

Bonding bill includes money for county building

\$4 million to assist with project

By **ALAN VAN ORMER**
Managing Editor

The Governor’s bonding bill

has included \$4 million for the Steele County public works building.

Steele County chairperson Nina Huntington said what this means is that if we get the money, the debt service to local taxpayers will be decreased. “It doesn’t change our timeline for anything,” she said. “Honestly, we didn’t know if it was going to get approved. But if it does now we can have different discussions on which direction we want to go.”

The Steele County Board of Commissioners was expected to discuss the issue today.

On Friday the bonding bill was being discussed in the House and Ways Committee.

The portion of the bonding bill related to the public works building states “\$4 million for a grant to design, construct, furnish and equipment a public works building in Owatonna.”

Rep. John Petersburg, who put together a bill on the Republican side, as did Sen. Vicki Jensen on

the DFL side, said he feels the \$4 million will stay in the bonding bill.

“Nothing is ever sure until the governor signs it,” Petersburg said. ‘We’re anticipating everything is good to go. It is something we’ve worked hard and pushed the opportunity for improvements in the Owatonna area. It is something I think is worthwhile.”

Petersburg said this additional funds and with the supplement of FEMA dollars should allow

the public works facility to get started this summer.

Huntington said Steele County had been expecting something like this. It is a special project that former county administrator Tom Shea had been working on.

“I don’t know if it will necessarily affect the project in my opinion,” she said. “It will lessen the burden to the taxpayer on the decision we do make.”

The county has submitted its project improvement plan to state Homeland Security for

feedback before submitting to FEMA. The phase 1 proposal is to do the site work and build the fuel island and salt portion of the project by September 2016. The \$1.5 million will be utilized to assist with that portion of the project.

Huntington said once the county finds out if the project improvement plan is approved commissioners will make a decision by the end of the summer, early fall when our building is going to be built.

Srsen twins turn 80

By **ANNA SEGNER**
Staff Writer

For twin brothers Jim and Jerry Srsen, birthdays have always been a shared holiday. This year, on June 8, the Blooming Prairie twins turned 80!

Jim and Jerry Srsen were born on June 8, 1935 to Hubert and Georgiana Srsen of Blooming Prairie. Birthdays as children might have included matching outfits, birthday cakes, family and each other’s company.

Both Jim and Jerry have a lot to celebrate for their 80 years of life and the future ahead of them.

The twins were three-sport athletes together playing football, basketball and baseball for Blooming Prairie High School. Together they were co-captains of the football team. Jim’s daughter, Julie recalled the story that there were times football coach De Carey could not tell Jim and Jerry apart on the football field, especially since jersey numbers and sports supplies were not as consistent at that time.

Jim and Jerry graduated from BPHS in 1953. Both attended Mankato State University for a bachelor’s degree in Business & Economics. They graduated in 1957.

Jim was in the National Guard during college, and he served in the

80-YEAR-OLD TWINS
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Staff photo by Alan Van Ormer

Paul Dale was considered dead before the Memorial Day weekend. Efforts by his wife, Laura, the Blooming Prairie Police Department and ambulance crew assisted in keeping him alive.

Blooming Prairie man survives ordeal

By **ALAN VAN ORMER**
Managing Editor

Paul Dale was considered dead. For approximately 20 minutes, the Blooming Prairie resident flat lined and if it wasn’t for the efforts of his wife, Laura, Blooming Prairie Police Chief Greg Skillestad and members of the Blooming Prairie ambulance crew, many believe he would not be alive.

“Honest to God it was a miracle. It is divine intervention,” said Laura. “It’s not me. I’m not brilliant or smart. It wasn’t his time. God stepped in.”

Paul Dale remembers hearing someone say with the condition

you were in and seeing you on the floor, the next time I see you will be in the funeral home. “He says you’re lucky.”

The ordeal started on Thursday, May 28. Paul and Laura were watching television between 6 and 6:30 a.m. after Paul took care of his dog, made some coffee and was sitting on his spot on the couch. Laura’s spot is in a comfort chair next to the couch. Both were just relaxing.

“I don’t know if I dozed or just wasn’t talking,” Laura recalls. “I heard a sound and looked over

LIFE SAVING EFFORTS
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Staff photo by Shannon Kinley

Campers Elizabeth Radel (front) and Ava Schauwker come in to dock their canoe after practicing their newly learned canoe and boat safety tips from the Steele County Water Patrol and lifeguards.

Children delve into safety topics to kick off the summer

By **SHANNON KINLEY**
County Staff Writer

To kick off the summer 224 children filled Lake Kohlmiere and the Steele County Fairgrounds last Thursday and Friday to learn helpful safety tips during the annual Steele County Safety Camp.

The two-day camp has been held for over 20 years for students in schools across Steele County who have just completed third grade and are entering fourth grade.

“We do it at the beginning of the summer so that way they are still in school mode and they can learn all these safety things and apply them throughout the summer when they are out on the water or fishing with their family. They can remind their parents of these safety tips that we all seem to forget as we get older,” said Safety Camp Board Chair and Owatonna Police Department Detective Joel Hunt.

Hunt has been on the board for 10 years and served as a camp counselor for three years before that. The camp educates children on a broad range of safety subjects, but also gives them another view on public safety officials.

“It is not only to educate them, but to have them hanging out with police officers, sheriff’s deputies, firefighters and to let them interact with those people,” Hunt said. “We want them to think of us as fun people, people they can interact with and come up and talk to.”

New this year to the camp was an extrication demo by the Owatonna Fire Department. During the demonstration the crew showed the process they would go through to get a crash victim who

SAFETY TOPICS
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Staff photo by Shannon Kinley

Gold Cross Ambulance EMT Christian Schuster demonstrates on volunteers Jose Rosas and Emilee Worrel what to do to get bleeding under control.

Opinion

Our view

A miracle and a business

Barry and Marybeth Mosier, along with two of their children, are fortunate to be alive.

Seven years ago, 47 people died and 100 others were injured in a plane crash in the Congo. The Mosiers and their two children were four of those fortunate survivors. They came out unscathed, other than a broken leg for 3-year-old Andrew.

Today, the family lives in Dodge Center and has decided to start a strawberry farm. They are calling it the Miracle Strawberry Farm.

It is not unusual for people or families to take an incident like a plane crash or a battle with cancer to turn it into something positive. Take, for example, the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group or the many Relay for Life groups in Dodge and Steele counties.

Many of these organizations are supported by people who have battled cancer or have had cancer at one point in their lives or know of persons who have died or battled cancer. People can turn a tragedy into something good for not only the people involved, but others down the road.

In the past, the Mosiers served others through their missionary work. That journey is over now, but the family is starting another chapter in their lives with strawberries and asparagus.

The family tried gardening in the Congo, but not with much success. They are trying it again – this time growing strawberries, which many consider the first fruit of the season, and asparagus, which is considered to be the first vegetable of the season.

Fresh strawberries and asparagus just might be the Mosiers way of saying thank you to families, friends and others who have been there for them. Just like others in the past, the Mosiers are taking a tragic incident in their lives and turning it into something positive for others.

Chamber looking for Big July

The Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce has its largest event in The Old Fashioned Fourth of July and one of its other larger events with The Chamber Golf Fun Day both just around the corner in July.

The fun all begins on July 3 with concessions and other events for the whole family at the city park and a tractor show at the high school. I know the pedal pull is a favorite for many children. Sign up for the pedal pull is at 4 p.m. at the city park. For many the evening is highlighted with the J&H street dance held on Main Street downtown Blooming Prairie from 8 p.m. to midnight.

In addition to the fun for adults at the street dance there will also be a teen dance with a DJ for grades 7-12 held in the city park on the same evening of July 3. On July 4, there is a long list of fun for the entire family taking place at the city park, Victory Field and other locations within Blooming Prairie featuring one of the most entertaining parades in the area along with plenty of other entertainment.

And what would the Fourth of July be without some fireworks. Don't miss the fireworks that begin at 10 p.m. at Victor Field. Thank you to all the hard-working volunteers that make this event possible! Without you we it would not be possible to hold such a grand event in our community.

To steel a line from the old infomercials... but wait, there's more. Don't forget about The

CHAMBER PRESIDENT



Luke Swenson

Chamber Golf Fun Day held at The Blooming Prairie Country Club on July 15. I have to warn you, if you have not attended this event in the past I doubt you've ever had this much fun while golfing.

This annual golf event includes a theme. This year's theme is Disco. That's right; get ready to shake your groove thing on the golf course. Each hole is sponsored by a local business with many fun games and prizes. This event is open to the public and golfers of all abilities are welcome.

Contact the Chamber office for registration information, 507-583-4472. Thank you to BPCC and all your staff along with all the volunteers and local businesses for your support to make this fun event possible.

Mark your calendars and get ready for a fun July.

Luke Swenson is the president of the Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce.



Help wanted: Teenage newspaper interns

Over the years I have come across people who have expressed difficulties in finding good work experience and have gaping holes in their resumes.

This summer we have the perfect opportunity for teenagers specifically to get a jump start on finding some valuable experience in the newspaper business. Through a joint partnership with the Minnesota Newspaper Association and the Pohlad Foundation (owners of the Minnesota Twins), we are offering internship opportunities for teens between the ages of 16-19. Recent high school graduates are eligible.

Teenagers can get some practical experience in learning different areas of newspaper business, including graphic design, editorial and advertising sales. The interns will be able to choose which area they want to try their hand in.

The position is ideal for teenagers who want to mix a little work into their fun summer. We're willing to bring someone on for 20 hours per week over the entire summer. That still gives teens plenty of time to enjoy the summer or even find another job.

Of course, we would love to have teens who may be interested in pursuing a journalism career. What a great way to

HOT

PURSUIT

Rick Bussler

learn about the business to see if it's something they would like to pursue down the road. But we'll also entertain the idea of someone who just wants a job to gain some general work experience.

Though we have been advertising for several weeks, no one has stepped forward so far to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. The summer is upon us and we're ready to put the interns to work.

We have provided internship opportunities for six teenagers over the past five years. Most recently, Macaela Jensen and Kristin Smith joined our newspaper family as interns and even stayed on past the summer to gain additional experience. We have had incredible success with this program and have had

some great interns.

During last summer, 65 interns from Albert Lea to International Falls were employed at community newspapers. They worked more than 10,600 hours and contributed hundreds of photos, stories, columns, page designs and other social media items for their community papers.

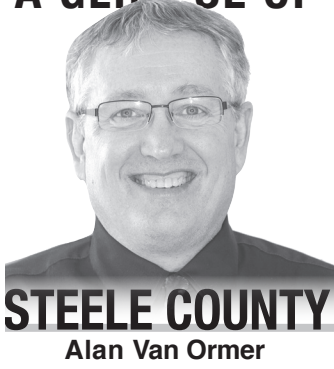
The program has been found to be a huge asset to youth across the state and community papers all over. It is truly a unique and special experience.

Teens need to understand the importance of gaining real life experience. Having even just a summer job looks great for college applications, other employment opportunities and even when applying for scholarships and other things.

I would hate to contact the state back to let them know we are unable to fill our intern openings. So teens here's your chance to earn a little extra cash this summer while at the same time gaining valuable life experience that will likely pay big dividends for years to come.

It's time for teens to go in hot pursuit of making a contribution to their community through the local newspaper. We're waiting to hear from you.

A GLIMPSE OF



Life-saving efforts by many

Paul Dale is lucky to be alive. And he wouldn't be alive if it wasn't for the efforts of his wife, Laura and the emergency responders in Blooming Prairie.

I can relate to Paul in a couple of ways. First, I have no memory of what happened back in January for at least 20 minutes when I ended up with a major concussion. To this day, I can't remember anything of what happened. Paul can't remember a lot of what happened in a 2 ½ day period. And as he was told it is best to let the brain decide what to remember and not to remember.

The second thing is that both of us wouldn't be where we are today without the help of the emergency responders in Blooming Prairie. I still remember vividly the EMTs and Police Chief Greg Skillestad being on hand when I took a spill. They were again on the scene at Paul's emergency.

Granted the police department is a paid organization, but many times Greg and other police department members have stopped me in the community asking how I'm doing. Sometimes they go above and beyond the call of what they are paid for.

As for the ambulance crews, there just isn't enough you can say about them. They are volunteers! They drop their jobs and rush to the aid of the many people who need their assistance any time of the day.

We are fortunate to have such dedicated people who you will see in other places outside of the emergency realm. They are business owners, they work at the many businesses in the community and they can be seen in many of the activities that Blooming Prairie offers throughout the year.

As I'm confident Paul will say, we both are thankful for the job that these emergency responders provide this community. Thank you!

Mailbag

Graduate supplement interesting

Dear Editor:

Your special supplement, 5/26/15, on high school graduates was very interesting. I liked the synopsis on each student. Especially interesting were their "Plans after graduation".

In the accelerating pace of the "work world" today, each student needs a well thought out career plan before they leave high school. Being a grandparent, I know parents really appreciate it. Having spent 40+ years as manager, I know future employers will also appreciate it. And with the rising cost of college and rising student debt load, the better the early career preparation the better the result.

Good luck to the graduates.

*Jerry L Monson
Owatonna*

Discussing Steele County

How very fortunate we are to have such a talented labor pool and we need look no further than Waseca. We have their city administrator, county administrator, chief of police, a city and county street and highway employee. I'm sure there are more that I don't even know about.

Now we are hiring another humanoid from Waseca to replace Stan Groff. It looks like we are creating another bureau-

MAILBAG
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Weigh in with our online poll at www.steeledodgenews.com

This week's question:

Did the Legislature come through with enough funding for county public works building?

- * Yes, it was plenty of money.
- * No, there should have been more funding.
- * Don't know enough about the issue.

Last week's question:

Do you believe the NRHEG referendum is the way to go?

- * Yes, it is a progressive project. 50%
- * No, it is just too much money. 20%
- * Don't know what to think. 30%

Readers are encouraged to vote at steeledodgenews.com. This poll is not a pure scientific sampling of readers' views, but rather, is intended to create community discussion of issues.

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A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2015
Seven state awards.

2014
Three state awards.

2013
Seven state awards.
Two national awards.

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

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

STAFF	
Publisher	Rick Bussler
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Managing Editor	Alan Van Ormer
Staff Writers	LeMar Nelson
.....	ShannonKinley
County Sports Writer	James Knoop
Office Manager.....	Lynn Borchert
Sales Manager.....	Julie Snyder
Advertising Sales	Shauna Christiansen
Graphic Designers.....	Miranda Wadewitz
.....	Jamie Klemmensen
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.

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
Elsewhere in Minnesota	\$40
Out of state	\$42

Second Front Page

Career exploration as early as kindergarten



Staff photo by Anna Segner
Students receive some information on how various groups, such as the Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo in Owatonna, transport different animals.

By Anna Segner
Staff Writer

Wilson Elementary School of Owatonna believes that career awareness at an early age is beneficial to a student’s approach to education.

This is the first year that Wilson Elementary implemented the Career Awareness Program, and so far, Wilson is the only elementary school in Owatonna applying this program.

School counselor Katie Wanous has taken lead on the program, and she deems it beneficial so far!

The main goal of this program is college and career readiness. The Career Awareness program focuses on each student’s interests, talents and values. The program includes interactive lessons from Wanous throughout the year for all students (K-5), career awareness events, and

even field trips.

“In the lessons, we focus on different areas of talents and career possibilities by doing different activities,” said Wanous. “It’s a way for students to not just explore careers but to explore themselves.”

Each child receives a career portfolio, which will document lessons, interests, values, and talents throughout their Wilson career. “My hope is that we continue on and do 6th grade and junior high,” remarked Wanous.

Wanous made it clear that the goal is not to push students into decisions regarding a career path, but rather the program is to help students think about their own futures. “It’s always good to understand the world of work. It’s not a focus on commitment. It’s about the exploration of who they are,” said Wanous.

Kindergarten teacher Lori Thompson said that her students

have enjoyed the career awareness lessons, especially when they apply what they learned to play.

“This is the first year that they implemented this, and the kids enjoyed it. At play time, kids can play the roles that they learn about, which is such a normal part of play—practicing being grownups,” said Thompson.

“It’s interesting to hear what careers students are drawn to at such an early age,” said Thompson. “Sometimes I’ll think, wow that makes sense. So and so really does like to build or they’re such a caregiver.”

Thompson has found the encouragement of exploration to be a major benefit. “That exploration and awareness even early on is really good for kids,” she said.

CAREERS
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Removable flood walls provide flood protection for city of Austin

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

It’s a very small world which we can all attest.

The borders of my world have been extended greatly by my involvement in journalism over the years, more than 50 years to be exact.

Most recently, I have had the opportunity to write for the Steele County Times. This opportunity has allowed me to write a weekly column reflect on subjects close to me. Those subjects often are attached to my roots in southern Minnesota.

My start in newspaper work began in Austin when I was a sophomore in high school. Just the other day, I found myself witnessing some unique news developments in Austin. How many can say they have been affected by flooding of their communities?

One of my wife’s friends from her Target employee days in the Twin Cities called recently to say that her husband, an engineer, was coming to Austin to “dry run” a portable flood wall system. The system was purchased by the city of Austin to prevent flooding in the future.

Reflections. . . and How



Howard Lestrud

Judy and I were invited to witness the practice run on a particular Friday. Engineers, city crews and representatives of general contractor Reiner Contracting of Hutchinson were there to try out the system on dry land.

Austin businesses and residents sustained major damage in 2004 when a huge rainstorm dropped 12 inches of rain north of Austin to cause a major flood throughout Austin and surrounding areas. The flood claimed two lives. Impact flooding also occurred in 2008 and 2010 in Austin.

Austin citizens worked hand in hand to rebuild the areas ravaged by flooding. The city also passed a 0.5 percent sales tax to build flood protection along the

Cedar River. A \$14.5 million flood prevention project was approved and included removable flood walls, berms and other systems to prevent flooding in the future.

On this particular day, our friend Donald Kluck, an engineer for Northwestern Power Equipment Co., directed a practice run of installing the invisible flood wall near a bridge over the Cedar River on 11th Ave. NW.

The wall was set up just north of Barley’s Restaurant. Additional flood wall structures are stored at the city garage and can be positioned in other parts of the city.

The same types of flood walls were used in Breckinridge in 2001 and were used in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The first phase of the installation had been completed previously. Stainless steel base plates were cast last summer into concrete foundations and represent the only permanently installed feature of the flood wall system.

Aluminum posts were then attached to the anchor plates. Next step was to insert five 14 1/2 foot long aluminum planks or logs into sections spanning



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud
Workers install a removable flood wall on a street in Austin near the Cedar River. The aluminum flood wall was purchased by the city to prevent major flooding in the future.

the roadway below the bridge over the Cedar River. The wall is 4 feet in height.

It took city crews and other support workers only 20 minutes to put up the removable flood wall. It took less than that time to remove the structure.

The city wisely purchased two large trailers, one a 20-footer and the other a 30-footer, to store and transport the flood wall equipment.

Kluck and city engineer/

director of public works Steven Lang said the removable flood wall represents a huge cost savings and the wall can be used over and over.

The walls take the place of expensive sandbagging operations. It’s obviously the hope that the equipment will not need to be used.

The flood wall system purchased for the city of Austin was actually designed in

Germany by IBS. Kluck visited

Munich, Germany in 2013 to see how the flood walls were built.

Following the successful “dry run” of installing the flood wall, Kluck and Lang said they were pleased with the short amount of time it took to install and remove the wall.

Prevention is often the name of the game and in this instance, a city has taken steps to avoid major damage and loss of life in the future.

LIFE SAVING EFFORTS

Continued from Page 1A

Paul and started screaming. I thought here we go again.”

A few months earlier he had been taken to the hospital from what doctors thought was gastric bypass. However, the doctors were not sure what had happened at that time.

“This time it was bad. I knew it was bad,” Laura said.

She grabbed the phone, dialed 911 and walked over to unlock the front door. When Laura came back she was told to start CPR and get him off the couch and onto the floor. “She talked to me to start counting 1-2-3-4. It got up to 80 until I realized what I was doing,” Laura said.

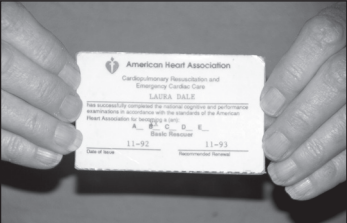
Laura had taken one CPR class 25 years ago. “It just clicked (what to do),” Laura recalls. “I contribute that to good teaching at the class.”

At about that time the first member from the ambulance crew arrived and took over. This gave Laura a chance to call the children.

“He was flat lined,” Laura remembers. “The lady did CPR. A couple of other people did CPR.”

The EMTs also shocked Paul. The ambulance crew drove him over to the high school to meet the helicopter. Then one of the ambulance crew said we have a pulse. “He’s babbling, but making any sense other than he wants to come home,” the EMT told Laura.

