior elements to provide multiple layers of defense.

The company offers layered protection from threats like active shooters, civil unrest and domestic attacks.

"Protective, yet warm and inviting," SafeWood Designs President Jason Horner explains. Projects can range from buildings on the historic registry to sleek contemporary Scandinavian styles.

The systems can be installed in virtually any setting and are a counterpoint to concerns that increasing

security would give a "prison-like" feel to the look of commercial and government buildings, churches, residences and schools.

"Our intent is for the protection measures to blend seamlessly into the surrounding environment and to just become part of your day," Horner said.

Craig Kruckeberg, owner of Kruckeberg Industries, saw an opportunity "in this era of increased threat awareness and protective requirements," he said. SafeWood Designs delivers a product for the times, Kruckeberg remarked.

SafeWood Designs is experiencing rapid growth of its Bullet Resistant (BR) glass, ke-vlar and door products. The company's product line has expanded to include patent pending bullet resistant white boards and concealed slide outs.

SafeWood continues to look to expand its manufacturing capabilities and capacity. Kruckeberg said he saw synergies with his manufacturing experience and facilities in Blooming Prairie.

Space became available after the Minimizer company he grew and sold, moved to Owatonna.

Kruckeberg called Horner and they made a deal. The all-cash investment includes SafeWood Designs moving manufacturing to Blooming Prairie in the coming months.

Kruckeberg Industries of Blooming Prairie is a holding and management company founded in 2013.

The objective of Kruckeberg Industries is to pursue strategic mergers and acquisition opportunities, as well as joint ventures that drive products

through existing distribution channels within the company's holdings.



CRAIG KRUCKEBERG

Kruckeberg Industries' top tier management team has more than 50 years of experience ranging from start-ups to well-established companies.

Another phase completed



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Pete Paulson shows off the new commercial grade kitchen at the Ellendale Community Center. The kitchen is equipped with stainless steel appliances and sinks. This is the third phase of a renovation project that began four years ago at the center.

Ellendale Community Center gets a modernized kitchen

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

It has been four years in the works, but the renovation of the Ellendale Community Center is finally nearing completion.

A collaboration effort between the Community Foundation of Ellendale and the City of Ellendale has most recently produced a modernized kitchen. The new kitchen is the third phase of the project that started back in 2016. Handicapped accessible entrance

IF YOU GO

Apple Crisp Sundae
Sunday, Oct. 11: 1-3 p.m.
Ellendale Community Center
Free-will donations

doors and bathrooms were previously completed as part of the project.

Pete Paulson, a member of CFE, is one of several community members that has donated his time for the kitchen and other projects at the center. Paulson said renovating the kitchen was long overdue as it was still the original from when the building was built in 1974.

The kitchen project cost around \$50,000, including about \$10,000 of in-kind donations, according to Paulson. The largest portion of the project was fixtures and appliances totaling about \$25,000. Stainless steel tables and sinks cost around \$15,000.

Funding for the project came from donations, fundraisers and matching grants. The city also kicked in some money for the project.

The kitchen includes commercial size ovens instead of the regular-sized stoves that had been used for years.

As part of the kitchen project, a door was added to create a small electrical room. Paulson said separating the electrical from the rest of the kitchen was done for safety reasons.

Organizers of the project plan to unveil the kitchen during an apple crisp sundae this Sunday, Oct. 11 from 1-3 p.m. A free-will donation will be taken to help offset the costs of the project.

"We wanted to serve something out of our new kitchen," said Paulson. "We wanted to do something we could do safely with COVID."

Paulson hopes center will become a focal point for community events

SEE ANOTHER PHASE, B2

Medford prepares to award COVID funds

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

After receiving \$96,737 in CARES Act funds, the City of Medford is currently reviewing applications and looking to distribute a chunk of that to local businesses and organizations.

"To date our total expenditures, including those not yet reported, equal approximately \$15,000," City Administrator Andy Welti said. "The city will be reimbursed out of the CARES funding."

During the regular council meeting last week, Welti informed the council that the city had received five applications as of Sept. 22. The deadline for applications was Sept. 30. "Right now, at this time, we have \$17,000 in requests that should be approved and awarded," he said.

Welti explained that he is anticipating another \$15,000 in submissions prior to the deadline. "So, we would be looking at about \$32,000 now for just small business relief fund grants," he said. "There's still a few more days until the deadline."

The council will approve funds during its Oct. 26 meeting with checks going out no later than Oct. 30. Any funds that are not spent by Nov. 1 will be returned to the county and then returned to the state.

Medford Schools and the Medford Fire Department both stand to receive funding. The Fire Department has proposed purchasing first responder gear to provide protection for the pandemic to the tune of \$28,000.

Meanwhile, Medford Schools have submitted

SEE MEDFORD, B2

Exciting news at Pathways



Steele Talkin'
JESS STROMLEY

Almost time to break out those winter coats. Unique Finds Bring on the Warmth Coat Drive started Oct. 1 and goes till the end of the month. You can drop off new or gently used coats here at Community Pathways on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., any day at Cashwise or check with your local

church to see if they are collecting coats for Unique Finds.

We have some exciting news to share. We applied for and received a transportation grant through The Department of Human Services and Hunger Solutions for our Mobile Food Program. With this grant we purchased a 14-foot trailer that will be used for community outreach as our delivery program is expanding. Our first outreach will be at Straight River Park in Medford on Oct. 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be there to answer any questions you might have about this program and will also

SEE EXCITING NEWS, B2



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MnDOT set to remove illegal signs

The Minnesota Department of Transportation in southeast Minnesota will be removing campaign signs and other advertising not allowed under state law on highway right of way.

Over the last few months, MnDOT has been contacting individuals in southeast Minnesota where signs are located on a state highway right of way to remove them and educate them about the state laws regarding placement of signs off of state property and only on land where the landowner has agreed to its placement.

MnDOT is required to remove unlawfully placed signs and will begin doing so on Oct. 1. The increase in signs being placed during the fall election campaign has significantly increased the workload for MnDOT permits specialists who enforce the laws.

MnDOT has contacted Republican and DFL county leaders in southeast Minnesota about legal sign placement and plans to remove signs beginning Oct. 1.

Highway rights of way include driving lanes, inside and outside shoulders, ditches and sight corners at intersections. Landowner consent is needed to place signs on private property outside of the right of way.

Violation of the law (Minn. Stat. 160.27) is a misdemeanor. Civil penalties also may apply if the placement of a sign contributes to a motor vehicle crash and injures a person or damages a motor vehicle that runs off the road.

The Minnesota Outdoor Advertising Control Act (Minn. Stat. 173.15) also prohibits placing advertising materials on public utility poles, trees and

shrubs, and painting or drawing on rocks or natural features.

When improperly placed signs are removed by MnDOT, every effort is made to temporarily store the sign and notify the owner where the signs can be retrieved.

For information about the proper placement of campaign signs or where to retrieve signs, contact the local MnDOT office at 507-286-7500. See also mndot.gov/govrel/rw_signs.html. When placing signs, the best way to avoid an emergency or unintentionally striking an underground facility is to call 811 before digging, according to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. Go to the Gopher State One Call website and request that underground utilities be marked near the area of the digging.

VFW Auxiliary offers Fall Americanism Essay Contest

Fifth grade students in Owatonna, Medford and NRHEG schools are invited to participate in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Fall Essay Contest.

The theme, "What the American Flag Means to Me" is to be written in 250 words or less. Essays are to be submitted to the VFW Auxiliary at VFW Post 3723, 135 Oakdale St., Owatonna, MN 55060 by Nov. 1 or left at school offices before Oct. 30 (entries to be picked up Nov. 2).

Teachers may present the contest as a classroom project or individual families may submit their child's entry. Local winners will be submitted to District judging and District winners will be then submitted to Department judging.

