

# Steele County Republican Caucus draws massive crowd

By LAURA BERNDT  
News Editor

Long lines and a crowded Owatonna High School auditorium provided evidence that many Steele County residents are passionate about politics last Tuesday night, during the “Super Tuesday” Republican Caucus.

At the event, it was announced that event organizers predicted about 600 people would attend the caucus, and that the group had planned to accommodate 1,000 people. Later that night, however, as the line of people waiting to register still wove outside the gym doors, it was estimated that about 1,400 people were in attendance. According to the Minnesota Secretary of State records, however, only about 700 of those people cast their ballots during the Steele County caucus.

Later, event organizers explained that voters needed to register at the event, but an issue with the Minnesota Secretary of State’s website, caused by an influx of Super Tuesday traffic, slowed the process. In order for people to register, they needed to know their precinct and ward numbers, which can usually be determined by accessing the Minnesota Secretary of State’s website. On Tuesday, event organizers and volunteers made their way up and down the lines, using



Voters cast their ballots during the Steele County Republican Caucus at Owatonna High School last Tuesday evening.

physical copies of maps to help guests determine their ward and precinct.

While some expressed frustrations about the large crowd, others noted that they were pleased to see so many people voicing their opinions and caring about the current political landscape. Alex Trunnell and Gene Vought, both of Owatonna, fell into the latter category.

Trunnell said that he did not attend the last caucus, but felt this year’s would be especially important. “It seems like, even

though (Donald) Trump seems to be the front-runner, he’s not necessarily the clear front-runner,” he said. “There’s a lot of debate over who should be the nominee, as opposed to past years, where, last time around, it seemed that (Mitt) Romney was just going to be nominated. I didn’t come last time, because I didn’t really see the point.”

Vought, too, felt it was important to attend this year’s caucus. “I’m retired, and I sit and watch the news all day long,” he said, with a smile. Through his observations,

Vought said he began to feel that Trump was “egotistical” and questioned his abilities as a leader. Vought said he attended the caucus in past years, although doesn’t make a point to attend every year.

“I always vote, but I don’t usually get out to the caucus often,” he said.

State-wide, candidate Marco Rubio tallied the most votes for a Republican candidate, with 41,397, followed by Ted Cruz with 33,181 and Donald Trump with 24,473 votes.

## County DFL chose Sanders for president at caucus

By ANNA SEGNER  
County Staff Writer

Feeling the Bern? With 629 votes cast at Tuesday’s Steele County DFL Caucus, 409 to 217 voted in favor of Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders as preference for the Democratic presidential candidate over former Secretary of State Hilary Clinton. Three casted undecided votes.

While voting closed at 8 p.m., it was not until after 10 p.m. that votes were confirmed.

With over 600 participants, the junior high school was crowded Tuesday night. Steele County DFL Chair Sheila Brandt announced that the number of participants was not as high as

2008, but it was certainly higher than 2012.

Young and old came out to caucus.

With a large turnout and many first timers at this year’s caucus, the lobby and hall of registration area was clogged until individuals found their way to the rooms for individual wards and precincts to cast their votes.

“This is just awesome to see everybody here. I know we have a lot of first-time caucus goers and that does not necessarily mean young people. I mean that’s awesome, but we also have folks saying you know I

DFL CAUCUS  
Continued on Page 4A



With over 600 participants, the junior high school was crowded Tuesday night, Feb. 1. With 629 votes cast, 409 to 217 voted in favor of Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders as preference for the Democratic presidential candidate over former Secretary of State Hilary Clinton.

# Connor Weckwerth is winning the fight against cancer

By HOWARD LESTRUD  
Staff Writer

**Editor’s note: A special benefit called Connor’s Fight Benefit will be held from 1-5 p.m. Sunday March 20 at the Geneva Community Center. See more information on the benefit on Page 6C in this publication.**

In many respects, Connor Weckwerth is a normal 7-year-old. In other respects, he is not, meaning he is faced with health issues that many his age never see.

Connor, a first grader at Blooming Prairie Elementary School, was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor last June. It is called Medulloblastoma stage four.

“It was either get it out by surgery or lose him,” said Connor’s mother April O’Connor, who resides with Connor and another son Garrett, 12, at an Austin address in Newry Township.

April had just completed two years of schooling at Riverland Community College in Austin early last summer when she noticed something wasn’t quite right with Connor. He previously had experienced constant ear infections and was diagnosed with ADHD issues. ADHD constantly regulates and balances the amount of water in your blood.

Describing his personality, April lovingly said, “Connor is a goofball from day one; he has the biggest heart and silliest

sense of humor. He is a joy in life.”

As his mother fielded questions from this journalist about Connor’s fight with cancer, Connor growled across a table at his mother’s best friend Amy Svoboda, who also is fighting a bout with lymphoma. “Amy and Connor have this love-hate relationship,” April related.

Amy, in remission with her cancer, is one of the main organizers of the benefit for Connor. She and April are close friends, and are only a day apart in age.

The first signs something was wrong with Connor came when he couldn’t keep food down and times when he fought dizzy spells. Connor was taken to an Austin hospital four times and “no sufficient answers” were gained, April said.

Connor was then taken to Rochester and quickly diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor. Surgery was quickly arranged for St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester. “He never complained of headaches,” his mother reports.

Surgery last June 27 lasted six hours, with doctors saying they removed the tumor near the brain stem and “got all of the cancer,” April said. “There’s no detectable cancer in his body,” she added.

Family was told that Connor might not talk or walk soon after surgery. “Connor woke up just fine and was yelling at me for eating his sandwich, which I did not do,” April laughs.

*‘Connor is a goofball from day one; he has the biggest heart and silliest sense of humor. He is a joy in life.’*

— April O’Connor, mother of Connor Weckwerth

Connor was brought home on Independence Day. “We plan to have a big party on the 4th of July this year,” April said.

“Connor loves barbecues,” she said.

Connor spends every other weekend with his father Milo, who tries to make as many doctor appointments as possible. April and Milo have been divorced for three years. “We get along for what is best for Connor,” April says. She always has Connor’s bag packed for a possible return trip to the hospital.

Connor underwent 33 radiation treatments of Proton Beam and finished them last September. Super Heroes including The Hulk, Patriot Iron Man and Batman helped Connor celebrate his graduation from treatments at St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester.

Three rounds of chemotherapy treatment remain for Connor. He will be finished in June. April said the challenge now is



Submitted photo  
April O’Connor is shown with her two sons, Connor and Garrett. A benefit for Connor Weckwerth is planned for Sunday, March 20 at the Geneva Community Center, 410 SE 1st Ave.

to get Connor to his optimum weight. He currently uses a feeding tube. Doctors have said Connor’s odds of the cancer not recurring are in his favor at 80 percent.

He returned to school last September, but his attendance has been sporadic because he is on a special Medical 5604 plan, his mother says. “We will catch him up next year,” she said.

When Connor comes to the Blooming Prairie Elementary School, fellow students shout, “Connor’s here,” his mother said.

“He has lots of friends,” she proudly adds. Connor especially likes to see Principal Chris Staloch show up on Mondays for reading celebrations as a Super Hero.

Connor loves to play with

his cousin Bradley, age 5, and his friend Levi, 7. Connor just turned seven on Jan. 8 and went bowling and played laser tag on his birthday. With the help of his mom, Connor also made his own birthday cake, a triple layer brownie cake with cherry vanilla frosting. He also enjoyed sloppy joes. Pizza and tacos are favorites of his, too.

Connor is a fan of Monopoly. When asked how good he is at the game, Connor frowns and says, “Are you questioning the king?” His mother said Connor loves the Classic Monopoly game and often pleads his young age when playing, asking to be forgiven money owed on property. “I’m just a kid,” he tells his fellow players.

Connor’s favorite acquisitions in Monopoly are the oranges because he can ask \$1,000 rent for his hotels. A second table is set up in the living room just for Connor’s Monopoly game.

“He’s an active 7-year-old and loves to play guns and fighting with swords,” says April.

The challenges continue in recovery, but Connor has dealt well with the loss of hair and with the need for leg braces. The braces keep his ankles and feet stable, and enabled him to discard the wheel chair early in recovery, his mother pointed out.

During the past year April has worked on her parents’ (Mike and Beverly) farm. “I plan to find a job when Connor’s healthy,” she said.



# Opinion

## Our view

### A ‘Super’ way to voice your opinion

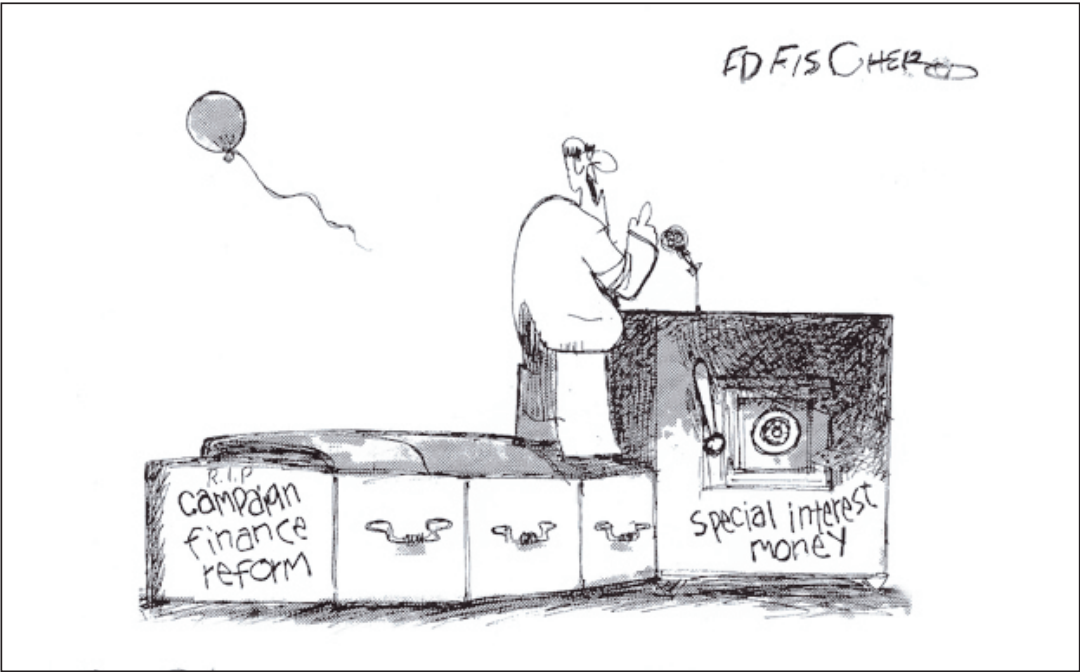
Tuesday, March 1, was “Super Tuesday” in Minnesota, and many local residents came to their caucus location to cast their ballots. Caucus locations across the state reported excellent turn outs. While the high numbers of people in attendance created some challenges, such as packed parking lots and difficulty finding spots to sit, it’s arguable that, as one local caucus attendee remarked last Tuesday, “This is a great problem to have.”

No matter how you feel about the caucus results (or the current presidential candidates) it’s clear that people are passionate about the political happenings in our country. By attending the caucus, or simply by engaging in a political discussion with a friend, neighbor or acquaintance, they’re expressing their thoughts and indicating that the selection of our next President of the United States is important to them.

Our current political system was designed to allow the citizens of the United States to have a say in their government and its election of officials. In a world full of political turmoil and distrust, it’s important now, more than ever, to take a stand and share your thoughts. There are many ways to get involved with the presidential election, from canvassing to casting a vote on Election Day. Voters leave the polls wearing “I voted” stickers as a symbol of democracy and with hope in their hearts that their chosen candidates will prevail after the ballots have been tabulated.

As the election continues to draw ever closer, it’s important to stay informed about political developments. Many people will grow tired of candidates’ commercials and dominating presence in the news media (and, perhaps, some already have.) But, when the new president takes the Oath of Office, everyone from politicians to voters will each be accountable for their decisions.

Take time to do your own research about the potential candidates, and make a decision for yourself. If you reach a clear decision about the candidates, make sure you visit the polls on Election Day. By doing so, you are doing more than checking a box on a forum; you are indicating that you care about your country and its future.



### Protecting kids is a community responsibility

A couple readers took offense to our coverage of a child abuse situation last week in Blooming Prairie.

“I am appalled that you would write an article about the two children (allegedly) abused by their father,” one reader wrote, adding this is poor small town reporting.

My response is why wouldn’t we report on this matter?

I’d like to provide some context to our position. First of all, the father was charged in district court, which we routinely report on public safety and court matters. That has been our policy for many years.

But perhaps more important is the issue of child abuse itself. For those who are not familiar with my background, I spent nearly 20 years as a police officer. And, sadly, child abuse is something that happens in our society. I have seen it first hand.

I feel if people would see the devastation caused by child abuse, as I have in my past as a police officer, they would look at things a little differently.

To illustrate my point let me introduce you to a little 3-year-old boy who was killed in Lakeville at the hands of his

#### HOT PURSUIT



**RICK BUSSLER**

mother’s boyfriend about 12 years ago. Dillon Blocker suffered an extraordinary amount of abuse in his short life. At the time, authorities called it the worst case of child abuse in Dakota County’s history.

The Blocker case left a hole in the hearts of many people. Some were left wondering what could have been done sooner to prevent such a tragedy. The boyfriend is currently serving a life sentence in prison without any chance of parole. It’s certainly an appropriate punishment for a child who had no chance in life.

There may be no similarities between the two cases outside of the fact that they involve

some form of suspected child abuse.

Child abuse happens everywhere no matter what size of community— big, medium or tiny. I believe what sets communities apart are how they handle these types of situations.

In the most recent Blooming Prairie case, the system worked. A mandated reporter did his or her job in reporting something that didn’t seem right and authorities followed through in investigating. If anything, the family will get some help as a result of the investigation.

It goes without saying that the entire community has a responsibility to protect children. The newspaper is also a part of that equation in holding everyone accountable to fulfilling that responsibility.

I will not tolerate child abuse, and I would hope the community would not either. And for us to not report on such suspected behavior would be turning a blind eye.

Protecting children is something we all need to go in hot pursuit of accomplishing. I hope you’ll agree with me that children deserve so much more!

#### CONTACT YOUR FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

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## Guest column

### Report shows little benefit from \$3 billion in farm conservation program spending

What are we getting for our taxpayer-funded farm conservation dollars? If we’re looking at Iowa watersheds, the answer seems to be “not much.” And unfortunately, the story might be the same in Minnesota.

A recent study by the Environmental Working Group (EWG), a community health group, used United States Department of Agriculture aerial photos to document land use changes in 8 “priority” watersheds in Iowa. The survey found that, despite \$1.3 billion of federal conservation funding between 2011 and 2014, we actually lost 74 acres of stream buffers and gained only 5 miles of grassed waterways. Overall, Iowa farmers aren’t adding much conservation to the landscape, even if we ignore farms where landowners plowed up their taxpayer-funded conservation practices.

#### Why voluntary conservation doesn’t work

According to the report, and

local conservation staff, one of the biggest weaknesses of this “no regulation, all voluntary” approach to farm pollution is that voluntary practices come and go, depending on taxpayer subsidies and land prices, but the pollution remains. Some conservation staff refers to this as “random acts of conservation” because the willing landowners who volunteer for these programs are usually not the source of most of the runoff pollution leaving area farms. So, it’s a bit like giving drivers who follow the speed limit and stop at stop signs a \$100 payment, while eliminating speed limit and stop sign laws in a community, and then hoping that more people will follow speed limit and stop sign “best practices.”

While supporters of the “no regulation, all voluntary” approach to farm pollution suggest that we “just need more time” for farmers to adopt these voluntary practices, the data tells a different story. EWG as well as conservation groups point out that states have been using this approach for the past 40 years and rather than reducing runoff pollution, we’ve seen increasing levels of pollution in both Iowa and Minnesota.

“We have tried the voluntary approach to spur landowners to take the often-simple steps needed to clean up dirty water, save precious soil or improve fish and wildlife habitat. It doesn’t work. Indeed, polluted runoff from farming operations has gotten worse. It’s foolish to cling to a failed strategy and expect different results,” said the EWG report.

#### An end to “voluntary-only” conservation programs?

While it is politically unpalatable to regulate agricultural runoff pollution, especially in Midwestern corn farming states like Iowa and Minnesota, the EWG report says that after 40 years of failure, we’re just “fooling ourselves” if we think that voluntary farm conservation will lead to cleaner rivers and streams.

The report asks states to adopt four common-sense required practices for all farming operations.

1. Keep a 50-foot vegetated buffer between farm fields and rivers and streams.
2. Heal and prevent gully formation on farm fields with required grassed waterways or erosion control structures.
3. Control livestock access to

streambanks to prevent streambank erosion and limit manure that can wash into streams.

4. Ban manure application on frozen, snow-covered, or rain saturated ground.

Most conservation-minded farmers are already following these practices on their own. But if only 10-20 percent of farmers choose not to follow these “best practices,” the water pollution they cause could erase the good conservation being done by 80-90 percent of farmers.

#### What do we measure?

According to the report, one reason why we aren’t seeing cleaner water after spending \$3 billion over ten years in Iowa is that spending is not tied to cleaner water results. Instead, spending is based on getting more conservation practices on farmland. But, at the same time that some farmers are getting taxpayer subsidies to install conservation practices, other farmers can (quite legally) plow up conservation practices to get more tillable acres.

#### What does this mean for Minnesota farm conservation?

The situation in Minnesota is a little different from what’s

happening in Iowa. Minnesota law already requires river and stream buffers, we don’t allow animal feedlots on a stream or riverbank, and we have manure application setbacks to protect rivers from manure runoff.

But according to Olmsted County Feedlot Technician and area Crop and Livestock Farmer Martin Larsen, the trends of reduced conservation practices on area farms are similar in both Minnesota and Iowa.

“We’re seeing more tillage, less residue on the fields, and we’ve lost a lot of grassed waterways. It’s really disappointing,” said Larsen.

In looking at the EWG recommendations, Larsen pointed out that “one size fits all” regulations are politically hard to enact and to implement. He stated that rather than requiring a ban on manure spreading on frozen or snow-covered fields, which could be hard for farmers to implement, Minnesota could look at other approaches to solve the problem of springtime manure runoff.

“We know that most of our runoff happens from mid-February to mid-March in this area,” said Larsen. “So if farmers apply manure at this time, it is much

more likely to wash off the field and into a river. So one option would be to strongly encourage farmers to apply their winter manure from November to January, a time when the manure is much more likely to stay on the field and fertilize the ground. We could also do what Wisconsin does with their Runoff Risk Advisory Forecast. The RRAF warns farmers when a runoff event is coming, so they don’t apply manure at those times.”