Paul was in the hospital for 2 ½ days. The doctors were not sure what had happened. There is a possibility that something broke off and slid through the



Staff photos by Alan Van Ormer
These two items played a big deal in keeping Paul Dale alive. Left, is Laura Dale’s CPR card for passing a class in 1992. Being first on the scene, her training played a part in saving her husband’s life. On the right, is an external defibrillator that Paul now wears for the time being.

system quickly, causing his heart to stop and then disappeared, Laura said. “The CPR and the other stuff done probably moved it along,” she was told.

As for Paul, he said the last thing he remembers was going to bed on Wednesday evening, May 27. The next thing he remembered was on Friday when a lady was smiling at him.

“I asked her what she was smiling about,” Paul recalls. “She said 75 percent of the people we don’t get to talk to.”

He doesn’t remember coming home on Saturday.

Laura said they are going through a lot of that right now because some of the pieces aren’t sticking in Paul’s mind.

“The doctor says you will remember what your brain lets you remember,” Paul said. “He said the rest of it leave, it alone. Don’t sit home and try to dig it out because your body doesn’t want to remember. Let it go.”

Paul continues to sleep on the couch. He also wears a life vest that is an external defibrillator. If the wires break contact, three lit-

tle taps will hit Paul’s shoulder. If he doesn’t hit the reset button the defibrillator puts a shock into him. “It hasn’t hit me yet, but it has been close.”

Laura said she is grateful that she had the opportunity to take the CPR class. “I’m not a person that likes the publicity, but if this can make one person take a CPR class...you’re not taking it for yourself but for you friends, family and the people you love.”

She also said that people in Blooming Prairie were so helpful and so supportive. “You couldn’t ask for a better small town,” she said. “Paul and I want to thank the ambulance and police department for being there. Without them he wouldn’t be here I don’t think.”

Laura added that the emergency crews don’t get enough thanks. “The emergency responders stop whatever they are doing at that moment to help somebody else,” she said. “If they didn’t do that, he wouldn’t be here. Everyone was where they needed to be and did their job. I can’t thank them enough.”

80-YEAR-OLD TWINS

Continued from Page 1A

the Army for two years in Okinawa. Jim married Marilyn Swanson of New Richland on September 23, 1958. They lived in St. Paul and Zumbrota for a few years, while Jim worked various positions with International Harvest Co.

Jim and Marilyn returned to Blooming Prairie in 1966 where Marilyn worked in the school system, and Jim worked for the family business Srsen Auto until 1985. He then worked for Itron, Inc. in Waseca until retirement in 2000. Jim and Marilyn have four children: Brian, Jon, Julie and Kimberly. Jim also has grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Julie said that her dad, Jim, is enjoying life by relaxing and tending to antique collections. Jim attends church every Sunday. It is also routine for Jim to walk to the gas station on Tuesdays to collect the Steele County Times newspaper and then read it cover to cover. According to Julie, her dad enjoys running into people in town and seeing familiar faces!

“He [Jim] would never expect an article in the paper. He doesn’t like a lot of attention, but I just have such a passion for their story,” said Julie. “My dad and I have a close bond. I like when he is happy. He has a good sense of humor. He’s just got this way about him.”

After graduation from MSU, Jerry moved to San Diego and joined the Navy and from 1957 to 1961. He married Evelyn Jacobson of Blooming Prairie on Dec. 28, 1957. Jerry and Evelyn

have two children Daniel and Joan. From 1962 to retirement in 1988, Jerry worked happily as a stockbroker in San Diego. Like Jim, Jerry has grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Jerry’s daughter, Joanie has fond memories from her childhood and growing up in San Diego. There were many family experiences at the beach and weekend camping trips and trips.



Submitted photos
Jim and Jerry Srsen are twins and recently celebrated their 80th birthdays.

the “Harley Davidson Motorcycle story.” The story goes that Jim and Jerry were told that if they saved enough money, they could get a motorcycle. While Jerry was diligent and saved, Jim was short. Their father, Hubert, took the boys to Fendcraft in Albert Lea for Jerry’s bike. However, both Jerry and Jim rode back to Blooming Prairie down Interstate 35W on brand new Harley Davidsons!



“My dad, he’s a quiet guy, but when he talks, he says funny things. And he is a loveable guy,” said Joanie. “He can be very affectionate and he’s always happy to see family members.”

Both Julie and Joanie describe their dads as having a similar reserved mannerisms with a sort of witty and dry sense of humor.

The family often laughs about

As the years have gone by, distance has separated the two on their birthday. Both Jerry and Jim will be surrounded with their families on their birthday. Though they will not be celebrating this milestone together in person, they will be in touch. They might deny twin telepathy, but Jim’s daughter Julie predicts a nostalgic birthday phone call between the two.

News



Staff photos by Shannon Kinley

Washington students in action

ABOVE: Music Teacher Dana Spears gives the ball a big kick during the student versus teacher kickball game on the last day of school, June 3.

RIGHT: Kindergartener Valentina Ferraro enjoys a snow cone on the last day of school.

BELOW: Students at Washington Elementary gather near the playground for a student versus teacher kickball game.



Slarks will be missed at Medford School

By SHANNON KINLEY
County Staff Writer

After 36 ½ years Judy Slarks has decided to put a cap on her teaching career at Medford School. Slarks first knew she wanted to pursue a career in teaching at a very young age.

“I had many great teachers in Clarissa, Minnesota who were role models who inspired me to become a teacher. I always wanted to make a difference in a child’s life in a positive way,” she said.

Slarks graduated from Clarissa High School in 1972 and again from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota in 1976. After her and her husband, Gary, moved to Owatonna she worked at Wee Pals Day Care Center for a year while substitute teaching. After a first grade teaching position opened up at Medford School, Slarks jumped on the opportunity and began her career in January 1979.

“I have loved my job! The families, staff and people have been great to work with,” Slarks said. “I have been able to teach children of former students and work with former students. A former student will be taking over my room to teach first grade! How neat is that?”

One of Slarks favorite memories from Medford School is when her class gave her a necklace with a “J” engraved in it. “The students told me that the ‘J’ was for Judy” Slarks said of the necklace.

Another memorable moment for her was when two of her former students who had graduated asked her what her real name was and the other one said “It is Judy, but you call her Mrs. Slarks.”

Besides teaching, Slarks also served as the high school cheerleading advisor from 1980 to 1992.

Gary, Slarks’ husband, retired from Federated Insurance in November 2012 and had a liver transplant in June 2013. Now that he is healthy Slarks is excited to travel. She says she is sure they will make a lot of trips to visit their son Scott in Claremore, Oklahoma and their son James in Minneapolis.

Her passport is also ready for some abroad traveling. When she is not traveling she plans to spend

I always wanted to make a difference in a child’s life in a positive way.

Judy Slarks,
Medford first-grade teacher

her time doing arts and crafts projects. “She has done so many things over the years and her experience has been invaluable. To go with that, she understood the importance of making changes and adapting to new philosophies and teaching and learning styles,” said Elementary Principal Mark Ristau. “She was a leader in the hallway and a constant pillar to Medford elementary over the years.”

Ristau went on to describe her as welcoming, easy to talk to, friendly and funny.

“Students loved her and colleagues respected her, including myself. She has had thousand of kids come through her room and succeed,” Ristau said. “Judy is going out at the top. I am confident that we will see her in the building whether it be subbing or attending events... her and Gary rarely missed a home event.”

“Mrs. Slarks and other veteran teachers are invaluable members of our school district. Over the course of her 36 years at Medford School, she has played a vital role in educating our students, and has touched the lives of many Medford residents. Judy and all of our retiring staff members will be greatly missed,” Superintendent Rich Dahman said.



Submitted photo
Judy Slarks poses for a photo with her last first grade class. Slarks is retiring this year after working at Medford School for 36 ½ years.

SAFETY TOPICS

Continued from Page 1A



Staff photo by Shannon Kinley
Members of the Owatonna Fire Department put on a extrication demonstration for the campers. Firefighters worked to get a trapped crash victim out of the vehicle in a timely fashion.

was trapped inside a vehicle out of the vehicle.

Another new item this year is a NetSmartz Internet Safety presentation given by the Owatonna Police Department. The presentation is designed by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

On Thursday students learned about fishing safety, canoe and boat safety, camping and hiking safety, firearm safety, first aid tips and weather safety. On Friday students continued their learning on the subjects of bike safety, electrical safety, equipment safety, fire safety and In-

ternet safety. They also got to see a Mayo One Helicopter, a police canine demonstration and experience a rollover in a South Central Minnesota EMS Systems simulator.

Hunt says the two favorite safety courses for the kids are typically canoe and boat safety

along with fishing safety.

“Some kids will never have the opportunity to get out in a canoe. Maybe this is their only time or maybe they will really like it and it will end up being a passion for the rest of their life,” he said. “Same with fishing a lot of kids may not have the opportunity, their parents don’t fish but they like it and they keep doing it.”

At the end of the festivities children participated in a graduation ceremony where they received a certificate and a goody bag full of safety trinkets such as flashlights and reflectors. They also got to give high-fives to McGruff the crime dog and Sparky the fire dog.

Hunt says his hope for the camp is that “They remember the things we taught them, or at least a portion of it, and that they can always come up to us, we are friendly and we are here to help them out no matter what is going on.”

CAREERS

Continued from Page 3A

This program extends outside of the classroom as well. On May 26, Wilson hosted a “Workers on Wheels” event for Wilson first graders. There were 10 vehicles representing 10 different careers.

The vehicles represented ten different careers for the following departments and businesses: the Reptile and Amphibian Discovery Zoo, Dave’s Tree Care, Gold Cross, John Deere, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Alexander Lumberg, Cemenstone Concrete Materials, Owatonna Fire and Rescue, Owatonna Police Department and Dean’s Towing. Representatives from these various occupations gave a brief presentation on each vehicle and career.

Students were all smiles when they were able to try on construction vests and step foot in some of the vehicles!

Wilson is also making an effort to educate their students on the possibility of college. On May 17, all of the fifth-grade students from Wilson participated in “Kids on Campus” and took a field trip to University of Minnesota campus. They were given a tour of the campus and exposed to the collegiate environment.

“There were several of our students that had never stopped foot on a college campus. They just had no clue,” said Wanous. “There is a statistic that visiting a college campus seven times increases a student’s chance of attending college by 42 percent.”

The Career Awareness unit is aimed at giving students the tools and exposure necessary to succeed. Students are able to learn—even as early as kindergarten—that they can make a difference and become a contributing member of society.

“The hope is that students will understand the purpose of doing well in school and have that drive to strive for that happy future and dream job that they want,” said Wanous.



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Dear Savvy Senior,
Can you offer me any tips on choosing a home blood pressure monitor? I just found out I have high blood pressure, and my doctor told me I need a monitor for the house so I can keep an eye on it.

Shopping Around

Dear Shopping,
Almost everyone with high blood pressure or prehypertension should have a home blood pressure monitor. Home monitoring can help you keep tabs on your blood pressure in a comfortable setting. Plus, if you're taking medication, it will

make certain it's working, and alert you to a health problem if it arises. Here are some tips to help you choose a good monitor.

Types of Monitors
The two most popular types of home blood pressure monitors on the market today are (electric and/or battery powered) automatic arm monitors, and automatic wrist monitors.

With an automatic arm monitor, you simply wrap the cuff around your bicep and with the push of one button the cuff inflates and deflates automatically giving you your blood pressure reading on the display window

Choosing a home blood pressure monitor

in a matter of seconds.

Wrist monitors work similarly, except they attach to the wrist. Wrist monitors are also smaller in size and a bit more comfortable to use than the arm monitors, but they tend to be a little less accurate.

To help you choose the best monitor for you, here are several things you need to check into:

- Fit: Using a cuff that's the wrong size can result in a bad reading. Most arm models have two sizes or an adjustable cuff that fits most people. Make sure your choice fits the circumference of your upper arm.
- Accuracy: Check the packaging to make sure the monitor has been independently tested and validated for accuracy and reliability. You can see a list of validated monitors at dableducational.org.
- Ease of use: Be sure the display on the monitor is easy to read and understand, and that the buttons are big enough. The directions for applying the cuff and operating the monitor should be clear.
- Extra features: Many monitors come with additional features such as irregular heart-beat detection that checks for arrhythmias and other abnormalities; a risk category indicator that tells you whether your blood pressure is in the high range; a data-averaging function that allows you to take multiple readings and get an overall average; multiple user memory that allows two or more users to save previous readings; and computer connections so you can download the data to your computer.
- Portability: If you plan to take your monitor with you while traveling, look for one with a carrying case.

Where to Shop
You can find blood pressure monitors at pharmacies, medical supply stores or online, and you don't need a prescription to buy one.

The price will typically range anywhere from \$30 to \$120 or more. Unfortunately, original Medicare does not pay for home blood pressure monitors unless you're receiving dialysis at home. But if you have a Medicare Advantage plan or a private health insurance policy, it's worth checking into, because some plans may provide coverage.

Some of the best arm monitors as recently recommended by Consumer Reports include the Rite Aid Deluxe Automatic BP3AR1-4DRITE; iHealth Dock BP3 (requires an Apple iOS device); Omron 10 Series BP786; A&D Medical UA767F; and the ReliOn BP200. And the

top recommended wrist monitor is the Omron 7 Series BP652.

After you buy a monitor, it's a good idea to take it to your doctor's office so they can check its accuracy and teach you the proper techniques of how and when to use it.

For more information on how to measure your blood pressure accurately at home, see the American Heart Association Blood Pressure Monitoring tutorial page at homeBPmonitoring.org.

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
Elsie Slinger, Editor
June 7, 2005

Hannah Arvilla Toquam, age 91, Bloomington, died Monday, May 30, 2005 at Owatonna Hospital following the complications of a fall.

Hannah was born August 2, 1913 in Faribault County near Frost, Minn., the daughter of Nels T. Hanson and Olga Arvilla (Erdahl) Hanson. She graduated from Rake, Iowa High School in 1931. She married Clifford Toquam on Nov. 17, 1934.

They farmed for several years near Bricelyn and moved to the Bloomington/Prairie/Claremont area in 1940 where they be-

came members of First Lutheran Church, Bloomington. They began wintering in Mesa, Arizona in the late 1950s and later retired in 1963 to the Mesa area. She was active in WELCA Esther Circle, quilting, lefse baking, and crocheted many Afghans.

20 Years Ago
Elsie Slinger, Editor
June 13, 1995

Twenty-three women gathered last Tuesday as they prepared strawberries for their annual Strawberry Festival at Red Oak Grove Church, just five miles south of Bloomington. The festival is set for Wednesday, June 14 from 4-8 p.m.

The women was washed, cut, pared, mashed and sugared almost 330 pounds of strawberries in a festival that gathers about 600 people. It is the church's biggest event of the year. There are also barbecues, hot dogs and special strawberry treats also served at the event.

A Strawberry Festival has been a tradition at Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church for over 50 years. The first "Strawberry Festival" was in 1941. The following year was war time and there was rationing of sugar and coffee. There was no festival that year, but with the end of rationing this became an annual custom.

50 Years Ago
Victor, Vernon, and Vyrle Krejci, Editors
June 10, 1965

A two-car head on collision on a slight curve about 100 yards north of the village of Geneva shortly before midnight Saturday, June 5, snuffed out the lives of six persons, including that of Neil Duane Robertson, an employee of Garness Feed Service who resided on Rt. 1, Bloomington.

Dead in what is believed to be Freeborn County's worst highway fatality accident are: Neil Duane Robertson, 34, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Robertson, Bloomington and resident

of Route 1. Vernon A. Greene, 34, of Geneva, a passenger with Robertson. Duane Boerner, 28, his wife, Kathryn 24 and their 2 sons Todd Robert, 2-years-old, and Richard Duane, 7 months old of Owatonna.

According to authorities, the crash occurred about 11:50 p.m. Saturday as the Boehner vehicle was travelling north and the other car, driven by Robertson was heading south on Highway 6, near the Geneva village limits.

75 Years Ago
Walter K. Mickelson
Editor and Publisher

Governor Herald E. Stassen will speak here July 4th at

the annual celebration of the Bloomington Golf Club. The chief executive early this week notified Dr. T. P. Golberg, president of the club, that he would accept the invitation to appear here Thursday afternoon, July 4th, at the celebration.

Plans are now being rushed to engage several other high ranking political and industrial officials to appear here also with Governor Stassen.

Opening on the 3rd, the celebration this year promises to easily be the best in the history of the affair, which has always been sponsored by the golf club.

Steele County Times Professional Directory

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Community



In honor of Alex

Casaundra Green presents Jake Peterson of the Stix of Fury a \$1,300 check in honor of recently deceased member Alex Jorgenson. Green raised the money through t-shirts sales to help start a memorial for Alex. Jasmine Hohenstein and Leighton Kubik are the first two recipients of the memorial scholarship. Also pictured are Jamie, Shyane and Kristi Jorgenson, as well as members of the Stix of Fury in the background at Central Park in Blooming Prairie.

Staff photo by Alan Van Ormer

Obituaries

Raymond Beckman, 104, Blooming Prairie

Raymond W. Beckman, age 104 of Blooming Prairie, formerly of Waltham, died Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2015, at Prairie Manor Care Center.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2015 at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in rural Waltham, Minnesota. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be in St. Michael's Lutheran Cemetery.

He was born Dec. 14, 1910, in Udolpho Township, Mower



County, Minnesota to Julius and Anna (Boelk) Beckman. Raymond grew up in rural Waltham, and attended country grade school. On Feb. 26, 1933, he married Irene Baumgartner in Waltham.

The couple farmed in the Waltham area for many years before moving to Austin. They

belonged to St. Michael's Lutheran Church. Ray took pride in his 80-acre farm and in keeping a well-manicured lawn and yard. He enjoyed gardening, jigsaw puzzles and playing board games.

Raymond is survived by his son Ronald (Linda) Beckman of Sioux Falls, S.D., his daughter Sandra (Douglas) Novak of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota; 5 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren; 1 brother-in-law and sister-in-law; 3 nieces, 1 nephew, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Julius and Anna Beckman, his wife Irene Beckman in 2008, two infant sons, two sisters Viola (Ben) Gilderhus and Gertrude (Elger) Steinbach, and his brother Donald Beckman.

Worlein Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Virginia Cashman, 91, Blooming Prairie

Virginia 'Ginger' M. Cashman, 91 of Blooming Prairie, died Friday morning, May 29, 2015, at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie.

Virginia Margaret Lien was born in De Smet, S.D. on Sept. 15, 1923, the daughter of Edward and Lula (Rowbotham) Lien. She grew up in Blooming Prairie and graduated from Blooming Prairie High School.

On Nov. 15, 1948, Virginia

was married to John 'Jack' Cashman in Blooming Prairie. The couple raised two children. She worked at several companies in Blooming Prairie as a tax preparer. A member of First Lutheran Church, Virginia enjoyed playing golf and bridge.

Virginia is survived by her two children, Candy (Doug) Voltin and John (Julie) Cashman, both of Eagan; two grandchildren Brandon and Paige;

two great-grandchildren Rory and Etta; two sisters Betty Johnson of Austin, and Leota Dugstad of Lake City; and her best friend Russ James.

Her parents Edward and Lula Lien, her husband John 'Jack' Cashman in 1999, and her brother Marvin Lien preceded her in death.

Memorial services were held on Friday, June 5, 2015, at the Worlein Blooming Prairie Fu-

neral Home Chapel with the Rev. Heidi Heimgartner officiating. Interment will be in St. Columbanus Cemetery, Blooming Prairie, at a later date. Memorials can be directed to recipient of donor's choice. Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

MAILBAG

Continued from Page 2A

cratic layer of government. We just keep adding more and more of these high five and six figure income people.

This new position was created more than a year ago. I can just see our last county administrator's fingerprints all over this one. This person will oversee Public Health, Environ-

mental Services, Extension and Veterans Services.

What would she know about veterans issues. We have a veteran service officer who has to be one of the very best you could ever find. He was in the military for 25 years. Now you are talking qualified...thank you Rene Gilormini.

If our county commissioners are on the ball they can speak to department heads and get the information they need. I believe we have over 500 county employees. Pretty soon we will need another building to house all these county employees.

When Waseca can't supply all our needs we have another method. Current employees get their relatives or friends on the payroll. You get a job for your brother-in-law or daughter. If

not a relative hire a best friend or drinking buddy. It's down right incestuous.

While thinking about the military we had a wonderful Memorial Day Program at the Four Seasons Centre with one exception and that was the invocation. I grieve for all we have lost and most people don't even notice.