Award will be presented on a local district and department levels awards will be presented to winners on local, district and department auxiliary levels. All entries will be returned after the Department Awards are announced at the VFW Mid-Winter Conference in January.

Essays may be hand-written or typed and must be submitted in a paper form. On the back of the essay (to ensure fairness in judging) please include student's full name (with parent permission), name of school, teacher's name, name of parent(s), and parent phone or email contact information. Teacher and parent information is needed to contact winners and the return of entries not submitted through the schools.



New Richland • Hartland • Ellendale • Geneva PANTHER OF THE WEEK



Hunter Thompson

Hunter Thompson is this week's Panther of the Week. His parents are Jerry and Janet Thompson from Albert Lea. He is in Mr. Beynon's third grade class.

This is Hunter's first year in this district. Hunter always comes to class prepared and ready to learn. He has a positive attitude and loves to share his ideas with the class. Hunter loves all the Jurassic Park movies and wants to be a paleontologist when he grows up. He also loves hot dogs. We're very excited and lucky to have Hunter be a part of our NRHEG family. Keep up the great work!

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EXCITING NEWS: at Pathways FROM B1

be doing registrations and distributing food to those who qualify.

Toys for Tots applications are in, they can be picked up and dropped off here. Applications are being accepted through Dec. 1. The distribution dates are Monday, Dec. 14 through Thursday, Dec. 17. The distribution location will be at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna. You can also mail

applications to Toys for Tots Family to Family at P.O. Box 199 Owatonna, MN 55060. Due to COVID-19 there will be no on-site registration.

We need volunteers! There are several positions available. Our volunteer opportunities are for three 3 1/2-hour shifts. You can work one day a month, two days every other week, or one day a week. The

amount of time is up to you. Volunteers are the backbone of our operations. Without their dedication to our organization and generous help, we could not provide the services we offer today. If you are interested in volunteering contact Kyle 507-455-2991.

Keep up to date with what is happening here at Community Pathways by visiting

our website at www.communitypathwayscc.org or follow us on Facebook.

Jess Stromley is the fund development and marketing coordinator for Community Pathways in Owatonna. Steele Talkin' is a regular column featuring authors representing various organizations throughout Steele County.

ANOTHER PHASE: completed FROM B1

again. He noted many groups had found other venues to utilize for their events in recent years because of issues with the aging structure. The biggest issue was the outdated kitchen, and many groups went to the United Methodist Church. "We hope some of the community groups will come back to use the facility," he said. Specifically, Paulson hopes having a user-friendly kitchen that is bright and clean will

be a big draw for groups to come back.

There are currently eight people on the CFE Board, including Paulson, Larry and Emily Otto, Arlen and Colleen Brekke, Sherry Schott, Tiffany Krueger and Stephanie Kibler.

Paulson said the CFE was resurrected in 2016 after being dormant for several years. The group meets the first Monday of each month. In addition to being involved with

the community center project, CFE also gives out \$500 scholarships to students going into the trades.

For Paulson, being involved with CFE and the renovation project is all about being a part of the community. "Community members put in a lot to get the building here (in 1974)," he said. "We owe it to them to maintain it. Sometimes we don't think about maintaining things until it's too late. We

want to have a nice facility."

Paulson's parents, Al and Millie, owned the local hardware store in the 1970s. His mother grew up in Ellendale. Paulson left the area for a while but moved back in 2011.

Next on the docket is new carpeting and ceiling treatments for the hallway. "We just want to spruce the place up," Paulson said, adding the carpeting has been talked about for several years.

MEDFORD: prepares to award COVID funds FROM B1

a request to the city to commit some funds for the purchase of iPad and iPad cases for students who were learning from home.

The district is asking for \$13,158, although due to Minnesota Management and Budget guidelines the distribution of CRF dollars to

the district may not be possible.

After the EDA board reviews applications during its Oct. 14 meeting, they will provide

recommendations to the council for approval on the Oct. 26 meeting. After that checks will be written up and ready to go out.



ASK THE MOTOR MEDICS
By Shannon Nordstrom and Russ Evans

Dear Motor Medics,
I am driving a 2005 Dodge Mega Cab truck with the 5.7 gasoline engine. Over the past year it has developed an exhaust leak. The leak started as a chirp that was only noticeable when cold and it progressed into a loud noise that now is audible all the time. I have had it in for an estimate and two shops have given me two quite different estimates which include replacing both exhaust manifolds with new parts. These shops are so far apart I just do not know where to take it. One is almost 900 dollars less than the other. Is there any advice you can offer me?

Dave in Wheaton Minnesota
You are not alone Dave. Exhaust leakage on trucks has been an issue for many years. When a truck has pulled loads, they get the exhaust extremely hot which warps the manifolds. Even trucks which do not see a lot of pulling can eventually warp. When the warpage occurs the rusted exhaust manifold hardware often breaks, and this is where the extra money comes in. Getting the broken bolts out of the cylinder heads can be exceedingly difficult. Sometimes they simply screw out but often they require welding nuts to them for extraction or drilling and tapping to remove them. In the worst cases the head has to come off which is even more. Always get an estimate which includes all possible outcomes, so you are not left surprised.

Take care, The Motor Medics

Dear Motor Medics,
I am the proud owner of a 2000 Volks Wagon New Beetle Convertible with a 1.8 Turbocharged engine. I have driven the car 350k miles and made it until 300k before replacing the transmission. Other than that, the only major repairs were replacing a timing belt which has been done 4 times since I purchased the car new. I have started having issues with my speedometer. The gauge will just stop working sometimes for a day and other times for a week and then it may pop up and work for a month by itself. Three shops have not been able to find it because it always works for them although it did quit for a few miles for one of them. The car is still nice, but I do not want to keep spending money to fix the speedometer. What can I do to get it working? One more thing. When the speedometer quits the cruise will not work but it drives perfectly.

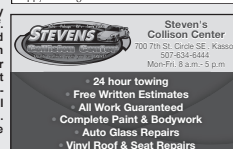
Jose in Bottineau North Dakota
People tend to love their Volkswagens. As for your speedometer, if a shop cannot see the issue for an extended period, they will not be able to repair it. Going back for a check may be a waste of cash. When it fails completely, then is the time for repairs. If the car works perfectly you may want to try an on the dash GPS unit with a speedo function as an option.

Take care, The Motor Medics



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Traffic delays expected on I-35 by Faribault

Southbound Interstate 35 motorists north of Faribault are likely to experience traffic delays that began Sept. 24 when concrete pavement repairs began on the highway, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The concrete pavement repairs require closing one lane of traffic in the southbound lanes approximately four miles north of Faribault, so crews can replace the damaged concrete panels and failed joints in the lane. The project is expected to be completed in October.

Average daily traffic volumes in the work zone of I-35 are 33,500 vehicles. Traffic delays and backups are likely especially during key commuting hours in the mornings, after-

noons and weekend.

Additional concrete pavement repair work is planned elsewhere in the region later in September:

- Westbound Interstate 90 from Stewartville to Austin. Starts Sept. 28.

- Hwy. 56 from West Concord to Hwy. 14. Starts Sept. 30 - Traffic will detour during this work. The route is east from West Concord on Dodge County Road 24 to Dodge County Road 7 south to Dodge Center.

Motorists can plan in advance to leave earlier for their destinations or seek alternate routes to avoid potential traffic delays. Monitor real-time traffic and travel information in Minnesota, is through MnDOT's traffic and road conditions map at

www.511mn.org, call 5-1-1 or log on to www.mndot.gov.

Motorists will be alerted to the work in advance. MnDOT urges motorists to always be attentive, drive with caution, slow down in work zones and never enter a road blocked with barriers or cones. Following guidance from state and federal health officials, and to prevent further spread of COVID-19, crews will maintain social distancing practices while working.