If you’d like to read the EWG report, visit <http://www.ewg.org/research/fooling-ourselves>.

*Kevin Strauss  
Zumbro Watershed  
Partnership*

## Correction

In the Progress Edition of the Times, published one week ago, an article on the local branch of U.S. Bank had a big error. Branch Manager Becky Josephson is dealing with a genetic disorder called polycystic kidney disease, not cancer, as was reported in the article. The Times sincerely regrets the error.

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#### A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

|                                                    |                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2016</b><br>8 State Awards                      | <b>2011</b><br>4 National Awards                                                         |
| <b>2015</b><br>4 National Awards<br>7 State Awards | (Awards presented by Minnesota Newspaper Association and National Newspaper Association) |
| <b>2014</b><br>3 National Awards<br>3 State Awards |                                                                                          |
| <b>2013</b><br>2 National Awards<br>7 State Awards |                                                                                          |
| <b>2012</b><br>2 State Awards                      |                                                                                          |



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#### DEADLINES

News: Noon Fridays.  
Advertising: 4 p.m. Thursdays.

#### LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

#### ETHICS

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

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Steele, Dodge, Freeborn & Mower ....\$38  
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Out of state .....\$42



# How retirees can save on prescription eyeglasses

**Dear Savvy Senior,**  
What tips can you recommend for finding affordable prescription eyeglasses? I used to have vision insurance through my work, but lost it when I turned 65, retired, and signed up for Medicare.  
**Looking For Eyeglasses**

**Dear Looking,**  
Prescription eyeglasses today aren't cheap. You can easily spend \$200 for a basic pair, but if you want designer frames or need bifocal or progressive lenses, the price can more than double. Here are a few different options that can help you save.

**Medicare/insurance coverage**  
If you are a Medicare beneficiary, you already know that original Medicare (Part A and B) and Medigap supplemental policies do not cover routine eye exams or eyeglasses (unless you've just had cataract sur-

gery), but there are some Medicare Advantage (Part C) plans that do.  
Many of these plans, which are sold through private insurance companies, cover vision as well as dental, hearing and prescription drugs, in addition to all of your hospital and medical insurance. To locate Advantage plans in your area that provides vision coverage, visit Medicare.gov/find-a-plan or call 800-633-4227. But before enrolling in a plan, check the benefit details to ensure the plan's vision coverage includes routine eye exams, eyeglass frames and lenses.  
You can switch from original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan each year during the open enrollment period, which is between Oct. 15 and Dec. 7.  
If, however, you don't want a Medicare Advantage plan, you can still get coverage by purchasing an inexpensive vision insurance policy – see eHealthInsurance.com. Policy costs

vary depending on where you live, but they usually start at around \$6 to \$9 per month for an individual. Before signing up, make sure your savings potential is worth the cost of the premiums and copays.  
**Discount stores**  
Purchasing eyeglasses from discount retailers is another way to save. Costco is one of the best discount stores for good eye-wear and low prices. Eyeglasses cost an average of around \$150, but to shop there you have to pay a \$55 annual membership fee. Some other good retail options for low prices include For Eyes Optical, BJ's Optical, Sam's Club and Wal-Mart.  
You also need to find out if you are eligible for any discounts. Many retailers provide discounts to membership groups like AARP and AAA. AARP members, for example, can get 30 percent off a pair of prescription eyeglasses as well as

discounts on eye exams at any LensCrafters, most participating Pearle Vision, Sears Optical, Target Optical, JCPenney Optical and thousands of private optometrist offices.  
**Look online**  
Buying eyeglasses online can also offer huge savings. Some online stores like ZenniOptical.com, Goggles4u.com and Eye-BuyDirect.com sell prescription eyeglasses for as little as \$7 plus shipping. These sites let you upload a photo of your face, so you can see what you'd look like in different frames.  
Or, for a fancier choice of frames see WarbyParker.com, which offers single-vision glasses for \$95. They even offer a free program where you can request up to five pairs to try on at home for five days.  
To purchase glasses online, you'll need your eyeglass prescription from a local eye doctor, plus your pupillary distance



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number, which is the distance, measured in millimeters, between the centers of your pupils in each eye.  
**Low-income assistance**  
If your income is low, depending on where you live, there may be some local clinics that provide free or discounted eye exams and eyeglasses. Put in a call to your local Lions Club to see what's available in your area. See directory.lionsclubs.org for contact information.  
You may also be able to get free eyeglasses through New Eyes (new-eyes.org, 973-376-4903), a nonprofit organization that provides free eyeglasses through a voucher program to people in financial need.  
*Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.*

## History from the news archives

**10 Years Ago**  
**Tuesday, March 14, 2006**  
**Dan Evans, Publisher**  
Katelin Strand, of Blooming Prairie High School, has founded a local chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), prompted by her church in Owatonna. The first meeting was held on Sunday, March 12, lead by Strand, Courtney Driessen, Katie Spande and Sarah Mans. The purpose of the club is to get teens together in a group environment to discuss a relationship with Jesus Christ and how to live life accordingly, with an emphasis on sports.  
Typical meetings will feature a variety of activities, such as bowling, laser tag, lock ins, parties, or FCA Day with the Twins or Timberwolves. A bible study, lead by an FCA member, will also take place during the meetings.  
J&H Liquors celebrated 20 years of business in Blooming Prairie. Bar owners Harvey and Nancy Farr have had many great years in the facility and are looking forward to giving their customers many more wonderful years of service.

**20 Years Ago**  
**Tuesday, March 12, 1996**  
**Elsie Slinger, Editor**  
The Pines Supper Club will open at the end of March as a family-food establishment. This ends speculation that the club would open as a nude dancing bar as former owner Richard Bell of Blooming Prairie sold the buildings and grounds to Jim Ronken of Hayfield. Ronken ran the food and beverage concessions at the Oak Supper/Country Club for 7 ½ years and decided to make a career change and buy the Pines. The old restaurant will bring back many memories for some and begin new ones for others as they enter the restaurant.  
Nine Blooming Prairie wrestlers qualified to wrestle in the 1996 NYWA State Tournament on Saturday, March 9. To qualify the wrestler must place 1st or 2nd at a qualifying tournament in the area. Those BP wrestlers that will be advancing to the State Tournament are: Billy Lindquist, 1st; David O'Connor 1st; Brian Hernandez, 1st; Anthony Nelson, 2nd; Luke Nelson, 2nd; Luke Miller, 2nd; Eric Sime 2nd; Jacob Sime,

2nd place. There were over 400 participating wrestlers at the Qualifier at Medford.  
**50 Years Ago**  
**Thursday, March 10, 1966**  
**Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors**  
The Blooming Prairie high school basketball team won the West sub-district crown for the fourth straight year when they defeated the Ellendale Raiders, 72-53, in the championship tilt, played at Albert Lea last Saturday night. Coach Jim Poole stated that this was the most outstanding defensive game his team has ever played and he cited Steve Fritz, Bob Tonolli, Larry Worke, Jim Turner, and Keith Ingvalson for their fine play. The cagers increased their season's record to 18 wins and 2 losses with their victories in the Albert Lea tournament.  
The Headquarters Fifth United States Army, Chicago, Illnpis, notified the Blooming Prairie Co-op Creamery recently that it had been sanitarily approved to supply churned butter and manufactured dry milk to the Armed Forces. The local creamery underwent a sanitary inspection recently by the Department of the Army and they can now supply these products to the armed services.  
**75 Years Ago**  
**Thursday, March 13, 1941**  
**Frank Krejci, Publisher**  
The numbers of volunteers for military duty in the selective service from Steele county are running low his month, the draft board has announced. Unless new volunteers come in soon, the county quota for a part of March will be filled partially by the draft, the board said. Two men have been instructed to report at Fort Snelling March 21st for induction: Cornelius Osmund Dahl and Carl Engulf Seljeseth.  
Manufacture of good, comfortable cotton mattresses has kept several dozen people of Blooming Prairie township busy these past two weeks at the community building here. The work is a part of the surplus cotton consumption program sponsored by the federal government in co-operation with the state extension service and the Farm Security Administration. The entire first floor

of the community building is occupied with the process of making mattresses.  
At present the crew of 24 working daily produce about six mattresses per day. People from Dodge and Freeborn County are planning to make their headquarters here, which leads workers to estimate that about 80 mattresses will be made here before the project is finished. With hundreds of such projects now underway throughout the United States, thousands of bales of surplus cotton will be absorbed.

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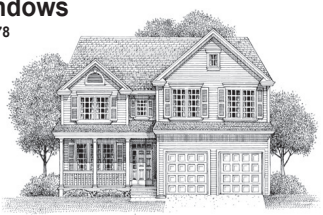
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# Community

## Obituaries

### Paul J. Ingvaldson, 79, Blooming Prairie

Paul J. Ingvaldson, age 79, of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, died peacefully, surrounded by his loving family on Friday March 4, 2016, at Prairie Manor Care Center.

He was born March 30, 1936, in Albert Lea, Minnesota, the son of Clarence and Louise Ingvaldson. Paul was a lifelong resident of Blooming Prairie, graduating from Blooming Prairie High School in 1954. He served his country with the United States Army from 1954 to 1957. On Dec. 20, 1959, Paul was united in marriage to Betty Johnson at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie.

He worked for Lysne Con-

struction for nearly twenty years building Prairie Manor and First Lutheran Church. Paul also built many homes in the Blooming Prairie and surrounding area while self-employed. He also worked along-side Dick Kruckeberg of Minimizer, helping to design the first prototype molds.

For the last 20 years, he was employed by KDC Inc Bus Company and had great enjoyment transporting children to and from school. He was a member of First Lutheran Church and VFW Post 878. You could often find Paul at the Village and



Casey's enjoying the company of his many friends, taking drives and going out to eat.

Paul is survived by his wife, Betty Ingvaldson of Blooming Prairie; two sons, Lance (Rozann) Ingvaldson of Blooming Prairie, and Lee Ingvaldson of San Francisco, California; one grandchild Jordan and three step-grandchildren Amber, Ashley and Jenna; two great-grandchildren, Brantly and Sylis; brother, Donald (Carol) Ingvaldson of Owatonna and many other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, March 10, 2016, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with Pastor Charles Leonard and Pastor Heidi Heimgartner officiating. Military honors by American Legion Post 52 and VFW Post 878 will follow the service. Visitation will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 10, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. In lieu of flowers, memorials should be directed to First Lutheran Church or the Salvation Army.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.worlein.com](http://www.worlein.com).

### Virginia Lois Johnson, 91, Austin

Virginia Lois Johnson, age 91, of Austin, Minnesota, died Thursday, Feb. 25, 2016, at Prairie Manor Nursing Home in Blooming Prairie.

She was born July 13, 1924, in Newry Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota to Albert and Nellie (Lea) Jolson. After graduating from Austin High School, she attended teachers college, which was located in the Austin High School building. She later earned her Bachelor's degree at Mankato State College at age 55.

Virginia worked as a County 4-H extension service agent in Stillwater, where she met Albert S. Johnson. They were married on Nov. 30, 1944, in St. Paul. Making their home in Hibbing,

they worked together at ALGIN Photography Studio, which they owned.

They belonged to Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Virginia also worked for a dentist as an assistant. They moved to Austin in 1961, where Virginia worked at Stevenson's Dress Shop, managed a Gold Bond Stamp store and taught fourth grade at St. Augustine Catholic School.

Virginia and Al spent a year in Germany during 1964 to 1965. Virginia and Al retired at the same time and went to Florida for three months, and then to the cabin for three months. The cabin was everything to them.



They were active at Grace Lutheran Church. Virginia enjoyed antiques, as well as arts and crafts.

Survivors include her daughter, Nancy (Richard) Stonehouse of Huntersville, North Carolina; son, Rodney (Deborah) Johnson of Elk River, Minnesota; three grandchildren, Eric (Chris) Stonehouse, Amanda (Scott) Omodth, and Emily (Brian) Oran Johnson; one great grandchild, Samantha Stonehouse; sister, Verna (Nathan) Magnuson of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Albert; parents, Albert and Nellie Jol-

son; and her two brothers, Alan and Lyle.

Memorial services were held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 5, 2016, at Grace Lutheran Church in Austin, Minnesota. Visitation was be one hour before the service at the church. Interment will be at Red Oak Grove Cemetery, Austin, Minnesota, at a later date. Memorials are preferred to Grace Lutheran Church in Austin, Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie, Minnesota.

Worlein Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.worlein.com](http://www.worlein.com).

### DFL CAUCUS

Continued from Page 1A

better check this out. Well, you are checking it out," said Brandt to the gathered crowd. "It looks like the good part of the whole county is here."

This was the first year participating in a caucus for Owatonna High School Seniors Karissa Hilstad, Mason Theim and Luke Hozerland. Due to their young age, this was the first caucus that they could partake in.

They admitted that extra credit for their political science class was a main motivator for coming out to the caucus. However, the seniors found that they would like to continue to contribute at the caucus into their

adult lives.

"I'm glad that I came," said Hilstad. "I know that I will go when I get older. I just feel like it is part of my responsibility as an American citizen. Plus, it was good to start young, since people explained everything to us."

Theim admitted that it was not what they expected. They expected arguments and debates, not the conversation about various resolutions to modify the party platform.

As seniors eager to participate, the students signed up to be delegates to represent the precinct at district and county con-

ventions. This could potentially make them eligible to go on to become delegates to the parties' state conventions.

Individuals like Andrew Lewis believe in their responsibility to participate in the political system. "I think it is important to give voice to political conventions at every level," he said.

Many did not get so involved, as they cast their vote and took off.

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## Weekly crossword answers

Crossword on Page 5D

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | S | C | I |   | A | T | O | N | E | S |   |
| E | T | O | N |   | B | I | R | D | L | I | M |
| S | O | N | S |   | B | P |   |   | I | L | E |
| I | N | G | O | D | W | E | T | R | U | S | T |
| R | E | A | L | L | Y |   | O | I | S | E |   |
|   | S | S | E |   |   | P | E | B | A |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | A | M | A | S | S |   |   |
|   | S | A | N | A | A |   |   |   | R | O | A |
| N | O | T | C | H |   | S | E | C | C | O |   |
| A | L | A | R |   | M | A | M | A |   | S | C |
| M | I | R |   |   | R | I | G | A |   | E | M |
| U | D |   | P | O | L | A | N | D | S | P | R |
| R | E | B | U | S |   |   | A | R |   |   | A |
|   | R | A | B | I | D | I | T | Y |   | P | E |
|   |   |   | S | N | O | R | E | S |   | H | A |

## Milestones

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

#### Birthdays

**March 8**  
Noah Jonathan Nelson  
Cody Pashusta  
Jean Lee  
Clint Becker

#### March 9

Adrian Noble  
Jeremy Wengen  
Nicki Bishop  
Kylie Forystek  
Marissa Noble

#### March 10

Elizabeth Noble  
Brenda Yentsch  
Ryan Glynn  
Jean Farr

#### March 11

Gwen Christiansen

Jon Carlson  
Nelia Nelson  
Marion Mast  
Harlan Hansen

#### March 12

Riauna Bishop  
Jeff Kinney  
Denise Thompson

#### March 13

Lonnie Lembke  
Kelly Peterson  
Evie Emanuel  
Kelli Williamson  
Shelly Jean Kasperek  
Andrea Farr

#### March 14

Lucy Post  
Elliot Swenson  
Connie Haberman

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**Wednesday** - Turkey

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**Friday** - Beef

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## SEMCAC senior menu

**March 8:** Chili con carne, crackers, corn muffin, cottage cheese/apricots, apple pie

**March 9:** Hawaiian chicken, parslid buttered potatoes, asparagus, snicker doodle brownies

**March 10:** Salisbury steak, confetti rice, broccoli, peach/pineapple, pudding with whipped topping

**March 11:** Tuna casserole, green beans, mixed greens sal-

ad, dinner roll, fresh fruit

**March 14:** Meat loaf, ALT: Liver and onions, parslid boiled potatoes, carrots, fruit cup

**March 15:** Pork steak with dressing, oriental vegetable blend, romaine salad, mandarin orange dessert

**March 16:** Chicken ala King over biscuit, peas, coleslaw, fresh fruit

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## Area Church Spotlight



Zion Lutheran Church, Ellendale

## Pastor's corner

### Point of reference

Peter Marty, of the Christian Century magazine, recently wrote about one's "Point of Reference." He speaks of an experience he had as he was riding on a commuter train in Chicago.

The train had stopped, and its passengers were becoming anxious about the long wait to get moving again. Sitting still beside another train, the crowd on board began to cheer when it seemed their train began to move. But, only when the train next to them had moved out of the way, so they could see the building on the other side, did they realize their train had not moved an inch. It was an optical illusion that made them feel like they were moving. Needless to say, the crowd quit cheering and sank back into their anxiety about being on time to the next station.

The building next to the tracks became an important point of reference for these

train-bound passengers; were they moving forward or not? I believe we all need a point of reference for our lives. Without one, we may not know if our lives are moving forward or backward. As a pastor, I support the idea of faith in God being our point of reference. Regardless of who you are or what you do in life, a point of reference through faith with the one who created you, and the one who cares enough to redeem you when you fail, is a standard to which you may wish to be tied. As a Christian, your point of reference will also need to include Jesus' second most important command, "Love one another as God loves you."

Recently, I've been looking for this point of reference (loving one another as God loves you) but, as I ride on this election year train, the less I see anything about loving the neighbor as much as I

hear about selfish love for self.

Have we lost sight of our point of reference? Are we cheering because it seems like we are moving forward, when in fact we might be rolling backwards?

I believe love for one another is a very important point of reference for a vibrant society based on the common good of all people – "liberty and justice for all." Yes, it becomes more difficult when we realize that our neighbor happens to include everyone living in our country; but isn't that also our ethic as a nation, to tackle what seems impossible, and create something good from it? Maybe we all need to check our point of reference.

*Rev. Charlie Leonard  
First Lutheran Church  
Blooming Prairie*



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# Area Church Schedule

### Lutheran

**AURORA LUTHERAN**  
6329 SE 38th St., Owatonna  
Pastor Stephanie Wood  
(507) 676-5696  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
588 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie  
Pastor Stephanie Wood  
(507) 676-5696  
Sunday Worship 10:30  
Sunday School 9:15

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA**  
434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie  
Charles Leonard, Senior Pastor  
Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor  
(507) 583-6621  
firstlutheranbp.com  
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
8953 S.W. 37th Ave., Hope  
Pastor Sandy Miller  
(507) 451-3854  
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday School,  
Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m.