Marlene Nelson
Owatonna

Menus

- Seniors Menu**
- June 9:** Chili Con Carne, Crackers, Corn Muffin, Apric/Cottage Chs, Apple Pie
- June 10:** Hot Turkey/Bread, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Beets, Pea/Pickle/Chs Salad, Banana
- June 11:** Sliced Ham & Cheese, Potato Salad, Tomato Wedges, Peach, Cranberry Bog
- June 12:** Goulash, Green Beans, Mixed Greens Salad, Dinner Roll, Banana P/A Square
- June 15:** Pork Steak, Dressing, Italian Blend Veg, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Brownie
- June 16:** Meatloaf, Baked Potato, Orange Glazed Carrots, Fruit Cup
- June 17:** Chicken ala King over Biscuit, Peas, Coleslaw, Orange/Apricot Gelatin

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Milestones

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June 9 Clarence Boyd, Cheryl Coughlin, Bob Nahlovsky, Kari Ann Lueth, Cheryl Hernandez, Julie Peterson, Becky Braaten	Anniversaries June 9 John Dean & Jackie Olson Heidi & Brett Zimmerman Marty & Robin Shaw
June 10 Billy Lindquist, Larry Gravenish, Christian Gardner, Thomas Rogers, David Trihus, Morgan Snider	June 10 Bob & Karen Pirkil
June 12 Addison Doocy, Suzie Pechacek, Jacob Vogt, Robert Salinas, Donna Mae Strand, Tiffany Thompson, Marion Amundson, Ella Dahl	June 11 John & Mary Worke Joel & Dawn Ingvalson
June 13 Tim Andrews, Jordan Paulson, Shelley Prihoda, Julie Strand	June 12 Paul & Laura Iversen Noah & Heather Peterson
June 14 Connie Haberman, Buddy Thompson, Katie Ingvalson, Elliot Swenson, Aden Doocy	June 13 Maylog & Marilyn Heinz Brandon & Stephanie Emanuel
June 15 Hailey Hensrud, Karen Kruckeberg, Martin Larson, Tommy Meyer	June 14 Nolan & Linda Christianson
	June 15 Mary Ann & Ernie Betlach Frank & Norma Henefeld Bob & Diane Hanenberger

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Best reading involves animals at library

Library Book Nook



Nancy Vaillancourt

Some of our favorite Summer Reading programs at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library involve animals. So get ready this week for a visit from the Zooman!

He will bring several animals, including some surprises, on Thursday, June 11 at 1 p.m. Please note that this program will not be taking place at the library, but will be at the Senior Center at 134 3rd Street SE, less than a block away from the library.

A group of us will be walking

over from the library, or you can go directly to the Senior Center. Just be there by 1 p.m. so you don't miss any of the animals!

Since Blooming Prairie does not have a movie theatre, we are happy to offer movie viewings weekly. Through a license agreement from Movie Licensing Corporation, we are able to legally show movies in public.

Monday afternoons at 2 p.m. we feature kids' movies, both musicals and adventure stories. Every other Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. we have Family Singalong Movies. Our next feature will be a Frozen singalong on Thursday, June 18. The other Thursday evenings are our Teen Movies, which are open to youth 13 years and older. This week will feature Little Shop of Horrors, a film classic from 1986 that is still popular today.

Keep on reading – the first Book Fair will be on Thursday, June 25. See you at the library!

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Area Church Spotlight



First Lutheran Church, Blooming Prairie

Pastor's Corner

Saying goodbye to a Congregation

I arrived in Blooming Prairie at the end of June, 2012 to be pastor of St. Columbanus Church and Sacred Heart Church in Hayfield. It was shortly thereafter that pastoral planning began in earnest in the Diocese of Winona. Vision 2016, as it is named, is a strategic pastoral plan for the Diocese of Winona, which has been in development since late 2011.

Over the past two years, clergy and lay leaders across the Diocese have worked collaboratively to develop a plan which addresses the

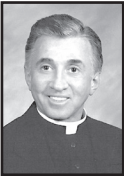
changing demographics and the issue of a smaller number of priests available to serve the 114 parishes in this area. The goal is to finalize the plan by the spring of 2016.

Bishop John M. Quinn stated in a recent message. "The ultimate purpose is to ensure a strong and sustainable future for the local Church, which encompasses all of southern Minnesota."

The reorganization will bring the Catholic parishes in Blooming Prairie, Hayfield, Newry, Claremont, West Concord and Dodge

Center into one cluster under one priest. Not all of the parishes will have a schedule of regular services. Representatives from all of the parishes are working together to plan for the changes with an eye to envisioning the future as one of new opportunities and greater sustainability.

I will not be here to usher in the changes. At the end of this month I will begin retirement. However, I will remain in the area to assist where needed until winter. The Rev. Thomas Niehaus will succeed me as pastor



on July 1.

It has been a great joy for me to serve in Blooming Prairie and Hayfield. They are both very warm and vibrant communities, and I will miss the small town friendliness I have known here. I will always remember my time here as a wonderful experience. May God bless you and thank you for welcoming me into your lives.

*The Rev. Steve Peterson
St. Columbanus
Catholic Church,
Blooming Prairie*

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9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

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10:30 a.m. Sunday School

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Services: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

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Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m.

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Sunday School/Adult Education
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www.roglutheran.org
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www.redeemerowatonna.org
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The Rev. Alan Broadwell
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www.peaceclaremont.ots-host.org
Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 7pm
Good Friday, April 3, at 7pm
April 11, 18, 25 Saturday Evenings
Services at 6pm
(no service on April 4th)
April 5, 12, 19, 26 Sunday Morning
Services at 10:30am
Holy Communion Offered
Each Saturday Evening Service
2nd & 4th Sunday Service of each
month
Sunday School and Confirmation
Class 9-10:15am

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH—LCMS**
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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 Krisin Venne
(507) 256-4288
Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

**ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCH - ELCA**
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
9:30 a.m. worship

**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
Worship 8:00 a.m.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH—ELCA**
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor
Dean Smith, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4520
www.tlcowatonna.org
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday
8:15, 9:45 & 11:15 a.m. Sunday

Catholic

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC
Rural Geneva
The Rev. Swampy Pothreddy
(507) 465-8217
Service: 10:45 a.m. Sunday
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
Hayfield
The Rev. Steve Peterson
(507) 477-2256
Service: 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Reconciliation: 10:15 a.m. Sunday

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 First St. SW., New Richland
The Rev. Swampy Pothreddy
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Services: 5 p.m. Saturday
and 8 a.m. Sunday.
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday

**ST. COLUMBANUS
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114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
The Rev. Steve Peterson
(507) 583-2784
Reconciliation: 5 p.m. Saturday
Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday
and 8:30 a.m. Sunday.
Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor

The Rev. Brian Sutton,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com
Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday
with Children's Church
Family Faith Formation and First
Communion class after Mass with noon
potluck second Sunday of month.

Confirmation class after Mass second
Sunday of month, and fourth Sunday of
month at 6 p.m.
St. Isidore School - 451-5876,
Preschool-fifth grade:
www.stisidoreschool.webs.com

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The Rev. John Sauer; the Rev. Michael
Cronin, Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org

Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m.,
9 a.m., & 10:30 a.m. Sunday Spanish
Service: 1 p.m. Sunday

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
515 E. Main St., Hayfield
The Rev. Emmanuel Sylvester
218-695-2641
Mass & Religious Ed: 11 a.m. Sunday

ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S Elm, Owatonna
507-451-4845
Rev. Edward F. McGrath
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: Vigil Sat. eve 4 p.m.
8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Daily Mass Tues.-Sat. 8 a.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING
205 NW Second Ave., Medford
(507) 451-6353
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday
10 a.m. Sunday

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Monday daily Mass: 9 a.m.

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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

**ELLENDALE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
200 Sixth St. N.W., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirkse
(507) 684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Summer services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Non-Denominational

CEDAR CREEK CHURCH
30 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
(507) 477-2255
www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

ELEVATION NORTH CHURCH
2002 Austin Rd.
Pastor Doug Jones
(507) 363-3099
www.elevationnorth.blogspot.com
Sun 10:00a.m. English Service
10:30 a.m. Service & Kids Zone
2 p.m Spanish Service
Wed. 7:00 Bible Study
Fri 7:00 Spanish Outreach

**NEW BEGINNINGS
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
332 14th St. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Scott Peterson
(507) 213-9194
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
Bible: 7 p.m. Wednesday

DESTINY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Owatonna Campus
422 W. North Street, Owatonna
Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
507-254-8514
www.destinycc.org
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday

Mennonite

PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH
13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie
Dennis Martin
(507) 583-2081 & (507) 477-3216
Services: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday
and 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Mormon

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**
404 31st St. N.W., Austin
Bishop Rick Bremner
(507) 433-9042
Service: 9 a.m.-10:10 a.m.

Presbyterian

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
109 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Vanessa Syvertsen
(507) 477-2631
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

Seventh-Day Adventist

**SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH**
2373 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Robert Brauer
(507) 340-7143
Service: 11 a.m. Saturday
Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Saturday

UCC

**CONGREGATIONAL UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
211 Main St., Ellendale
Pastor Louise Bender
(507) 451-4596
Confirmation: 9 a.m. Sunday
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday

Assembly of God

**VIBRANT LIFE
ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
702 Third St. S., Ellendale
Pastor Patrick Stitt
(507) 684-3421
Service: 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
vibrantlifeag.com

Baptist

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
104 First Ave. N.E.,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Matt Fennell
(507) 583-2673
Services: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
and 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday



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Owatonna, MN 55060

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Fax: (507) 451-6640



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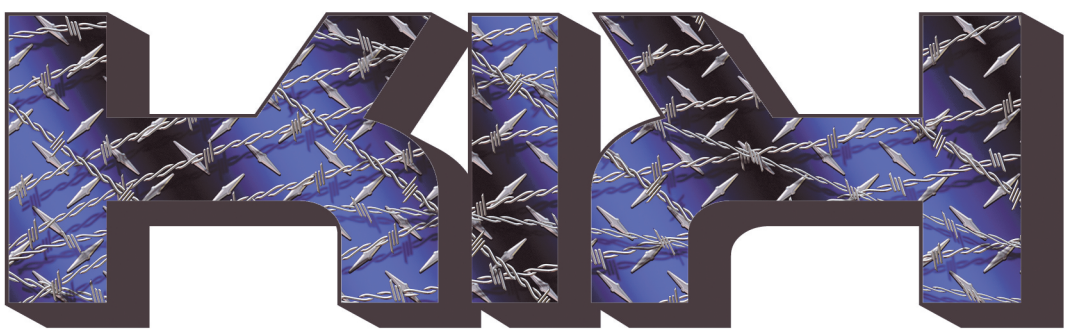
411 E. Main St.
Blooming Prairie, MN
507-583-4431



Staff photo by Alan Van Ormer

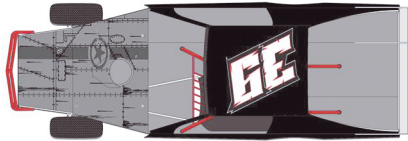
Cutting down branches

Schad Stanchfield of Hathaway Tree Service, cuts down some branches on trees along Main Street Blooming Prairie on Tuesday, June 2. The trimming of the trees is preparing the community for a major Main Street project.



GRAPHICS & PRINTING

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Woohoo!

BOOM!

local breaking news coverage

3

social issues story - rick bussler

3

headline writing

2

typography & design

3

editorial page as a whole

1

feature photo - ann anderson

2

1

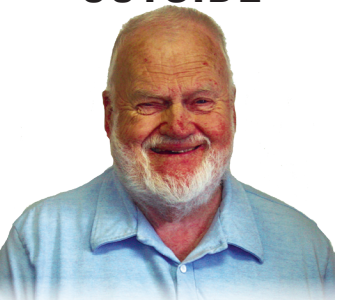
lynn smith community leadership

1

THE STEELE COUNTY TIMES TAKES HOME SEVEN MNA AWARDS

MNA is the voluntary trade association of all general-interest newspapers in the State of Minnesota, acting on behalf of the newspaper press of the state, representing its members in the legislature and in court, managing local/regional/national newspaper advertising placement, operating a press release service, and working to enhance the quality of the state's newspapers.

OUTSIDE



THE LINES

LeMar Nelson

A last tribute

It is only fitting that one last tip of the hat in this school year goes to the two Blooming Prairie High School athletes who advanced all the way to the state tournaments. Taylor Hagen finished second in the shot put at the Section 1A meet, and Taylor Christianson took medalist honors at the Section 1A golf meet in Rochester.

Hagen, who will be attending Northern Iowa University on a basketball scholarship next fall threw the ball over 38 feet in her section efforts and competed well at the state, finishing fourth. Christianson, only a sophomore, is looking to score well in the golf tournament today and tomorrow. She has set a goal of finishing higher in this year's meet than she did last year, and I have no doubt that she will do just that. A big tip of the hat to both of these fine athletes.

Traditions change

Although it is in the distant past, I still remember my graduation party from high school. Local relatives and a few close friends were invited over to our house for ice cream and cake after the commencement exercises at the high school. How things have changed in recent years.

I have noted that parties stretch all the way from a week before graduation to two weeks after the event, and the ice cream and cake has become almost a full meal. The seniors also send out more announcements and offer blanket invitations to all the classmates for the celebration. It is a festive occasion to be sure, but I feel a little sympathy to the moms for the work that they put into preparations for the party. Congratulations are in order for the graduates and a word of thanks to all of the parents for providing the crowning note to a successful high school career.

Big event coming

I know that I am prejudice, as I have a responsibility to the club as one of its directors on the board, but I want people to know that one of the two major fund-raising projects of the year sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Boys and Girls Club is just two weeks away. The fifth annual Ribfest will be held at the local Servicemen's Club on Saturday, June 27, and it promises to be the biggest one yet. An article elsewhere in the paper lists the activities and the times for the event, but it promises to be a very popular occasion.

Besides the ribfest itself, a steak cook-off will be held, a burger contest for kids is on tap and a full meal will be served in the afternoon. A silent auction of 25-30 items will go on through the day, and raffle tickets for two half hogs or \$250 cash have been on sale from board directors in advance and will be sold the day of the ribfest as well.

The local club has an extensive summer program schedule for local kids at a very reasonable cost, and it needs the support of the community to provide the funds for the programs and to fund the breakfast, lunch and snacks that the club provides each day during the summer months.

This is the chance for community residents to get behind this very valuable organization, and I urge the support of every individual for this worthwhile event. I hope to see a large crowd at the annual event.

OUTSIDE THE LINES

Continued on Page 2B

Blooming Prairie golfer ready for state

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Blooming Prairie High School sophomore Taylor Christianson thinks she is ready to compete with other golfers in the State tournament at Pebble Creek Golf Course on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 9-10, after a week of tune-ups at the local

golf course. "I think I am ready," commented Christianson, "and I know that I have improved over the last year. Then I was just happy to have made it to state, but now I hope to move up in the standings, after my tie for 40th in last year's competition." After the section tournament, in which she had to wait for a

time before claiming the medalist honors by two strokes, the young golfer was thrilled to see the results. "I think I kind of freaked out a little when my mom told me I had won, and the results came up on the board. It was really a thrill!" Christianson has been averaging in the low 40s for her nine-

hole scores and in the mid 80's for scores in the 18-hole meets. She has improved her average by almost five strokes for nine holes over a year ago. Christianson gives credit to several mentors, but readily admits that her dad, Mike, has probably had the most to do with her success. Coaches Erik Vigeland and Carl Peterson also get credit, and

Aaron Ressler has really helped her in her shot-making ability. "My goal," she summarized, "is to shoot better at state than I did last year, and I am confident that I can do that. It should be a fun time, even though I know it will be stressful as well."

Hagen takes 4th at state

By JAMES KNOOP
County Sports Editor

Blooming Prairie's Taylor Hagen finished her career as an Awesome Blossom last weekend with a fourth-place state finish in shot put.

Hagen's throw of 38-11 bested Litchfield's fifth-place finisher Meghan Nelson's throw by three inches. Hagen fell short of third place finisher Savannah Olson of International falls by only 1/4 inch. Maddie Lindhart of Zumbrota-Mazeppa and Seri Geisler bested Hagen and Olson by over two feet, throwing 41-8 1/4 and 41-3 1/2, respectively.

Hagen was ultimately pleased with her first trip to state. "It was really fun," said Hagen. "It was definitely a change."

Hagen said she was thrilled to be able to compete at the state level but that she had goals as well.

"I wanted to perform my best and do better than how I was seeded."

Hagen met that goal by several marks, finishing three spots above her seventh seeding.

Taylor's throw bested her section finals throw by 3 1/4 inches, but she said her throws at state were still not a season best. "I threw better than sections, but I threw really well in the middle of the season," said Hagen.

Hagen added that she considered her first and final trip to state a success.

"It was a good way to end my career as a Blossom," said Hagen.

Hagen will attend the University of Northern Iowa this fall.



Staff photos by James Knoop
Taylor Hagen throws during section finals in Dodge Center. Hagen bested her section throw of 38-8 3/4 at state with a throw of 38-11. Hagen received fourth place at the state tournament.

New Winners Highlight Fan Appreciation Night At Chateau

By TODD NARVESON
Guest Writer

A beautiful night greeted a large crowd for Fan Appreciation Night at Chateau Raceway that featured free admission to the grandstand. Several new faces graced victory lane this week and the USRA Modifieds put on a show that will be talked about for quite some time.

The Y-Waste Removal Hornets were first up for feature action and Patrick Wells would lead from early on to nab his first win of the season. It was not easy, however, as Bobby Blowers and Blake Dorweiler put on heavy pressure in the late stages of the race.

Bob Schoenfelder would take the lead in the Misgen Auto Parts Pure Stock feature. Ross Spitzer would challenge and take the lead on lap three. There were a couple of cautions on lap nine and ten, but Spitzer was unfazed by the interruptions. Spitzer drove to his first win of the season, followed by Matt Brooks, who had his three race win streak broken. Brady Krohnberg finished third with Jesse Stahl and Jason Newkirk in the top five.

The KIK Signs and Printing USRA B-Mods got started with a wallop, as Raey Hastings IV nailed the wall in turn four on the first lap. Hastings was uninjured, but his car suffered heavy damage. Kylie Kath led the race but A.J. Zvorak worked his way up from the tenth spot and drove to second on lap five.

Zvorak would get close on several occasions but just could not get by Kath for the lead. Kath sped on to his first win of the season with Zvorak a close second. Josh Mattick would finish third, while Mike Chisholm was fourth and Terry Kohnert finished fifth.

Fred Prudoehl jumped off of row one to lead the Power 96 WISSOTA Polydome Dirt Track Series Street Stock main event. Brandon Vogt worked the top side of the track and quickly came to second and then went after Prudoehl. Kory Adams closed in on the leadup and things got interesting up front.

Vogt wheeled the high side and stole the lead on lap nine. Mike Blowers raced from eighth and stormed up to Adams. Prudoehl drifted high on lap 10, and that allowed Adams and Blowers to shoot past. Vogt would

reach the checkered flag first for his first win. Adams would outrun Blowers for second with Prudoehl and Derek Ludington in the top five.

Garitt Wytaske led the opening laps of the Farm Boy BBQ while Bryan Hernandez and Robbie Franklin gave chase. Hernandez powered to the lead on lap three while Franklin rocketed by Wytaske for second on the top side. Eyes were peeled to Dan Wheeler, who started eighth; he was up to third on lap six and closed on the lead duo.

A caution for debris on lap nine would tighten up the pack further. Wheeler drove past Franklin for second and then used the low groove to steal the lead from Hernandez one lap later. Wheeler led the rest of the way for his third win here and eighth overall this season. Hernandez and Franklin finished second and third while Jeremy Misgen and Tony Schill rounded out the top five.

The French's Repair & Fabrication USRA Modified 25-lap feature was an absolute barn burner. Four drivers, Dennis Hillson, Doug Hillson, Jason Cummins and Brandon Davis

took the challenge to drop to the tail for a possible \$1000 bonus if they could win.

Rookie Modified pilot Dustin Sorensen jumped off of row one and drove away from the field in the early stages. Joe Horgdal and Steve Wetzstein raced for second on lap six while Sorensen was checked out. Cummins came from thirteenth and was sixth when the races first caution flag waved on lap six.

Wetzstein blew by Horgdal on the restart for second and got to the low side of Sorensen for the lead. Cummins got to fifth and Davis was right behind him in sixth. Wetzstein went side-by-side with Sorensen up front as Damon Haslip were three abreast with Cummins and Davis for fourth. Wetzstein suddenly slowed on lap nine and fell to the infield and Sorensen was again alone out front.

Cummins got by Haslip was now third and set after Horgdal for second. Cummins got by on lap 11, but the events second and final caution came out on lap 11. Sorensen was now under attack from Cummins for the lead when the green flag returned. Cummins got by to led lap 12 while Davis was up to

third and reeled in the leaders. The rookie Sorensen was unfazed and blasted around the top side of the track and returned the favor to pass Cummins on lap 13 for the lead.

Sorensen led by a couple of car lengths, but Cummins once again drove up to challenge on lap 17. The large crowd went crazy while the leaders again were side-by-side and put on an absolute show for the lead. Cummins wheeled back to the lead on lap 20 and fended off Sorensen the final five laps for his first win this season. Cummins earned a cool \$2,000 for his win after all the bonus money was awarded. Sorensen finished second with Davis third. Horgdal and Haslip would round out the top five.