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I-35 rest area at Heath Creek reopens after facelift

The northbound Interstate 35 Heath Creek Rest Area north of Faribault has reopened after construction was finished, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The Heath Creek Rest Area has been closed since May. Project work included: repaving existing parking lots and access ramps, reconstructing

sidewalks along rest area parking lots and upgrading and expanding parking lot lighting systems.

Ulland Brothers was the contractor for the \$2.6 million project.

To find a rest area in Minnesota, use MnDOT's website search tool to learn about services and access at each site: www.mndot.gov/restareas.

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Celebrating homecoming



Despite the pandemic, Owatonna Schools still celebrated Homecoming this past week. Ashton Jensen was crowned king while Wilo Omot was chosen queen. The naming of the royalty was actually a part of "Homecoming Part 1." The school plans to bring back the traditional homecoming events in the spring.

Update on current COVID data and learning model

Owatonna Public Schools is in regular contact with our partners at Steele County Public Health regarding the most up-to-date case numbers for Steele County. Our trend data indicates that we had a slight increase to 19.05 cases per 10,000 in early September, but since then we have been trending downward to our current rate of 14.72 cases per 10,000.

This case count and our trend data indicate that our current learning models of everyday in-person learning with hybrid protocols including smaller class sizes and social distancing for elementary students and hybrid learning for grades 6-12 are working, per education and health guidelines provided by the state.

In the event that we have a large outbreak of community transmission, we are prepared to switch to distance learning for all students – and we would notify parents immediately using our parent contact system. If we continue to see our case numbers trending downward, we are also prepared to consider engaging our students more frequently with in-person instruction. Whatever we do, the health, safety and educational experience of our students and staff are our priorities.

Five fast facts about Levy 2020

Owatonna Public Schools has two questions on the November 3 ballot: Q1 to renew the existing operating levy that is about to expire; Q2 to increase the operating levy in two phases – in 2022 and 2025.

1. Funds from the levy increase would be used to maintain:

- quality programming and activities

• appropriate class sizes

- career-technical education programs

2. Because Q2 phases in the levy increase over time, the tax impact is phased in as well – **with no tax increase until 2022**.

3. The state will match every three local dollars with one state dollar through equalization aid – but

only if voters renew the levy and reinvest in the district.

4. The School Board unanimously approved this as a shared approach: budget cuts on the district side with a request to voters to increase the operating levy on the community side.

5. If voters do not approve the levy increase, the district

will face millions in additional budget cuts over the next three years, resulting in:

- class size increases through teacher and staff layoffs
- cuts to school and district support services
- cuts to academics, athletics and music programs

RENEW & REINVEST

OWATONNA

STRONG SCHOOLS = STRONG COMMUNITIES
VOTE 11.3.20

Learn more: www.isd761.org/levy

Owatonna Students of the Week



David Johnson
8th Grade
Parents: Jeremy and Hannah Johnson
David has stood out in band this year by working hard on knowledge of music note name, values, and music vocabulary. Even with the crazy start to the year, he has been on task, energetic, and helpful to other students. With this attitude, David will excel at anything he sets his mind to!



Daniela Ortiz
11th Grade
Parents: Rosendo Ortiz and Hermelinda Avila
Daniela Ortiz brightens up the classroom by being respectful to her teachers and her peers. She works hard to make sure everyone feels included and she understands what is going on. Ortiz is diligent about getting her work done on time and asking clarifying questions to make sure she has a firm understanding of the material. She truly is an outstanding student!

Virtual Coffee and Conversation with Superintendent

The community is invited to join Superintendent Jeff Elstad for a virtual "coffee and conversation" on Friday, Oct. 9 at 8 a.m. Hear an update on what's been happening within the

school district and bring any questions you have. RSVP to shoffman@isd761.org to receive the virtual meeting details. We hope you are able to participate!

What do you think?



These young girls seem to be wondering "What do you think of my pretty hat?" The elementary grades celebrated homecoming week with Hat Day and other activities.

RE-ELECT RICK GNEMI
Steele County District 3 Commissioner

RickGnemiforCommissioner.com

Prepared and Paid for by Rick Gnemi for County Commissioner



Let's keep your tax dollars working for you, not the other way around!

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

OCT. 6

10:30 a.m. – Storytime Online, Facebook Live

OCT. 11

11 a.m. – If You Give a Mouse a Cookie Storywalk, Central Park Water Tower

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

OCT. 9

10 a.m. – SEMCAQ, Community Building

OCT. 13

7 p.m. – Berlin Township Meeting, Community Building

OCT. 11

Noon – Ellendale Community Foundation Event, Community Building

OCT. 14

10 a.m. – SEMCAQ, Community Building

OCT. 12

10 a.m. – SEMCAQ, Community Building

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

OCT. 10

7 a.m. – Farmers Market, Central Park
11 a.m. – If You Give a Mouse a Cookie Storywalk, Lake Kohlmeier
7 p.m. – Cat's Cradle, Little Theatre of Owatonna

5 p.m. – Steele

County Board Meeting, County Admin Building
5:30 p.m. – Owatonna Human Rights Commission Meeting, City Hall
5:30 p.m. – Owatonna Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall

OCT. 11

7 p.m. – Cat's Cradle, Little Theatre of Owatonna

OCT. 14

5:30 p.m. – Medford EDA Meeting, City Hall

OCT. 12

4:30 p.m. – Owatonna Park Board Meeting, City Hall

OCT. 15

10:30 a.m. – Storytime Online with Darla, Facebook Live

OCT. 13

9:30 a.m. – Garden Time, Owatonna Library
10:30 a.m. – Storytime Online with Darla, Facebook Live

Donations begin rolling in



The United Way of Steele County is beginning to receive donations for its new campaign. Last week Ben Flemke of the Flemke Agency made a \$500 donation to the United Way. He is shown with United Way President Annette Duncan accepting the check. Flemke wrote a grant through one of his insurance partners on behalf of the United Way. Duncan says the funds will help ensure that families and individuals in crisis have the services they need to get back on track.



It is not too early to start thinking about the holiday season and those in need.

The 2020 Steele County Toys for Tots applications are now available for download on the Toys for Tots website and at various Steele County locations starting Oct. 1.

Applications for the Steele County Toys for Tots Program are available at the following locations:

- BP Public Library
- Ellendale Food Shelf
- Lerberg's Foods
- First National Bank
- Hope
- State Bank of Red Wing – Medford
- Minnesota Prairie County Alliance
- Owatonna Public Library
- Salvation Army
- Steele County Employment Services
- Community Pathways of Steele County
- Steele County Public Health

The completed application may be returned to Minnesota Prairie County

Alliance; or Community Pathways of Steele County or mailed to:

Steele County Toys for Tots/Family To Family
P.O. Box 199
Owatonna, MN 55060

Parents/Guardians and children must live in Steele County. Children must be 15 and younger as of Dec. 31, and school-aged must be attending school or home schooled.

The application must be completed by the parents or guardians. If you have shared or joint custody please indicate by including that person's name and their address. The application deadline is Friday, Dec. 4.

Because of COVID-19 Steele County Toys for Tots will select and bag your gifts. Recipients will not be selecting their own toys as they have in the past. Please include the type of toys your children would like on application.

Please print clearly and accurately on your application so volunteers can help select the best fit for your child.

Distribution dates are Dec. 14-17. Applicants will be notified of the date, time and pick-up location by email or letter.

Toys for Tots of Steele County has been in existence for more than 38 years. It operates within the national U.S. Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots program, which began in 1947. Its objective is to collect and distribute NEW and UNWRAPPED toys to Steele County needy children at Christmas. Cash and gift cards received are used to purchase toys as per directives from our national organization.