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN—LCMS**  
2500 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna  
The Rev. Mark Rosenau,  
the Rev. Gregory Schlicker  
(507) 451-4125  
www.goodshephardowatonna.com  
Services: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. &  
10:30 a.m. Sunday  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

**PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
9651 SW 75th Street Ellendale  
(507)465-8366  
Family Choir 9:00-9:15 a.m.  
Sunday School/Adult Education  
9:15 a.m. Sunday, Worship 10:15 a.m.

**ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN—ELCA**  
30450 570th Ave., Waltham  
Minister Dwight DoBell  
(507) 567-2474  
Service: 8:30 a.m. Sunday Sunday  
School: 9:45 a.m.

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

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS**  
1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna  
Pastor Kirk Griebel  
(507) 451-2720  
www.redeemerowatonna.org  
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday  
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH —LCMS**  
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The Rev. Alan Broadwell  
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sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net  
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September 20th at 9 a.m. to 10:15  
a.m.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS**  
28959 630th Ave., Sergeant  
The Rev. Ronald Prigge  
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday  
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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

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

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

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



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

Worship 8:30 AM  
Sunday School 9:30 AM

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS**  
108 Third Ave S.W., Medford  
Pastor Mark Biebighauser  
(507) 451-0447  
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday  
Education hour: 10 a.m.

**ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
2781 S.W. 92nd Ave., Meriden  
Pastor Patti Meyer  
(507) 451-2165  
Sunday School 9:15 AM  
Worship 10:30 AM

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA**  
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna  
Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor  
Dean Smith, Associate Pastor  
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www.tlcowatonna.org  
9:00 am Worship  
10:15 am Sunday School

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, AFLC**  
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Bible Study Sunday - 9 a.m.  
Worship: 10:10 Sunday School;  
10:15 Coffee and Fellowship  
Tuesday - 6 a.m. Call to Prayer, open  
to all Churches; 7 p.m. Call to Prayer  
Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study;  
6 p.m. Call to Prayer; 6:15 Hands  
of Praise; 6:30 Confirmation;  
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

### Catholic

**ST. AIDAN CATHOLIC PARISH**  
Hwy 30 Ellendale  
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The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor  
The Rev. Adam McMillan,  
Parochial Vicar  
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH**  
Rural Geneva  
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor  
The Rev. Adam McMillan,  
Parochial Vicar  
(507) 465-8217  
Sunday Mass: 11:00 a.m.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC**  
150 NE Second St. Hayfield  
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus  
(507) 477-2256  
Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.  
Reconciliation: Before Mass  
Adoration: Tuesdays 9 to noon

**ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC PARISH**  
114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie  
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus  
(507) 583-2784  
stcolumbanuschurch.com  
Reconciliation: 4:30 p.m. Saturday  
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5:15 p.m. Saturday  
and 8:30 a.m. Sunday.  
Adoration: Mondays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS**  
307 First St. SW., New Richland  
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor  
The Rev. Adam McMillan,  
Parochial Vicar  
(507) 465-8217  
Sunday Mass: 9:15 a.m.

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL**  
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna  
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor  
The Rev. Brian Sutton,  
Parochial Vicar  
(507) 451-1588  
www.litomy-sl.webs.com  
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.  
with Children's Church  
Reconciliation: after Mass 1st Sunday  
Family Faith Formation and Adult

Bible Study after Mass with noon  
potluck: 2nd Sunday of month  
Confirmation class: 2nd Sunday and  
Wednesday evening

**SACRED HEART PARISH**  
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna  
The Rev. John Sauer  
The Rev. Brian Sutton,  
Parochial Vicar  
(507) 451-1588  
www.sacredheartowatonna.org  
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday,  
7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., & 10:30 a.m.  
Spanish Mass: 1 p.m. Sunday  
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.  
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday  
Adoration: Thursdays 9 a.m.- 10 p.m.

**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH**  
512 S Elm, Owatonna  
507-451-4845

Rev. Edward F. McGrath. Pastor  
Deacon Patrick Fagan  
Sunday Mass: Vigil Sat. 4 p.m.  
8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Reconciliation 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday  
Daily Mass Tues.-Sat. 8 a.m.  
Adoration in Chapel - 24 hours each day

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Sunday Mass: Vigil Saturday 5 p.m.,  
10 a.m. Sunday  
Monday Mass: 8 a.m.

**CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH**  
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422 W. North Street, Owatonna  
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Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

### Methodist

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

**ELLEDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
200 Sixth St. N.W., Ellendale  
Pastor Randy Cirksema  
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www.ellendaleumc.org  
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# Senior driver safety resources

After she pondered the fact that she learned how to drive as a teenager, 72-year-old Marjorie Butler Norrie signed up for the AARP Driver Safety Program refresher course.

“We think that we’re driving like we used to drive, but [I learned] our reactions have slowed down so much, not realizing that we don’t react as well as we used to,” says Butler Norrie, who resides in Wenatchee, Wash.

In the class, Butler Norrie learned about senior driver safety and age-related changes that can affect her driving abilities. Perhaps these shifts are why she had already begun to limit her driving. She rarely travels on big city freeways, and she didn’t drive for a month last winter, saying snowy conditions kept her off the road.

This self-restriction and self-assessment are common and healthy practices for older drivers. Examining your own driving proficiency can keep you

safe. After age 75, the risk of being in a collision increases for every mile a person drives, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Statistically, this age group falls just below teenagers for the number of fatal crashes. Although this ominous fact is linked to an older person’s ability to endure injury, older drivers-and their loved ones-need to pay attention to driving skills and make the appropriate adjustments, whether that means adapting their driving habits or hanging up their car keys for good.

**A SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL**

The AAA Roadwise Review, available on CD-ROM from AAA.com, measures functional abilities shown to be the strongest predictors of crash risk among older drivers:

- Leg strength and general mobility

- Head/neck flexibility
- High- and low-contrast visual acuity
- Working memory
- Visualization of missing information
- Visual search
- Useful field of view

### AGE-RELATED CHANGES

As people age, the following can affect their driving abilities and impact senior driver safety:

- **Vision and Hearing Loss**  
Vision declines with age due to physiologic changes and to diseases such as glaucoma. Regular hearing check-ups are imperative, since safe driving means hearing emergency sirens, honking, and sounds such as bells at railroad crossing.
- **Cognition**  
When you drive, you need to integrate several skills at the same time, including memory, visual processing, and attention. Both our speed of processing and judgment can become impaired, jeopardizing driving skills.

ing driving skills.

- **Motor Function**  
As people age, their joints become stiffer, muscles weaken and flexibility lessens. Turning your head to view traffic, using the steering wheel, and operating the gas and brake pedals can become more difficult.

- **Medications**  
Certain medications can reduce driving skills, including antihistamines, sleep aids, and medications for depression, diabetes, and pain reduction. Always ask your doctor how new medications will affect your driving.
- **Medical Conditions**  
ALS, Alzheimer’s disease, dementia and memory disorders, diabetes, head trauma, high- or low-blood pressure, multiple sclerosis, nervous system disorders, Parkinson’s disease, severe arthritis, severe elderly depression, sleep disorders, stroke effects, surgery after effects, thyroid disease, and the use of medical devices including automatic defibrillators and pacemakers. But age also reaps experience.

“Older drivers have wisdom that may make them much better drivers. Teenagers don’t have years of driving behind them,” says Lissa Kapust, the Clinical Coordinator of Drive-Wise, a driving fitness evaluation program at Boston’s Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. “Older drivers who do self-monitoring-if they are tired or the weather is bad-this can be a critical factor in maintaining safety.”

### DRIVING CLASSES

Taking a class is a good way to assess your own skills and stay safe on the road. Elderly resources like the AARP Driver Safety Program refresher course is the first and largest course created for adults 50 and older. The 8-hour low-cost course is usually taught in two four-hour sessions, or people can complete an online course in a 30-day timeframe (call toll-free at (888) 227-7669). Upon completion, most auto insurance companies provide a discount. “We assess our health from time to time; we should assess our driving from

time to time and make adjustments based on our assessment of our own driving,” says Brian Greenberg, Coordinator for the AARP Driver Safety Program. “Just think of it as a driver tune-up.”

The class looks at 15 warning signals that might mean a person should limit or stop driving. According to Greenberg, the following five warning signs signal the need for a formal driving assessment:

1. Frequent dents or scrapes on the car or on fences, garage doors, curbs, etc.
2. More traffic tickets or warnings in the last year or two
3. Having crashes, minor accidents, or almost crashing
4. Trouble paying attention to or missing signals, road signs, and pavement markings
5. Difficulty staying in the lane of travel or changing lanes



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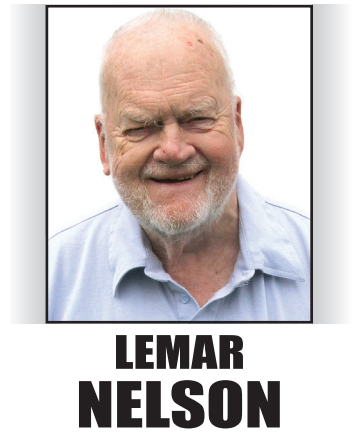
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OUTSIDE THE LINES



LEMAR NELSON

Another season ends

One of the weaknesses of the basketball girls this season proved to be the absence of a pure shooter. That weakness became abundantly clear in the loss to Lyle-Pacelli in the sub-section semi-finals last week. To make matters even tougher, the girls picked this game to shoot their lowest percentage of the year. No team would be able to win with that type of shooting, despite a pretty tough defense devised by Coach John Bruns and implemented by the team.

Despite the fact that the girls shot so poorly from both the court and the free throw line, Blooming Prairie High School (BPHS) fans have to judge the season a success. A 15-11 winning record is a great accomplishment, especially considering the fact the team had to operate this year after the graduation of two of the best basketball girls to come out of the local school.

Although the three seniors on the team will be sorely missed next season, there is talent returning. Five juniors and four sophomores return to the varsity team, and those girls will provide a good nucleus upon which to build. The cupboard certainly is not bare for girls' basketball. A last tip of the hat this week goes to the basketball girls. Their determination their coachability and their team play earned them a winning record and a measure of respect from all their fans. Well done, girls!

On the subject of local sports, the absence of a second sports writer until later this month has dictated that the Times will not be doing a spring sports tab this year. However, we will still write some season previews for the various sports to be included in the regular sports pages, and we encourage readers to watch for them as they appear. Spring sports practices begin on Mar. 14 and Mar. 21, and previews will follow shortly.

My bad!

I take pride in being as correct as possible in my writing, but last week I made an unforgivable mistake in an article I wrote for the Progress Edition of the paper. In an article on the local U.S. Bank branch, I stated that Branch Manager Becky Josephson was dealing with cancer. That was a mistake.

Recent contact made

I always enjoy connecting with former student or acquaintances, as that is one of the perks in my capacity as a writer of this column. Sometimes, the contact is a real surprise. Two weeks ago I had an email letter from Keith Phillips, a 1972 BPHS graduate. That was the last year I served as the high school Principal, and he informed me that he liked me, as he had never been sent to the office. Faint praise, but readily

OWATONNA ADAPTED FLOOR HOCKEY

OHS adapted floor hockey is state bound



The Owatonna Husky fan section was alive on the evening of March 3, the night that the Owatonna High School adapted floor hockey team won their ticket to the state tournament.

Huskies defeat Rams 13-4 last Thursday at home

By ANNA SEGNER  
County Staff Writer

There was a lot riding on the Owatonna High School's adapted floor hockey team during their last playoff game against the Mounds View/Irondale/Roseville Rams on Thursday, March 3. Their win earned them the south's first seed at the state tournament.

The Huskies pulled through with a 13-4 win against the Rams, but the game was a nail-biter at the start.

Within the first three minutes, the Rams scored a goal. It was not until the last three minutes of the first period that the Husky side of the scoreboard started to light up.

Zach Sencer (grade 10 and #17) shot the first goal with assistance from #6, Taylor Hagen. The fan section, packed with Husky fans, shared in a unified sigh of relief when the

puck slammed into the goal.

Sencer was unstoppable after his first goal, as he continued to score three more goals in the last three minutes of the first period.

As the game went on, Sencer scored two more points for a total of six goals. Senior Alex Burns was on fire for the last half of the game, as he scored seven goals total. He received assistance from #12 Elizabeth Crawford (senior) on at least three of his goals.

Husky fans went wild at the sound of the game end, and it was announced that the OHS adapted floor hockey was going to state.

The players were ecstatic as they fist pumped, hugged their teammates, and thrustured their sticks in the air.

After the game, Sencer admitted that he was happy with the teamwork that went on during the game. "We used the same strategies that we always

do by passing and all that," he said. "I think it went well."

For state, he said that they have a lot of practicing to do, but for the most part, they would stick with what they do best: teamwork.

Assistant Coach CW Wolfe said that, once the team picked up the pace during the game, they were good to go. "I don't know if they were fighting some nerves with all the people here tonight, but it was a slow start," said Wolfe. "After that first goal, I think they settled in more."

Wolfe said that as the team prepares for state, they are going to be working on strategies to pick up the pace faster and right away in the game. "At state, we won't be able to afford that," he said

The team will play their first game in the state tournament on Friday, March 11 at 8 p.m. in Bloomington against the Jets, the fourth seed from the north.



Owatonna High School adapted floor hockey goalie #22 Nolan Engbretson stops the puck just before it snuck into the goal. He had a number of saves at the playoff game on March 3 against the Mounds View/Irondale/Roseville Rams.



Zach Sencer (#17) gave his all at the playoff game on March 3 against the Mounds View/Irondale/Roseville Rams.



Owatonna High School adapted floor hockey Assistant Coach CW Wolfe shares in celebration with the team after the successful end of the first period. To the right, Alex Burns (#21) and Zach Sencer (#17) share in the excitement.







# Public Safety

**Blotter spotlight:**  
**Drugs.** Drug activity was reported in the 700 block of Bridge St. W. at 6:52 p.m. on Feb. 29 in Owatonna. Police made an arrest at the scene.

## ‘A public office is a public trust’

In Minnesota, if you are around anyone that works for a sheriff’s office, they will likely correct you if you refer to them as a sheriff’s department. They’ll tell you it’s a sheriff’s office – not department.

When I worked as a civilian for the Rochester Police Department in its Crime Prevention Unit, I had the opportunity to see then Olmsted County Sheriff Steve Borchardt (now retired) correct many people on this, in his own thoughtful and eloquent way.

A department is run by an appointed official (i.e. Police Chief) – not an office by an elected official. An appointed official is selected by an interview/selection process conducted by other appointed officials. Appointed officials usually answer to another appointed official, who answers to more layers of administration that separate that appointed official from the

public they serve. This system of layers often encourages the appointed official to value their relationship with their superior over their relationship with their staff and citizens they serve (i.e. self-preservation).

Certainly there are intelligent and responsible appointed officials that would argue this point including the police chiefs in our county who do a great job – it is not an all-inclusive point of view. This is, however, why we hear about police chiefs that acquiesce to “sanctuary cities” – because the elected officials to whom they report require that of them to keep their jobs. This is why we hear about police chiefs bending to political or activist group demands – because the people they answer to are often blinded by political correctness and all too often make emotional decisions about law enforcement issues they have no understanding of.



SHERIFF  
SCOTT ROSE

An elected officer like a sheriff, is not insulated from the citizens by multiple layers of government – they don’t answer to a county board or county supervisors. They have a direct relationship and are personally responsible to each and every citizen in his/her county. This direct relationship with the citizens is by virtue of the vote. The

months long electoral process is a much more rigorous selection process than any interview or application process and creates in the candidate a very definite belief that they are personally connected to and responsible to the citizens that selected them.

This is why you see sheriffs speaking out on behalf of their citizens on matters of gun rights, sanctuary cities, and other issues. The elected sheriff who has survived the electoral process is acutely aware of who they answer to, and it’s the citizens of the county - not some other official or board. This relationship becomes very personal. That is why you see sheriffs at community meetings, council meetings, township meetings, community festivals, parades, etc. - not simply to be seen and meet and greet but because when the sheriff is out amongst them, he/she is personally accessible to their citizens - accessible/available/

responsible. That is why you’ll see sheriffs go to fatality scenes, meet with families, and even attend funerals...because it is personal.

Retired Sheriff Don Gudmundson (who served in Fillmore, Dakota, and Steele counties) is another retired sheriff whom I have great respect for. He would remind citizens when discussing his office, that it’s “the peoples’ office.” He would explain that the people had simply trusted the office to his temporary keeping as sheriff.

Being elected to the office of sheriff implies a level of personal trust that exceeds that of the appointed official. The elected officer is not an “employee” filling a job; rather, they are an officer serving a public office. This is by no means meant to minimize the importance of appointed chiefs, just to explain the difference between the two – the sheriff’s office is all about

personal trust that is borne of the electoral process.

“A public office is a public trust.” This means that sheriffs, as public officers, must at all times be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty and efficiency, and act with patriotism and justice.

So the next time you hear someone say sheriff’s department, you can now share with them why it’s not a department, it’s an office – it’s the peoples’ sheriff’s office.

Your Sheriff,  
Scott

*Scott Rose has been sheriff of Dodge County since January 2015. His column appears in the Independent monthly. His columns are also available on the Dodge County Sheriff’s Office website in the Sheriff’s Blog section.*

## Third person dies in 218 crash

By RICK BUSSLER  
Publisher

A third person has died in the head-on crash on U.S. Highway 218 outside of Blooming Prairie last month.

Paul Ingvaldson, 79, of Blooming Prairie, died Friday at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie from injuries suffered in the crash that killed a father and young son.

Karl Erickson, 43, of Austin and his 9-year-old son, Elijah, were killed instantly in the crash. Erickson was driving a vehicle that crashed head-on with Ingvaldson’s van around 6:45 a.m. on Feb. 5. Ingvaldson was airlifted from the scene with serious injuries. After being hospitalized, he had been transferred to the care center in recent weeks for recovery when he died.

Sgt. Troy Christianson of the State Patrol said the crash will be categorized as a “triple fatality.”



Ingvaldson

He said anytime someone dies within 30 days of a crash, they are included as a fatality to the crash. If the death occurs beyond 30 days, it is not considered to be a part of the crash, he added.

Ingvaldson’s death will bring the number of crash fatalities in Minnesota to 57 for this year. In comparison, there were 38 fatals in 2015 at this

time.

The State Patrol will continue its investigation into the crash, according to Christianson. He said the investigation could take as long as six months. Because both drivers have died, the results of the investigation will not go to the county attorney as previously reported.