The Outlaw Mini Mods were also on the card and they had a strong field of 18-cars start their \$500 to win main event. Buzz Pool would dominate the race and take home the win followed by Tyler Kaeter, Ben Sprung, Nathan Kilwine and Bruce Bennerotte.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE SPORTS

After rough beginnning, JV boys finish season well

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Bloomington's junior varsity baseball team concluded its season with a 12-7 win over NRHEG at New Richland back on May 15. The team won four of its last five games.

For the season, the team compiled a 5-10-2 record.

As Coach Heath Lembke remarked, "I am quite proud of the boys. They never gave up, and they turned their season around over the last five games. If these kids continue to work hard and coaches help them develop their skills, there is a bright future for baseball."

Against the Panthers in the final game, the Blossoms scored

five runs in the second inning to take a 5-2 lead. Four walks and singles by Dylan Nirk and Ethan Arett accounted for the runs. NRHEG counted three runs in the bottom of the second to tie the game after three innings.

The Panthers added two runs in the fourth to take a 7-5 edge, but BP struck for four runs in the top of the sixth to regain a 9-7 lead. An error and two walks loaded the bases, and Jack Abbe unloaded the bases with a double. The final run came home on an error. The locals added three insurance runs in the seventh and kept the home team scoreless for the victory.

BP had 12 runs, five hits and four errors; NRHEG had seven runs, three hits and four errors.

Colin Lerum went the distance for the Blossoms; and Payton Simon, Arett, Abbe, Nick Thompson and Nirk all had one

hit in the game, with Abbe's double the only extra base hit in the win.

Golf League Standings

Bloomington Country Club
Week 4 - June 1 Points

Place		Points
1	Lembke Benson Hanson	25
2	Grunklee Evans Possehl	24
2	Myer Motl Tollefson	24
4	Hillberg Wanous Pfeifer	23.5
5	Weeks Johnson Caldwell	23
6	Braaten Pirkil Resler	22.5
7	Kruckeberg Kruckeberg Johnson	22
7	Strunk Farr Ingvaldson	22
9	Peterson Behnken Bishop	21.5
10	Zwiener Hinzmen Wurst	20.5
10	SkalaR Thiele Sammon	20.5
12	Lea Lembke Hansen	19.5
13	Sunde Kittelson Carlson	19
13	Hareid Bartsch Wilkerson	19
15	Koster Long White	18.5
16	Minimizer Minimizer Minimizer	17
17	Skala Jensen Lee	16
18	Morgan Sekora Olson Schuster	
	Iacovino	15
19	Clark Blome Skala	14.5
20	KlemmensenD Drexler Zwiener	13.5
21	White Lysne Johnson	11
22	Haberman Hegal Henefield	
	Hanson	10.5
23	Glynn Glynn Esplan	10
23	Doerhoefer Stalach Olson Worke	10
25	KlemmensenJ KlemmensenR	
	Anderson	8.5
26	Ingvalson Klemmensen Bishop	5

Division	Team	Score
A	Peterson Behnken Bishop	31
B	Myer Motl Tollefson	30
C	Lembke Benson Hanson	33
D	Hareid Bartsch Wilkerson	37

OUTSIDE THE LINES

Continued from Page 1B

Main street renewal

For those who didn't attend the Main Street reconstruction open house a week ago, the plans were offered, and residents had questions and comments in advance of the major project. The end of Main Street east of Highway 218 will begin the project after June 15. The project west of the highway will begin after the Old Fashioned Fourth of July celebration on July 6.

Plans are for the reconstruction to be carried out one block at a time so that the entire project will not disrupt business and traffic all together, but I would venture to say that the finished product will be well worth the inconvenience of a few months. After all, I keep making jokes that potholes in the street right now are so deep that I could start a flower shop in some of them. Just kidding!

Summer sports

Except for some youth baseball and softball sports, fans can turn attention now to the two professional teams operat-

ing in these summer months. I don't think anyone could have predicted the early success of the baseball Twins. None of the players are having what one would consider banner years, but still the team is compiling one of the best records in the league. I think that the team is excelling in all three phases of the game right now- pitching, hitting and fielding — and as long as that is happening, the team will stay in contention.

The Lynx women's basketball team is the other professional team to follow, and they are primed for another run at the WNBA championship. The experience and the skill they bring to the game should bode well for them. Both teams are fun to follow right now, and the two teams should provide plenty of excitement for these summer months.

Let's close with just one observation: men marry women hoping they won't change; women marry men hoping they will. We'll talk again.



These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of June 5.

WISSOTA Street Stock

Feature—Brandon Vogt, Kory Adams, Mike Blowers, Fred Prudoehl, Derek Ludington, Brent Holland, Noah Grinstead, Bernie Adams, Jim Connors, Zach Elward, Nick Roemhildt
First Heat—Blowers, K. Adams, Holland, B. Adams, Elward, Connors
Second Heat—Vogt, Ludington, Prudoehl, Grinstead, Roemhildt

Goergen, Wheeler, Misgen, Magnum, Baer, L. Hainka

USRA B-Mod

Feature—Kylie Kath, AJ Zvorak, Josh Mattick, Mike Chisholm, Terry Kohnert, Mark Wytaske, Josh Ihlenfeld, Morgan Schrage, Christian Warner, David Henderson, Kadden Kath, Raey Hastings IV
First Heat—Kylie Kath, Chisholm, Wytaske, Kadden Kath, Zvorak, Kohnert
Second Heat—Mattick, Ihlenfeld, Hastings IV, Warner, Henderson, Schrage

Pure Stock

Feature—Ross Spitzer, Matt Brooks, Brady Krohnberg, Jesse Stahl, Jason Newkirk, Stacy Krohnberg, Ryan Jacobsen, Greg Lammers, Daniel Guttormson, Larry Scott, Anna Brouwers, Bob Schoenfelder, Adam Godeke, Jordan Everson, Katie Elward, Jeremy Wenzel
First Heat—B. Krohnberg, Newkirk, Godeke, Spitzer, Everson, Elward, Wenzel
Second Heat—S. Krohnberg, Brooks, Stahl, Schoenfelder, Jacobsen, Brouwers, Lammers, Scott

Hornets

Feature—Patrick Wells, Bobby Blowers, Blake Dorweiler, Cody Hyatt, Bailey Wolff, Ralph Hanks, Tommie Cruz, Nick Sillman, Dan Lewison



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Employment CONNECTION

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1. TEACHING ABROAD

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2. CAMP STAFF

Working at a summer camp involves many of the same skills and responsibilities as teaching, but in a more laid-back and enjoyable environment. As a teacher, you should qualify for more than just a position as a counselor,

so look for a job that involves some administrative or supervisory responsibilities to earn a higher wage.

3. TUTORING

By taking advantage of your contacts with colleagues, students and parents, you should have no trouble finding tutoring opportunities if you want them. In addition to tutoring students in the subjects you teach, it may be worth considering tutoring in other areas.

4. SUMMER SCHOOL

Of course, you always have the option of taking a summer position in the education field.

Summer school jobs are usually comparable to your school-year job, but the shorter hours will allow you some time to enjoy the spoils of summer.

5. FREELANCE WORK

English teachers have more than adequate writing abilities for many freelance jobs, and many STEM teachers will have the necessary skills for

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Public Safety

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

Blooming Prairie Police

May 30
DWI. Police arrested a motorist for drunken driving in Claremont at 8:10 p.m.

Owatonna Police

May 29
Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 1000 block of Linn Ave. SW at 6:31 a.m.
Domestic. Three domestic assaults resulting in adults being arrested occurred throughout the day – at 4:14 p.m. in the 1200 block of 3rd Ave. NE, at 7:51 p.m. in the 800 block of School St. E. and at 9:47 p.m. in the 700 block of Vine St. E.
Assault. An assault occurred in the 200 block of Main St. E. at 5:48 p.m.
Shoplifting. Officer took a report of a shoplifting incident in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W. at 8:59 p.m.

Probation. At 11:32 p.m., police arrested a subject for violating his or her probation in the 200 block of Cedar Ave. N.

May 30
Traffic. A traffic stop resulted in a motorist being arrested at Cedar Ave. N. and North St. E. at 2:17 a.m.
Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in injuries in the 400 block of Braemar Place NE at 12:15 p.m.

Assault. At 12:41 p.m., police responded to an assault in the 500 block of Dunnell Dr. NW.

Trespassing. A trespassing incident resulted in a subject being arrested in the 1600 block of Linn Ave. SW at 9:50 p.m.

May 31
Drunken Driving. Officers made two DWI arrests – at Rose St. E. and Willow Ave. NE at 2:05 a.m. and at Bridge St. W. and State Ave. NW at 3:15 a.m.

Trespassing. Police received a report of trespassing in the 500 block of Mineral Springs Rd. NE at 9:01 a.m.

Assault. At 8:34 p.m., an assault occurred at Cedar Ave. S. and Main St. E.

June 1
Domestic. At 3:25 p.m., police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 3500 block of Hoffman Dr. NW. An adult was arrested at the scene.

Suspicion. Officers responded to the 600 block of 32nd Ave. NW for a suspicious activity report. They arrested a subject at 10:10 a.m.

Identity Theft. A citizen reported that his or her identity had been stolen in the 900 block of Crestview Lane NE at 3:29 p.m.

Restraining Order. Police arrested subjects for violating a restraining order at 6:55 p.m. in the 200 block of 21st St. NW and at 10:13 p.m. in the 500 block of School St. E.

June 2
Child Protection. Officer took a child protection report in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 8:09 a.m.

Domestic. At 7:34 p.m., police took a subject into custody following a domestic disturbance in the 1100 block of School St. E.

June 3
Suspicion. At 12 a.m., deputies responded to a suspicious activity report in the 1500 block of Mosher Ave. SW. A juvenile was taken into custody.

Theft. Officer took theft report in the 200 block of Rose St. W. at 1:08 p.m.

Hit and Run. A hit and run crash resulting in property damage occurred in the 100 block of Oak Ave. N. at 8:06 p.m.

June 4
Juvenile. A juvenile complaint was received from Lincoln Ave. S. and Main St. E. at 1:16 a.m.

Trespassing. At 8:45 a.m., a subject was arrested for trespassing in the 600 block of Cedar Ave. S.

Burglary. Two burglaries were reported during the day – at 1:07 p.m. in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. and at 4:16 p.m. in the 100 block of Rice St. E.

Drugs. Police responded to a report of drug activity in the 100 block of Main St. E. An adult was arrested at the scene.

Suspicion. At 6:58 p.m., police responded to a suspicious activity report in the 1400 block of 21st Ave. NW.

Fight. Officers responded to a fight in the 500 block of 12th St. NE at 8:44 p.m. An adult was arrested at the scene.

Steele County Sheriff

May 29
DWI. Deputies arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated in the 7800 block of 21st Ave. NW at 10:40 p.m.

May 30
Theft. A citizen reported that his or her identity had been stolen in the 100 block of 2nd St. SE at 9:08 a.m.

Domestic. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 8300 block of 47th Ave. NW at 10:22 p.m.

June 1
Burglary. Deputies began a burglary investigation in the 3200 block of 18th St. SE at 8:38 a.m.

June 2
Drugs. Drug activity was reported in the 100 block of 1st St. NE at 9:09 a.m.

June 3
Vandalism. At 9:27 a.m., deputy took property damage report at 69th St. NE and Kenyon Rd.

June 4
Restraining Order. Deputies received a report that a restraining order was violated in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 5 p.m.

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 25 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

Daniel J. Decker, 35, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of Marijuana and misdemeanor assault. Decker was sentenced to \$462, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, no contact with victim, maintain employment, anger management, 240 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 25 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Tyjuan L. Williams, 27, previously appeared and was convicted of felony domestic assault. He was sentenced to \$131, 180 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, no possession of firearms, domestic abuse evaluation, no contact with victim, domestic no contact and 5 years of supervised probation.

Josue Gutierrez, 19, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance crime. The defendant was sentenced to \$181, 3 days in county jail, obtain GED, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no possession of firearms and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 25 – 29:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Jay M. Salinas, 28, Blooming Prairie, disorderly conduct, \$181 and 1 year of supervised probation; Scott R. Thorpe, 35, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Isha I. Dolley, 27, Austin, invalid license and no insurance, \$381; Michelle M. Battig, 53, Colorado Springs, CO, speeding, \$131; Brittney A. Dufresne, 20, Cottage Grove, speeding, \$141; Rickhard A. Finger, 36, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Steve R. Gleason, 61, Austin, failure to yield right of way, \$131; Sara E. Gordon-Dowd, 36, Hayfield, speeding, \$141;

Melvin E. Graupmann, 71, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, attend MADD impact panel, chemical dependency evaluation, and 1 year of supervised probation; David T. Hirsch, 20, Farmington, permit violation, \$131; Sarah H. Howe, 37, Ellendale, following vehicle too closely, \$131;

Ali M. Ibrahim, 64, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Lucas C. Kilanowski, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Kenneth J. Kirkman, 19, Apple Valley, following vehicle too closely, \$131; Stefanie L. Koppedryer, 17, Clarks Grove, speeding, \$121; John D. Kuplic, 50, Apple Valley,

speeding, \$131; Ronald L. Leak, 82, Ellendale, failure to yield right of way, \$131; Daniel W. Lewis, 21, Duluth, speeding, \$121; Hannah L. Markquart, 20, Oregon, WI, speeding, \$221;

Jacob J. Menzel, 25, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Leon S. Nelson, 55, Ellendale, suspended license, \$281; Ryan S. Owen, 17, Owatonna, provisional license violation, \$131; Priyaben H. Patel, 25, Waukegan, IL, speeding, \$121; Thomas S. Rasmussen, 52, Kasson, seat belt, \$106; Daniel E. Rhoades, 39, Ellendale, windshield violation, \$121; Sarah Rich, 35, Clear Lake, IA, speeding, \$121;

Kathleen A. Seitzinger, 49, Farmington, speeding, \$121; Marlin E. Sims, 22, Minneapolis, driving motorcycle without endorsement, no insurance and speeding, \$471; Kosivi D. Soudi, 29, Austin, speeding, \$121; Francisco Tovar, 38, Waseca, no child passenger restraint system and invalid license, \$231;

Casey C. Wallace, 23, Minneapolis, suspended license, no insurance and speeding, \$621; Christopher W. Wangen, 40, Albert Lea, window tint violation, \$131; Joel F. Willaert, 34, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Thomas J. Wolfe, 54, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Eileena K. Xayavong, 20, Shakopee, speeding, \$221.

Owatonna Police Department

Aden M. Ali, 27, Owatonna, permit violation, \$131; Nicholas R. Almen, 17, Faribault, seat belt, \$106; Cody J. Altepeter, 21, Owatonna, hit and run, \$131 and 43 days in county jail; Christine M. Bouwman, 39, Owatonna, DWI, \$256, attend MADD impact panel, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Anthony B. Boyd, 32, Owatonna, speeding, \$141;

David Camacho Jr., 39, Elsa, TX, open bottle, \$181; Matthew D. DeLoach, 21, Faribault, theft, \$381 and 1 year of supervised probation; Susana B. Garza, 47, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$231 and 1 year of unsupervised probation;

Trenton J. Hagan, 24, St. Paul, revoked license and failure to obey traffic control device, \$331; Jonelle S. Hill, 34, Medford, obstruction of legal process, \$131 and 2 days in county jail; Nicole L. Johnson, 32, Owatonna, check forgery, \$1,743.46, 6 days in county jail, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, attend AA, cognitive skill training, and 3 years of supervised probation;

Natosha M. Kelling, 21, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Nicholas R. Kenow, 22, Ellendale, expired tabs, \$111; Steven A. Lamotte, 46, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Kirsten A. McKee, 21, Owatonna, shoplifting, \$381 and 1 year of supervised probation;

Eric B. Melby, 39, Ellendale, expired tabs, \$111; Angelica F. Montemayor, 29, Owatonna, seat belt and revoked license, \$306; Zamzam S. Nur, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Matilde K. Ochoa-Romero, 39, Austin, no MN license and speeding, \$231;

Steven M. Olson, 39, Owatonna, theft, \$381, cognitive skill training and 1 year of supervised probation; Courtney A. Reim, 34, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Angela Roman, 20, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$231 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Cody D. Schoultz, 25, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281;

Drew L. Schroht-Fuller, 31, Owatonna, no insurance, \$181, 1 day in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Darian O. Simmons-Williams, 18, Owatonna, minor consumption, \$181; Kenneth H. Snow, 62, Owatonna, speeding, \$121;

Reid J. Stransky, 42, Owatonna, speeding, \$361; James M. Willis, 38, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$131, 11 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no contact with victim and 1 year of supervised probation.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Cody J. Altepeter, 21, Owatonna, revoked license, \$131 and 43 days in county jail; Brandin D. Boten, 26, Medford, revoked license, \$281; Bradley D. Campbell, 56, Council Bluffs, IA, speeding, \$121; Catherine M. Cox, 47, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Richard L. French, 30, Dodge Center, speeding, \$121; Michael R. Hansen, 28, speeding, \$131;

Douglas M. Harris, 52, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Kari S. Huseuth, 49, Elbow Lake, no child passenger restraint system, \$131;

Megan M. Janning, 20, Blooming Prairie, disorderly conduct, \$181; Lucas J. Johnson, 23, Ellendale, speeding, \$141;

Darnell Jones, 25, Austin, revoked license and speeding, \$331; Tyler D. Karge, 20, Owatonna, windshield violation and expired tabs, \$151; Justin R. Kremmin, 27, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jose T. Zavala Lopez, 33, Walnut, CA, speeding, \$131;

Lanny R. Louks, 39, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Scott J. Lurken, 19, Kenyon, speeding, \$141; Dale F. McGuire, 82, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Jabar P. Morarend, 43, Albert Lea, suspended license and no insurance, \$481;

Michelle L. Olson, 31, St. Paul, seat belt, \$106; Jennifer S. Parker, 30, Albert Lea, speeding, \$141; Christopher J. Schauer, 50, Faribault, speeding, \$141;

Brian K. Schnagl, 32, revoked license, \$281; Alexander J. Sheetz, 24, Albert Lea, revoked license, \$281; David A. Sorenson, 57, Chanhassen, speeding, \$141; Joseph C. Thomas, 22, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, attend MADD impact panel, chemical dependency evaluation, and 1 year of supervised probation;

Jayme J. Underwood, 34, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Cale R. Vaith, 27, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Benjamin N. Witikko, 16, Ellendale, speeding, \$221.

POLICE BLOTTER Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office handled 246 complaints for the week of May 27 – June 2. Some of them include:

May 27

Narcotics. A Dodge Center business called deputies at 7:48 a.m. when an employee found a baggie with a white substance on the business's premises in the 500 block of Hwy. St. E.

Narcotics. At 6:30 p.m., a deputy made a traffic stop in the 61200 block of 251st Ave. in Mantorville. Narcotics were discovered and four subjects were taken into custody for fifth degree narcotics.

May 28

Burglary. At 7:04 a.m., deputies responded to a burglary in progress in the 17400 block of Dodge/Mower Rd. in Hayfield. One male subject was arrested and transported to the Steele County Jail.

Medical. A falling tree limb struck a female in the 71700 block of 220th Ave. in Hayfield at 1:50 p.m. She had neck pain and was transported to St. Mary's Hospital.

Harassment. At 4:21 p.m., deputy received a report of a harassment incident in the 100 block of 6th Ave. SE in Hayfield.

Child Endangerment. Deputies responded to a child endangerment report at 8:18 p.m. when two kids were left alone for over an hour in an apartment in the 100 block of Main St. W. in Dodge Center. The children were 4 and 6 years old.

May 29

Disorderly Conduct. At 5:22 p.m., deputies responded to a disorderly conduct incident in the 100 block of 6th Ave. SE in Hayfield.

May 30

Animal. Deputy took a report at 7 a.m. when cattle were causing damage in the 23500 block of 555th St. in West Concord.

Child Endangerment. At 10:46 a.m., deputies received a driving complaint regarding a golf cart and the safety of a child in the 100 block of Airport Dr. N. in Dodge Center.

May 31

Vandalism. A Dodge Center resident reported at 10:33 a.m. that her mailbox had been vandalized during the night in the 61000 block of 205th Ave. in Dodge Center. She believed that an explosive was involved.

June 1

Juvenile. Deputies received a juvenile complaint regarding kids shooting BB guns in the 200 block of East St. N. in Claremont at 3:29 p.m.

Burning. At 3:48 p.m., a complaint was made that a pile had been smoldering for days with no one around in the 25200 block of 720th St. in Hayfield.

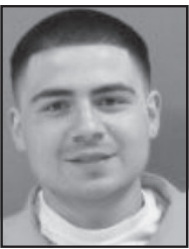
June 2

Theft. A vehicle was reported stolen on 270th Ave. and south of Hwy. 30 in Hayfield at 2:23 p.m. The vehicle was located.