For more information about Steele County Toys for Tots visit their website <http://owatonna-mn.toysfortots.org> or go to the Steele County Toys for Tots Facebook page for updates.

Owatonna VFW seeks applicants for scholarship

Seniors in the Owatonna and Medford school districts are eligible for a scholarship through the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3723. The \$500 scholarship is being offered in memory of Beatrice Natzel and her endless dedication to educating youth and adults about Americanism.

Applicants must be a graduating high school senior in Owatonna or Medford and must have participated in the VFW Voice of Democracy or Young American Patriotic Art programs within the last four years of high school. Candidates must also be furthering their education as a full-time student at a post secondary institution.

Those wishing to be considered must write a short essay on "What being an American Means to Me." A high school transcript must also be submitted with the application along with a photo.

Application forms are available at the high schools or the Owatonna VFW at 135 Oakdale St. The competition information can be found online at VFW.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships.

The deadline for applications is Oct. 31. The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship contest is also available online with a deadline of March 31.

For more details contact Abraham at 507-475-1755 or geegham@gmail.com.

Escape Artists exhibit comes to Owatonna

A new exhibit, Escape Artists, is on display at the Owatonna Arts Center. The exhibit, which began Sunday, runs through Nov. 22.

Modern-day life is busy and filled with so many things that one must do that it is difficult to find time to make art and enjoy great food. Over the years a group of artists have gathered for a weekend retreat to just make art and share their creativity.

Susanne Crane was invited to one of the outings. She was so impressed with creativity and dynamics of the informal group that she wanted to document it. She was awarded a grant to publish a book documenting the "Escape Artists" from Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council. Eighteen artists over 35 years have participated.

Following social distancing guidelines there will be a reception on Sunday, Nov. 1, from 1-4 p.m. It is also one of Owatonna's iconic artist's 80th birthday. Stop in a say "Happy Birthday" to Dee Teller and have a cupcake.

Elect Shea 24a

Minnesota House

Prepared and paid for by Elect Tom Shea 24a Committee
P.O. Box 187 • Owatonna, MN 55060

Sudoku Corner

	8		5				1	7
1					8		5	9
9		5				6	3	
4	6	3	8	7	9	1		5
8		2					4	
		7		2	4		8	
7	5	9	2	8				4
		8	7	3				1
6					8			2

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Answers

2	1	8	9	7	6	1	5	9
1	6	9	9	5	2	8	7	2
7	9	5	1	8	2	6	9	1
5	8	6	7	2	9	1	1	9
9	7	1	5	9	1	2	6	8
9	2	1	6	1	8	5	9	7
8	5	9	1	1	7	9	2	6
6	9	2	8	9	5	7	1	1
1	1	7	2	6	9	9	8	5

AAUW to take a virtual hike

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Owatonna members invite interested guests and potential members to attend their meeting on Oct. 12 at 7 p.m., via Zoom. River Bend's mission is "to help people discover, enjoy, understand

and preserve the incredible natural world that surrounds us."

RENC has 10 miles of multi-use trails and provides environmental education, conservation and recreation programs, events and activities.

Auditions set for holiday production at Little Theatre

Little Theatre of Owatonna (LTO) has announced auditions for its holiday production of "A Tuna Christmas" by Ed Howard, Joe Sears, Jason Williams.

The auditions will take place on Sunday, Oct. 11 and Monday, Oct. 12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Sharon Stark Auditorium, 580 Dunneil Dr., Owatonna.

Bev Cashman is the artistic director and Kathy Purdie the technical director.

Now is your chance to experience Christmas in the third-smallest town in Texas. Radio station OKKK news personalities Thurston Wheelis and Arlen Struvin report on various Yuletide activities, including the hot competition in the annual lawn-display contest. In other news, voracious Joe Bob Lipsey's production of A Christmas Carol is jeopardized by unpaid electric bills. Many colorful Tuna

denizens join in the holiday fun. A Tuna Christmas is as total delight for all seasons. Audiences will enjoy this laugh-filled evening of Holiday FUN!

LTO is looking to cast four individuals to play multiple roles and understudies at this time. Two male adults and two female adults. Understudies would need to be at all rehearsals just

SEE AUDITIONS, B9



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Apply online at costco.com

Fall beauty



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRID

Fall is declared one of the most beautiful seasons of the year as attested by this tree foliage. Fall colors will be heading into peak over the next couple weeks throughout the region.

VFW needs help to recognize teachers

Nominate a teacher for the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.

Each year exceptional teachers are recognized for their outstanding commitment to teach Americanism and patriotism to their students. Teachers who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette, plan trips to city hall or the state capital, organize community volunteer projects, invite local veterans

to speak in the classroom or anything to help students develop a better understanding of democratic values are prime candidates for this award.

There are three categories for those who teach in grades K - 5, 6 - 8 and 9 - 12.

• Step 1 - 350 word or less description of why the nominee deserves recognition.

• Step 2 - Download and complete the Award nomination form at vfw.org/community/

youth-and-education/teacher-of-the-year or pick up a form at the VFW Post Home, 135 Oakdale St., Owatonna. Nominations can be submitted by themselves, fellow teachers, supervisors, family, or other interested individuals.

• Step 3 - Submit nomination form and description to the local VFW Post 3723 Teacher Award Chairman, Dave Thul, by Oct. 31 at 135 Oakdale St. or P.O. Box 767, if mailed.



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PETERSBURG



14

Promises Kept

- **Highway 14** - Secured funding that finishes the four lanes between Owatonna and Dodge Center.
- **Supporting Law Enforcement** - Strongly opposes radical efforts to defund police departments.



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In the old Godfather's Pizza Building

Volunteers clean up area rivers

For over decade, volunteers from Owatonna, Northfield, Faribault, and other area communities have spent a morning cleaning up litter from the Cannon River, the Straight River, and area lakes as part of the Cannon River Watershed-Wide CleanUP.

With the pandemic still in full swing and most other community events cancelled, the Cannon River Watershed Partnership (CRWP), the nonprofit that coordinates the largest cleanup event in Minnesota, wasn't sure what to expect.

"We knew that some people might not attend a public event, even if it is outdoors and people are wearing masks," said Cannon River Watershed Partnership Executive Director Kristi Pursell. "And while some long-time volunteers didn't attend this year, a lot of first-time volunteers did show up. It was great to see so much support for this community clean water event."

In 2019, about 175 volunteers cleaned up area rivers and lakes. This year over 200 volunteers at-

tended CleanUPs in Owatonna, Medford, Northfield, Faribault and Cannon Falls. The volunteers included over 70 students from St. Olaf College and 30 volunteers from the American Heritage Girls youth group.

In addition to the "public" CleanUPs, several families and groups had private CleanUPs over the weekend as well, including the Willing Welchers 4-H group from Welch and the Shields Lake Association on Shields Lake. For the first time this year, families could request a "CleanUP At Home" kit with masks, gloves, and garbage bags, so they could do the CleanUP on their

own. A dozen families did their own CleanUPs this year.

"It was really great to see people from all walks of life working together to clean up the Cannon and Straight rivers," said Drew Nusbbaum, Volunteer Site Leader at Two Rivers Park in Faribault. "It's enough to give a person hope for the future."

Groups found a bicycle, car tires, glass bottles, and lots of discarded fishing line in addition to plastic bottles and food wrappers. Volunteers collected an estimated 8,500 pounds of litter this year. Many cities, including Northfield and Faribault, donated dumpster space to help volunteers clean up area parks and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Volunteers gather in Owatonna at the Wausau Chalet in Morehouse Park to clean the nearby river. They were part of more than 200 volunteers that helped clean area rivers and water ways throughout the region.

river banks. Since its inception in 2009, over 2,650 volunteers have picked up over 164,800 pounds of litter from riverbanks, parks, and lakeshores in the region. If you would like to

take part in the 2021 CleanUP, mark your calendar for the third Saturday in September. Next year's CleanUP takes place on Sept. 18. To learn more visit www.crwp.net/cleanup.