## Grand jury indicts man on sex charges

By RICK BUSSLER  
Publisher

In an unusual step, a Steele County Grand Jury has indicted a man on four counts of criminal sexual conduct. And if he’s convicted, he will spend the rest of his life in prison.

Kevin Christopher Fils, 35, faces two counts of first-degree and a pair of second-degree criminal sexual conduct charges. The grand jury’s indictment was filed March 1 in Steele County District Court.

The indictment alleges that Fils engaged in sexual contact with a person under the age of 13 and Fils was more than 36 months older. The alleged incident happened on March 6, 2015 in Steele County.

No specifics of the allegations were detailed in the indictment.

Because Fils has two previous sex offense



Fils

convictions, he faces a mandatory penalty of life in prison on the newest charge. The possibility of the life sentence is the reason why the case first went to a grand jury.

He appeared in court last week and the judge set bail at \$750,000 without conditions and \$500,000 with conditions.

Fils’ last known address was in St. Paul, but he was most recently locked up in Anoka County Detention Center. He was arrested in February for violating requirements of the predatory offender registry. Fils has a lengthy criminal history with violent crimes committed in Hennepin County.

### POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

**Blooming Prairie Police**  
**Feb. 27**  
**Crash.** Paramedics and officers responded to a crash with injuries in the city at 7:15 a.m.

**Owatonna Police**  
**Feb. 26**  
**Theft.** Vehicles were reported stolen from the 2200 block of Austin Rd. SE at 9:51 a.m. and 11:06 a.m.

**Domestic.** Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Woodland Dr. SE at 3:20 p.m. They made an arrest at the scene.

**Shoplifting.** At 4:20 p.m., officer made a shoplifting arrest in the 100 block of Broadway St. W.

**Child Protection.** Officer took a child protection report in the 100 block of Hickory Lane NE at 5:46 p.m.

**Feb. 27**  
**Arrest.** At 8:36 a.m., police made an arrest following a traffic stop in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

**Weapon.** Shots were heard fired in the 1600 block of 8th Ave. NE at 9:56 a.m.

**Feb. 28**  
**Shoplifting.** Shoplifting incidents occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 12:58 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. and in the 300 block of Mineral Springs Rd. NE at 3:48 p.m.

**Feb. 29**  
**Vandalism.** Officers received a property damage report in the 100 block of Park Square W.

**Fraud.** A citizen reported being the victim of a fraud incident in the 2400 block of Bridge St. W. at 11:49

a.m.

**Animal.** Police responded to an animal call in the 1700 block of Mosher Ave. SW at 3:21 p.m.

**Drugs.** Drug activity was reported in the 700 block of Bridge St. W. at 6:52 p.m. Police made an arrest at the scene.

**March 1**  
**Theft.** A vehicle was reported stolen from the 1500 block of Woodlawn Ave. NE at 8:27 p.m.

**Juvenile.** Police received a juvenile complaint from the 300 block of Main St. E. at 1:12 p.m.

**Shoplifting.** Officer issued a citation for shoplifting in the 1400 block of 21st Ave. NW at 6:03 p.m.

**Burglary.** At 11:22 p.m., police began an investigation of a burglary in the 1600 block of St. Paul Rd. NE.

**March 2**  
**Suspicion.** Police responded to a suspicious activity report in the 3600 block of Hoffman Dr. NW at 6:50 a.m.

**Theft.** A citizen reported that his identity had been stolen from the 500 block of Mineral Springs Rd. NE at 12:58 p.m.

**Shoplifting.** Officers responded to a shoplifting incident in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

**Assault.** At 9:25 p.m., police responded to an assault in the 100 block of Pearl St. W. An adult was arrested.

**March 3**  
**Theft.** Officer took a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1300 block of State Ave. NW at 8:14 a.m.

**Predatory Offender.** At 1:10 p.m., police took a report of a predatory offender violation in the 200 block of Pearl St. E.

**Shoplifting.** Officer arrested a subject for shoplifting in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W. at 7:22 p.m.

**Steele County Sheriff**  
**Feb. 26**  
**Arrest.** At 3:21 a.m., deputy arrested a motorist at Bridge St. W. and interstate 35.

**Domestic.** Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 7400 block of Hwy. 14 E. at 6:32 p.m.

**Feb. 27**  
**Property.** Stolen property was recovered in the 6700 block of 38th St. SW at 4:16 p.m.

**Feb. 29**  
**Restraining Order.** Deputies responded to a violation of a restraining order at 69th St. NW and Interstate 35 at 7:21 a.m.

**March 1**  
**Theft.** A vehicle was reported stolen from the 2800 block of Dane Rd. at 9:34 p.m.

**Disturbance.** Deputies responded to a noise complaint in the 2300 block of 44th Ave. SE at 6:30 p.m.

**Fraud.** At 7:16 p.m., a citizen reported being the victim of a fraud incident in the 200 block of 1st St. SE.

**Arrest.** Deputy arrested a motorist at Maple Ave. NE and Vine St. E. at 7:58 p.m.

**March 2**  
**Traffic.** At 1:43 a.m., deputy made a traffic stop at 46th St. NW and Frontage Rd. W. An adult was arrested.

**Theft.** Deputy took a theft report in the 6200 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 11:59 a.m.

**March 3**  
**Restraining Order.** Deputies responded to a restraining order violation at the jail at 9:10 p.m.

### COURT NEWS Steele County

*The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the*

*week of Feb. 22 – 26 with Judge Joseph A. Buetel presiding:*

Sok K. Moek, 29, Vadnais Heights, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of controlled substance. Moek was sentenced to \$1,081, 90 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

*The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Feb. 22 – 26:*

#### MN State Patrol Rochester

Ahamd H. Ayyad, 27, Wallington, NJ, speeding, \$141; Jessica L. Cain, 27, Brookfield, WI, speeding, \$121; Marquel R. Drane, 39, Maywood, IL, speeding and revoked license, \$341; Bailee J. Firschau, 24, Sherburn, expired registration, \$111;

Gregory D. Idso, 30, Owatonna, speeding, revoked license and no insurance, \$521; Paul S. Kim, 38, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$131; Cory B. Komperud, 28, Ettrick, WI, seat belt, \$106; Kyle E. Konecne, 21, Ankeny, IA, speeding, \$121;

Misty J. Krohn, 34, Faribault, no MN license, no insurance and revoked license, \$581; Jonathan L. Landry, 29, Austin, no MN license, \$181; Christopher D. Larson, 22, Albert Lea, window tint violation, \$131; Edgardo C. Morado, 34, Brownsville, TX, speeding, \$221;

Timothy J. Myers, 58, Murphy, TX, speeding, \$141; Robert D. Ruble, 45, Austin, no license in possession, \$101; Morgan F. Shoup, 18, Dalton Gardens, ID, speeding, \$121;

Joie L. Willner, 44, Albert Lea, speeding, \$121.

#### Owatonna Police Department

Mohamed A. Abdille, 24, Faribault, open bottle, \$181; David Alvarez, 25, Waseca, no insurance, \$281; Mark Ammann, 31, Faribault, violation of order for protection, \$281, 13 days in county jail, cognitive skill training and 1 year of supervised probation; Mark H. Ammann, 31, Owatonna, HRO violation, \$281, 3 days in county jail, cognitive skill training and 1 year of supervised probation;

Jason D. Batt, 36, Owatonna, assault, \$381, 10 days in county jail, anger management classes, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, and 1 year of supervised probation; Gerald W. Blevins, 36, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481;

Bradly C. Blount, 30, Owatonna, expired license, \$181; Christina A. Brooks-Greenback, 22, Austin, suspended license, \$281; Ray D. Cabrera, 18, Owatonna, no MN license, \$181;

Jacob C. Carlson, 23, Owatonna, possession of synthetic cannabinoid

and paraphernalia, \$381, 2 days in county jail and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Jessica L. Cole, 22, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Melissa D. Czenkus, 27, Ellendale, suspended license, \$281; Joshua R. Drabek, 26, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281;

Vincent F. Guggisberg, 23, Owatonna, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Matthew R. Hager, 26, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Bradley D. Houser, 42, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Alexandria M. Jones-Orr, 27, Shakopee, revoked license, \$281; Abigail E. King, 21, theft, \$181;

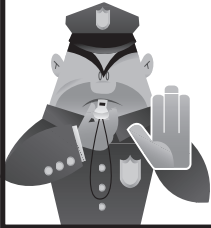
Kelli D. Kryzer, 44, Faribault, invalid license and improper information on license, \$282, 6 days of unsupervised probation; Adreana M. Laabs, 22, Armstrong, IA, open bottle, \$181; Timothy C. Lange, 27, Britt, IA, revoked license and stop sign, \$331; Jennifer L. Langton, 42, Owatonna, suspended license and no insurance, \$481;

Rosendo Luna, 19, Waseca, shoplifting, \$191; Clifford J. Marshall, 23, Owatonna, domestic assault,

**PUBLIC SAFETY**  
Continued on Page 4B

### SHERIFF’S TIPLINE

866-878-7964



If you have information about any crimes in Steele County, call the sheriff’s tipline. You may remain anonymous.

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

Vanessa Cardenas – theft, shoplifting - \$300 bail  
Antonio Cardona – criminal damage - \$200 bail  
Abel Castellano – DWI - \$1,000 bail  
Jose Castillo – DWI - \$1,000 bail  
Mary Castleberry – DWI - \$750 bail  
Coj Castral – domestic abuse - \$1,000 bail  
Alan Castro – domestic assault – no bail  
Ivan Castro – invalid license - \$500 bail  
Peter Caudillo – burglary – no bail

Noe Cavazos – DWI – no bail  
La De Felipe Cerda – DWI - \$750 bail  
Vishal Chaturgun – sale of tobacco to minor - \$1,000 bail  
Efrain Chavarria Jr. – assault - \$500 bail  
Melvin Cisneros – DWI - \$700 bail  
Scott Clark – no insurance - \$2,000 bail  
Jamal Cobb-Ferba – domestic assault - \$30,000 bail  
Joaquin Colin – disorderly conduct - \$500 bail

Calvin Collier – assault - \$1,000 bail  
James Collingwood – worthless check - \$2,000 bail  
Stephen Collingwood – worthless check - \$2,000 bail

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

ACTIVE WARRANTS



# Public Safety

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Continued from Page 3B

\$181, 29 days in county jail, domestic abuse evaluation, obtain and maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, and 1 year of supervised probation;

Mohamed A. Mohamed, 28, Owatonna, open bottle, \$181; Mohamed W. Mohamed, 22, Owatonna, failure to signal, \$131; Qaalid N. Munye, 29, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$181, and 1 year of supervised probation;

Todd K. Nin, 29, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Cynthia E. Noble, 26, suspended license, \$281; Logan J. Onken, 24, Dodge Center, shoplifting, \$660.98, 3 days in county jail and 1 year of supervised probation; Jeremiah J. Petersen, 34, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Garrett S. Rath, 18, Kasson, following vehicle too closely, \$131;

Bria M. Rosas, 22, Chaska, no MN license, \$181; Christa L. Scherff, 43, Hayward, parking violation, \$20; Venus S. Smith, 36, Owatonna, license violation, \$281; Dylan J. Stadler, 21, Faribault, revoked license, \$281; Tachen B. Tut-deal, 26, Federal Way, WA, no MN license, text messaging while driving and no insurance, \$431;

John T. Vincek, 35, Dodge Center, revoked license, \$281; Arlene B. White, 28, Claremont, revoked license, improper information on license and no insurance, \$501; Alex J. Wolters, 28, Faribault, expired license, \$181.

### Steele County Sheriff's Office

Abdullah A. Alshayba, 19, St. Paul, speeding, \$141; David Alvarez, 25, Waseca, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Joshua D. Bramer, 29, Medford, stop sign, \$131; Daniel A. Ditlevson, 56, Prior Lake, speeding, \$121; Lynn W. Draheim, 86, Waseca, speeding, \$131; Adam J. Drever, 37, Owatonna, speeding, \$121;

Alan G. Forst, 55, New Ulm, passing parked emergency vehicle, \$131; Shetavia D. Frelix, 31, Minneapolis, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Fernando Gonzalez, 56, Farmington, speeding, \$121; Mera B. Harris, 18, Austin, no MN license, \$181; Molly K. Haskins, 43, Rochester, speeding, \$141; Stanley W. Jore, 61, Owatonna, sale of radar jammer and seat belt, \$156;

Tyler D. Karge, 20, Owatonna, prohibited lights and obscured license plate, \$151; Daniel L. Krukow, 60, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Theresa E. Kuntze, 41, Medford, equipment violation, \$131; Alfred L. Lang, 39, Valley City, ND, DWI, \$406, 1 day in county jail, and 1 year of unsupervised probation;

Edward T. Lawson, 36, Medford, registration violation, \$131, 1 day in county jail and 1 year of supervised probation; Blaine A. Nelson, 68, Glenville, speeding, \$141; Marlene M. Nelson, 71, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Noel R. Perez, 49, Red Wing, speeding, \$141;

John F. Reese, 26, Coon Rapids, speeding, \$121; Jeremia M. Roberts, 29, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Erik A. Scharer, 34, St. Peter,

speeding, \$281; David P. Schultz, 43, Fairmont, speeding, \$131; Ryan R. Short, 41, Eagle Lake, speeding, \$121; Luke S. Stenzel, 31, Rochester, speeding, \$121;

Nicholas G. Vonruden, 19, Medford, speeding, \$141; Alyssa K. Wade, 23, New Richland, speeding, \$121; David M. Ward, 77, Mapleton, speeding, \$141; Arlene B. White, 28, Claremont, revoked license, \$281; Jennifer A. Wondra, 37, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$121.

## POLICE BLOTTER Dodge County

### Feb. 24

**Larceny.** Deputies took two reports of stolen lug nuts from wheels on a vehicle in Dodge Center – in the 300 block of 5th Ave. NW at 8:03 a.m. and in the 200 block of 2nd St. NE at 8:18 a.m.

**Suspicion.** At 4:02 p.m., deputies responded to a suspicious activity report involving a male party coming to a door and wanting to talk about cancer in the 600 block of Golfview Ct. in Mantorville.

**Fire.** Deputies found a brush fire in Riverside Park in the 300 block of Main St. N. in Mantorville at 7:57 p.m.

### Feb. 25

**Harassment.** A Hayfield man reported that he was receiving harassing texts and phone calls in the 100 block of Center Ave. N. at 9:46 a.m.

**Restraining Order.** At 9:51 a.m., deputy responded to a violation of a restraining order on County Rd. 21 in Mantorville.

**Apprehension.** Deputies arrested a juvenile male party in the 100 block of 1st Ave. NE in Hayfield and transported him to Many Rivers at 3:50 p.m.

**Civil.** At 3:59 p.m., a deputy assisted with a civil matter when a Hayfield citizen had work done on his 4-wheeler, but it was never returned to him.

**Animal.** Deputies received an animal complaint that a dog was tied up outside and had been barking all afternoon in the 600 block of Chestnut St. in Mantorville at 5:26 p.m.

### Feb. 26

**Fraud.** A Hayfield citizen reported that she was the victim of identity theft in the 70700 block of 220th Ave. in Hayfield at 1:19 p.m.

**Harassment.** At 3:31 p.m., deputy took a report of harassment in the 300 block of 2nd Ave. NW in Dodge Center.

**Welfare.** Deputy completed a welfare check after someone reported that they had heard two males were fighting in the 100 block of Hwy. St. W. in Dodge Center at 10:24 p.m.

### Feb. 27

**Fire.** At 2:07 a.m., deputies responded to a report of smoke in the 700 block of 2nd St. NW in Hayfield.

**Disturbance.** Deputies respond-

ed to a disturbance in the 500 block of Clay St. in Mantorville at 7:03 a.m.

### Feb. 28

**Harassment.** At 7:24 p.m., deputies received a report of harassment in the 200 block of State St. N. in West Concord.

**Sexual Assault.** Deputies began an investigation of a sexual assault after receiving information from St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester at 9:14 p.m.

### Feb. 29

**Tampering.** A Dodge Center citizen reported at 7:52 a.m. that his semi-truck had been tampered with over the weekend on 1st Ave. SE.

**Trespassing.** Deputy responded to a trespassing incident in the 100 block of Front St. W. in Claremont at 1:53 p.m.

**Threats.** At 3:32 p.m., threats were made in the 400 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield.

**Larceny.** Deputy took a report that an advertising sign was stolen from 750th St. and 240th Ave. in Hayfield at 4:55 p.m.

### March 1

**Narcotics.** Deputies received information regarding narcotics in the 100 block of 15th St. NE in Kasson at 1:04 p.m.

**Suspicion.** At 8:09 p.m., deputies responded to a report of two vehicle tearing around the cemetery in the 55300 block of 202nd Ave. in West Concord.

and no insurance, \$480; Beth A. Larson, 37, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Jordan B. Miller, 19, Harmony, speeding, \$120; Mark R. Pearce, 55, Brownsdale, speeding, \$200 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction;

Daren D. Phillips, 31, Dodge Center, barking dog, \$100; Zachariah T. Prouty, 30, Hayfield, speeding, \$120; Dorys C. Reyes, 37, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Melissa A. Reynolds, 24, Hayfield, failure to obey traffic control device, no insurance and revoked license, \$530; Matthew J. Schuette, 22, West Concord, no insurance, \$280; Melissa A. Ward, 32, St. Paul, speeding, \$120; Trent L. Weberg, 46, Owatonna, parking violation, \$32; Troy M. Zahradnik, 45, Racine, speeding, \$220.

### Kasson Police Department

Marbie M. Bjergum, 53, Kasson, speeding, \$120; Stephen D. Boyd, 41, Kasson, license violation, \$180; Michael A. Common, 35, Rochester, revoked license, \$280; Christopher J. Derosier, 31, Welch, seat belt, \$105; Jeremy W. Ferk, 22, Rochester, parking violation, \$32; Stewart M. Graves, 21, Kasson, suspended license, \$280;

Samantha B. Grendahl, 48, St. Paul, speeding and no insurance, \$320; Shondell R. Hernandez, 46, West Allis, WI, speeding, \$130; June D. Holmgren, 47, Shakopee, speeding, \$130; Scott M. McDowell, 23, Clarendon Hills, IL, speeding, \$220; Damon J. McComber, 19, Kasson, revoked license, \$280; Walker L. Stanley, 18, Claremont, speeding, \$120.