Domestic. At 9:03 p.m., a woman called deputies when her estranged husband was trespassing in the 11800 block of 725th St. in Blooming Prairie. He had destroyed her

Public Safety briefs

Man faces charges in kidnapping incident



Aguilar

A 22-year-old man faces multiple serious felonies after allegedly kidnapping a woman and threatening to kill her.

Owatonna Police arrested Rogelio R. Aguilar, 22, in the early morning hours of June 1. He faces several charges, including second-degree assault, false imprisonment and first-degree aggravated robbery.

Police responded to a call in the 3500 block of old Highway 14 for a possible domestic situation. When officers arrived they met with a woman who told them she had given Aguilar \$20 cash and a ride downtown. She said he then returned to her residence within an hour demanding more cash. The victim alleged he demanded her to get into the car or he was going to kill her.

According to police, the victim got into the car and drove Aguilar around trying to figure out how to get them money while he was seated in the back holding an arrow to her back and threatening to kill her. She eventually escaped when telling him she was going to go into a house to get money.

Officers found Aguilar sleeping in the back of the car with a compound bow and several arrows laying on the floor, police said.

BP man injured in rollover

A rollover crash involving a vehicle and a John Deere tractor injured a Blooming Prairie man June 3.

Thomas J. Wencil, 60, received non-life threatening injuries in the crash at about 4 p.m. on Highway 30 in Steele County. He was transported by Ellendale Ambulance to Owatonna Hospital.

Wencil was driving a Ford pick-up westbound on Highway 30 when it collided with a tractor pulling a spreader. Both were

going the same direction when the truck struck the rear tire of the spreader and rolled over, according to the state patrol.

The patrol reported that Wencil was wearing his seat belt.

The tractor was being operated by Carl D. Pederson, 29, of Ellendale. He was not injured in the crash.

The truck was totaled in the crash while the spreader received minor damage, the patrol said.

shop and kicked in a door. Deputies and Blooming Prairie Police responded and arrested the male party for domestic assaulted.

E. Storing, 25, Kasson, parking violation, \$32.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Kuron D. Fultz, 30, Owatonna, revoked license, \$280; Justin P. Grobe, 33, Kasson, speeding, \$140; Dondre L. Gullickson, 23, Hayfield, revoked license, \$280; Brandon M. Mendoza, 23, Dodge Center, speeding, \$140; Shawn D. Mulholland, 29, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105.

West Concord Police Department

Amir A. Yousef, 26, Winona, stop sign, \$130.

Steele Arrests

Blooming Prairie Police

Charles Douglas Meixner, 64, arrested at 8:23 p.m. May 30, DWI, held for court.

Owatonna Police

Lovely Latoya Cemis Young, 18, arrested at 4:31 p.m. May 29, warrant arrest, body only.

Raymond Lamar Brown, 45, arrested at 6:04 p.m. May 29, felony domestic assault and assault, held for court.

Brandon Le'troy Tate, 27, arrested at 10:14 p.m. May 29, domestic assault and assault, \$13,000 bail. Isaac Romel Smith, 29, arrested

PUBLIC SAFETY Continued on Page 5B

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.

Antonio Reyes – suspended license, no insurance - \$500 bail
Juan Reyes – criminal sexual conduct - \$50,000 bail
Margarito Reyes – criminal property damage - \$3,000 bail
Maria Reyes – false name - \$500 bail
Ruben Reyes – invalid license - \$500 bail
Bartolo Reyna – theft - \$1,000 bail

Kelly Reynolds – no MN license - \$1,000 bail
John Richter – DWI - \$12,000 bail
Paul Rincon – invalid license - \$500 bail
David Rinderman – terroristic threats – no bail
Esteven Rios – theft, shoplifting - \$1,000 bail
Edwin Rivera – traffic - no bail
Gerson Rivera – no license - \$500 bail
Leandro Rivera – harassment – no bail

Angel Rizo – worthless check - \$5,000 bail
Zachariah Roberts – theft - \$1,000 bail
David Rocha – no MN license - \$500 bail
Josue Rocha – disorderly conduct - \$1,000 bail
Raul Rodarte – DWI - \$1,000 bail
Eleazar Rodrigues – no MN license - \$500 bail

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

News

Miracle in Congo leads to miracle strawberries in Dodge Center



Staff photo by Karen Jorgensen
Barry and Marybeth Mosier stand in their asparagus field at Miracle Strawberry Farm. The asparagus planted last season should be providing enough asparagus for sale next spring.

By KAREN JORGENSEN
News Editor

For Barry and Marybeth Mosier of Dodge Center just being alive is a miracle so when they decided to start a strawberry farm it was a natural to call it the Miracle Strawberry Farm.

Seven years ago, while serving as missionaries in Africa, the Mosier's and two of their children, April, 14, and Andrew, three, were in a plane crash in the Congo.

Forty-seven people died and 100 others were injured, Mosier said, but all four of them escaped the burning plane before it exploded. Andrew broke his leg but otherwise the family was unscathed.

"That was a horrible day," Mosier recalled.

"When we were missionaries, we knew many people were praying for our safety," he said. "When I saw the charred wreckage of that plane the next day, I knew that the Lord miraculously saved our lives and still had more work for us to do. We praise God every day to be alive."

After 11 years in Africa the Mosier's returned to Dodge Center four years ago.

Barry Mosier now has a CPA business in Kasson and said that after a busy winter of preparing tax returns for clients he needs a change in the spring and was looking for a way to get out of the office for a while.

The family had also attempted to garden while in Africa but

with little success, Marybeth Mosier said.

Which leads to the strawberries.

The Mosier's have a friend who lives east of Rochester and grows strawberries and asparagus. The friend pointed out that no one in Dodge County was growing these crops for sale.

Most everyone likes strawberries, the first fruit of the season. And asparagus is the first vegetable of the season, Mosier reasoned.

After the garden disasters in Africa, he said, it was so much fun for the couple to garden back in America.

The Mosier's live on 50 acres just three miles outside of Dodge Center and when they put it all together Miracle Strawberry Farm was born last year.

"Marybeth and I thought it would be fun to grow these first fruits and vegetables of the season," Mosier said. "We plan to grow them with as natural methods as possible. Marybeth is very particular about what is served on our own table and we want to offer people some of the same safe home grown foods that we enjoy."

Currently there are just under three acres of strawberries and two-and-a-quarter acres of asparagus that were planted last year.

"This is our very first year for picking strawberries," Marybeth Mosier said. "Next year the asparagus will be in full production."

Miracle Strawberry Farm

Where: 60687 20th Ave., Dodge Center, Minn.

Hours: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday through Friday

For availability: www. Miraclestrawberryfarm.com is updated daily; or call 507-884-7247

Although there will no asparagus for sale this year, the Mosier's expect that the strawberries will be ready to pick by the middle of June. The farm, located at 60687 205th Ave., Dodge Center, offers the opportunity to pick your own berries or buy pre-picked berries.

Picking pails and boxes for taking the berries home will be provided. Families are welcome, Mosier said, but children do need to be supervised.

Hours will be 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday through Friday.

They also plan to expand their operation for next year. The Mosier's are planning to have approximately 3 ½ acres of strawberries and 4 ½ acres the year after that.

Next May and early June the asparagus should also be ready.

"Last year when Marybeth suggested that we plant 11,000 asparagus seeds in the field, besides the 14,000 roots we had already planted, I thought she was crazy," Barry Mosier said. "I knew that we would have to transplant by shovel all those baby roots into deeper trenches this spring. Well this spring I got a shock when I saw the massive root systems the Lord had grown in just one year from those seeds. These plants from seed will clearly out produce the roots we bought."

Miracle Strawberry Farm is a family affair, Mosier said.

Son Keith and his family are still in the Congo as missionaries but the family came back to Dodge Center for the summer. Keith had to go back to the Congo, Mosier said, but his family is staying until the end of the summer and helping out on the farm.

Mosier said that in providing fresh strawberries and asparagus they hope to say "thank you" to the friends, neighbors and clients who have been a blessing in their lives through the years.



Submitted photos
ABOVE: The Mosier's process asparagus at Miracle Strawberry Farm in Dodge Center. Although the asparagus fields planted last year did produce a small crop this year, Barry Mosier said it was not enough to offer for sale. The Mosier's expect the field to be in full production next spring.



LEFT: Barry and Marybeth Mosier pose in their strawberry field with son, Andrew, daughter, April, son Keith, and daughter-in-law Tammy. Keith and Tammy now have three children, Shiloh, Caleb and Anna.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Continued from Page 4B

at 9:27 p.m. May 29, probation violation, held for court.

Allison Renee Owen, 45, arrested at 9:47 a.m. May 31, DWI, held for court.

David Devon Bryant, 33, arrested at 8:15 p.m. May 29, felony domestic assault, held for court.

Chris Allen Rivas, 19, arrested at

4:45 p.m. May 30, warrants arrest, \$1,000 bail.

Domach Chol Gatluak, 30, arrested at 3:35 a.m. May 31, DWI, held for court.

Kevin Jackson, 49, arrested at 11:52 p.m. May 31, felony assault, held for court.

Rogelio Raymon Aguilar, 22, ar-

rested at 3:58 a.m. June 1, felony domestic assault, assault and kidnapping, held for court.

Robert Hernandez, 24, arrested at 11:30 p.m. May 31, felony assault, held for court.

Mark Henry Ammann, 31, arrested at 8:03 p.m. June 1, order for protection violation, held for court.

Mitchell David Novak, 30, arrested at 10:58 p.m. June 1, order for protection violation, held for court.

James Edward White, 34, arrested at 8:11 p.m. June 2, order for protection violation, held for court.

Jennifer Joy Bobo, 30, arrested at 5:23 p.m. June 4, felony possession of prescription drugs, held for court.

Verdel Lance Houston, 35, arrested at 9:12 p.m. June 4, felony disorderly conduct, assault and terroristic threats, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff

Jeffrey Allen Smizek, 45, arrested at 2 p.m. May 29, warrant arrest,

body only.

Robert Donald Karsten, 35, arrested at 10:40 p.m. May 29, DWI, \$12,000 bail.

Richard Rocha, 28, arrested at 11:30 p.m. June 1, probation warrant arrest, body only.

WILDER PAGEANT

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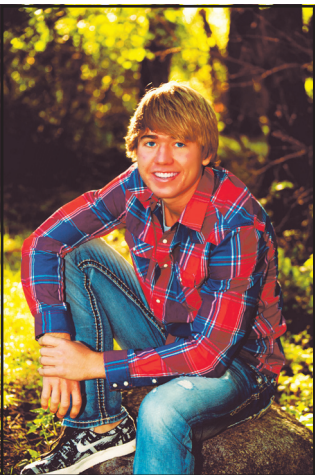
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Swift County, MN is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

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- Deputy Assessor
- GIS Coordinator/GIS Specialist

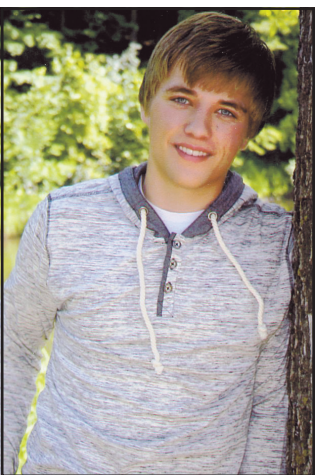
Swift County offers competitive pay with an excellent benefit package. Additional information & application packets available at <http://www.swiftcounty.com/jobs>. Swift County is an equal opportunity employer.



Jake Langlie
Valedictorian



Melissa Malakowsky
Valedictorian



Trevor Tracy
Valedictorian



NRHEG Honor Graduates



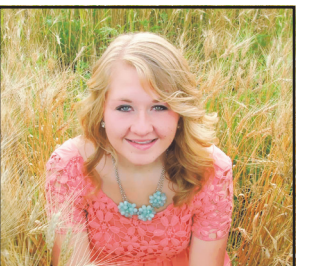
Karina Gaona
Salutatorian



Annalise Barry



Nick Bartness



Amy Beckstrand



Jamie Beckstrand



Brady Beenken



Lydia Culver



Alyssa Esplan



Colton Hagen



Ryann Hagen



Kaylee Hanson



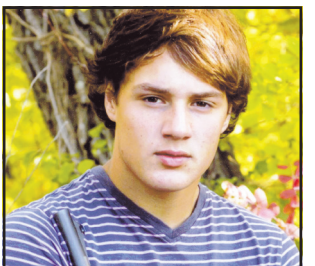
Kelli Harrington



Jade Hill



Kyle Holz



Matt Jensen



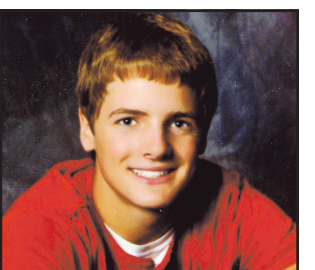
Kevin Kalis



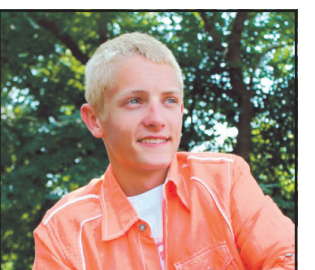
Logan Knutson



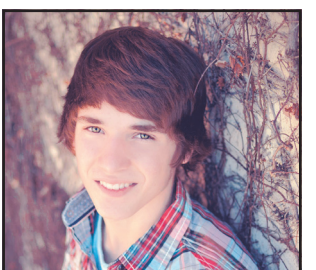
Bianca Kohnert



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Jordan Mueller



Hudson Mrotz



Andrew O'Brian



Kristina Palmer



Jade Peterson



Samantha Pettey



Sandra Quezada



Sarah Rieke



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I spy a MV-22 Osprey aircraft

By ANNA SEGNER
Staff Writer

Spotting a United States Marine Corp MV-22B Osprey aircraft in the sky above Owatonna is anything but ordinary. That is why four dozen people awaited its arrival at approximately 12:30 p.m. on June 2 at the Owatonna Degner Regional Airport.

The aircraft stopped in Owatonna to refuel and rest overnight on its way to its next military base. It came from New River, North Carolina, and it is making its way to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona. After the landing, community members were able to tour the aircraft and talk with the flight team.

Community members and airport staff had their camera out during the landing, and rightfully so. The Osprey aircraft is both unique and advanced in that it has the capability to take off and land vertically. Two engines

are positioned on fixed wing tips and stored in nacelles that have the ability to rotate up. It is known to reach higher speeds than helicopters due to its ability to tilt its nacelles like a fixed wing aircraft.

The primary function of the aircraft is the transportation of troops, equipment and supplies from assault ships and land bases.

According to Commanding Officer of the Recruiting Station of the Twin Cities Major Chris Tsirlis, the aircraft is able to reach 400 nautical miles from ship to shore. “This has been in development for many years, and it doubles the distance that we were able to get before,” said Major Tsirlis. “It has been proven in both Afghanistan and Iraq.”

Major Tsirlis said that while this event was for the community to learn more about tools being used by armed forces, the Marine Corps Recruiting Station was also going to take advantage of the aircraft’s arrival for a re-



Staff photo by Anna Segner
A United States Marine Corps MV-22B Osprey aircraft landed at the Owatonna Airport last week. The aircraft stopped to refuel and rest over night on its way to the next duty station.

cruiting event. “It’s not too often that we have this marine craft making stops here,” said Major Tsirlis.

The MV-22 Osprey aircraft is able to carry 24 Marine combat troops, but upon arrival at Owatonna Degner Regional Airport, there were two pilots and one crew chief operating the aircraft. Col. Robert Rauenhorst was the one of the pilots and his dad Ray Rauenhorst was actu-

ally there to see his arrival.

Many community members came to see the aircraft just out of sheer interest in planes. Steve and Morene Rohlik of Owatonna heard about the event, so after their weekly coffee, they came out to the airport to see the landing and learn more about the aircraft.

Bob Wiese also attended the landing. He is an ex-pilot, and he shared that he used to fly a

PT-19. The love of airplanes brought him and many out to see or tour the aircraft.

Airport manager Dave Beaver was excited for the aircraft’s visit. “It’s just an opportunity for the public to see what the Marines are up to. We have had specialty aircraft in the past, but we’ve never had a MV-22 Osprey, so yeah, we’re here to welcome them and accommodate their needs.”

STEELE TALKIN'

Melissa Kofstad

Men’s Health Week

We often talk about health issues pertaining to women, so now it’s time to talk about men’s health issues. Men’s Health Week is June 15-21 so let’s get talking!

According to the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, diseases caught early have a better chance of being treated successfully. You should speak with your Primary Care Provider (Physician, Nurse Practitioner, Physician’s Assistant) about the screenings you need.

An abdominal aortic aneurysm screening is a one-time screening by ultrasonography in men aged 65 to 75 who have ever smoked. An aneurysm is a bulging in a blood vessel that can burst without warning.

An alcohol misuse screening can indicate if you may have a problem with alcohol. You may not meet the criteria for dependency or abuse but may be drinking at levels that place you at risk.

If you are aged 50 to 75 be screened for colorectal cancer using fecal occult blood testing, sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy. If there is a family history you may need to be tested before age 50.

Depression is thought of as a “woman’s” disease but more than six million men in the US have depression each year, according to WebMD. Depression is a treatable disease so get screened.

If your blood pressure is higher than 135/80, talk with your Primary Care Provider about being tested for Diabetes. Diabetes is a serious disease that can affect your heart, kidneys, feet, nerves and eyes.

HIV is a virus that can lead to a disease called AIDS. If you had a blood transfusion between 1978 and 1985, have sex with men, have unprotected sex with more than one partner, inject drugs, pay for sex or have sexual partners that do, have partners who are infected with HIV or you are being treated for a sexually transmitted infection (STI), you are at risk for contracting HIV. Talk honestly to your Primary Care Provider and be tested.

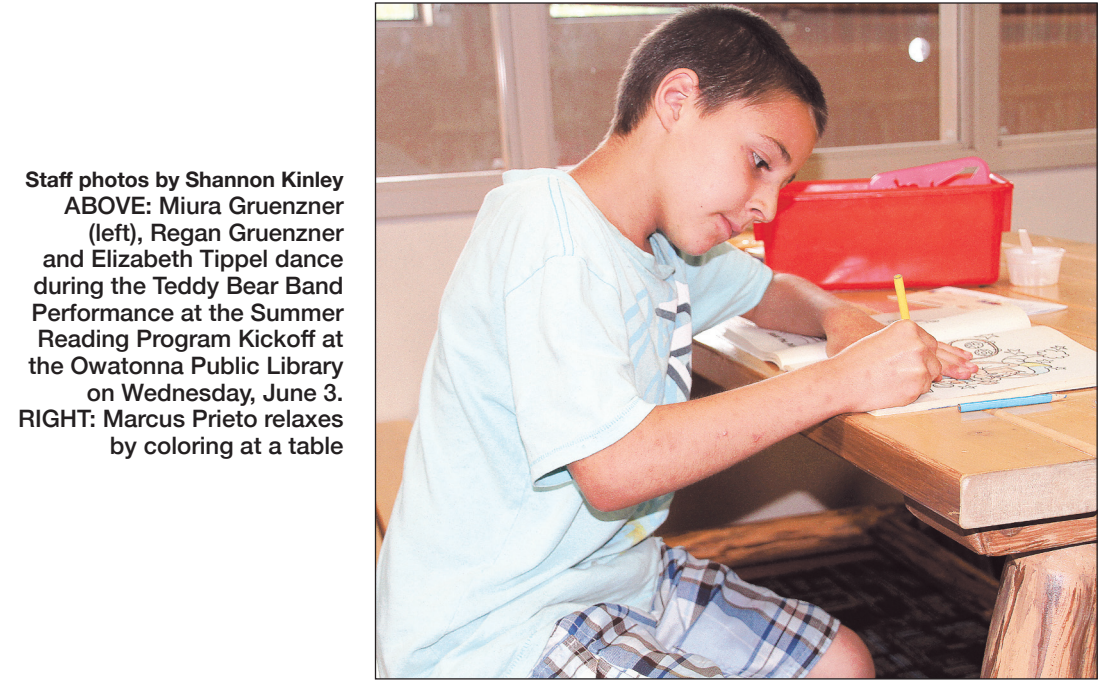
Normal blood pressure is less than 120/80. Have your blood pressure checked every 2 years. High blood pressure increases your chances of having a heart attack, kidney disease or stroke. If your blood pressure is high and you are prescribed medication, take it.

If you are aged 20 to 35 and have risk factors for diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, a BMI (body mass index) of 30 or over, or are a tobacco user you should have your cholesterol checked regularly. If you do not have these risk factors, start screening at age 35.

Talk with your Primary Care Provider about being screened for other cancers, such as prostate, testicular, oral, lung, skin, etc.