Elect Shea 24a Minnesota House

Prepared and paid for by Elect Tom Shea 24a Committee
P.O. Box 187 • Owatonna, MN 55060

Mayo offers flu vaccine appointments

Mayo Clinic Health System will offer flu vaccines across its Southeast Minnesota locations to patients 6 months and older starting Sept. 28.

Now more than ever, Mayo Clinic and the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend all people 6 months and older get flu vaccinations to protect themselves and others from getting the flu.

"This year, it is doubly important that everyone get the flu vaccine because if people have fever and respiratory symptoms in the fall, the first concern is going to be COVID-19," says Priya Sampathkumar, M.D., an infectious diseases specialist at Mayo Clinic. "The symptoms of the two diseases are hard to tell apart. If you get the flu vaccine, you are less likely to get the flu and less likely to be thought of as a possible COVID-19 case."

Like COVID-19, influenza is a virus that causes respiratory illness, and symptoms can range from mild to severe or life-threatening in children and adults. However, the two illnesses are not the same, and the CDC website outlines the differences. The CDC recommends providers use any licensed, age-appropriate flu vaccine during the 2020-2021 season.

All patients should obtain their flu vaccines by the end of November to be protected during the region's peak months of flu activity, December through January.

"The biggest concern we have is that every year, somewhere in the timeframe between December and January, we see an influenza

surge in our hospitals," says Sarah Crane, M.D., director of Primary Care in Southeast Minnesota. "Our ability to handle that peak on top of the volume of patients with COVID-19 in our hospitals right now will be challenging. Our patients can help us greatly by getting their flu vaccines by Thanksgiving this year."

After vaccination, it takes about two weeks to develop antibodies to protect against the flu, which is why early fall vaccination is recommended. If you are sick, stay home from work or school to prevent spreading illness to others.

Patients who have tested positive for COVID-19, have respiratory symptoms, or are under quarantine should delay flu vaccination until they are no longer ill or their quarantine period is over.

Appointments are required for flu vaccination; there will be no walk-in flu vaccine clinics in Southeast Minnesota this year. Self-scheduling flu vaccine appointments online through Patient Online Services or the Mayo Clinic App is recommended. These convenient self-service options also prevent wait times on the phone and preserve resources for COVID-19. Alternatively, patients can call their local clinic to schedule an appointment for a flu vaccine. In addition, flu vaccines will be offered to all patients at existing appointments at Mayo Clinic Health System locations.

To self-schedule for patients between 6 months and 12 years of age, a parent or guardian will need to

schedule this appointment using caregiver access to the child's Patient Online Services account. Patients ages 13-17 will need to have their own Patient Online Services accounts to directly schedule flu vaccination appointments. When making an appointment, note that children 6 months through age 8 need two flu vaccines if it is the child's first seasonal flu vaccination. The second vaccine is given at least four weeks from the date of the first.

Locations for flu vaccines

Patients who schedule an appointment for a flu vaccine in Albert Lea, Austin, Owatonna or Red Wing will be directed to the following locations to receive their flu vaccine:

• Albert Lea: Health Reach, 1705 SE Broadway Ave (507-668-2121)

• Austin: AMC West, 101 14th Street NW (507-508-0741)

• Owatonna: Southview Building, 134 Southview Street (507-414-7027)

• Red Wing: Seminary Prof. Bldg., 906 College Ave (651-287-5500)

Patients who schedule an appointment for a flu vaccine in Adams, Cannon Falls, Ellsworth, Faribault, Lake City, Lake Mills, New Richland, Plainview, Wells or Zumbrota will receive their flu vaccine at the Mayo Clinic Health System clinic.

The cost of seasonal flu vaccine is covered by many insurance plans. Mayo Clinic Health System will bill insurance or accept payment.

For additional information on the flu, visit the Mayo Clinic Health System website.

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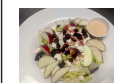
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Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State
Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes,
Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: Just Because Bakery

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 236 West Main Street, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S): Name: Emily N. Glaser
Address: 236 West Main Street, Blooming Prairie MN 55917 USA

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

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

SIGNED BY: Emily Glaser
MAILING ADDRESS: None
Provided
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICE: Eglaseremily17@gmail.com

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
08/17/2020 11:59 PM
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State

NOTICE

Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State
Assumed Name
Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes,
Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted: **The Blast**

2. Principal Place of Business: **5000 NW 60th St., Medford, MN 55049**

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address: **The Blast Northfield, LLC, 5000 NW 60th St., Medford, MN 55049**

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

/s/ Alexandra J. Morgan, Member
5-6-2020

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
08/27/2020 11:59 PM
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State

NOTICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD
WORK SESSION
BLOOMING PRAIRIE,
MINNESOTA
August 13, 2020

STEELE COUNTY
SECOND HALF

Real Estate Taxes

• Due October 15, 2020 •

We have a new option for you to pay your real estate taxes.

- From October 1 to October 15 you can pay your taxes at the **DRIVE-UP WINDOW** at 496 W North St. (the Old Wells Federal Bank Building), Mon-Fri from 8 am. to 4:30 p.m.
- **OUR OFFICE OR DROP BOX** at 630 Florence Avenue.
- **ONLINE** at www.co.steele.mn.us.
- **MAIL** to us at PO Box 890, Owatonna, MN 55060.

A regular school board work session was held at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday August 13, 2020 in the High School Media Center.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Braaten, Pam Hamelster, Jenny Thurnau, Dean Meshke, Jon Sunde, Steve Iles, Rodney Krell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools, Elementary School Principal, Associate Principal, Member of the BPTA, Member of the Press.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: General review and discussion was held on agenda items for the August 17, 2020 regular school board meeting.

CALL TO ORDER-CHAIRPERSON: COVID-19 Plan

ITEM ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED: COVID-19 Plan

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Steve Iles to approve Superintendent Statch to make decisions regarding learning models. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Steve Iles to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 a.m. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Hamelster
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

NOTICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BLOOMING PRAIRIE,
MINNESOTA
August 17, 2020

A regular school board meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #756, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, was held in the High School Media Center on August 17, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. (Open Forum at 7:00 p.m.).

OPEN FORUM – No comments.

I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL – CLERK Kelly Braaten, Pam Hamelster, Dean Meshke, Jenny Thurnau, Jon Sunde, Steve Iles, Rodney Krell

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools, Elementary School Principal, High School Principal, Associate Principal, Member of the BPTA, Member of the Press.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the agenda with the additional payroll amount, employment, meal prices, and will be conducted: **The Blast**.

2. Principal Place of Business: **5000 NW 60th St., Medford, MN 55049**

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address: **The Blast Northfield, LLC, 5000 NW 60th St., Medford, MN 55049**

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

/s/ Alexandra J. Morgan, Member
5-6-2020

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
08/27/2020 11:59 PM
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State

NOTICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD
WORK SESSION
BLOOMING PRAIRIE,
MINNESOTA
August 13, 2020

remain the same as in 2019-20. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Steve Iles to approve adult meal prices to be the minimum charge set by the MN Department of Education. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the resolution relating to the election of school board members and calling the school district election. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

G. Annual Policy Renewals/ Additions

Motion by Pam Hamelster and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve the following policies: Blood borne Pathogen (Exposure Control), School Medication, Student Transportation Safety, Harassment, Automated External Defibrillator Management Plan, Wellness Plan, Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members, and iPad. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

H. Handbooks

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Steve Iles to approve 2020-21 handbooks as presented. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

I. Class Sizes

Information shared by the administration. No action taken.