### MN State Patrol Rochester

Troy M. Dewbery, 32, Kasson, over center line, \$130; Richard A. Ferguson, 46, Rochester, failure to yield right of way, \$130; Joseph D. Hemker, 26, West Concord, speeding, \$140; John T. Kidd, 21, Kasson, no insurance, \$280; Lori A. Kryzer, 56, Mantorville, speeding, \$120; Barbara J. Peterson, 81, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$120; Sarah C. Wagner, 23, Owatonna, speeding, \$130.

### West Concord Police Department

Jordan A. Adame, 22, Atlantic, IA, plates violation, \$110; Craig J. Poore, 33, West Concord, revoked license, \$280; Zachary D. Stahman, 25, Mazeppa, speeding, \$140.

## Steele Arrests

### Owatonna Police

Nikita Marie Finley, 25, arrested at 10 p.m. Feb. 26, false name and warrant arrest, \$4,000 bail.

Brandon Lee Stevermer, 21, arrested on Feb. 27, felony possession, held for court.

Travis Wayne Jackson, 36, arrested at 11:20 p.m. Feb. 28, warrant arrest, \$100 bail.

Travis Jay Troska, 36, arrested at 6:52 p.m. Feb. 29, felony possession of stolen property and controlled substance, held for court.

William Robert Wheeler, 28, arrested at 7:04 a.m. March 2, felony possession of stolen property, held for court.

Franklin Dywane Powell, 41, arrested at 9:58 p.m. March 2, felony domestic assault and criminal damage to property, held for court.

### Steele County Sheriff

Robert Soren Abrams, 22, arrested at 1:48 p.m. March 1, warrant arrest, body only.

David Lee Moren, 40, arrested at 1:56 p.m. March 1, warrant arrest, body only.

Andrew Neal Lewis, 32, arrested at 8:03 p.m. March 1, cancelled li-

cense, held for court.

Jonell Davon Dowdell, 33, arrested at 6:36 p.m. March 2, warrant arrest, \$12,000 bail.

### MN State Patrol

Faisal Mohamed Abdullahi, 26, arrested at 10:09 p.m. March 1, felony theft of motor vehicle and revoked license, held for court.

Curtis Taylor McVilay, 20, arrested at 6:30 p.m. March 3, felony possession, held for court.

## Owatonna Fire

### Feb. 27

**Smoke.** Fire fighters responded to a smoke scare in the 300 block of Oak Ave. N. at 6:41 p.m.

### Feb. 28

**Cooking Fire.** At 2:21 p.m., fire fighters put out a confined cooking fire in the 2400 block of St. Paul Rd. NE.

### March 3

**Assist.** Fire personnel assisted police in the 1000 block of Rose St. E. at 12:05 p.m.

## FULL-TIME & PART-TIME OPENINGS

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## SPRING AUCTION

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- Real nice line of farmer owned equipment, including two farm lines

**TRACTORS:** 2008 JD 8330, mfd, ps, 2390 hrs; 1998 JD 9300 w/JD auto steer; 2003 JD 8120, mfd, ps, 2411 hrs; 2006 C/IH MXM 190 Pro Tractor, mfd, ps, 2540 hrs; 2000 C/IH 9380 quad track, 4 hyd., Trimble 250 auto steer, 5500 hrs; JD 8300 mfd; JD 4960 mfd; JD 4960 mfd; JD 4840; Ag Co Allis 9630, mfd; 4020 JD d; IH 656 hydro w/lldr; Oliver 1800; AC d-17 Series IV & ldr; **EQUIPMENT:** 2014 JD 2720 ripper, 7 shank; Case-DMI #5300 anhy. bar, 40'; JD #2210 field cult., 44.5'; harrow: Hiniker #1000 16 row cult.; Top Air TA 1200 sprayer, 60/90 boom, monitor; Schaben 16 row 30" liquid fert. Bar, 1600 gal. tank; 2008 JD #3710 10x plow; JD #2700 disc ripper, 7 shank; C/IH #3950 34' rock flex disc; MF 33' rock flex disc.; Glencoe #7400 soil saver 19 ½'; JD #2210 field cult, 54'; C shank; 2006 NH ST 250 field cult., 44'; 2009 Demco 1250 sprayer, 60'-80'-90' boom; Farm King 960 snow blower; other tillage items; PFM rock picker; Top Air 3 pt. sprayer, 80' X boom; **COMBINES & HEADS:** 2000 JD 9550 combine, 1916 separator hours; JD 930F bean head; 2007 JD 9660 STS comb., 1626 sep. hours; 2010 JD 630 hydra flex bean head; **SEVERAL GRAIN CARTS & GRAVITY WAGONS-GRAIN TRUCKS & TRAILERS-PICKUPS-CARS:** 1997 Int. 9400 semi-truck, N-14 cummins; 1999 Merrit hopper bottom 42' trl., 1986 S1900 tri axle grain truck & box; 2009 Mac 34' tri-axle end dump; 1998 Trail King trl, 48' detach, 10' top, 29' well; 1996 Fontaine 53' step deck; 1988 Ford F450 11' contractor box, d; 2001 Int. #4700 tk, 11' landscape box; 2001 Peterbilt 385 C12 Cat, 10 spd.; other grain trucks, livestock trl's; 2013 PJ 20' trailer, like new; **CONSTRUCTION ITEMS:** 2003 CX 219 Vermeer mini excavator, 2154 hrs; Case Drott #40 Cruse Air excavator; Terex twin engine scraper, Model TS-14; **PLANTERS & DRILL:** JD #1520 20' drill, like new; 2013 JD 1770 NT CCS planter, (used on less than 4000 acres), 24 row, liq. fert.; 2006 JD 1770 NT 16 row 30" planter w/500 gal. L & D fert, JD 350 monitor, E-sets units, Dawn row cleaners, new disc. openers; JD 7200 vac. Planter, dry fert., monitor (nice); 7200 JD 8 row vac planter, liq.; #7000 JD planter, 8r 30", liq. fert.; HAY EQUIP: BR 780 NH round baler, net & twine wrap, hyd. lift, kicker; NH #1044 Stackline bale wagon; **MISC.** LUMBER-PORTABLE BLDG'S-SHOP ITEMS FROM WEISZ EQUIP-NEW SURPLUS INVENTORY-SHOP & MISC. ITEMS-LIVESTOCK EQUIP-HAY-LAWN & GARDEN

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Practice Operations Career Forum

Thursday, March 17th – 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Siebens Building | Phillips Hall  
100 Second Avenue S.W. | Rochester, MN 55905

Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN invites you to explore a Life-Changing career as a **Medical Secretary, Patient Appointment Coordinator, Clinical Assistant, Transcriptionist, Administrative Assistant, or Health Information Management Services Specialist.**

Join us anytime between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. for a brief presentation identifying roles, responsibilities & qualifications, and outlining the application process.

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# Strategic planning moving forward

For the past few months, my communications have focused on the strategic planning work happening in the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva (NRHEG) school community. In my December letter, I shared the importance of having a strategic plan, and wrote:

“A thoughtful and purposeful strategic plan developed with the input of stakeholders across the school district is essential for our sustained success and growth as a school community. Understanding and believing in a clear vision of what we want to achieve in the future is critical to our continual improvement. Knowing and committing to a shared mission or purpose is also essential to growing and improving what we do for our children throughout our communities.

Finally, and perhaps, most important, is acknowledging what we believe and value collectively as a school community. This is especially important in organizations like a public school district that employs a diverse workforce and also serves a diverse stakeholder base. Public school districts are some of the most diverse organizations when you consider not only the students that are served, but also the communities at large. Having shared beliefs and core values as a school community enables you to work together more effectively in achieving your vision.”

I am proud of the work that has already been accomplished, highlighted by the engagement

NRHEG SCHOOLS



DALE CARLSON

of our employees, students, parents and others throughout our communities in providing input and feedback to the School Board by responding to the Community Survey and/or attending the listening sessions held on Feb. 18. Thank you to all those who have participated!

If you would like to view a summary of the survey results, you can access the power point presentation presented to the School Board by School Perceptions on Feb. 16 on the front page of our school district website. You will find a letter summarizing the results on the website, as well.

The next step in the process rests with the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to lead in assisting the School Board in analyzing district performance data, the input from the Community Survey, and the input from the listening sessions that were held on Feb. 18, in order to develop our strategic plan. The Committee will be tasked with

crafting vision, mission, and belief statements, and identifying goals and objectives for the school district.

The Committee will meet three times, and each meeting is open to the public. The dates, times and locations of the meetings are:

Monday, March 21, 2016, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Elementary School in Ellendale

Tuesday, March 29, 2016, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Secondary School in New Richland

Tuesday, April 12, 2016, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Elementary School in Ellendale

The School Board conducts its regular monthly meeting on the third Monday of each month. The location of the meeting is rotated monthly between the NRHEG Secondary School Media Center in New Richland and the NRHEG Elementary School Media Center in Ellendale. The



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March 21, 2016, School Board meeting will be at the Elementary School beginning at 5:30 p.m., which is one hour earlier than the regular time. due to

the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee meeting scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. in Ellendale.

Thank you for all you do to

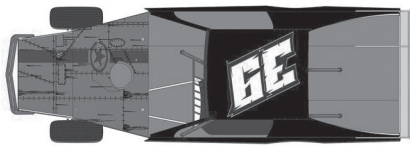
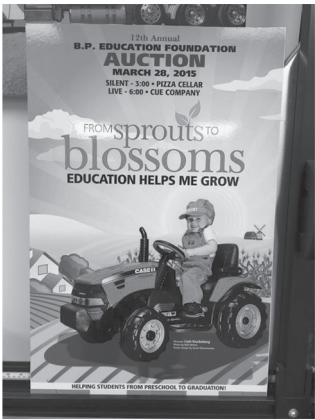
support our students!

*Dale Carlson is the NRHEG Public School Superintendent.*



## GRAPHICS & PRINTING

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## RECIPE CORNER

### Oreo Hot Cocoa

- 10 Oreo cookies, coarsely chopped
- 1/2 c. mini marshmallows
- 1/2 c. chocolate flavored syrup
- 3 c. milk

By Kayla Wacek

Blend chopped cookies, milk and syrup in a blender until smooth. Pour into a 2 quart saucepan. Heat over medium-high heat, stirring frequently until hot. Ladle into 4 mugs. Top with marshmallows; serve immediately. Serve with Oreo cookies.

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# Calling it like they see it

*Blooming Prairie Education Foundation volunteers reflect on importance*

By **LAURA BERNDT**  
News Editor

Each year, the Blooming Prairie Education Foundation (BPEF) has held an auction to raise funds and community support. As the 13th annual event approaches, a few event volunteers contemplate the significance of the auction and the foundation itself.

Many people are involved in all aspects of the auction’s success. Several people help plan the event, others donate items or services for the auction, and still others provide assistance in other ways, as well. Robert “Robby” Remker and Jason Iacovino have both donated their time to help with the event, serving as “announcers” for the different auction items.

Remker, who is also a 1983 Blooming Prairie High School graduate, estimates that he has been helping with the event for about seven years, although he has missed a few auctions during that time. Remker, however, tries to attend as many auctions as possible, and even flew in from Seattle one year just to attend the event.

Remker remembers being approached and asked if he would assist as an announcer. “I really wanted to do it,” he said. “It’s for a great cause: to raise a lot of money for the school.”

Blooming Prairie Education Foundation (BPEF) strives to support the local school district in a variety of ways, helping fund technology purchases, equipment, projects and other programs.

Iacovino, a 1997 graduate of Blooming Prairie, believes that he started helping out with the auction about three years ago. Although he now lives in Owatonna, Iacovino works in Blooming Prairie at Henefeld Law Office, and also announces local football games on KRFO Radio.

For Iacovino, it’s especially meaningful to help out with the event. His mother is a 6th grade teacher in Blooming Prairie, and his grandfather is a former Blooming Prairie Elementary School Principal. “At the end of the day, it’s all about the Foundation and the school that it represents,” he said, of the annual BPEF Auction.

Although both Remker and Iacovino are quick to note that they only help with one small aspect of the event, both agree that the event is truly amazing to behold. “They’re doing something pretty amazing there,” Iacovino said. “It’s a great school district, but, it needs that supplemental help from the community.”

Remker has fond memories of his time as a Blooming Prairie student. “I always appreciated Blooming Prairie,” he said. “I

had the best times growing up with a sense of community. At school, I liked the closeness of people. I really feel it was a true, solid community that genuinely cared about each other.”

As a student, Remker found enjoyment in sports and appreciated that “everybody go to play.” He also recalls trying out for the musical during his senior year, and earning the part of the Cowardly Lion in “The Wizard of Oz.” “I got to build my skill level, and it was one of funniest times I ever had,” Remker said.

Iacovino also believes that,

thanks to his education in Blooming Prairie, he was well prepared for college. He was able to fulfill his college mathematics requirement in just one quarter. “The reason I was able to do all that was because I took calculus all through high school and I got pretty good at it,” Iacovino admits. “My guess is, that you’re going to have trouble in a lot of small school districts: finding kids who are that prepared in a complicated field like calculus.”

In high school, Iacovino adds, the drama department was also

“near and dear” to his heart. Although other schools had large auditoriums and even some spaces that were designed to enhance acoustics, Iacovino believes that Blooming Prairie students were among some of the most well prepared for the experience.

As a self-dubbed “sports nut,” Iacovino also speaks highly of the Blooming Prairie High School coaches. “You’ve got people working very hard on these sports, preparing these kids to do well, and you can see the results there, too,” he said.

“You’ve got lots of athletes going on to play in college.”

Remker added that he’s also proud that Blooming Prairie has been able to remain a self-sustaining district over time. “I continue to tell people, I feel unique that’s one of few communities that hasn’t combined with other districts,” he said. “It’s always been a stand-alone, and I think it’s through efforts like this, through the Ed. Foundation, that they can continue to do that.”

Since the BPEF strives to support the school, its educational opportunities and programs, both Remker and Iacovino are happy to help out with the event. “I love being a part of it, and I love putting a face to it,” Iacovino said. “It’s my family, it’s my school and it’s part of my history. But, I don’t make the

gears roll on that thing. There are some real go-getters who make the thing work, and it’s not me! But, I’m glad they asked me to do it, and I’ll do it every year now.” Remker also expressed similar sentiments.

The BPEF’s 13th annual fundraising auction is scheduled for Saturday, April 2. The silent auction begins at the Pizza Cellar in Blooming Prairie at 3 p.m., followed by a live auction at 6 p.m. at the Cue Company.

“There are always a lot of the same people giving and contributing,” said Remker, of the auction. “That says a lot about the community; they know how important their school is. I get a lot out of it, too, and it’s just a lot of fun.”

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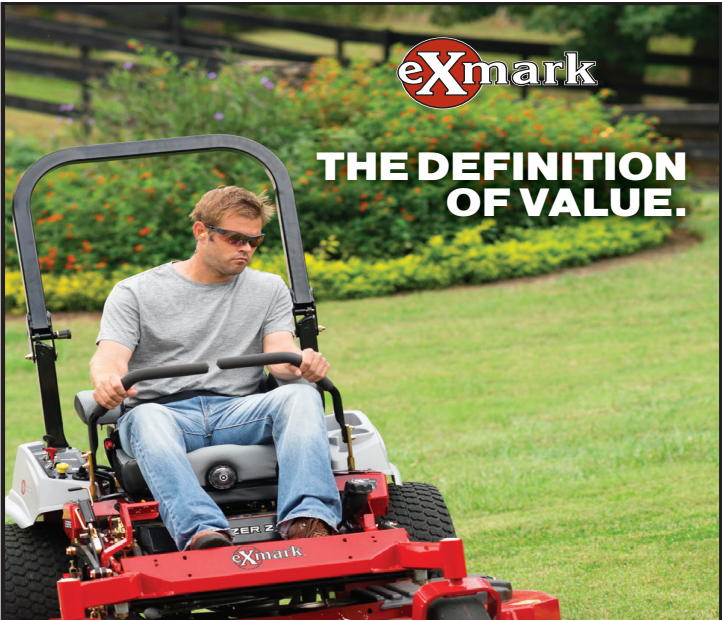


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## Medford City Council approves contract

By ANNA SEGNER  
County Staff Writer

Moving forward with the city’s municipal complex plan was a major topic of discussion at the February meeting, and has been since 2009.

A new municipal complex could potentially include a new fire hall, city hall and community center.

The land, north of Medford Senior Care on 3rd Street Northeast, has been purchased by the city. A committee of some city council members, city staff, fire department members and community members created a list of wants and needs, based on their assessments.

They hired I&S Group of Faribault to design a municipal complex. That design carried nearly a \$3 million price tag.

In December, the city council voted to collect quotes from several engineering firms to prepare an alternative architectural plan to the \$3 million plan that I&S Group prepared over five years ago. They decided to request a project cost of no more than \$2.4 million.

The quotes were brought before the city council at the meeting on Feb. 22.

The recommendation was made to contract with Brunton Architects and Engineers to “complete a pre-design, a schematic of concept design and develop reasonable cost estimates for the construction of the municipal complex.”

Brunton Architects and Engineers was one of five quotes submitted. The cost estimate for Brunton Architects to complete a pre-design, a schematic of concept design and develop reasonable cost estimates for the construction of the municipal complex was a lump sum of \$5,000, plus \$1,500 for every rendering.

A \$5,000 grant awarded to the city from AgStar will be used to fund the alternate plan.

According to a memorandum, “the group chose Brunton because the firm has worked with communities in our region on planning and constructing fire halls, city halls and combined facilities.”

Members of the committee have visited sites built by Brunton as they toured various facilities, and the memorandum states that the group was “impressed” by Brunton’s portfolio.

“The group also felt that Brunton would have knowledge of the local bidding environment, which would be extremely valuable in putting together a plan within our budget,” states the memorandum.

“Realistically in two or three months, (Brunton’s alternative plan) will be brought before city,” said Andy Welti, Medford city administrator. “That’s our timeline.”

The timeline of when to ask for state bonding to help with the \$2.4 million price tag was a large area of discussion when Sen. Vicki Jensen, DFL-Owatonna, stopped by the council meeting to speak about the upcoming legislative session beginning March 8.

Mayor Lois Nelson asked, “What are the chances of having something in this year’s bonding bill?” She noted that the city planned on having the municipal complex put to referendum in November.

Jensen stated that legislature typically leans towards projects that already have the proven support from the public.

“You guys have tough decisions to make on behalf of the citizens of Medford. It’s always good to have the support and vote from the people, so that the legislature understands that there is mutual commitment,” said Jensen. “It’s a catch-22 for all cities. (The Legislature) wants to know that the city is committed and will really invest in it, because they have lots of projects that are at that level already.”