Body mass index (BMI) is a measure of your body fat based on height and weight. A BMI of 30 or higher is considered obese. Obesity places you at

Libraries encourage summer learning



Staff photos by Shannon Kinley
ABOVE: Miura Gruenzner (left), Regan Gruenzner and Elizabeth Tippel dance during the Teddy Bear Band Performance at the Summer Reading Program Kickoff at the Owatonna Public Library on Wednesday, June 3.
RIGHT: Marcus Prieto relaxes by coloring at a table

By SHANNON KINLEY
County Staff Writer

The Owatonna and Blooming Prairie libraries kicked off their summer reading program with the theme “Read to the Rhythm” last week in hopes to keep children in books even though school is out.

The program runs from the beginning of June to the end of August and is mainly utilized by children who are in preschool through sixth-grade.

“The main purpose is to keep the children reading throughout the summer so that there is not a summer slide,” said Blooming Prairie Library Branch Manager Nancy Vaillancourt.

“If they are reading throughout the summer, they don’t lose those skills and can be at the same place that they were reading-level wise in the fall.”

Children’s Librarian Darla Lager of the Owatonna Library mirrored Vaillancourt and said the program is important because it not only encourages the kids to continue reading, but in turn eliminates the effects of the summer slide.

The program is designed so that participants must keep track of how much they read in a reading log. Each day the child reads for at least 20 minutes they get to color in a spot on the log. By the end of the month if the child has at least 10 spaces filled, meaning he or she has read at least 200 minutes that month they are invited to attend the book fair at the end of the month and pick out a free book to bring home with them.

“We have thousands of books for them to choose from... we have picture books, board books, chapter books, story books,” Lager said.

Each month there will also be various activities held at both libraries. June events include the Zoo Man, Schiffelly Puppets and an Instrument Petting Zoo. July events feature LEGO Mania, Mu Daiko Drummers, Mystifying Magic with Greg Skillestad and a War of the Currents presentation from the Bakken Museum. August events for Owatonna include Create-A-Craft and for Blooming Prairie include a singing performance from Dennis Warner and a Take-it-Apart workshop.

“We hope that they come, have fun and find books that they really love so that reading can be a lifelong skill that they like to use,” Vaillancourt said.

She added she is particularly excited about the Mu Daiko Drummers and a visit from the Stix of Fury.

Last year, Lager says Owatonna had over 1,000 people visit a book fair and she hopes they can have high participation again in this year’s program. Vaillancourt says last year they had around 200 participants and as of June 1, there were already 120 children signed up.

Children can sign up at anytime for the program during the summer. For a more detailed schedule of activities visit <http://ci.owatonna.mn.us/library/childrens-services/summer-reading-program-2015>

Owatonna Foundation announces new executive secretary

Laura Resler will become the executive secretary at the Owatonna Foundation. She had served as the director of the Steele County Historical Society.

Incorporated in 1957, the Foundation has served the Owatonna community for 58 years, providing over 11 million dollars in financial support to meet the ever-changing needs of the community.

The Foundation makes grants for capital purchases and improvements in the following categories: Community – with projects that have an impact on the quality of life of the people of Owatonna, and the parks and places they use and enjoy. Education – with scholarships

and improvements promoting literary and scientific ventures and preserving the history of Owatonna. The Arts – with projects that support fine arts, both visual and musical, and encouraging a diverse cultural environment. Recreation – with projects that help improve the recreational diversity of Owatonna, offering all ages a recreational outlet throughout the year. The Foundation also provides both traditional and non-traditional scholarships for youth and adults that are residents of Owatonna.

“We’re excited to have Laura join us at the Owatonna Foundation. Her leadership and experience at the Historical Society will serve us well as we continue to grow the Foundation to meet



Resler

the future.” said Foundation President, David Einhaus in a press release.

Resler has served as the Director of the Steele County Historical Society for almost 13 years.

Kaye Fransen, Board President, stated in the press release “Laura has done a wonderful job for us for many years and we’ve

appreciated her leadership as the Historical Society has grown from being a pioneer village into a local resource for education and programming with the addition of the History Center in 2012,” Fransen said.

“I want to personally thank her for all she has done on behalf of SCHS and I’ve truly enjoyed working with her. We are sorry to see her leave and wish her well as she continues to work for our community through the Owatonna Foundation. Thanks to Laura’s offer of assistance, we anticipate a smooth transition as we search for a new director. The SCHS Board has already begun the process of finding Laura’s replacement.”

Resler said it was not an easy

decision to leave the historical society.

“It has been my privilege to work with very dedicated volunteers, an amazing staff, and a committed board of directors for many years. For me personally, it was, up until now, the experience of a lifetime, but I’m at a place where I wanted to slow down some and the position at the Foundation offered me that,” she said in a press release.

“If you look at our community and the projects that the Foundation has supported, almost everyone in Owatonna has been touched in some way. I will be honored to help them continue their mission of “preserving the past, building the present and funding the future.”

STEELE TALKIN'
Continued on Page 4C

HometownLiving

Community Calendar



File photo

The annual Blooming Prairie Boys & Girls Club Ribfest is slated for June 27. It will be held in the local Servicemen's Club and will include other fine foods such as steaks and hamburgers.

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SUMMER EVENTS	JULY 4TH BAR & OFF-SALE WILL BE OPEN
BEAN BAGS: MAY 21 - AUG 13. THUR. @ 7 P.M.	RIDE FOR A CAUSE
STREET DANCE JULY 3RD 8 P.M. - MIDNIGHT THE BLUE RINGERS: 8 P.M. \$5 COVERCHARGE. 21 AND OVER ONLY	JUNE 27 CRUISE FOR CANCER JULY 25 B.O.B. RIDE "TOYS FOR TOTS" (RIDE DETAILS AVAILABLE AT THE BAR) BAR BINGO: MONDAY @ 6:30 P.M. MEAT RAFFLES: FRIDAY @ 5:30 P.M.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

June 9:
BP Card Club & Luncheon
7 p.m. BP VFW
7 p.m. BP VFW Auxiliary
7 p.m. Knights of Columbus, Mtg & Elections (Burgers), BPSC
7:30 p.m. BP Prairie Lodge Masons
June 10:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time
4:30 p.m. BP EDA Mtg
June 11:
4:30 p.m. BP Police Commission Mtg
7 p.m. BP AAUW, HS GYM
June 15:
7 p.m. BP City Council Mtg
June 16:
2:30 p.m. BPPU Mtg
4:30 p.m. BP Fire Comm
4:45 p.m. Boys N Girls Club Brd
5:30 p.m. BP Ambulance Comm Mtg
June 17:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time
12 p.m. BP Chamber of Commerce

Servicemen's Club
210 Fourth St. N.E. • Blooming Prairie • 507-583-7884

- Raffle drawing first Saturday of every month
- Happy Hour 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday
- Taco Tuesdays every Tuesday at 5 p.m.

"BURGER NIGHT" SPECIALS	LUNCH SPECIAL (6/11 & 6/12):
#1 - HAM, BAKED POTATO, & VEGETABLE #2 - TATER TOT HOT DISH & BREAD	BRATS, COLE SLAW, & CHIPS

ELLENDALE/GENEVA

June 9:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl
June 11:
5:30 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm
7:30 p.m. Ellendale City Council Mtg (2nd & 4th Thurs), Training/Mtg Rm
June 15:
6:20 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellndl
June 16:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

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IN BRIEF

Volleyball tourney rescheduled

The Blooming Prairie Volleyball Tournament, slated for June 13, has been rescheduled to a later date. Open volleyball will still be held on June 13 for anyone interested.

OWATONNA

June 9:
Steele Co Commission
1 p.m. Steele Co SDA Mtg
7 p.m. Steele Co: Co Brd Mtg, Admin Center, BR
7 p.m. Veterans Open Roundtable, WWII Liberating Buchenwald, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Owa
June 11:
10 a.m. Red Cross Blood Drive, Gopher Sport, Owa
2 p.m. OPL Indie & World Films
5:30 p.m. Owatonna Airport Commission, Airport Lounge
7 p.m. OPL Indie & World Films
June 12:
6 p.m. Owa Cheers Pablo Paint & Sip Event, Brooktree Club House
June 15:
10 a.m. Red Cross Blood Drive, Family Video, Owa
12 p.m. Owatonna Noon Rotary Club, Country Club
June 16:
9:30 a.m. OPL Tale Time! 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.
10 a.m. OPL So Many Books...So Little Time Book Club
4:30 p.m. OPL Brd, Gainey Rm
7 p.m. Owatonna City Council, Council Chambers,

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MEDFORD

June 10:
4 p.m. Medford Veterans Committee Mtg
June 11:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
June 12:
1 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive, Trinity Lutheran, Medford
June 15:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
June 17:
6 p.m. Medford EDA (odd months only)

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IN BRIEF

Painting for a Cure

The Blooming Prairie Cancer Group is sponsoring Painting for a Cure from 6-9 p.m., June 10 at the Pizza Cellar. All proceeds go to the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group.
The cost of \$45 per person includes door prizes, free appetizers and desserts.
Clicks and Canvas will provide step-by-step instructions to create a 16x20 piece of art.

Stix of Fury fundraiser

The Galactic Cowboy Orchestra will perform from 8-10 p.m., June 20 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club.
This is a fundraiser for the Stix of Fury Drumline and Color Guard. Any donations are tax deductible.

SPOT LIGHT

Rivers Springs Ducky Dash

The first River Springs Ducky Dash will be held at 2 p.m., June 15, at the River Springs Water Park in Owatonna. A June 28 rain date has been scheduled in case of inclement weather.
The race will assist the Owatonna Parks & Recreation youth School Fund. The scholarship program enables Owatonna youth to participate in programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department.
Community members will receive a rubber duck with admission purchase at the River Springs Water Park on June 14. Each duck will have a number on the bottom that correlates to the buyer.
The rubber ducks will be launched down the water slide at River Springs Water Park. Once they have plunged into the water they will continue and finish the race around the lazy river.

OTHER COUNTIES

Mower
June 9:
4 p.m. 74th Annual Strawberry Festival, Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church
June 10:
Annual Hormel Foundation Gifted and Talented Symposium, Riverland Community College
Drop-In Summer Reading Program, Grand Meadow Public Library
ArtWorks Center Gallery Show: Joan Finnegan and Lora Lee Bauer
Lyle City Council Meeting
11:30 a.m. SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, Lyle
1 p.m. Good Samaritan Society Home Care Presentation, Mower County Senior Center
5 p.m. Grand Meadow Farmers Market
6:30 p.m. Songwriting Workshop with Wayne Hamilton, Austin Public Library
7 p.m. Austin Community Band Concert, Bandshell Community Park, Austin
June 11:
Drop-In Summer Reading Program, Grand Meadow Public Library
ArtWorks Center Gallery Show: Joan Finnegan and Lora Lee Bauer
8:30 a.m. 4th Annual Mower ReFreshed TAKE 5 Event, Austin ArtWorks Center
9:30 a.m. Doug Elliott Senior Special Program: Stories, Songs, and Tales on the Trail, Jay C. Hormel Nature Center
10:30 a.m. 2015 Summer Reading Club: All Ages Storytime, Austin Public Library
1 p.m. Doug Elliott: Wild Tales - Strange but True Adventures in the NaturalWorld, Jay C. Hormel Nature Center
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
4 p.m. Austin Farmers Market
6 p.m. Brownsdale PL Puzzle Night (subject to change)
7 p.m. Doug Elliot - Woodslore & Wildwoods Wisdom: Stories, Songs, and Lore Celebrating the Natural World, Jay C. Hormel Nature Center
June 12:
Drop-In Summer Reading Program, Grand Meadow Public Library
ArtWorks Center Gallery Show: Joan Finnegan and Lora Lee Bauer
Dairy Days, Adams
9 a.m. 20 Miles of Garage Sales, LeRoy, Adams, Rose Creek and everywhere in between
10 a.m. Cookies With Clifford & Story Time!, Grand Meadow Public Library
11:30 a.m. SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, Lyle
2 p.m. 2015 Summer Reading Club: Family Movie Matinee, Austin Public Library
6:30 p.m. Chateau Raceway: Points Night
7:30 p.m. Music @ the Bank: Four to A Trio, Austin ArtWorks Center
June 13:
Drop-In Summer Reading Program, Grand Meadow Public Library
ArtWorks Center Gallery Show: Joan Finnegan and Lora Lee Bauer
Dairy Days, Adams
Make Your Own Rustic Twig Furniture Piece A400 - 3 Outside of District Locations / Kelly Farm - Red Wing
9 a.m. 20 Miles of Garage Sales, LeRoy, Adams, Rose Creek and everywhere in between
9 a.m. Austin Farmers Market
10 a.m. 3D Archery Shoots, Cedar River Archery Club, Austin
7:30 p.m. Trace Bundy, Historic Paramount Theatre
9 p.m. Sola Fide Viewing, Austin
June 14:
ArtWorks Center Gallery Show: Joan Finnegan and Lora Lee Bauer
Dairy Days, Adams
Tour of Minnesota Bike Ride, Todd Park, Austin
12 p.m. 3D Archery Shoot, Cedar River Archery Club, Austin
1 p.m. Grand Meadow Open Gym, Wrestling Room, Weight Room
1:30 p.m. Fireworks Fundraiser, Eagles Club, Austin
7 p.m. 9 to 5 The Musical, Riverland College Austin Campus

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Blooming PrairieLiving

Boys & Girls Club open

Column by LEMAR NELSON

For that child who will soon be looking for something to do in the summer, a simple solution can be found by enrolling in the summer program at the local Boys & Girls Club.

The cost is minimal, and the benefits will last a lifetime, plus everyone can feel safe while learning skills and participating in many different activities. A competent staff and volunteers put valuable teaching time into the activities on a regular basis.

All of the scheduled programs are too numerous to mention in this article, but major areas of activity includes Circles, Wind, Movement, Water, Pieces and Blast Off. The club is open from 7:20 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Breakfast is served from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The activity programs are offered from 1:30 to 3:15 p.m., with a snack at 3:15 p.m. Members have a choice of activities from 4:45 p.m. to closing time.

Just a few of the programs that will be available include: science from age 6 on up, technology at all levels, art, engineering, graphic arts, culture

club, computer fun and garden club. Outdoor and indoor games and recreational activities, such as book club, flag football, library and park/pool play fill the day for all attending.

Prospective members can visit the club and see Unit Director Mary Sherman-Ahrens to complete a registration form as soon as possible. Registration fee is \$25, and the camp fees are \$25 per week. Memberships include breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack and all field trips. The only time the club will close is July 3.

The Blooming Prairie Boys & Girls Club is building a solid reputation in the community and surrounding area for its programming and the opportunity it gives kids to learn various skills and have a fun time doing it through the long summer months.

When the inevitable question, “What is there to do?” arises, as it certainly does in most households, the local club can be the answer. It offers the most economical day care and activity schedule around, and local support is essential to its success. Stop in to enroll or just to take a little tour of the facility. Most people are pleasantly surprised when they do.



Staff photos by Alan Van Ormer

Ribs aplenty at Servicemen’s Club

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Organizations often tout annual events as bigger and better each time, and in the case of the 5th annual Ribfest, sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Boys & Girls Club, that assertion rings true.

The annual event on Saturday, June 27, at the local Servicemen’s Club, promises more cookers, more ribs, steak cook-off, a full meal dinner and a larger silent auction than in previous years.

In addition to the principal oc-

casion of judging the best ribs and steaks cooked, a Kids’ burger competition will be part of the event and raffle tickets good for two half hogs or \$250 cash will be sold on the grounds.

Entry fee for the burger competition is \$10, with meat, grill, and charcoal provided. Trophies will be awarded for best ribs, sauce, steak and burgers for first, second and third places at 5:30 p.m. Judging will begin at 2 p.m., and dinner begins at 3 p.m. The raffle drawing takes place at 5:30 p.m. and the winner need not be present to win.

At least 25-30 items will

be available on the silent auction, with some unusual items up for bids, and will take place throughout the afternoon. Cost for the dinner, which will include ribs, coleslaw, potato salad and Lansing Corners beans is \$15, with drinks available from the Servicemen’s Club. Raffle tickets are \$5 each.

The ribfest is one of just two major fund-raising events sponsored by the local Boys & Girls Club, and the proceeds go towards summer programs and other expenses at the organization.



Disc golf in Blooming Prairie

Tony Patino eyes the construction of a disc golf setting as Tony Motl and David Johnson place the disc golf hole. A 9-hole golf course at Victory Field in Blooming Prairie is open.

According to Patino, who came up with the idea, he hopes to have a tournament either the day before the Fourth of July celebration or during the Fourth of July festivities.

LEFT: Johnson tightens screws to hold the pole for the disc golf basket.



Staff photo by Alan Van Ormer

Joe Haberman of Joe’s Repair plans on growing his hair out if the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group can raise \$3,500 by July 1. He will then cut it during the cancer auction in September.

New idea for a good cause

By ALAN VAN ORMER
Managing Editor

The Blooming Prairie Cancer Group is trying a new fundraiser this year heading into the annual auction in September. Actually, Joe Haberman of Joe’s Repair is the person who is assisting in raising the money.

If the cancer group can raise \$3,500 by July 1, Haberman will grow his hair out and then have it cut during the auction.

Haberman said he is doing it to help raise money for the cancer group. He plans on growing it from July through September.

According to Cheri Krejci, a member of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group, it was actually Tony and Collette Lea, along with Haberman who came up with the idea.

“They were looking in old an-

nuals and Joe had a giant Afro,” Krejci said. “They were talking about it, and Joe consented to grow his hair out if we could raise \$3,500 between now and July 1.”

Krejci said Haberman is being a good sport about it all because he owns and runs a repair shop that has no air conditioning. “It won’t be real comfortable,” she said.

Currently, \$300 has been raised. There are jars at the Dairy Queen and Cue Company. In addition, other jars are being set up at B to Z Hardware and J&H Liquors. Also, cancer group members’ will be contacting people and sending out emails.

“It might seem like a lot trying to raise \$3,500,” Krejci said. “It would be a fun thing to do and also get the community involved. It is really cool seeing

people in our community come up with new and fun ideas.”

The cancer group is always looking for new and innovative ideas. There have been ideas close to this one in the past.

For example, one year the Rev. Charlie Leonard and the Rev. Heidi Heimgartner from First Lutheran Church dyed their hair. Leonard’s was purple and Heimgartner’s was pink.

“That was really fun,” Krejci said.

Even earlier than that, in one of the first years of the cancer auction, one man with a pony tail raised \$10,000 to have his pony tail cut and gave it to the cancer group.

“He went business-to-business, door-to-door to cut that pony tail off,” Krejci said. “These are not the same, but it is still kind of about the hair.”

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

Hot summer temps mean cool treats from Blooming Prairie Dairy Queen

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Correspondent

Hot summer temperatures typically signal an appetite for cool treats and that’s what will make the Blooming Prairie Dairy Queen a busier place.

The local Dairy Queen owned by Nick and Amanda Schiefert is a popular landing spot any day of the year as it operates as a full service restaurant.

Schiefert purchased the local Dairy Queen franchise in 1998. He brought previous Dairy Queen experience logged in Canon Falls, Blooming Prairie and Owatonna. The Dairy Queen restaurant officially opened in BP in 1986 when it transitioned from a Tastee Freeze.

The BP Dairy Queen is a family operation with kids Lindsey, Leah and Joe also working there. “Joe actually watches TV at the store most of the time but he does help out,” Nick says.

At the end of 2014 Dairy Queen had more than 6,400 stores in 27 countries, including more than 1,400 locations outside the United States and Canada.

According to Wikipedia, The largest Dairy Queen in the United States is located in Bloomington, Illinois. The busiest store in the US is in Rosedale, Maryland. The largest store in the world was built in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The busiest store in the world is located in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada.

Schiefert said his restaurant sells more food than ice cream. Customers come “from all over,” Schiefert said. “We see lots of familiar faces and many no-so-familiar ones too,” he added.

The Blooming Prairie DQ is bustling with business at the walk-in counter and at drive-up. The store is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week during the summer.

In March Dairy Queen celebrated its 75th anniversary by offering a free ice cream cone to every customer. “We gave away 735 vanilla cones,” Schiefert said.

“We also have the best Blizzard menu ever and are featuring a Jurassic Park spin to our fla-



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

These happy faces greet you at the Blooming Prairie Dairy Queen located at 317 Highway Ave. S. in Blooming Prairie. Shown during a break from a busy day are Nancy Hansen, DQ owner Nick Schiefert and Mary Wencil. The Blooming Prairie DQ officially opened in 1986. Schiefert took over the store in March of 1998.

vors,” Schiefert said. What is the most popular blizzard? It’s cookie dough, Schiefert said. The blizzard treat was introduced in 1985 and that year, DQ sold 100 million blizzards.

“People come in with their own ideas for blizzards and we try to accommodate,” Schiefert said.

The local DQ on July 30 will participate in Miracle Treat Day for the fourth straight year. Schiefert said \$2 out of every Blizzard sold would be donated to Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals.

Schiefert, who grew up in the Rochester area, has been very active in the Blooming Prairie community since he has been a business owner. The local Dairy Queen is a member of the BP Chamber of Commerce. Schiefert has been a member of the local 4th of July celebration planning committee for the past 17 years. Schiefert has also been a member of the Blooming Prairie Fire Department for 20 years. He retired on Monday of this week.