J. COVID-19 Plan

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve a resolution adopting a "Base Learning Model for the 2020-21 School Year and Other COVID-19 Related Matters". The 2020-21 school year will begin with in-person learning for elementary students and "hybrid" learning for secondary students. Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye/0 Nay)

K. Additional Cross Country Coach

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve an additional cross country coach (Jr. high) for fall 2020 due to a high number of participants. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

L. Fall Trap Shooting

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Steve Iles to approve a fall 2020 trap shooting session. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

M. Fall Trap Shooting

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Steve Iles to approve a fall 2020 trap shooting session. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

N. Fall Trap Shooting

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Steve Iles to approve a fall 2020 trap shooting session. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

O. Fall Trap Shooting

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Steve Iles to approve a fall 2020 trap shooting session. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

P. Committee Reports

A committee report update was given for the following committees: Needs Assessment, Steele County Collaborative, and ZED.

C. Enrollment Data

Enrollment for the 2020-21 school year as of August 12, 2020 in 443 at the elementary school (grades K-5) and 387 at the high school (grades 7-12) (376 attending BPHS and the equivalency of 11 attending PSEO). The PSEO number of students of approximately 10 full-time and 2 part-time students.

D. Dates to Note

The Board noted dates of importance.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

1. Appreciation expressed for the allowance of hiring an additional second grade teacher.

2. Thank you to retirees Angela Avery and Peggy Tashima for their dedicated years of service to the school district.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Steve Iles to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6:00 a.m. in the High School Media Center.

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Meeting will be Monday, September 21, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center (Open Forum begins at 7:00 p.m.).

A complete copy of the official

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE COURT DIVISION
Court File No.
74-PR-20-1157

IN RE: ESTATE OF
Ramon Salinas
Deceased

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS: It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of October, 2020 at 9:25 a.m., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at 111 E. Main St., Owatonna, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship and for the appointment of Roberto Salinas whose address is 327 1st Street SE, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in supervised administration, and any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal

PROPOSED
City of Blooming Prairie
City Council Meeting Agenda
October 12, 2020 • 7:00P.M.

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Consent Agenda
1. Approval of Agenda
 2. Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2020 – Regular City Council Meeting
- 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. Resolution Approving Special Assessment Policy
 2. COVID-19 Updates
- City Administrator's Report
1. General Election – Tuesday, November 3, 2020
- City Attorney's Report
- Council Members' Reports
- Adjourn
- Agenda is Subject to Change

minutes may be found in their entirety in the official minute book located in the superintendent's office at the high school; however, they will not be available until approved by the School Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Hamelster
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

NOTICE

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGENDA

6:00 a.m. Thursday, October 15, 2020 "Regular School Board Work Session – High School Media Center"
7:00 p.m. Monday, October 19, 2020 "Open Public Forum – High School Media Center"
7:15 p.m. Monday, October 19, 2020 "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

Treasurer's Report

Resignation

Donations

B. Employment

C. Volunteer Coaches

D. District Audit

E. Family/Maternity Leave

F. Notice of General Election

G. Election Canvassing Data

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

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE
DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE COURT DIVISION
Court File No.
74-PR-20-1157

IN RE: ESTATE OF
Ramon Salinas
Deceased

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representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and to sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a statement to close the estate and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereto entitled as ordered by the Court. With the Honorable Karen R. Duncan via Zoom hearing in courtroom A.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: September 9, 2020

Karen R. Duncan
JUDGE

Robyn Hensley by
COURT ADMINISTRATOR
/s/ Tammy L. Merchewitz
Deputy

Jason J. Iacovino, attorney
PO Box 818; 415 E. Main Street
Blooming Prairie MN 55917
Telephone Number: 507-583-6663
Attorney Registration Number: 0386770

NOTICE

Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State
Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes,
Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: SMGW

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 1275 Havana Road, Owatonna MN 55060 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S): NAME: Southern Minnesota Gunworks, LLC
ADDRESS: 1275 Havana Road, Owatonna MN 55060 USA

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

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

SIGNED BY: Joshua Horejsi
MAILING ADDRESS: None
Provided
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICE: Southernminnesotagunworks@gmail.com

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
07/24/2020
11:59 PM
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State

SIGNED BY: Joshua Horejsi
MAILING ADDRESS: None
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STEELE COUNTY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
2021-2025 HIGHWAY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A Public Hearing will be held on **Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 5:15 pm** in the Board Room at the Steele County Administration Center, 530 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, MN. The purpose of the hearing is to solicit public comment regarding the proposed 2021-2025 Highway Capital Improvement Plan which proposes to amend the use of sales tax revenues.

A copy of the draft Plan is available at www.co.steele.mn.us, or in hard copy at the County Highway Department. If you are unable to attend but wish to make comment, please forward your comments in writing to the

Steele County Highway Department
3000 Hoffman Dr., Owatonna, MN 55060
or e-mail paul.sponholz@co.steele.mn.us.

Minnesota Gunworks
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 1275 Havana Road, Owatonna MN 55060 USA
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or e-mail paul.sponholz@co.steele.mn.us.

AUDITIONS: *set for holiday* FROM B5

like a full cast role to learn the part(s) and be available to perform the part(s) as needed. LTO will be following the state guidelines of required facial coverings, physical

distancing, and temperatures will be taken upon arrival. Thank you for keeping Minnesota safe! Audition packets are now available at Tri M Graphics, 625 E. Main

St. and online at: littletheatrofoawatonna.org/upcoming-auditions/. Performances will be at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 4, 5, 11, 12 with matinee performances at 2 p.m. Dec. 6 and 13.

INTRODUCING**A NEW DEALER IN YOUR AREA!**

Contact Angell Seed Farm to help make every bushel count!

Alex Pirkil 507-339-2334 OR Travis Peters 507-438-7366
angellseed@gmail.com

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Bloomington, MN 55917

800.678.3346 • legendseeds.net

TREAT YOUR PET THIS FALL TO SOMETHING SPECIAL!**FALL PET SPECIAL****20% OFF**

Any cat or dog products
(Excluding food.)
Special good until Oct. 31, 2020

PET TIP OF THE WEEK

Here's a training tip for troublesome or selective hearing dogs and puppies. Positive reinforcement is the best way for training if done with short and fun sessions and is rewarded with immediate treat and praise when desired behavior is performed. Keep up with the immediate treat and praise when behavior is performed as the weeks go on. Then slowly wean the puppy from treats for desired behavior but continue with praise. Now your ready to move to the next behavior.



Located in the
Medford Outlet Center
Medford
507-451-1458
Check us out on Facebook.

Old business, new location

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ambassadors from the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism visit with member business Godfather's Pizza at its new location: 116 Oakdale Street in Owatonna. Owner Brad Price (center with plaque) and staff are pleased with their new location with drive-thru and they offer daily pizza specials.



Ask a Trooper
TROY CHRISTIANSON

Protection when selling vehicles privately

the Certificate of Title. Doing this in a timely manner protects you and helps law enforcement to have access to the most current registered owner information. It is also helpful to create a receipt that contains the buyer's contact information and date of sale. This will serve as proof of when you sold the vehicle and to whom.

Question: If I sell my vehicle to a private party, what do you recommend I do to protect myself in the event the new owner gets into a crash or is arrested prior to them transferring the title into their name?

Answer: If the vehicle you sold is involved in a hit and run or pursuit and the driver flees the scene, law enforcement will contact the registered owner in an attempt to locate the driver. The steps below will help protect you as the seller or buyer of a vehicle from a private party.

When you sell a vehicle, you (owner/seller) are responsible for filing the "Notice of Sale" within ten days of the sale. This is located in the lower portion of

When purchasing a vehicle from a private party it is important that the vehicle title is transferred as soon as possible. Minnesota state law says that you have to transfer the vehicle's title within 10 days of the date of sale, other than a sale by or to a licensed motor vehicle dealer.