Nelson expressed the want to go for it, and council member Marie Sexton spoke up in favor of asking the legislature: “Here’s the deal folks, if you don’t ask for it, it’s just like a grant: you have zero chance of getting it.”

The council members all agreed that they could not keep putting off the project, and they unanimously voted to request \$2.4 million in state bonding for the municipal complex.

## Hometown Sampler raises funds for Steele County Food Shelf

By LAURA BERNDT  
News Editor

Since 1994, the Hometown Sampler Concert Series has brought the community together to enjoy good music and to show support for the Steele County Food Shelf.

This year’s concert series ran from Friday, March 4 through Sunday, March 6. (Since the event’s beginnings, the concerts have taken place during the first weekend in March.) This concert series serves as the first fundraiser in March, the month of the Minnesota FoodShare campaign. The 2016 Hometown Sampler, held at the Little Theatre of Owatonna, featured musical performances by Bad Tangerines, The Gogs, Hot ‘n’ Bothered and Mile 5 Band. Once again, Dave Otto and John Havelka served as the event’s emcees.

During Saturday’s afternoon event, Stormy Trom, Steele County Food Shelf Director, said that this has been



Staff photo by Laura Berndt  
The Gogs perform “The Lion Sleeps Tonight” during Saturday afternoon’s concert in Owatonna. The Hometown Sampler helped to raise funds for the Steele County Food Shelf.

an exciting year for the Steele County Food Shelf. “The biggest accomplishment we’ve had is that we’re able to

provide a 10-day package of food to anyone who is registered at the food shelf and qualifies by living in Steele

County,” she said.

“We have over 500 families a month, and it takes a lot of food to take care of the needs from Steele County,” Trom said. “So we’re thankful to have people as yourselves, the musicians, and everyone who comes together to show our community that we do care. We do support those living with food insecurity.”

During the Hometown Sampler, Trom and other supporters of the Steele County Food Shelf continually reiterated their gratitude to everyone who attended the event and for everyone who helped make it a success. Although the concert is a lot of fun, explained Trom, it’s also a meaningful way to give back to others.

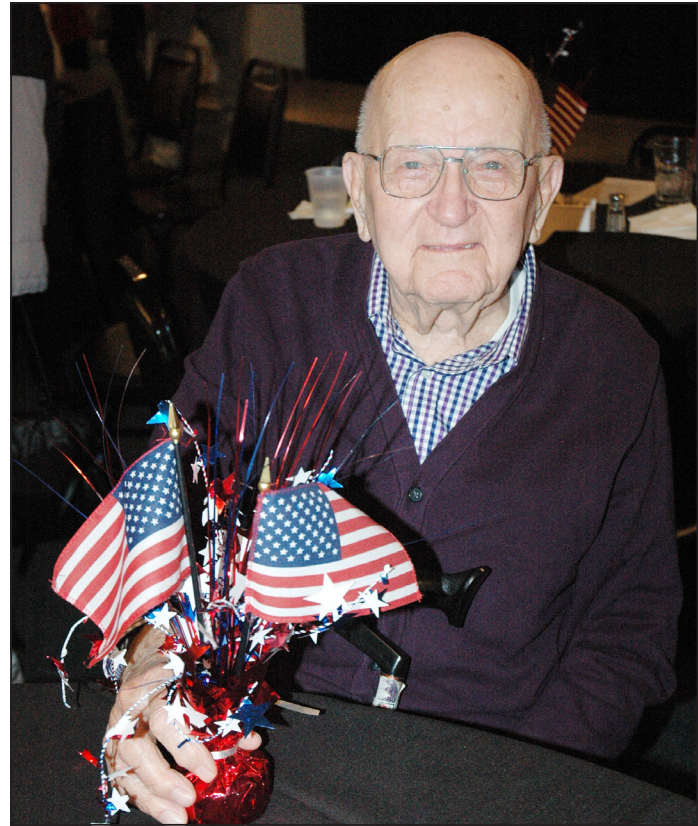
“It’s a joy, it’s fun, it’s a great time, and also you’re doing a wonderful thing by helping people in Steele County that just aren’t able to find enough resources to put food on the table,” Trom said.

## American Legion, Auxiliary of Blooming Prairie celebrate 97th birthday

By HOWARD LESTRUD  
Staff Writer

“We still look great after 97 years,” a jubilant Julie Hoffman, president of the Blooming Prairie American Legion Auxiliary, told a gathering Thursday night, March 3 at the Servicemen’s Club.

The occasion was a birthday party to celebrate the 97th birthday of Blooming Prairie American Legion Post 52 and its Auxiliary. An estimated 100 attended the get-together. On hand was Merle McNutt, 97 years of age. He is also a veteran of the U.S. Navy.



U.S. Navy veteran Merle McNutt was one of the Blooming Prairie American Legion members celebrating the organization’s 97th birthday. McNutt is 97.

The evening began with a delicious meatball dinner. Dessert was provided by Darrell Hansen and Frontier Communications.

Four First District American Legion officers were in attendance, including Wayne Hammon Jr., Roland Hanson, Gene Luedtke and Richard Skillestad.

District officer Hanson called the local Legion family “a great family.” These

men and women fought for our freedom, Hanson said. He urged those in attendance to pray for the men and women who are currently serving the Armed Forces of the United States.

“It’s togetherness that makes everything work,” Hanson said.

Pat Miner, First District president, greeted Legionnaires and Auxiliary members and thanked all for their service.

Tom Peterson, of the Blooming Prairie Sons of the American Legion, gave a brief update on the progress of the establishment of a Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial. The second phase of the project is currently under way and that involves raising money, Peterson said.

Peterson said people can help by designating a contribution for a paver, or by just sending a contribution. He said one of his goals was “to be transparent with the monetary gifts” and make financial information available. Keith Holman is treasurer of the group.

Peterson said contributions to date total \$18,385.12, with expenses listed at \$3,037.15. Most of the expenses targeted costs for making the group a 501C-3 entity, and it paid for transfer of property from the Servicemen’s Club to the memorial corporation.

Forty-five pavers have already been purchased, representing almost half of the space available on the first wall, Peterson said. Goal



Staff photos by Howard Lestrud  
Four First District American Legion officers attended the 97th birthday party of the Blooming Prairie American Legion and Auxiliary on Thursday night, March 3, at the Servicemen’s Club of Blooming Prairie. Shown from left to right are Wayne Hammon, Jr., Roland Hanson, Gene Luedtke and Richard Skillestad.

for the project is to raise \$250,000.

“It’s a fitting memorial for a noble cause,” Peterson remarked.

The evening concluded with a musical salute to “Service in War and Peace” by viola performer Aaron Fennell, 17. He was accompanied in his recital by his mother, Tanya Fennell, and assisted by his father, the Rev. Matt Fennell.

The younger Fennell played four initial pieces and then saluted the Legion on its birthday with a medley of tunes. First song in the medley paying tribute to the birthday was the “Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

His other renditions for the various wars were:

- Civil War - “When Johnny Comes Marching Home Di-

- xie”
- World War I - “Park Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag”

- World War II - “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy”

- Korean Conflict - “Good-bye Maria, I’m Off to Korea”

- Vietnam Conflict - “Tie a Yellow Ribbon ‘Round the Old Oak Tree”

- Desert Storm - “I’m Proud to Be an American”

- Iraq/Afghanistan War on Terror - “Angry American”

Final tribute piece was “The Star Spangled Banner.”

Fennell concluded the recital with “Rejoice in the Lord” by Ron Hamilton. Rev. Matt Fennell said a concluding prayer for the evening.

## Bathrooms being rebuilt at First Baptist Church

By HOWARD LESTRUD  
Staff Writer

Some major work aimed at constructing two new bathrooms is taking place at First Baptist Church of Blooming Prairie.

Ted Weinberg, owner of Weinberg Construction, LLC, of Owatonna, said his crews began work on the church project on Tuesday, March 1. He envisions the project to be completed in seven weeks.

First Baptist Church was constructed in 1916, 100 years ago, thus some of the work being done will result in major improvements including wall replacement.

The 13 by 20 foot area being remodeled contained bathrooms plus a nursery. The nursery is being moved and the old area will now be the home to two new bathrooms. Cost of the project is estimated at \$60,000, says the Rev. Matt Fennell of First Baptist.

“There’s lots of pieces to this project,” said Weinberg. His crew includes brothers Curt and James Piepho and Phil DeMarte.

Prairie Plumbing & Heating of Blooming Prairie will do the plumbing part of the project.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud  
Weinberg Construction, LLC of Owatonna is doing some major remodeling of bathrooms at the First Baptist Church of Blooming Prairie. Work crew members include brothers James Piepho and Curt Piepho and Phil DeMarte.



# HometownLiving Community Calendar

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**BAR BINGO: MONDAY @ 6:30 P.M.**  
**WINE & WOMEN WED: 6-10 P.M.**  
**MEAT RAFFLES: FRIDAY @ 5:30 P.M.**  
**WINE CLUB: TUES. 7-8:30 P.M.**  
JAN. 12, FEB. 9, MARCH 8,  
APRIL 12, MAY 3: SEASON FINALE  
**EUCHRE: JAN. 16, FEB. 20, MARCH 12**  
2 PERSON TEAM STARTS AT 1 P.M.  
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**CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY**  
APRIL 9TH  
"30" YEARS OF BUSINESS  
**BEAN BAG LEAGUE: MAY-AUGUST**  
**CRUISE FOR CANCER RIDE: JUNE 25TH**  
**STREET DANCE: JULY 2ND**  
**JULY 4TH: OPEN 10 AM TO CLOSE**  
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## OWATONNA

**March 8:**  
Steele Co Commission  
9:30 a.m. OPL It's TALE TIME!  
7 p.m. Steele Co: Co Brd Mtg, Admin Center, BR  
7 p.m. Veterans Open Roundtable, Good Sheph-  
ard Lutheran Church, Owa, 2nd Tues Sept – Jun

**March 10:**  
2 p.m. OPL Independent & World Films  
5:30 p.m. Owatonna Airport Commission, Air-  
port Lounge  
6:30 p.m. OPL Family Story Time

**March 14:**  
4:30 p.m. Owatonna Park & Rec Brd, Council  
Chambers, Brooktree Golf Course or City Park

**March 15:**  
Hope Curbside Recycling S of 42nd Av  
9:30 a.m. OPL It's TALE TIME!  
10 a.m. OPL So Many Books...So Little Time  
Book Club  
4:30 p.m. OPL Brd Mtg, Gainey Rm  
7 p.m. Owatonna City Council, Council Cham-  
bers, City Hall

**March 16:**  
Hope Curbside Recycling N of 42nd Av  
4 p.m. Owatonna EDA, Council Chambers, City  
Hall

## BLOOMING PRAIRIE

**March 8:**  
BP Card Club & Luncheon  
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time

**March 9:**  
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time  
4:30 p.m. Economic Development Authority  
meeting

**March 10:**  
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time  
4:30 p.m. Police Commission meeting

**March 12:**  
9 a.m. BP FFA Toy Show

**March 14:**  
7 p.m. City Council meeting

**March 15:**  
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time  
2:30 p.m. Utility Commission meeting  
4:30 p.m. Fire Commission meeting  
4:45 p.m. BP Boys & Girls Club Brd Mtg  
5:30 p.m. Ambulance Commission meeting

**March 16:**  
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time

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## ELLENDALE/GENEVA

**March 8:**  
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

**March 10:**  
5:30 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm  
7 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm  
7 p.m. NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm

**March 14:**  
6:20 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellndl

**March 15:**  
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl



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## MEDFORD

**March 9:**  
4 p.m. Medford Veterans Committee Mtg  
6 p.m. Medford Park Board's community open for  
developing Medford's future parks, trails and green  
spaces at City Hall, 408 2nd Ave SE

**March 10:**  
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior  
Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner

**March 14:**  
Medford EDA (2nd Wednesday, odd months)  
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior  
Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner

**March 15:**  
6:30 p.m. Court St Anne Catholic Daughters Meet-  
ing, Medford

**March 16:**  
7 p.m. Ft Robert Carlin Knights of Columbus  
Council, Medford

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## SPOT LIGHT

### Fourth Annual Mike Hansen Memorial Washer Board Tournament scheduled for Saturday March 12

The tournament will take place at the Eagles Club (141 E. Rose St.) All proceeds from the tournament will be donated to Owatonna Park and Rec. Scholarship Program in Mike Hansen's name. This Scholarship program provides more opportunities for kids to participate in Park and Rec. activities.

- Singles and Doubles Tournament
- 9 a.m. Singles Registration – 10 a.m. Start
- 11 a.m. Doubles Registration – Noon Start
- \$15 per person – Singles or Doubles Division
- Double Elimination format
- Prizes for first and second place in each division
- Meat raffles available the day of the event
- Eagles Club Bar and Grill open throughout the day

Memorial donations to Owatonna Park and Rec. Scholarship Program are welcome.  
For more information, call Wes Jones at 507-456-4280. Or, call Bill Hartle at 507-456-4012.

## OTHER COUNTIES

**Freeborn**  
**March 10:**  
10 a.m. Fountain Lake Readers Book Club, ALPL  
10:30 a.m. Music & Movement, ALPL  
6 p.m. Night-time Story time, Albert Lea Public  
Library  
6 p.m. Shell Rock Watershed Board Meeting,  
Freeborn County Board Room  
7 p.m. Tigers' Roar, ALHS Auditorium, Albert  
Lea High School

**Mower**  
**March 10:**  
Hot Reads For Cold Nights  
21st Annual Rose Sale, The Arc Mower County,  
Austin



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## CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

### Eagle Prairie Insurance, Klemmensen Creative to share new location

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**  
Staff Writer

Work is well under way for a new location in Blooming Prairie for Eagle Prairie Insurance and Klemmensen Creative.

These two entities are currently located at 150 Fifth St. NE in Blooming Prairie. They will move, hopefully in June or July of this year, to a new location at 311 Highway Ave. S. That location was the former home of Jim's Standard Station.

Jay and Jamie Klemmensen are both excited about the project of remodeling they are currently observing. The former gas station building is being remodeled and will have separate entrances for both businesses.

Jay is a Blooming Prairie High school graduate of 2001. He has been active in the insurance industry for the past five years. Prior to insurance, Jay and his parents, Rick and Chris, managed the Blooming Prairie Country Club for 11 years.

His wife Jamie has been active in graphic design for 16 years with the Post-Bulletin Company of Rochester. She started her graphic design business in Blooming Prairie in January of 2015.

Jay started the Eagle Prairie business in July of 2014 with Sara Kaplan joining him as agent and account specialist. Clients are served in Minnesota and Wisconsin. The agency is partnered with Atlas Insurance Brokers of Rochester.

Eagle Prairie Insurance works with more than 50 carriers and has grown rapidly. Virtually, all types of insurance including home, auto, business and general property insurance are available.

Mohs Contracting of Owatonna holds the construction project con-

tract. Subs include Lembke Masonry of Blooming Prairie; Jensen Heating & Air Conditioning of Geneva and Ressler Electric of Ellendale.

For more information, go to the Eagle Insurance website at <http://www.eagleprairieinsurance.com/>

Construction progress photos are featured on the website.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Mohs Contracting of Owatonna is the general contractor for a major remodeling project for the new home of Eagle Prairie Insurance and Klemmensen Creative. The husband and wife team of Jay and Jamie Klemmensen are moving their businesses to the new location early this summer.

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# PARKS and RECREATION

540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna • Office Phone: 507-444-4321 • [www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation](http://www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation) • Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### BOAT & WATER SAFETY: SATURDAY-APRIL 2 FROM 8:30-11:30A.M.

Students will begin work on the Watercraft Operator's Permit packet. This allows youth (ages 12-18) to operate jet skis, boats, and other watercraft greater than 25hp. Minnesota DNR Conservation Officers lead the class and will demonstrate various equipment. A special in-water session will be held at 11:30am. Classroom portion will be held at SeniorPlace Multi-Purpose Room, in-water session held at West Hills Tennis & Fitness Center.

\*\*The public is welcome to attend the water rescue demonstration at 9:45a.m.  
\*\*There is no cost for the class, but you must register by March 25

### 3RD ANNUAL MUNCHKIN MARKET (YOUTH BOOTHS): SATURDAY-APRIL 23

Kids (ages 6-15), do you have toys you are no longer using? Want to turn those toys into CASH? Rent a table at the Four Seasons Center (West end) to sell some of your old toys, games, books, sporting goods, video games, and anything else you can think of to sell (no food). Make your own prices on your items and keep the profits! Please keep items at \$10 or less. You must provide your own start up cash and change. Register online, in person at the Parks & Recreation Office at 540 West Hills Circle, or by phone at 507-444-4321

Time: 9a.m.-12noon (set up booths at 8am)  
Location: Four Seasons Center (S Elm St. Owatonna)

Cost to rent a space: \$10 (only 100 spaces are available for rent, register today!)

\*\*NEW This year: A Bounce Castle-FREE, Rad Zoo, Magic show and Tae Kwon Do Demonstration

### 3RD ANNUAL BARK & REC: SATURDAY-APRIL 23

Treats, groomers, vets, and other doggie stuff all under one WOOF! Bring your pooch with you to check out area vendors! All dogs in attendance must have rabies tags or proof of vaccinations and be on a leash. We will have doggie demonstrations and doggie bags to give away! Don't have a dog? There will be dogs ready for adoption!

Vendors with pet products and pet-related businesses are invited to purchase a booth for

\$25. Reservations will be taken by phone 507-444-4321 or in person at the Parks & Recreation Office 540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna.

Time: 9a.m.-1p.m.  
Location: Four Seasons Center East end (S Elm St. Owatonna)

\*\*NEW This year: A caricature artist to capture you and your pet, and a dog & owner look-a-like contest!

### BARK & REC RUN FUR FUN!

A 5K walk or run for pets and their people! The Run FUR Fun is rain or shine, no refunds, and you must register on or before April 15th to guarantee your shirt on race day. Proceeds from Bark & Rec and the Run FUR Fun benefit the Owatonna Park & Rec Youth Scholarship Fund, and the Steele County Humane Society.

Cost: \$20 for an individual, \$30 for 2 adults (over 18 of the same household) or \$50 per family- includes 2 adults of the same household and up to 4 kids under age 18

### THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

15th Annual Spring Bowling Tournament

This tournament is open to all bowlers from our fall and winter league teams. Includes a catered dinner and awards program!

Date: Monday April, 25 from 4:30-6:30p.m.

Location: SPARETIME Entertainment  
Sign up: During league April 4, 11, and 18

### Kid's Leisure Swim

This class is designed for ages 6-16 who have disabilities. The instructor is a qualified water safety instructor and experienced in making adaptations for the swimmer with special needs.