Blossom graduates received honors

Allard, Savanah Marie and Naatz, Kelli Josephine, both of Blooming Prairie and studying at SAGBS (College of Agriculture & Biological Sciences) have been named to the dean’s

list for academic excellence during the spring 2015 semester at South Dakota State University. To earn dean’s list distinctions in SDSU’s colleges, students must have completed a minimum of

12 credits and must have earned at least a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Students with an asterisk received a perfect 4.0 GPA.

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Ellendale-GenevaLiving

‘Under construction’ for NRHEG high school students



Staff photo by Alan Van Ormer
NRHEG senior Trey Hoppe (front) and junior Spencer Enger (back) put the finishing touches on a climbing wall at the Ellendale Elementary School.

By **ALAN VAN ORMER**
Managing Editor

This summer a group of high school students from New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva will be doing some construction work around the four communities that make up the school district.

“We’ve learned a lot of teamwork,” said Trey Hoppe, who will be a senior in the fall.

Spencer Enger, who will be a junior in September, said he became involved because he wanted to learn more about construction. “I plan on going for construction at Riverland (Community College,)” he said.

The construction summer school program is entering its second year. The students receive 1 credit for 80 hours of work.

Instructor Brad Root said the students are getting free training and will be more productive when they graduate and are looking for a job. “Our shop classes went from two per semester and now are at five or six this year,” he said. “They get it.

They know it is important and beneficial to them.”

Several projects have been completed and others are underway over the summer.

Last week, eight students completed hanging a climbing wall in the Ellendale Gym. The individual 4-foot panels were transported from New Richland and now span 72-feet long.

“We had to dig them out and put them up,” Enger said. “It was a small section of wall and we have added on to it.”

It took the students more than two hours to complete the project. All agreed it was hard work. Students were either drilling screws into the wall or holding up a wall. “You wanted to be drilling,” Enger said, adding that this assignment helped him master his drilling skills, as well as get some exercise because of the excess sweat when working with the walls.

Later this summer the crew will work to construct a new floor for a 4-car garage and move it from the south side of Ellendale Elementary School to the football field for stor-



Staff photo by Alan Van Ormer
Members of the NRHEG construction class stand in front of their finished climbing wall project at the Ellendale Elementary School. Front row: Luis Gaona, Kyle Holz, Bryce Okland and Nathan O’Brien. Back row: Jacob Holz, Trey Hoppe, Spencer Enger and Jason Malakowsky.

age. They will also be working on a hotel in downtown New Richland converting it to a historical society and food shelf.

In addition, they will be restoring the deck and building for the New Richland city-

owned golf course. There will also be some sidewalks being torn out in the front of the Ellendale school, as well as a couple of city blocks in Hartland.

Hoppe, who plans on going into the boiler operations field,

said it is hands on work and hard work; the kind of work he wants to do. “I’ve learned it takes a lot of teamwork,” he said. “If there was only one person holding (the walls) and drilling (and placing the screws), no way it

would work.”

He added that they also have to think more in-depth and get into more detail with every step. “We want to make it look good and as perfect as we can,” he said.

Construction in Ellendale



Staff photos by Howard Lestrud
Casey’s General Store will have a new store open shortly in Ellendale. Construction continues at a rapid pace.

STEELE TALKIN’

Continued from Page 1C

risk for many diseases. If you are sexually active, talk with your Primary Care Provider to see if you should be tested for sexually transmitted Infections such as gonorrhea, syphilis, chlamydia, etc.

If you use tobacco (smoking cigarettes, cigars or pipe, chewing), consider quitting. Your Primary Care Provider can connect you to products and services that can help you quit.

If you are 45 through 79, talk with your Primary Care Provider to see if you would benefit from Aspirin therapy. He or she will determine how much Aspirin you should take; do not start taking Aspirin on your own.

Just as screenings are so critical to your health, so is taking your medication exactly how it is prescribed. Talk with your Primary Care Provider before taking any over the counter medication (OTC) such as Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen or supplements (vitamins, herbs, etc.). Remember, just because its “natural” doesn’t mean its safe. Write down all the names of the prescribed medications, supplements and OTC drugs you take, the dose and the time(s) you take them. Keep this in your wallet and show it at every medical appointment you have, including the dentist, podiatrist, etc. Keep it up to date.

Now that you are up to speed, why not set up an appointment with your Primary Care Provider?

Steele Talkin’ is a column featuring various organizations around Steele County. Melissa Kofstad, RN, PHN, works in adult health for Steele Count Public Health Nursing.



Construction season is in high gear in the city of Ellendale as workers reconstruct 4th Street as it intersects with 5th Ave. The street being reconstructed passes by First Lutheran Church.

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MedfordLiving



Eighth grader takes Mr. Medford title

By SHANNON KINLEY
County Staff Writer

Guys at Medford School showed off their talents, looks and speaking skills during the annual Mr. Medford Pageant last Tuesday, May 26 in honor of Student Appreciation Day.

This year marked the third year of the competition and it is organized by the student council.

Senior Lucas Cronin, one of the main organizers of the event, says the winner of the competition “earns major bragging rights.”

Any boy in grades seven through 12 is eligible to participate. The nine participants included: Miguel Ruiz, Lucas Cronin, Quinn O’Connor, Ben Sutcliffe, TJ Knutson, Josh Schauer, Brandon Sisler and Colton Havelka.

The judges for the event were teachers Rich Powers, as Sgt. Harry Buttkick, Kim Goblirsch as Gladice Prune Juice and Rebecca Mohr as Tiffany Love Pink. The contestants were judged in the categories of talent, spirit and formal wear, lip sync battle and questions.

Ruiz kicked off the talent round with his “macho man dance”. Cronin cleverly popped balloons in his balloon bonanza, O’Connor did magic tricks, Sutcliffe did a ballet routine, Knutson did magic tricks, Schauer played the triangle with his band “The Mighty Oaks”, Sisler performed stand up comedy and Havelka did a glow in the dark dance with glow sticks.

After round one, the judges eliminated Knutson and Schauer. Round two then pursued with the guys showing off both their formal and spirit wear. Judges decided to eliminate both Ruiz and Sutcliffe from the competition.

Round three then kicked off and the contestants showed off their lip syncing abilities. O’Connor performed the song “Cups” from the movie “Pitch Perfect”, Havelka performed “Problem” by Arianna Grande, Sisler performed “Everything is Awesome” from “The LEGO Movie” and Cronin impressed the ladies in the audience by performing “Thinking Out Loud” by Ed Sheeran.

After round three, Cronin was eliminated with O’Connor, Sisler and Havelka moving on to the fourth and final round. Each contestant was answered a series of three questions ranging from what was your favorite video game growing up? How do you promote excellence at Medford High School? What is one thing you need to know about your future wife before you propose? And what decade do you wish you grew up in?

After the final round instead of the judges getting the final say in who takes the Mr. Medford title, the audience determined who won based on how loud they cheered for each contestant. It was deemed that Sisler would win the title, Havelka took second and O’Connor took third.

Eighth grader Brandon Sisler participated in the event for the first time this year.

“There was a sign on the door so I just

signed up,” he said. “I liked all of it, I thought it went pretty good and was fun.”

In order to prepare for the event, Sisler borrowed a bow tie from a friend and chose a song for the lip sync battle.

Sisler’s favorite category was the talent portion because he got to make jokes and his least favorite category was formal and spirit wear as he would’ve liked to be more dressed up.

The most challenging category for him was the lip-syncing battle because he had to not only lip sync but find multiple dance moves.

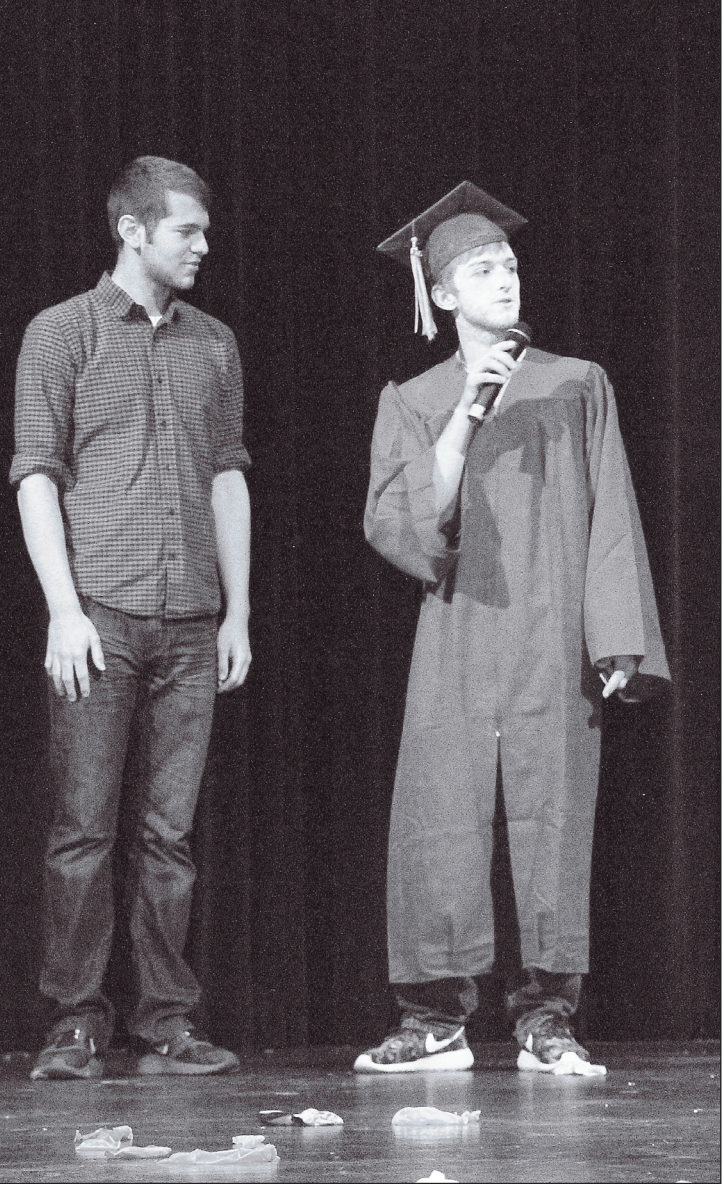
Sisler is excited to hold the Mr. Medford title and says it means that he is now “a figure of the school” and plans to judge for next year’s event.

Runner up freshman Colton Havelka participated in the event last year and decided to give it another try this year.

“I thought I could win it and everybody kept telling me to do it,” he said.

Havelka waited until the day before the pageant to do any preparatory work. His favorite category was the talent portion because he not only got to dance with glow sticks, but also because the crowd was cheering him on. His least favorite category was the questions because he says he “is not the best at answering questions.”

Havelka was shocked that he got second place, but happy with the results. He said the judges made good decisions and he plans to do the competition again next year.



Staff photos
by Shannon Kinley

ABOVE LEFT: Eighth-grader Brandon Sisler does some stand up comedy for the talent portion of the Mr. Medford pageant. Sisler won the Mr. Medford title followed by runner up Colton Havelka.

FAR LEFT: Announcer Matthew Swanson hovers over the two finalists Colton Havelka (left) and Brandon Sisler to determine who takes the Mr. Medford title. Sisler won the title after the audience cheered louder for him than Havelka.

LEFT: Junior Matthew Swanson asks senior Quinn O’ Connor about his outfit for the spirit wear portion of the Mr. Medford Pageant. O’Connor came in third place overall.

Weekly crossword on Page 5D

PUZZLE SOLUTION		A	R	R	O	Y	O		S	H	I	N	T	O	
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Medford High School centennial year and All-School Reunion

Medford’s Class of 2015 consisted of 58 graduates – the first Class in 1915 included four members. In recognition of this centennial year, an All-School Reunion is planned to coincide with Medford Straight River Days, June 18-21. Complete details of all events and registration forms are available on the website: www.straightriverdays.com

The All-School Reunion committee is looking for past graduates! Anyone can go to the District website: www.medford.k12.mn.us to register as an alumnus of the district and print off the All-School registration and commemorative t-shirt form.

The Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2-5 p.m., at the school. Events include His-

torical League Display in the Community Room. (Open prior to Miss Medford Pageant Thursday, June 18.) Display tables for various groups: Veteran’s Committee, Medford District Foundation and Medford Area Recreational Committee. Designated classrooms for alumni gatherings will be posted. Students, faculty and staff will conduct tours throughout the building.

At 3 p.m., 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. in the school auditorium, local historian, John Gross, will be sharing pictorial history of 100 years of Medford Education. From 4-7 p.m., there will be a picnic dinner in the Commons area.

Alumni are encouraged to register in advance; and enjoy all Straight River Days’ activities.

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OwatonnaLiving

Power of the Purse helps put books in children’s hands

By SHANNON KINLEY
County Staff Writer

Come June 16 the Owatonna Country Club will be packed with women and purses. The second annual Power of the Purse fundraiser raises funds for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

The event, which is put on by the United Way Women’s Leadership Council, will feature both a silent and live auction along with appetizers, cocktails, desserts and a wall of wine.

“It is a very worthy cause, but it is also very fun. We had a great time last year together, and I bet we are going to have a lot of fun this year,” said United Way Director of Strategic Operations Tanya Paley. “It is a special energy that is in the room with that many women who are all there committed to making a difference.”

Last year the event raised \$14,000, \$4,000 more than the set goal, and 100 women attended. This year the Women’s Leadership Council hopes to raise \$15,000 and have even more women attend the event.

The Imagination Library is designed for children from birth to the age of five. Each month the child is enrolled in the program they get an age-appropriate book mailed to their house at no cost to the family.

Since the program’s launch the library has gone from a few dozen books to over 60,000,000

Power of the Purse

What: Silent & live auctions
Where: Owatonna Country Club
When: Tuesday, June 16 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Cost: \$50

books that are mailed out to children in the United States, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom. . Currently there are over 1,600 communities that provide the Imagination Library to over 750,000 children each month.

“We as a community are committed to having our children arrive ready to succeed at school and this is a program that has demonstrated throughout the country to have made a difference in terms of kids arriving at kindergarten ready to read,” Paley said. “We know that there are still a lot of factors that contribute to a child’s success, but we know that putting books in the hands of kids and making it easy for their parents to read to them makes a difference.”

Steele County currently has just over 900 children actively participating in the program. Whereas last year the event

was needed to get the program up and running, this year’s proceeds will go toward the program’s upkeep costs, in this case shipping. Paley says currently it costs around \$25 to ship 12 books.

“We recognize how important it is for the success of young people to be able to read. There have been a lot of studies looking at what serves children best as far as being able to grow and develop their reading skills so they can be successful,” said Women’s Leadership Council member Karen Duncan. “We are confident that this program is the best way that we can really make an impact at their success in school.”

As of June 5, there were around 60 purses to be auctioned off during the silent auction, although both Paley and Duncan estimate that number will go up as the event gets closer.

The silent auction will feature purses of all kind including high-end designer purses and some purses will be stuffed with donations from local merchants.

The live auction will feature items such as an airplane ride, a weekend at a condo up north, a gourmet dinner for six, a week at Camp Pillsbury, Twins and Timberwolves tickets, and a pool membership for the Owatonna Country Club.

At the event there will also be a wall of wine in which people can purchase a cork with a number on it. Along with receiving



File photo
This year’s Power of the Purse silent and live auction is slated for 6-8:30 p.m. on June 16, at the Owatonna Country Club.

that bottle of wine they will be eligible to win other bottles of wine.

“It is a terrifically fun time to get together just to catch up with people you don’t see and see the wild purses in the silent auction,” Duncan said. “It is a wonderfully creative event. It

is always fun to go out into the community and see what kind of energy and passion there is for different programs that help people be successful in our community.”

The event will be held Tuesday, June 16 at the Owatonna Country Club from 6 to 8:30

p.m. Tickets are strongly encouraged to be purchased in advance from the United Way Office, Kottke Jewelers and Kristi’s Boutique in Owatonna. Tickets cost \$50 and include admission, appetizers, dessert and a cocktail.

Road construction update across Steele County

I-35 Owatonna
Mathiowetz Construction continues to prepare the new northbound road base now that all of the old concrete roadway has been removed. A subcontractor is continuing the demolition of the old bridge abutments near old Highway 14 (CR 2/ Hoffman Dr.) and has started to drive pile for the new bridge’s center pier foundation. Rainy conditions have slowed some of the construction work.

Currently, motorists will see single-lane, head-to-head traffic on I-35 in Owatonna as well as offramp and onramp closures for northbound traffic, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Northbound traffic is crossed over into the southbound lanes of I-35 south of Bridge Street. Northbound traffic will continue in a single lane, while southbound uses the other lane. Northbound traffic will cross back over to two lanes north of Steele County Road 2. This will continue into fall 2015.

Reconstruction of the northbound lanes has begun. Watch for detour signs for northbound traffic seeking to exit I-35 through Owatonna. Delays are expected during busy traffic times on Fridays and Sundays.

The two-year, \$19.1 million project began in 2014 to replace the concrete I-35 roadways through Owatonna, as well as replace bridges and include additional safety features on the corridor such as auxiliary lanes. Mathiowetz Construction expects to complete it in fall 2015.

For more information about the project, please review MnDOT’s project page at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/i35bridge-pavement-replacement/index.html> or the project’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/I35Owatonna.

Highway 14
Four-lane expansion east of Owatonna near Highway 218 continues. The contractor, Mathiowetz Construction Company, Inc. of Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, is beginning to installation of large box culverts.

Traffic remains head to head in the construction zone, but it has shifted from the old eastbound lanes to the new westbound lanes, which were reconstructed in 2014. Additionally, the eastbound onramp to Highway 14 from Highway 218 is closed.

STREET TALK

Mike Dougherty

Mathiowetz is constructing new concrete pavement at the intersection of Highway 14 and County Road 43 for the new westbound travel lanes.

The highway will be expanded from two lanes to four lanes and is part of the Corridors of Commerce state program for highway construction in Minnesota. The \$12 million project is expected to be completed in September of 2015.

For more information, go to MnDOT’s project page at www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/hwy14-218-to-cr-180/index.html.

Old Highway 14 in Owatonna
Old TH 14 / CR 2 / Hoffman Drive in Owatonna has single lane traffic in both directions for the concrete pavement repair of the inside driving lanes from I-35 to the west city limits of Owatonna.

Mathiowetz has been working on constructing new embankment areas and grading in preparation for new concrete sidewalk on the south side of the new large ditch section in front of Bosch along the Hoffman Drive section of the project from I-35 to the east all the way over to State Avenue. They also are working on constructing new embankment areas and grading in preparation for new concrete sidewalk on the north side of the road, west of I-35, next to the frontage road. Replacement and reconstruction of storm sewer catch basins and adjustment of city sanitary sewer manholes all along the entire construction corridor continue as well as the replacement of outdated casting assemblies.

The work in Owatonna is being done by Mathiowetz on Steele County Road 2 (Hoffman Drive) from the beginning of the west Owatonna city limits to the intersection of Steele County Road 45 and State Avenue.

Construction on the \$3.2 million project is will involve pave-

ment replacement and concrete pavement repairs as well as improvements for pedestrians.

Additionally, Old Highway 14 is closed and detoured beginning at the Owatonna city limits, which are about 1.5 miles west of I-35. The closure will last into October for the concrete overlay work. Call 507-304-6106 for additional information. This project is being completed by the MnDOT district based in Mankato.

I-35 in Steele, Freeborn counties
Traffic is expected to be crossed over by Tuesday, June 9 as construction crews prepare to complete an unbonded concrete overlay project on I-35 from Highway 30 at Ellendale to Interstate 90 north of Albert Lea.

The southbound lanes are being repaved, so traffic will be switched to head-to-head in the northbound lanes between Ellendale and Albert Lea. The project also includes southbound ramp closures and detours. Watch for detour signs. Delays are expected during busy traffic times on Fridays and Sundays. The project is scheduled to be completed by mid-September.

The \$16.9 million project is being led by prime contractor Shafer Contracting Co, Inc.

Highway 14 in Steele,

Dodge counties
A repaving project on Highway 14 on 13 miles between Dodge Center and Owatonna is set to begin July 6 and be completed in September.

The \$4.1 million project will include highway resurfacing, grading and lighting. The project begins near Highway 56 north and runs west to the current Highway 14 expansion project. It also includes two miles between Highway 218 and I-35.

Traffic delays are expected with lane closures with flaggers and a 15-day ramp detours for Steele County Road 45.

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This production will have gun shot sounds during the show.
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Online tickets go on sale Saturday, June 13 on our website:
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Mike Dougherty is a public affairs coordinator for the Minnesota Department of Transportation

GRIEF RELIEF

Many people aren’t quite sure what to say when they visit a funeral home. The fact is nothing can be said to adequately express our lost or make the bereaved family member to feel better. Words are not important. But it is appreciated that you care enough to express your sympathy. When a friend loses a loved one convey your feelings at the funeral home with a hug or a word. And offer your assistance. You’ll be appreciated for caring.