New residents have a 60-day grace period in which to register their cars, passenger vans, 3/4 ton or less pickups, motorcycles, utility trailers, or house

trailers as long as the displayed license plates are current. If your registration expires before the 60-day grace period is up, you must obtain Minnesota registration at the time of expiration. For additional information visit: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/forms-documents/buying-selling-motor-vehicle-just-the-facts.pdf>

You can avoid a ticket – and a crash – if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson – Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5948. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

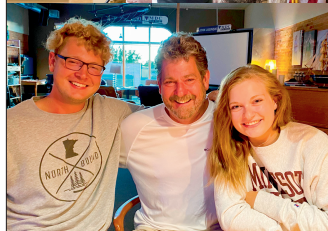


JOHN JASINSKI
MINNESOTA SENATE DISTRICT 24

GREATER MINNESOTA, I WORK FOR YOU.
YOU HAVE A VOICE IN ST. PAUL

**121 BILLS**

58% WITH BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

**PROVEN AND PERSISTENT****LEADERSHIP POSITION**
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER**IN MY FIRST 4 YEARS IN OFFICE**

- Stopped the \$0.20 gas tax.
- Approved first middle-class income tax cut in 20 years
- Helped fix MNLRAS debacle.
- Funding for Tink Larson field.
- Stopped extreme anti-gun restrictions.
- Reduced the Social Security tax on seniors.
- Fully funded Highway 14.
- Exposed waste, fraud, and abuse at DHS.
- Funded Roberts Lake clean up after tornado.
- Have 100% Pro-Life rating.
- Improved veterans' benefits.
- Secured funding for nursing homes.
- Initiated AIR Grants program for greater Minnesota airports.

JASINSKIFORSENATE.COM

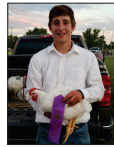


A SPECIAL THANKS FROM 4-H



Steele County 4-H would like to extend its deep appreciation to area businesses and individuals who supported the 4-H Market Sale and Award Sponsors. Through your generosity, about \$40,000 was raised for the youth in our 4-H program. We couldn't do it without your continued support!

MARKET SALE BUYERS



STEELE COUNTY 4-H

If you're interested in joining this amazing youth program, contact our office at 507-444-7685.

Ag Partners
Amy Swain Hearing Center
Alexander Lumber
Rank Plus
Bixby Feed Mill
Blooming Prairie Bus Company
Brad Rugg
Brad Spitzer
Bus & Cea Grass
Carlton
Claremont Insurance Agency
Cole's Electric
Community Bank
Comper Financial
Curt's Truck & Diesel Service
Dan Hay
Dr. Grant & Lori Heslop
Express Pressure Washers
Farmers Feed & Pet Supply
Farmers Insurance - Mike
Bushman
Fairway Stores
Federated Insurance
First National Bank
Four Seasons Electric
Grass Family
Heartland Animal Hospital
Heinz Insurance
Home Federal Savings Bank
HomeTown Credit Union
Ink Rabbits
Jeff Loveland
Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner PA

Keith & Cindy Scheid
Kibble Equipment
Kil's Korner
Krause Livestock
Lakeside Foods
Let's Ride
Matejcek's Implement
Medford Bus Company
Mike Votry
Mike's Repair & Extinguisher
Services
Morgan's Meat Market
Northland Farm Systems, Inc.
Owatonna Bus Company
Owatonna Heating & Cooling
Owatonna Motor Company
Owatonna Mutual Fire Insurance
Paul & Jean Gillis
Quiggle Quality Remodeling
Rex Quam
Ringhofer Insurance
Seykora Automotive
Square One Contracting & Repair
Stampin' Up
Stankov Farms
Sweets Towing & Repair
Tim's Auto
Trilo Companies
Wilbur-Ellis
Wolff & Sons
Wottergen Family Dental
Walburn & Furness, Chartered
Vern Wilker

AWARD SPONSORS

Aaron Schucht
ABS Global - Casey Nelson
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Alice and Marvin Bronner
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Becky Noble
Berkshire Hathaway Advantage
Real Estate, Gail Buckingham
/Diane Holland
Bill & Lori Stenzel
Bill & Vicki Arthur Family
Blooming Prairie Veterinary Clinic
Bob & Linda Noble
Boer Goat Central - Zach Finholdt
Brad & Lorrie Rugg
Brad & Molly Busch Family
Brian & Lisa Ahrens
Brian & Michele Bysavy
Brian & Michele Synal
Canon Ridge Veterinary Clinic
Daggy Tooling
Dan & Kathy Hansen Family
Dan & Jennifer Buck
Dan & Vickie Deml
Dave Wavrin
Dean & Terri Schutte
Don Schucht Family
Eric & Trish Melby
Exchange Club of Steele County
Express Pressure Washers, Inc.
Fame Awards
Fairway Foods
Mark & Gail Zollner
Gene Fisher Family
Gemini Incorporated
Greg & Cathy Nelson
Guthrie & Larson Families
Happy Hustlers 4-H Club
Heartland Animal Hospital
Howard & Mary Jo Schoenfeld
Howard & Kay Anderson
J.B.A. Dairy Supplies
J & J Cabinet Works
Jensen Tree Moving
Jerry Katzung Family

Jim Andrews
Jim & Christine Behne
Joan Robbins
Julie & Tim Turnland
Kathy Zemon
Kerncrest Holdings
Kids Korner Educare Center Inc.
Kia Miller
Kottke Jewelers
Kraig Thoreson
Lakeside Foods
Lemond Soupy Boosters 4-H
Club
Lisa Voss
Loren Krause
Lorraine Ahrens
Mary Larson
Mike & Cheryl Paulson
Mike & Trudy Pierce
Milo & Laurie Dahlin
Nelson Klub Lamb
Northland Farm Systems -
Owatonna
Owatonna Arts Center
Owatonna Mutual Fire Insurance
Co.
Owatonna RC Modelers
Paul & Cindy Hokenson
Paws T' Notice
Richard Armstrong Consulting
Ron & Tammy Schucht
Sheriff's Mounted posse
Steele County Free Fair
Steele County A.D.A.
Steele County Master Gardeners
Steele County Park Producers
Steele County Soil & Water
Conservation District
Steve & Marisa Schucht Family
Strasky Family
Ken & Lynn Finholdt
Tim & Deb Adt
Tim's Auto Service
Trey & Brandi Klecker
VFW Post #3723
WFLA Lodge #127
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STEELE COUNTY.

507-444-7478
Jim Abbe for Steele County
Commissioner - District 4
www.VoteJimAbbe.com

I HUMBLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

FOCUSED, NOT FINISHED

I pledge to continue to work on your behalf, be a good steward of your hard earned tax dollars, and continue to conduct myself in a way that will make you proud to say I'm your County Commissioner!