Dates: Tuesdays, April 5-May 31

Time: 6-7p.m.

Location: West Hills Pool  
Cost: \$40

### BROOKTREE GOLF COURSE

2016 Season Passes: All rates INCLUDE tax, surcharge and BGA fees where applicable  
Adult Single: \$553.97 full season, age 26-54 as of 3/15/16

Senior Single: \$513.05 full season, age 55 or older as of 3/15/16

Senior Couple: \$707.59 full season, two seniors residing in the same household, both ages 55 or older as of 3/15/16

Family Combo: \$739.66 full season, immediate family members living in the same household. Maximum of 2 adults. Children under age 18 as of 3/15/16

Young Adult: \$377.02 full season, age 18-25 as of 3/15/16

Junior: \$211.12 full season, ages 10-17 as of 3/15/16

### Season Pass Special:

Purchase your 2016 season pass by April 1 and get a power cart punch card for five, 9-hole rounds. (Not available with payment plans)



## INTRODUCING

Brooktree Golf Course would like to welcome Tim Cockram as the food & beverage contractor for the 2016 season!

### A little about Chef Cockram...

Tim attended Le Cordon Bleu in Mendota Heights, MN. After graduation in 2002, he became the head chef at the Oaks supper club in Hayfield, MN, where he created recipes, honed his culinary skills, served creative buffets, and developed his leadership style with his kitchen staff.

In 2004, Chef Tim accepted a larger challenge at the Owatonna Country Club. After two years he was promoted to Executive Chef/Director of Food and Beverage Operations. He showcased his many talents and creativity through customized menus, homemade recipes, pairings and broadening the epicurean experience of the members.

After eight years, Chef Cockram made the move to Sodexo positioned as the Executive Chef at the Dan Abraham Healthy Living Center for Mayo Clinic employees where he managed two cafes planning tasteful meals within the parameters of low-calorie, low-fat yet delicious. He also taught multiple cooking classes weekly across campus showcasing healthy cooking techniques, trends, special projects and recipe development.

Tim is active in the American Culinary Foundation, earning his Certified Executive Chef credentials in early 2014. He also serves at the Director of Culinary Scholarships for the Drew Woodwick Scholarship Foundation.

We're excited about the NEW Master's Bar & Grille featuring:

- Great Atmosphere
- Serving Lunch & Dinner
- Featuring Local Fresh and Affordable Food
- Full Service Bar with Specialty Cocktails
- Regional Taps & Bottled Beer
- Wine Menu
- Golf Outing Packages

## POOL SAFETY

### LIFEGUARD TRAINING:

March 22 and March 29-April 2

Fee: \$175  
Pre-Requisites Pre Test: March 22 - 3-4p.m.

Class meeting times: March 29 - 3-8p.m., March 30 - 3-8p.m., March 31 - 3-8p.m., April 1 - 3-8pm, April 2 - 7:30a.m.-2p.m.

Lifeguard Training: April 19 and April 25-April 29

Fee: \$175  
Pre-Requisites Pre Test: April 19 - 3-4p.m.

Class Meeting Times: April 25 - 3-8p.m., April 26 - 3-8p.m., April 27 - 3-8:30p.m., April - 28 3-8:30p.m., April 29 - 3-8:30p.m.



## WAYS TO REGISTER

- On-Line: [www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation/online-registration](http://www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation/online-registration)
- Walk-In Registration: at the Park and Recreation office at 540 West Hills Circle. Office hours are 7 am-5 pm Monday - Friday



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Merit Contracting is looking to hire FT laborers for our roofing crew. Starting pay is \$18.36 an hour. Benefits include: health insurance, holiday pay, PTO, dental, STD, 401(k) with employer match etc. Fill out an application at our office: 4750 Hwy 63 N, Rochester, MN 55906. Questions call Rev @ (507) 780-0109 11, 12pd, 13nc

Positions available at Frank'n Steins. Apply with in Wed. 4 p.m., Thur. 11:30-1:30 & 4, Fri. 4 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m. & Sun. 9 a.m. 11-12c

Construction position - if you are a handy, hard worker and want to make good money, call (507) 456-7787 12, 13, 14p

Carriage House Animal Hospital is looking for a self-motivated team member, for a rewarding position as a kennel staff member. Hours are needed between 5:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. and then again at 3:15 p.m. - 5 p.m. Weekdays, weekends, and holidays. Must be 16 years old older. Duties include cleaning kennels of cats, dogs, and other housekeeping duties. 12-14c

Person needed for Janitorial service (vacuuming), Mon. 8-10 p.m., Tues. Wed. Thurs. 10:30-11 p.m., Fri. and Sat. 11:30-1:30 a.m. apply at [mopsandbuckets@kmtel.com](mailto:mopsandbuckets@kmtel.com). 12-14p

Driver wanted for seed fertilizer and chemical dealer in Sargeant, MN, seasonal, willing to certify and train applicant, call Larry @ (507) 477-2253 12-14p

CASTING CALL! Kasson Video is recruiting a highly energetic, dependable & organized Part Time Sales Associate! Do you enjoy movies & working with people? Do you have excellent customer service skills? Can you multi-task? Candidates MUST be able to work: Mon.-Wed. 5-7 p.m.; Fri. 4-8 p.m. & Sat. 12 noon - 8 p.m. Apply in person at Kasson Video, 121 W. Main, Kasson. EOE12p

### FOR RENT

Apartments for rent, 1, 2 & 3 BR, gas & elec. included. 507-273-7386. 50-1p, 2tfc

Mobile Home lot and mobile homes for rent at Southside Mobile Home Park in Hayfield. No Pets. Call JMC for details. 507-536-0000. 43tfc

Prime office spaces for rent on Main Street, Kasson. High traffic location. Call 634-4307 for more information. 37tfc

Private quiet 2 bedroom duplex apartment in Ellendale. Must see! \$550/mo. Water, sewer, garbage included. Call (507) 456-8931 7stc

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Spacious Rentals-1 bd in Mantorville & 2 bd in Claremont, month to month leases and deposit payment plans, (507) 398-6027 or (507) 451-8524 [www.lifestyleinc.net](http://www.lifestyleinc.net) tdd (507) 451 0704 Equal Housing Opportunity. 11c, 12c, 13nc

Spring Rent Sale- Great Western Apartments, Hayfield, will reduce your rent by \$100 per month with a one-year lease. Newly renovated with large rooms, hardwood floors, and utilities included. We have the 1, 2, or 3 bedroom apartment you want. Call (507) 796-0152 or (701) 330-9706 for sale details 12tfc

### SERVICES

HAMM'S WELDING - All types, aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, fabrication work and repairs. HAMM'S WELDING, 528-2524, rural Claremont. 9tfc

Dodge County Printing, wedding invitations, bumper stickers, graduation invitations, pens, can holders, letterheads, envelopes, business cards, carbonless forms, computer stationary. Ask about other items available, 507-634-2661. 33tfc

TUTORING. Learning can be fun! All grades - most subjects. Linda L. Greene 507-374-2363. 38tfc

### WANTED

Crop land to rent. Young farmer looking to expand existing corn and soybean operation in Hayfield and surrounding area. Call David Stanton 507-951-0915. 1tfc

### FOR SALE

5 bedroom, 3 bath home, 3 car attached garage, deck, new carpet and paint, private master suite, NP/NS, \$1500 per month plus utilities. Call Jenni @ 424-6063

## HELP WANTED

CHS has multiple openings for **Seasonal Laborers/Drivers**. Potential employees must be familiar with farm equipment, mechanically inclined and possess or have the ability to obtain a Class A or B CDL or a seasonal CDL. Please apply online at: [www.chsrochester.com/about-us/careers](http://www.chsrochester.com/about-us/careers)



If you have any questions contact Steve (Claremont) at 507-528-2175 or stop by the CHS Office at 135 West Front St Claremont, MN or contact Chris (Byron) at 507-775-2900 or visit our Byron location.

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**MARCH 12 • 7 AM – Noon**

**McLane Company, Inc., 1111 W 5th Street, Northfield, MN**

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### MISCELLANEOUS

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Southeastern Minnesota Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (SEMMCHRA) will be held at the SEMMCHRA Main Office, 134 East Second Street, Wabasha, MN 55981 on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. The public is welcome. 12c

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# Cancer Corner

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

## Help Connor Weckwerth fight cancer

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**  
Staff Writer

*Editor's Note: See this week's front page story about Connor Weckwerth and his fight against brain cancer.*

It will be a special afternoon Sunday, March 20, for Connor Weckwerth when his family and friends sponsor a benefit from 1-5 p.m. at the Geneva Community Center, 410 SE 1st Ave.

Friends and family are invited to enjoy an afternoon of food and a time to bid on some very attractive items at both a live auction and silent auction.

The benefit is directed toward Connor's family living expenses. Connor is a 7-year-old boy who was diagnosed with brain cancer in June 2015. He underwent six hours of surgery, 33 tradition treatments and is currently going through 44 weeks of chemotherapy.

"Connor has an amazing spirit and brings joy and a smile to all," says his mother April O'Connor and his father Milo Weckwerth. Connor also has a brother Garrett, 12.

A meal is planned, including pulled pork sandwiches, beans, potato salad, chips and kids' hot dogs. Freewill donations will be accepted.

Auction items already include:

- Minnesota Twins baseball tickets, courtesy of KROC Television
- Snowmobile jacket
- Fire pit ring
- Hand-knit items
- Homemade quilts
- Rocking horse and rocking truck donated Ryan (Junior) Johnson of Ellendale
- 40-inch TV donated by Sorenson's Appliances and Krejci Ford
- Homemade pies
- Homemade apple crisp cheesecake made by April O'Connor. ("It's massive and I hope it draws a high price," said April. "Maybe \$10 million," joked Connor.)

*Sponsored by* **KREJCI** 



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

**Connor Weckwerth hams it up with his mother (center) April O'Connor and close friend Amy Svoboda, left. Amy is the lead organizer for Connor's Fight Benefit which will be held from 1-5 p.m. Sunday, March 20 at the Geneva Community Center.**

Face painting will be offered for the kids. A major organizer for Connor's Fight Benefit is Amy Svoboda, a very close friend of April. Amy was diagnosed with lymphoma cancer one month before Connor was diagnosed with brain cancer in June of 2015. Amy's cancer is currently in remission.

Donations are still welcome and can be sent to Farmers & Merchants State Bank at 245 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 277, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917.

If interested in helping out, please contact Amy Svoboda at 507-456-6761.

Organizers ask that no donations contain peanuts or tree nuts because of allergies. "If someone opened a peanut butter jar in a room, I would have to leave," said April, who has a peanut allergy.

Benefit organizers express thanks in advance for those who are helping. "The Blooming Prairie Cancer Group has been fantastic," April said. She said she plans to donate a wheel chair Connor used to the Cancer Group.

Proceeds from the benefit will be used for family living expenses and expenses relative to travel for treatment.

# TMC vet wins Minimizer-sponsored Career Leadership Award

Kevin Tomlinson didn't end up driving trucks like his father and grandfather, but he is pretty darn good at fixing them.

Tomlinson, winner of the 2015 CCJ Career Leadership Award, has spent 37 years in the trucking industry after graduating from a six-month technician program in 1979.

He has been a Technology and Maintenance Council board member for the past six years, and is currently the Maintenance Director for South Shore Transport in Ohio.

Minimizer sponsors the CCJ Career Leadership Award.

"Congratulations to Kevin on a well-deserved honor," Minimizer CEO and Chief Visionary Craig Kruckeberg said. "Trucking is in his blood, and I'm glad to see his dedication to the industry lead to this distinguished award."

Minimizer is your aftermarket solution for quality and dependable Truck Parts, including everything from Poly Truck Fenders, Toolboxes, Custom Molded Floor Mats, Mud Flaps, Truck



Submitted photo  
Kevin Tomlinson was recently named the winner of the 2015 CCJ Career Leadership Award.

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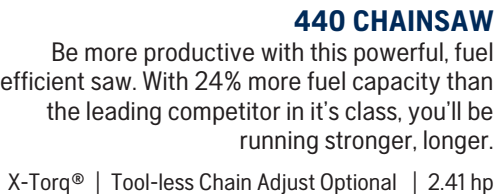
Minimizer manufactures its products in the heart of the USA, and has been an American family owned and operated company for three generations. Minimizer takes pride in being known for the toughest products in the toughest industry.

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## Farm, Power Show returns to Four Seasons

By KAREN JORGENSEN  
County Staff Writer

The North American Farm and Power Show returns to the Four Seasons in Owatonna for the 14th year Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 17, 18 and 19.

The annual event, which is open to the public, features displays from agriculture-related vendors and educational seminars and is one of the largest such events in the nation.

It showcases products from a variety of industries including agriculture, forestry, machine and garden tools, renewable energy and conservation, horticulture and floriculture.

In addition to the vendor displays, those attending have the opportunity to learn about the latest developments and issues affecting agriculture with two days of educational seminars and programs.

The Linder Farm Network is sponsoring the Thursday morning seminar on "Farm & Business Succession Planning."

Leah R. Gilbert of Pluto Legal, PLLC, will be the speaker. The session, which includes time for questions, will be at 10 a.m. in the second floor meeting room.

On Friday morning, Jerry Johnson, chairman and CEO of Aglytix in Mankato and David Rohlik, AMS specialist with Ag Power Enterprises in Owatonna, will speak about "Agricultural Technology – What's the Latest?" This session also starts at 10 a.m. in the second floor meeting room.

The University of Minnesota Extension Service is in charge of the afternoon sessions.

Thursday's session will concentrate on buffers with Doug

Busselman, of the Minnesota Farm Bureau and Warren Formo of MN Ag Water Resource Center, speaking on "What You Need to Know About the Buffer Law" at 1 p.m.

At 2 p.m. Eric Gulbransen, Soil & Water Conservation District manager, will give a Steele County Conservation office update. At 2:20 p.m. Ryan Miller, a University of Minnesota Extension crops educator, will speak on "Improving Water Quality: the Benefits and Limitations of Buffer Strips."

Feedlots and manure management take center stage Friday afternoon, as the Minnesota Association of County Feedlot Officers will offer a training session for commercial manure applicators and livestock producers.

The session will be an opportunity to learn more about the developments in manure management and meet the education requirements for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Commercial Waste Technician Licensing Program.

Registration opens at noon with the program beginning at 1 p.m.

Topics include a CAWT license program update, watershed restoration and protection strategy, application timing and nitrification inhibitors, nitrogen and phosphorus regulations and rules of the road.

The program will conclude with final remarks and instructions at 4:15 p.m.

There will also be three demonstrations of grain bin safety, sponsored by the Southeast Farm Bureaus on Friday.

Demonstration times are 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. in the south parking area. The demonstrations are put on by SASCS,

LLC (Safety and Security Consultation Specialists, from Minnesota Lake).

There is no admission charge for any of the show events.

Doors to the exhibit area will open at 9 a.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The show is open until 5 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and 4 p.m. on Saturday. There is free parking at the Four Seasons, located on the Steele County Fairgrounds.

Staff file photo |  
Karen Jorgensen

**Twins Hannah and Grace Garms look at toy tractors and farm equipment for sale at last year's North American Farmand Power Show at the Four Seasons Center in Owatonna. This year's event will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 17, 18 and 19.**



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## Did You Know?

### Fun farm facts:

- One pound of wool can make 10 miles of yarn.
- There are 150 yards (450 feet) of wool yarn in a baseball.
- Soybeans are an important ingredient for the production of crayons. In fact, one acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons.
- The heaviest turkey ever raised weighed 86 pounds, about the size of an average third-grader.
- Cows are herbivores, so they only have teeth on the bottom.
- There are 350 squirts in a gallon of milk.
- Cows must give birth to a calf in order to produce milk.

# AgPower

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# Education/News

## Recycled entertainment and education

By ANNA SEGNER  
County Staff Writer

Over 1,000 people packed into the Willow Creek gym to play the games created out of cardboard and recycled materials by sixth grade students.

The projects were in participation of the Global Cardboard Challenge program of the Imagination Foundation, a nonprofit with a mission is to inspire creativity, engineering and entrepreneurship. Willow Creek called their project “Creeker Arcade.”

The games are more than just fun. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) coordinator and science teacher Tom Meagher said that the educational potential for these projects is infinite.

The students built their games in science class. Meagher said that the students applied many physics concepts as they considered various forces of motion when creating the games.

Teams of three or four students worked together to design their games within two weeks. Many students said that the engineering process required a

lot of teamwork and leadership within groups.

“Now that the games are created, the students are tracking the scores of the games’ participants. They will use that data in math classes for teaching theoretical probability,” said Meagher. “For example, some games have four holes to toss a little ball in. That means that there is 25 percent chance that it will land in one.”

Students were also walking around the gym with clipboards to evaluate their peers.

Students were also doing some advertising for their games to get people to come play their game. Sixth grader Koi Chinander was running around the gym with a cardboard sign that had the words “Cookie Monster” scribbled on it with marker.

The Cookie Monster game was a combination of a game of aim and Plink-O. “The objective of the game is to throw the ball into Cookie Monster’s mouth. That is 900 points,” said Chinander. “Then, if it makes it through the Popsicle sticks, you get another 100 points.”

Chinander worked with his partners Jose Arevalo, Rylan Warner and Drake Efta. They

explained the various forces of motion at work during the process of their game.

“I feel like we needed more duct tape,” said Chinander, looking as some sagging cardboard on their game. “This was a good experience. We had fun overall.”

Sixth graders Lydia Nelson, Alexis Highfield, Anna Holcomb and Grace Jacobs created the game “Ring around the Bottle.” They asked participants to roll a cardboard dice twice. The added total of each roll was the amount of rings that the player received.

From there, the player had the opportunity to throw their cardboard discs, in hopes of landing around the spout of plastic bottles arranged in a bottle.

“Our question is, what is the probability that someone will roll seven or higher?” said Nelson, after explaining the push and pull forces of motion working in their project.

Explanation of projects in academic language was one of the aspects of the project that Meagher found at the “Creeker Arcade.”



Staff photos by Anna Segner

Over 1,000 people packed into the Willow Creek gym on Feb. 28 to play the games created out of cardboard and recycled materials by sixth grade students. The projects were in participation of the Global Cardboard Challenge program of the Imagination Foundation.



Sixth graders Lydia Nelson, Alexis Highfield, Anna Holcomb, and Grace Jacobs created the game “Ring around the Bottle” for their participation of the Global Cardboard Challenge program. These projects broke educational boundaries, as they touch on probability, physics, engineering, communications and even art.