Prepared and Paid for by Jim Abbe for District 4, 413 Pebble Beach Dr. Owatonna, MN 55060

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Dodge County Advantage

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FOR SALE**AGED HORSE MANURE**

for the garden connoisseur. Courtesy of Lady Maggie. Call Madeline to place your spring order. \$4 for 5-gallon bucket or \$9 for a 13-gallon bag. Customers must provide bucket or bags. Call 507-634-6293. 10/8/20

3 SILKY ROOSTERS, CALL FOR COLORS.

\$5 EACH OBO. 507-951-5443. 10/4/20

MAYTAG NEPTUNE

FRONT load washer. \$50. Call 507-528-2252. 10/8/20

FOR RENT**CLAREMONT RENTALS**

1 bd wheelchair accessible apt. Rent based on income! Month-to-month leases and deposit pay plans. 507-398-8027 or 507-451-8524. www.life-styleinc.net. tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity 10/1/20

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

SAMANTHA UPHAM'S BABYSITTING/NANNY services. I'm a 15-year-old honors student entering my sophomore year at Kasson High School. I have babysitting experience and have been through a class specific for caring for young children. I am best suited to care for toddlers through young teens. Available 10/8/20

7 days a week and can be very flexible with times. I will ensure a summer full of fun! (references upon request) 507-358-3415 10/8/20

TWO BROTHERS looking to mow lawns. \$20 depending on lawn size. Please contact Hayden or Russell at 507-923-3277. 10/8/20

CALEB'S PET SITTING. Cats and Dogs, please call me at 507-634-7907. 10/8/20

BRIANNA'S LAWN CARE SERVICES. Mowing, trimming, complete yard cleanup. Weekly or on call. Satisfaction guaranteed. FREE estimates. Call 507-421-7945. 10/8/20

LOOKING FOR FALL CLEAN-UP? Nick's Lawn Service does it all. Bags leaves, clean-up landscaping, pickup sticks. Mower has a bag. Call Nick's Lawn Service. 507-696-3849. 10/8/20

BARGAIN FINDERS

FOR SALE FIELD ROCKS: \$20 per load. You load. South of Kasson. 507-273-9678 10/8/20

ACQUARIUMS One 10-gallon and two 10-gallon high. Like new, never used for fish or critters. \$8 each. Call 507-634-7788. 10/8/20

KING SIZE HEADBOARD, FOOTBOARD, SIDE RAILS Only \$35 for lovely Thomasville set in great shape. 507-634-7788. 10/8/20

HELP WANTED

The **STRAIGHT RIVER** northbound and southbound rest areas near **OWATONNA** need several **senior workers for PT custodial work.** If you are **55 or older** please call **Green View** at **651-639-1913.** 10/2/20

ROUTE DRIVER PORTABLE SANITATION (KASSON)

Looking for a full-time person to drive safely to assigned locations to pump and clean portable restrooms. Physical job, requiring lifting of 70 or more pounds, bending, twisting, and repetitive movement in a fast-paced environment. Selected person will be well organized, motivated, at times self-directed, with a commitment to quality of work.

• Valid drivers license, CDL preferred.
• Clean driving record, 4 yrs. preferred.
• Must have or be able to obtain a DOT medical card.

SERIOUS INQUIRES ONLY

507-319-7566 10/8/20

CAREER OPPORTUNITY**Resident Assistant**

- FT 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- FT & PT 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.
- PT 10 p.m. - 6 a.m.

Cook

- PT 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Apply on Indeed or 800 5th Ave. NW, Kasson, MN • EOE



Kasson-Mantorville Elementary School

is seeking a

KINDERGARTEN PARAPROFESSIONAL

Hours: 7:50 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. daily, student contact days only. Paraprofessional would be responsible for leading classes through SMART stations.

Position includes recess and lunch duty. Please complete an application online at www.komets.k12.mn.us and include a resume and letter of application. 10/8

EXECUTIVE STYLE DESK Locking file drawers, nice size and in great shape. \$35. 507-634-7788. 10/8/20

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WORKBENCH Sears Gladiator Cadet. 5.5 feet long. Good condition. \$20. 507-634-7788. 10/8/20

CHARBROIL CHARCOAL GRILL. Square, used little. \$15. 507-634-7788. 10/8/20

PINK ELECTRIC SEWING MACHINE From the 1960s in a nice wooden cabinet. \$30. 507-634-7788. 10/8/20

WOOL 8X10 AREA RUG Lovely taupe, rose, gold, grey, wine colors in a traditional pattern. Very good condition. \$35. 507-634-7788. 10/8/20

GARAGE SALE

HAYFIELD MOVING SALE: 24391 740th St. Friday, Oct. 9 through Sunday Oct. 11, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nighttime appointments only 507-319-8211. Everything must go! Tons of costumes including bridesmaid dresses and wedding dresses. Crafts, household items and furniture. Too much to list. 10/8/20

HELP WANTED

CAREGIVER NEEDED for disabled female. Every other Saturday days, or every other Saturday

day, Oct. 8 through October 21. 50% off all ladies purses. Plus come and check out our yarn sale at Dano's Consignment Store. 32 E. Main Street, Dodge Center. Open Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Right next to Harold's Club. 10/8/20

KASSON GARAGE SALE 1306 2nd Ave. Circle NE. Friday, Oct. 9, 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tons of miscellaneous items. Houseful of five boys! Clothes and sports equipment. Everything must go. Make an offer. 10/8/20

overnight. 9-12 hour shifts. \$13.25 per hour. NW Rochester. Will train. 507-289-2756. 10/8/20

HELP WANTED: Caregivers needed for adult foster care home. PT opportunity for semi-retired or anyone wanting to earn extra money. Immediate openings. Call for details. 507-208-8111. 10/8/20

BARTENDER needed at the American Legion in Dodge Center. Call 507-259-7241. 10/8/20

COINS

NEED CASH? I give free appraisals of your older coins from 1964 and older. I am looking to purchase older coin at a rate of 2 to 20 times their face value. Call Ron at 507-477-2427 or 507-259-6460. 10/7/20

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Are you in the financial business and looking for an opportunity to advance your career?
First Security Bank of Byron is a family owned, community bank and is looking to hire a **Head Teller/Concierge Banking Representative.** Contact krista@fbbyron.com to find out more about this opportunity and to apply!

316 Byron Avenue North
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507-775-2316
www.fbbyron.com 10/4/20

KASSON-MANTORVILLE Community Education is seeking an **Infant/Toddler Program Teacher and Aide.** Please complete an application online at www.komets.k12.mn.us and include a resume and letter of application. For questions, contact **Jenny Carrier** at j.carrier@komets.k12.mn.us or **507-634-4464.** 10/8

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- Average 20-40 hours per week
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- Competitive wages.
- Limited benefits available

10/4/20

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RE-ELECT RICK GNEMI

Steele County District 3 Commissioner

Over the past 3+ years, we've accomplished:

- ★ Returned the newly built County Highway Department building budget back to a manageable fiscal range resulting in the construction of a very efficient and functional building at a significant savings to our taxpayers.
- ★ Brought the county spending back to a manageable level vs. the double digit spending we experienced with previous boards in the past.
- ★ We have a cohesive county commissioner board focused in safeguarding Steele County taxpayers dollars in the most cost-efficient and responsible way possible while also insuring our departments function at optimum levels, providing the best service we can to the people of Steele County.
- ★ Transparent, vital and efficient communication between the county board, the county administrator, the various departments and department heads.

When re-elected I will focus my energy on:

- Work Force in Steele County
- Drug and Veteran's Courts
- Completion of Highway 14
- Senior Care and Protection
- Listening to You, the Citizens of Steele County

As your elected commissioner my goal and focus is to ensure that the people of Steele County are represented fairly with transparency. I will protect and carefully monitor your hard-earned tax dollars. I will also listen to your concerns and will work to find viable and workable solutions.

Prepared and Paid for by Rick Gnemi for County Commissioner



I will work for each Steele Countian to ensure that their tax dollars work for them, *not the other way around...*

I wish to continue serving as your Steele County Commissioner:

I believe our county commissioner board over the past 3+ years has accomplished a great deal of positive and necessary fiscal changes for you the Steele County taxpayer. I would like to continue working with the board to assist in safeguarding your taxpayer dollars. It is important as a commissioner to be engaged with the ongoing function of our county departments who work hard to operate efficiently and transparently.

I value each one of you and ask for your vote on November 3rd.

I would love to hear from you:

Home telephone: 507-451-3813

Steele County phone: 507- 444-7427

Email: rgnemi@rickgnemiforcommissioner.com

RickGnemiForCommissioner.com