The projects were in participation of the Global Cardboard Challenge program of the Imagination Foundation, a nonprofit with a mission is to inspire creativity, engineering and entrepreneurship. Willow Creek called their project “Creeker Arcade.”

### Northern Country Co-op scholarships available

Northern Country Cooperative Company awards several \$500 scholarships in eligible graduating high school seniors, in the company’s trade area, who plan to attend an accredited college.

Programs may be from one to four years in length. The recipient is to be enrolled in an Agriculture or Ag-related program of study. Northern Country Co-op has locations in Stacyville and Toeterville, Iowa and in Adams, Alden, Brownsdale, Conger, Emmons, Lansing, LeRoy, Lyle, Oakland and Rose Creek in Minnesota.

Interested seniors can contact their high school guidance counselor for an application form, along with complete criteria and specifications, and can also access the information at the company’s website [www.ncountry-coop.com](http://www.ncountry-coop.com). Home-schooled students should contact the high school district where their residence is located. All entries must reach Northern Country Co-op’s office in Stacyville, Iowa no later than April 1, 2016.

### Owatonna Parks and Recreation announces calendar photo contest

The Owatonna Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting photos for the 2017 Owatonna Parks and Recreation calendar.

To enter, submit photos featuring Owatonna Parks and Trails, for a chance to win a \$25 or \$10 gift card and a place on the 2017 calendar. The photographer of the cover photo will receive a \$25 Owatonna Park and Recreation gift card and photographers featured inside the calendar will receive a \$10 gift card. All winners also receive a free calendar.

To enter, e-mail photos to Jessica.Abrahams@ci.owatonna.mn.us or mail the photos to: Attn: Jessica 540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna, MN 55060.

All entries must be submitted by Oct. 21, 2016 and include the photographer’s name and phone number.

By submitting a photo, applicants agree that they have taken the submitted photo. These photos may be used at the discretion of the Owatonna Parks and Recreation Department on websites, social media outlets, print and online publications and other outlets.

## Applications open for SMIF’s AmeriCorps LEAP program

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation’s (SMIF) AmeriCorps LEAP (Learning Early Achieves Potential) Initiative is seeking qualified candidates to fill 20 FTE positions.

AmeriCorps LEAP members serve in early childhood care settings and work with children on social-emotional skill development to help southern Minnesota preschoolers become better prepared to enter kindergarten.

The 2016-17 AmeriCorps LEAP Initiative service term is an 11-month commitment beginning with an orientation mid-August and ending July 15, 2017. In addition to focusing on building social-emotional learning skills to prepare children for kindergarten readiness, the LEAP program also works to promote routine reading at home.

All applicants receive a living allowance and Segal education award (\$5,775 for FTE members and \$2,887.50 for PTE members) that can be used to pay off student loans or tuition and books costs at local colleges. A health care or childcare benefit is also available if needed. LEAP participants will be trained prior to site engagement during a three-day orientation retreat in August.

Barbara Gunderson, SMIF’s AmeriCorps LEAP Director, lists the following as the top three reasons to consider applying:

1. Experience life-changing growth while earning funds for college education and/or paying off student loan debt.
2. Make a difference by giving



Submitted photo

Senator Amy Klobuchar visited with current AmeriCorps Learning Early Achieves Potential (LEAP) members earlier this year.

preschool children social-emotional support and helping them develop critical skills for kindergarten success.

3. Developing professional and personal leadership skills that will last a lifetime.

“Not only are there countless statistics that show why early childhood investments are a good long-term payoff: higher college graduation rates, reduced human services costs long-term, etc.; the benefits of working with kids early on social-emotional skills is intuitive,” said former AmeriCorps LEAP member Bruce Boyce. “Getting to witness kids socially and emotionally develop is very gratifying.”

Currently, there are 80,000

AmeriCorps members serving across the nation.

Available SMIF AmeriCorps LEAP positions are located in numerous communities across the region, including: Blue Earth, Fairmont, Le Center, Mankato, New Ulm, Northfield, St. Peter,

Sherburn/Welcome, and Winona.

Applications are due July 1, 2016. Candidate interviews are in process, so applicants are encouraged to apply early. To learn more about requirements, member duties, benefits, or how to apply, visit the application link at [www.smifoundation.org](http://www.smifoundation.org) or call 507-455-3215.

SMIF, a donor-supported foundation, invests for economic growth in 20 Minnesota counties. The Foundation has provided more than \$55 million in grants and loans within the region during the past 30 years. SMIF’s key interests include early childhood and economic development.

The LEAP Initiative is an AmeriCorps program made possible through the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation-Early Childhood Development partnership with ServeMinnesota, and the Corporation for National and Community Service. They are committed to recruiting and engaging individuals without regard to disability, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

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MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2016  
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER

PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGENDA

6:00 a.m. Thursday, March 17, 2016 Regular School Board Work Session–High School Board Room  
7:00 p.m. Monday, March 21, 2016 Open Public Forum–High School Media Center  
7:15 p.m. Monday, March 21, 2016 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.

• CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL – CLERK

• APPROVAL OF AGENDA

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED  
A. Consent Agenda  
Minutes  
Bills  
Treasurer’s Report  
Resignation  
Employment  
Donations  
B. Technology Lease  
C. Class Size/Sections  
D. Prom DJ

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY  
• Wrestling Pairing  
• Committee Reports  
• Enrollment Data  
• Dates to Note

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

\*Agenda may be subject to changes

3/8

# Celebrating I Love to Read Month with ‘Green Eggs and Ham’



Staff photos by Laura Berndt

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva (NRHEG) Elementary School opened its doors to readers of all ages during the annual Dr. Seuss Green Eggs and Ham breakfast on Friday, March 4. This event was just one of many that helped NRHEG students celebrate “I Love to Read Month,” which concluded at the end of February.



Trevor, Mack and Brooks Gilliland enjoyed their green eggs and ham at NRHEG Elementary School on Friday morning.

## NRHEG school menus

NRHEG Breakfast Menu:

March 8: Bagels with cream cheese

March 9: Nutri-grain bar

March 10: Pancakes

March 11: Banana bread

March 14: Pop tarts

March 15: Pancake and sausage bites

sage bites

March 16: Breakfast pizza

NRHEG Lunch Menu:

March 8: Corn dog, baked beans, golden corn, applesauce, fresh fruit

March 9: Hamburger on a bun, chips, green beans, grape tomatoes, peaches, Jell-O

March 10: Chicken dippers, whipped potatoes, cooked carrots, mandarin oranges, bread stick

March 11: Toasted cheese sandwich, tomato soup, broccoli with dip, pears, string cheese

March 14: Cheeseburger with hot dish, green beans, cucumber slices, fresh fruit, pineapple, string cheese

March 15: Turkey gravy, whipped potatoes, peas, cranberry sauce, peaches, cottage cheese

cheese

March 16: Hot dog or brat on a bun, baked beans, chips, broccoli with dip, pears, apple crisp

## Bloomington Prairie school menus

BPES Breakfast Menu:

March 8: Long John, vegetable selection, apple juice, milk

March 9: W/G bagel with cream cheese, vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

March 10: Banana bread loaf, vegetable selection, orange juice, milk

March 11: WG muffin, vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

March 14: Yogurt, graham crackers; vegetable selection, canned fruit, milk

March 15: Long John, vegetable selection, apple juice, milk

March 16: WG bagel with cream cheese, vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

BPES Lunch Menu:

March 8: Chicken patty on WG bun, potatoes ole; soft taco with lettuce, cheese and salsa, potatoes ole; chopped lettuce, cherry tomatoes, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 9: Cheese bread with marinara sauce, glazed carrots; Sloppy Joe on WG bun, glazed carrots; broccoli, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 10: Chicken nuggets, oven French fries; hamburger, oven French fries; kidney beans, cherry tomatoes, seasonal fruit

March 11: Pizza parlor cheese pizza, garlic herb broccoli; pulled pork flatbread, garlic herb broccoli; baby carrots, cauliflower, seasonal fruit

March 14: Chicken patty on WG bun, carrots; pizza casserole, green beans; tomato slices, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 15: Pancakes, ham slice, breakfast potatoes; hot ham and cheese on waffle, breakfast potatoes; baby carrots, cauliflower, seasonal fruit

March 16: Popcorn chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, WG dinner roll; pizza burger, mashed potatoes and gravy; baby spinach, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

BPHS Lunch Menu:

March 8: Tex Mex bowl; peas, cherry tomatoes, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 9: Sloppy Joe, kettle chips; broccoli, celery sticks, pepper medley, seasonal fruit

March 10: Philly burger, French fries; corn, kidney beans, cherry tomatoes, seasonal fruit

March 11: Grilled cheese, garlic herb broccoli; broccoli, baby carrots, cauliflower, seasonal fruit

March 14: Pancakes, ham slice, breakfast potatoes; garbanzo beans, tomato slices, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 15: Orange chicken Lo Mein; peas, baby carrots, cauliflower, seasonal fruit

March 16: Spaghetti boat, green beans; baby spinach, celery sticks, romaine lettuce, seasonal fruit

## Medford school menus

Medford School Breakfast Menu

March 8: Long John OR choice of WG cereal, graham crackers; vegetable selection, apple juice, milk

March 9: Breakfast stacker OR choice of WG cereal, graham crackers; vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

March 10: WG mini donuts OR choice of WG cereal, graham crackers; vegetable selection

March 11: No school

March 14: Breakfast pizza

OR choice of WG cereal, graham crackers; vegetable selection, canned fruit, milk

March 15: Cinnamon roll OR choice of WG cereal, graham crackers; vegetable selection, apple juice, milk

March 16: Egg and cheese biscuit OR choice of WG cereal, graham crackers; vegetable selection, fresh fruit, milk

Medford School Lunch Menu

March 8: Soft taco with lettuce, cheese and salsa; tuna

pasta salad, combo sliders; chopped lettuce, cherry tomatoes, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 9: Chicken nuggets, crispy tator tots, WG dinner rolls; apple Waldorf salad, turkey BLT wrap; broccoli, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 10: Cheeseburger on a whole grain bun, carrots; seven-layer salad, deli sandwich; kidney beans, cherry tomatoes seasonal fruit

March 11: No school

March 14: French toast sticks, ham slice, tri tator; seven-layer salad, deli sub; tomato slices, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

March 15: Chicken bacon melt, sweet potato fries; turkey BLT salad, yogurt pack; baby carrots, cauliflower, seasonal fruit

March 16: Chicken patty, baked beans; Asian spinach salad, ham and Swiss bagel; baby spinach, celery sticks, seasonal fruit

## LAWN MOWING PROPOSALS

Steele County is accepting proposals for lawn mowing and trimming at Beaver Lake Park, Hope School, Straight River Canoe Landing, and Crane Creek Park.

Steele County is also accepting proposals for lawn mowing out at the Steele County Landfill. Contractor must maintain bodily injury and property damage liability in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Proposals shall list each park separately and the landfill separately, and the price to mow and trim per each time.

Proposals shall be submitted to Steve Schroht, Four Seasons Centre / Park & Rec Director at 1525 South Elm Ave, P.O. Box 57, Owatonna, MN 55060. Proposals must be received by Thursday March 31, 2016 at 3 p.m. Parks questions may be directed to Steve Schroht Steele County Park and Rec Director at (507)451-1093 or Landfill questions may be directed to Bruce Holland, Landfill Supervisor, at (507)402-1719.

3/8, 3/15, 3/22

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## Join the Arbor Day Foundation in March and receive 10 free trees

The Arbor Day Foundation is making it easy for everyone to celebrate the arrival of spring by planting trees. Those who join the Arbor Day Foundation in March 2016 will receive ten free white pine trees.

“White pines are versatile trees that will break heavy winds and add beauty to your home,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “These fast-growing landscape trees are known for their soft needles

and graceful branching, making them an idea addition to any yard.”

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation’s Trees for American campaign.

With planting instructions included, the trees will be shipped at the right time for planting, between March 1 and May 31. The 6 to 12 inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

Arbor Day Foundation members also receive a subscription to Arbor Day, the Foundation’s bi-monthly publication, and The Tree Book, which contains information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE WHITE PINE TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410, by March 31, 2016. Or, join online at arbor day.org/march.





# Steele County shows support for area 4-H'ers



Katelyn Paschke, age 6, gets a temporary tattoo from Mariah Schroht and Katlyn Schubert during Sunday's Steele County 4-H Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser.



Madison and Ericka Jaster, of the Medford Go Getters, enjoy Sunday's 4-H Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser, held at Owatonna Junior High School. The event benefits the entire Steele County 4-H program.

## Student of the Week



Samantha Possin is in Mr. Beynon's 2nd grade class. She is the daughter of Layne and Jill Possin, and has three brothers. She lives in the country near Wells. Samantha shows Panther Pride in a variety of ways. She also shows curiosity in the classroom by asking questions and loves participating in discussions. She is respectful to her teacher and her peers by being a good listener. She loves being the teacher's helper and always comes to school with a positive attitude. Samantha enjoys playing with friends, doing all sorts of art projects and playing tag outside. Great work, Samantha!

Student of the Week is sponsored by:

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# Another reason to love your local library



NANCY  
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I love the library system in Minnesota! Although the Blooming Prairie Branch Library is small, the library can get access to the same information offered in large, metropolitan libraries. As many of you know, patrons can get items from libraries across the state without charge. At a national conference a few years ago, representatives from other states were amazed that postage or other fees were not

charged for that service. Now, there is another reason to be excited about our state library system: a new opportunity to access electronic books has just been introduced. As explained by Minitex, "Ebooks Minnesota is an online ebook collection for all Minnesotans. The collection covers a wide variety of subjects for readers of all ages, and features content from our state's independent publishers, including some of our best literature and nonfiction." Take a look at some of the available books: Spoon River Cookbook from the trendy Minneapolis restaurant, Peter Rabbit, and Shakespeare are some of the choices. Categories include graphic novels, banned books, biography, history, nature and crafts. To access the collection, you can go online at ebooksmn.org. There are also apps available for your tablets or other

electronic devices, available through the App Store, Google Play and Kindle Fire. If you need assistance in getting started with this new program, call us at 507-583-7750 or drop in at the library.

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## Moonlighters Exchange Club welcomes new member



The Moonlighters Exchange Club of Owatonna would like to welcome Nicole Wacek as their newest member. Moonlighters President Ben Cass (pictured on right) and District Director Randy Sobrack (pictured on left) presented the membership plaque to Wacek. The Moonlighters Exchange Club of Owatonna meets the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post #3723 in Owatonna. Contact Rhonda Guthier at rguthier@owatonna.org for more information.

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Plural of ascus

5. Repents

11. British School

12. Adhesive to catch birds

15. Male children

16. Oil company

17. Intestinal

19. Money slogan

24. 2nd tone

25. In actual truth

26. Belgian-French River

27. Rural Free Delivery

28. Point midway between S and SE

29. Texas armadillo

30. 2nd largest Hawaiian island

31. Pile up

33. Changes liquid to vapor

34. Yemen capital

37. Byways
38. V-shaped cut

39. Painting on dry plaster

42. Daminozide

43. Papa's partner

44. \_\_-fi: fiction/movie genre

47. 1st Soviet space station

48. Latvian capital

49. Come into view

52. Blue Hen school

53. Maine water company

55. Picture & word puzzle

57. Atomic #18

58. Xiamen dialect

59. Being overzealous

62. One who did it (slang)

63. Night breathing noises

64. A minute amount (Scott)

### CLUES DOWN

1. Race of Norse gods

2. Large pebbles

3. Latin line dances

4. The inner sole of a shoe

5. A French abbot

6. Moves stealthily

7. An alternative

8. 39th state

9. Lotus sports car model

10. River fill

13. Of I

14. Many noises

18. Ghana monetary units
20. Actor Hughley

21. The Cowboy State

22. Jest at

23. America

27. Surprise attack

29. Daddy

30. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand

31. Express pleasure

32. Cellist Yo-Yo

33. Bronx cheer

34. A more firm substance

35. Essential oil obtained

- from flowers

36. Company that rings receipts

37. Largest church in Christianity

38. Capital of Wallonia

39. Heroic tale

40. Send forth

41. The Golden State

43. 1/1000 of an inch

44. Angel of the 1st order

45. Ukrainian peninsula

46. Disregard
48. Colophony

49. Spanish be

50. Military policeman

51. Cleopatra's country

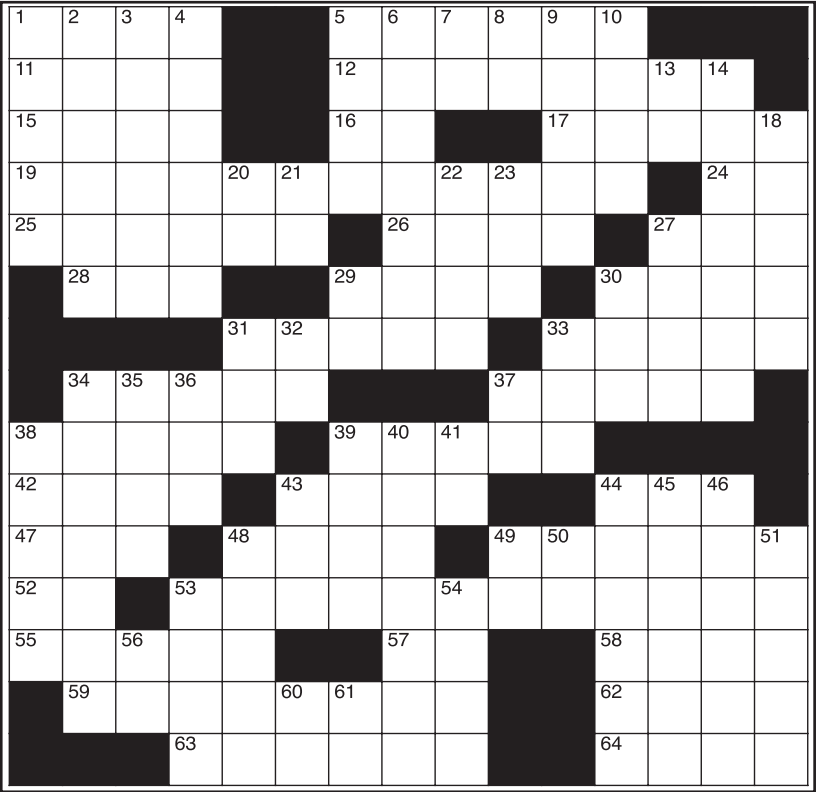
53. Br. drinking establishments

54. Removes moisture

56. Liberal Arts degree

60. Execute or perform

61. Atomic #77



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