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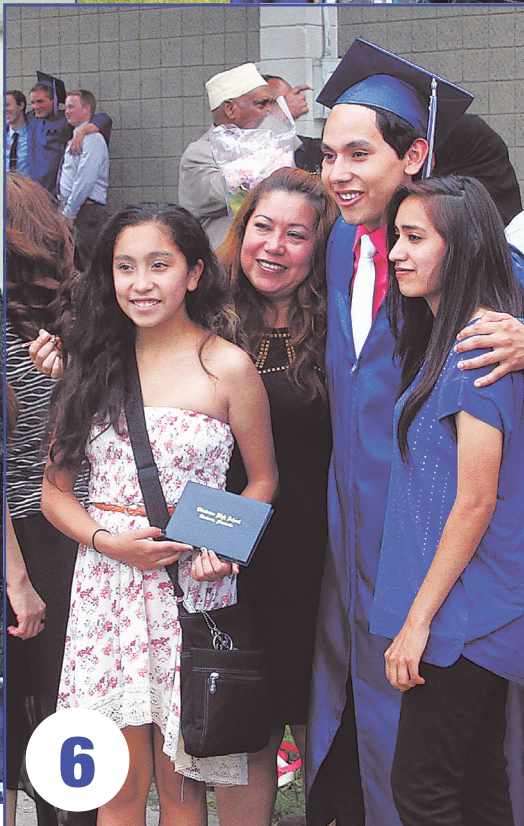
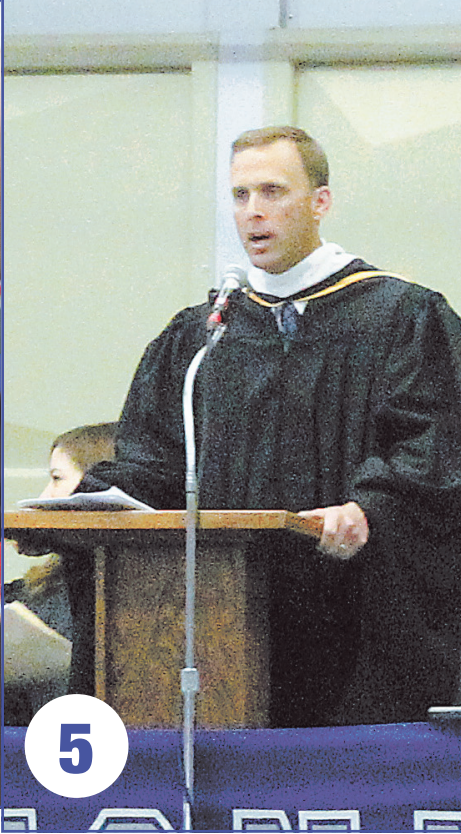
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Congratulations Seniors

Photos by James Knoop



1. A group of 2015 graduates fling their hats into the air in celebration.
2. A graduate waves to those cheering him on during the processional.
3. Families and friends of the graduates took “selfies” on their cellphones to remember the special day.
4. The parking lot of Four Seasons Centre in Owatonna was packed with parents looking for their graduates and embracing when they found them.
5. Owatonna High School Principal Mark Randall welcomed family and friends to the 2015 graduation ceremony.
6. Hosts of families took family photos with their graduates after Sunday’s graduation ceremony.
7. Hamza Ali addressed the senior class during the graduation ceremony on Sunday.
8. Graduates showed off their high school diplomas to friends and family after the graduation ceremony.

STEELE COUNTY TIMES PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

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Legal Notices

Foreclosure

14-098208
NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: September 29, 2006
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$142,640.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Curtis J. Van Otterloo, a married person
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 1000389-0001005736-7
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Voyager Bank
SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed October 2, 2006, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000344700
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage, LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 6, Block 1, Cedar Cove Townhomes 4th Addition
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 188 Cedar Cove Ln NW, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-561-0106
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$137,070.83
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 30, 2015, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on December 30, 2015, or the next business day if December 30, 2015 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: May 5, 2015
Nationstar Mortgage LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP
BY

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee

12550 West Frontage Road, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

5/12, 5/19, 5/26
6/2, 6/9, 6/16

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE:

January 9, 2009
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$81,632.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Kevin R. Hanenberger, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Homeservices Lending, LLC series a dba Edina Realty Mortgage, a Delaware limited liability company
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on January 22, 2009 as Document Number A000361644 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on January 22, 2009 as Document Number A000361645 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North 1/2 of Lot 5, Block 1, Village of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 317 2ND AVE NE, BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN 55917
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$81,423.66
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR (LENDER): Homeservices Lending, LLC series a dba Edina Realty Mortgage, a Delaware limited liability company
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-100-0103
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE ID NUMBER (MERS NUMBER): None
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 23, 2015 at 10:00 am
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on December 23, 2015.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None
"THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE A B A N D O N E D . "

Dated: April 29, 2015
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
MORTGAGEE
SCHILLER & ADAM, P.A.

By: /s/
Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
Sarah J.B. Adam, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760

Dated: May 5, 2015
(15-0716-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

5/5, 5/12, 5/19
5/26, 6/2, 6/9

Foreclosure

15-099899

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 1, 2005
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$87,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Jacinta Hernandez, a/k/a Jacinta R. Hernandez, a single woman
MORTGAGEE: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed April 6, 2005, Steele County Recorder,

as Document Number A000330944
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 3, Block 12, Original Townsite, Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 225 Main St E, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-100-1203
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$75,214.51
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 30, 2015, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on December 30, 2015, or the next business day if December 30, 2015 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: April 29, 2015
JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Attorneys for Mortgagee
12550 West Frontage Road, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

5/5, 5/12, 5/19,
5/26, 6/2, 6/9

Foreclosure

15-100350

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 23, 2009
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$330,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Bonnie L. Petersen, unmarried
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed March 27, 2009, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000362972
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Real Property in Steele County, Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North, Range 20 West, thence North 1312.97 feet along the East line of Section 28 to the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter of said Section; thence West at right angles 50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence West along the South line of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter, a distance of 205.75 feet; thence North 190.0 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1; thence South 190.0 feet to the point of beginning. And Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North, Range 20 West, thence North

1502.97 feet along the East line of Section 28, thence West at right angles 50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence continuing West 205.75 feet; thence North 214.35 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1, thence South 214.35 feet to the point of beginning. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3890 N Cedar Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 12-028-2106 & 12-028-2105
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$185,006.54
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 23, 2015, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 12 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on July 23, 2016, or the next business day if July 23, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: May 11, 2015
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
SCHILLER & ADAM, P.A.
BY
Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
Sarah J.B. Adam, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(15-0801-FC01)

Dated: May 21, 2015
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
12550 West Frontage Road, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

6/2, 6/9, 6/16
6/23, 6/30, 7/7

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: November 24, 2010
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$149,454.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Beth M. Smith, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Homeservices Lending, LLC Series A DBA Edina Realty Mortgage, a Delaware Limited Liability Company
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on December 2, 2010 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 17836 as Document Number T000066673 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on December 27, 2010 as Document Number T000066778 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 25, Block 1, Radel Addition No. 4, Owatonna, Steele County, M i n n e s o t a
REGISTERED PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 595 24TH STREET NE, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$147,196.86
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR

(LENDER): Homeservices Lending, LLC Series A DBA Edina Realty Mortgage, a Delaware Limited Liability Company
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17.271.0125
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE ID NUMBER (MERS NUMBER): None
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 7, 2015 at 10:00 am
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale. Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on January 7, 2016.

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

Dated: May 11, 2015
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
SCHILLER & ADAM, P.A.
BY

Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
Sarah J.B. Adam, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Curt N. Trisko, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(15-0801-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

5/19, 5/26, 6/2,
6/9, 6/16, 6/23

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That Default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: 4/25/2005
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$ 127,715.58
MORTGAGOR(S): Gregory Scott James and Delane Renee James, Joint Tenants, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Beneficial Loan and Thrift Co.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: 4/28/2005 as Document Number A000331487 in the Office of the County Recorder, Steele County, Minnesota
ASSIGNMENT OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: 7/21/2014 as Document Number A000397931 in the Office of the County Recorder, Steele County, Minnesota
TAX PARCEL I.D. NO.: 17-119-0506
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 5, Block 5, Riverside Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota
ABSTRACT PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 223 Highland Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Beneficial Loan and Thrift Co.
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: Caliber Home Loans, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
T R A N S A C T I O N AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: N/A
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED

TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE AS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE: \$137,943.69
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all preforeclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes.
Pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Steele County Minnesota at public auction as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: 7/16/2015 at 10:00AM
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, 204 E. Pearl ,Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said Mortgagor(s) or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is 6 months from the date of sale.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the mortgagor must vacate the mortgaged property by 11:59 p.m. on 1/16/2016, or the next business day if 1/16/2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.
MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None
THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: 5/26/2015
U.S. Bank Trust, N.A.,
as Trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust,
Mortgagee/Mortgage Assignee
Klatt, Augustine, Sayer, Treinen & Rastede, P.C.,
By Brian G. Sayer, Attorney for Mortgagee/Mortgage Assignee
925 E 4th St., Waterloo, IA 50703

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

5/26, 6/2, 6/9
6/16, 6/23, 6/30

City of BP

**Proposed
City of Blooming Prairie
City Council Meeting Agenda
June 15, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes of May Regular City Council Meeting along with Main Street Public Hearing

Financial Report

Committee/Commission Reports
1. B.P. Public Utilities
2. E.I.D.A.
3. B.P. Planning & Zoning
4. B.P. Fire Commission
5. B.P. Ambulance Commission
6. B.P. Police Commission

Business
1. 2014 Audit Presentation and Approval
2. Resolution Requesting Funds from ½% Transportation Sales Tax
3. Vacate Driveway Easement Fee
4. Increase Monthly Storm Water NW
5. Change Order #1 – 6th Street
6. City Center Roof Repairs

City Administrator's Report
1. 6th Street Project Financing
2. Main Street East Project Update
3. Land Exchange Update
4. Pedestrian Crossing Yield Signs

City Attorney's Report

Council Members' Reports

Adjourn

This Agenda is Subject to Change

6/9

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into
Summer



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Legal Notices/News

Foreclosure

15-100256

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Minn. Stat. 580.025, 580.04
DATE: June 4, 2015

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 12, 2012

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$105,102.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Irene Rosales, a single woman

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

MIN#: 100053612101765390

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Primelending, a Plainscapital Company

SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed October 15, 2012, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000387332

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association; Dated: October 3, 2013 filed: October 15, 2013, recorded as document number A000394082

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North Six (6) Rods of East Four (4) Rods of Lot Five (5), Block Six (6), in Phelps Addition to the City of Owatonna

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 251 East University St, Owatonna, MN 55060

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-101-0610

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$105,218.44

THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: August 4, 2015, 10:00am

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on February 4, 2016, or the next business day if February 4, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: June 2, 2015

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee

12550 West Frontage Road, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTION

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:

Adams, Rizzi & Sween, P.A. Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

300 First Street NW
Austin, MN 55912

EXHIBIT "A"

LEGAL DESCRIPTION
LARRY W. LINDQUIST AND LEE E. LINDQUIST

Starting at the East Quarter Corner of Section 25, Township 105 North, Range 19 West; thence West 1260.75 feet at an angle of 89°41' turned from North to West from the East line of the Northeast Quarter

of Section 25, Township 105 North, Range 19 West; thence North 624.0 feet at a deflection angle of 89°41' right, to a point which is hereinafter called the point of beginning; thence North 118.53 feet on a Northerly extension of the last described line; thence Southwesterly 46.63 feet at a deflection angle of 139°48.8' left; thence Southwesterly 421.68 feet at a deflection angle of 04°46.3' right; to the Easterly right-of-way line of the Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul & Pacific R.R.; thence Southeasterly 69.18 feet at a deflection angle of 69°38' left; on said right-of-way line; thence East 299.17 feet at a deflection angle of 65°00.5' left; thence North 280.0 feet at a deflection angle of 90°19' left, to the point of beginning; being part of the South Half of Northeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 105 North, Range 19 West; and containing 1.7 acres; subject to an easement for ingress and egress over the south 20' thereof.

6/9, 6/16, 6/23
6/30, 7/7, 7/14

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Minn. Stat. 580.025, 580.04
DATE: June 5, 2015

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage:

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGE TO BE FORECLOSED

1. Date of Mortgage: March 18, 2013

2. Mortgagors: Larry William Lindquist & Annette K. Lindquist, husband and wife

3. Mortgagees: Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

4. Recording Information: Recorded on March 29, 2013, as Document Number T000070097 (or in Book 27 of Mortgages, Page 81), in the Office of the Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

5. Assignments of Mortgage, if any: Assigned to Not applicable

OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA

6. Tax Parcel Identification number of the mortgaged premises: 14-114-0204

7. Legal description of the mortgaged premises: The East 30 feet of Lot 3; and Lot 4; Block 2, Hansen Heights Addition, to the Village of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota according to the recorded plat thereof.

8. The physical street address, city, and zip code of the mortgaged premises: 193 8th Street NW, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota 55917

OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA

9. The person holding the Mortgage: is no a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Sta. 58.02, subd. 30.

10. If stated on the Mortgage, the name of the mortgage originator, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.

11. The requisites of Minn. Stat. 580.02 have been satisfied.

12. The original principal amount secured by the mortgage was \$110,000.00.

13. At the date of this notice the amount due on the mortgage, including taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage, is: \$110,793.05.

14. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at public auction on July 31, 2015, 10:00 a.m., at the Steele County Sheriff's Office, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.

15. The time allowed by law for redemption by Mortgagee or Mortgagee's personal representatives of assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale.

16. Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23." If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on Not applicable.

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

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee: Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:

Adams, Rizzi & Sween, P.A.
Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

300 First Street NW
Austin, MN 55912

6/9, 6/16, 6/23
6/30, 7/7, 7/14

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Minn. Stat. 580.025, 580.04
DATE: June 5, 2015

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage:

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGE TO BE FORECLOSED

1. Date of Mortgage: March 31, 2011

2. Mortgagors: E. L. Lindquist & Sons, Inc.

3. Mortgagees: Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

4. Recording Information: Recorded on April 4, 2011, as Document Number A000377468, in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.

*See below information on Amendments to Mortgage.

5. Assignments of Mortgage, if any: Assigned to Not applicable

*Said Mortgage was amended by that Amendment to Mortgage (Extension Agreement) dated March 8, 2013, filed on March 28, 2013, and recorded as Document No. A000390430 in the Office of the County Recorder, Steele County, Minnesota.

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGED PREMISES

6. Tax Parcel Identification number of the mortgaged premises: 14-101-0101

7. Legal description of the mortgaged premises: Lot 1, Block 1, Feeney's Addition to the Village of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota

8. The physical street address, city, and zip code of the mortgaged premises: 141 4th Street NE, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota 55917

OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA

9. The person holding the Mortgage: is no a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Sta. 58.02, subd. 30.

10. If stated on the Mortgage, the name of the mortgage originator, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.

INFORMATION REGARDING F O R E C L O S U R E

11. The requisites of Minn. Sta. 580.02 have been satisfied.

12. The original principal amount secured by the mortgage was \$35,000.00.

13. At the date of this notice the amount due on the mortgage, including taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage, is: \$31,266.19.

14. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at public auction on July 31, 2015, 10:00 a.m., at the Steele County Sheriff's Office, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.

15. The time allowed by law for redemption by Mortgagee or Mortgagee's personal representatives of assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale.

16. Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23." If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on Not applicable.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE

MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS,

ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee: Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:

Adams, Rizzi & Sween, P.A.
Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

300 First Street NW
Austin, MN 55912

6/9, 6/16, 6/23
6/30, 7/7, 7/14

USDA seeks applications to expand economic development in rural communities

USDA Rural Development is seeking applications for grants to support rural community economic development.

Approximately \$4 million will be made available under the Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) program. Eligible applicants include public, private, and non-profit intermediaries, and federally recognized tribes.

"This funding from USDA will ensure that technical and financial assistance is available for those who wish to improve the quality of life in rural communities," Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development Lisa Mensah said during her announcement.

"Very often, great visions for better rural communities exist, but the next steps toward positive change are unclear. These grants will help rural communities build a path to community economic development so rural America can share in the nation's economic recovery."

RCDI grants can be used to provide training or technical assistance. Training may focus on homeownership education, minority business entrepreneurship, strategic community planning, or accessing alternative funding sources.

Intermediary organizations must provide matching funds at least equal to the RCDI grant. Grants range from \$50,000 to

\$250,000.

USDA has invested more than \$33 million through the RCDI program since 2009.

In 2014, the Minnesota Housing Partnership was selected to receive a \$130,000 grant to provide technical assistance and training for the Rosebud Economic Development Corporation – a non-profit organization of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in Minnesota.

Funding will go towards the development of sustainable affordable housing and community and economic development programs on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation.

"It is absolutely crucial that we continue to support housing, community facilities, and community economic development in rural communities to ensure sustainability well into the future," USDA Rural Development State Director for Minnesota Colleen Landkamer said. "This program aids that effort by supporting partnerships with economic development organizations that can assist with creating more job opportunities for rural residents through technical assistance, training and financial support."

For information on how to apply contact your local Rural Development Area Office or see Page 27887 of the 5/15 Federal Register. Applications must be submitted by Aug. 13, 2015.

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News/Classifieds

Fritz runs for House in District 24B

Patti Fritz, former Faribault Representative and nurse for over 30 years will run for the Minnesota House of Representatives in District 24B. A longtime resident of Faribault, she will challenge newly elected Representative Brian Daniels. Patti Fritz said she is frustrated by the special session in St. Paul and is running for State Representative because she believes more could have been done for Dodge, Rice and Steele Counties.

“I am disappointed that many issues important to Greater Minnesota aren’t being addressed at the State Capitol and nothing is getting done,” said Fritz. “I want to use my experience to help resolve the gridlock and work together to improve our schools, our roads and bridges, and our

future.”

Patti Fritz said she was frustrated to see the 2015 session end without compromise on the issues important to folks in District 24B.

“With a \$2 billion surplus, we should be investing in our rural communities through LGA, property tax relief for homeowners and farmers, education funding and senior care. There’s no question we can do better,” said Fritz. “I will work hard to put the priorities of our community first, standing up to Democrats and Republicans alike as I have in the past. We need to do more for Greater Minnesota.”

Patti Fritz spent five terms in the legislature and was first elected in 2004. During her tenure she focused heavily on se-

nior issues, working to provide nursing home and long-term care workers their first rate increases in four years in 2013-14. Fritz also championed many initiatives for the community, including funding for South Central College and the State Academies.

Patti Fritz said she is looking forward to talking with residents over the coming months about what’s at stake for Minnesota’s future.

“I plan on working hard to once again earn the trust and support of residents in Dodge, Rice and Steele Counties,” said Fritz. “I look forward to visiting with you soon about the challenges facing our state and how we can work together to make sure we have a strong future.”

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The Dale Family

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Garage Sale

Knick Knacks, lawn furniture, jewelry, flea market items, childrens clothing, misc

Friday, June 12 5-8 p.m. **Saturday, June 13 9 a.m.-12 p.m.**

Hope Oak Knoll Campground *For more information, Call 451-2998*
9545 Cty Rd 3 • Owatonna

Anniversaries

Happy 60th Anniversary

Eugene and DeAnn Kaplan will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 16, 2015. A family gathering with their children: Shelbie (Eddie) O'Brien, Sherrie (Steve) Meixner, Gerald (Barb), Gary (Linda) and Grant (Cathy), grandchildren and great-grandchildren will be held on June 13th.



In celebration of Thomas and Ann (Renchin) Noble’s 50th wedding anniversary on June 19, their children would like to honor them with a card shower. Cards may be sent to 37816 Northstar Lake Lane, Marcell, MN 56657.

Tom & Ann were married on June 19, 1965 at St. Columbanus Catholic Church in Blooming Prairie. Tom & Ann were blessed with 5 children & 10 grandchildren. Andrea Billings of Stewartville, Matt (Amy) Noble of Plymouth, Jill (Brian) Gallagher of Lockport, IL; Kelly Skustad of Ely, Carrie (Kyle) O’Keefe of Chanhassen.

They will celebrate later this summer with their family.



TEENS! LOOKING FOR SUMMER WORK?

The Steele County Times has an opening for an intern through a summer youth employment program. Candidate must be a high school student or 2015 graduate between the ages of 16-19. This is a great opportunity to gain experience in writing, photography, advertising sales or graphic design. You pick the area you’d like to focus on. Contact managing editor Alan Van Ormer at bpalan@frontier.com for more information or call 507-583-4431.

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD
Answers on Page 5C

CLUES ACROSS											
1. S.W. gully	43. Gold	39. Scarlett songbird	58. Phonograph inventor's initials								
7. Japanese polytheism	44. Angle (abbr.)	40. Kills oneself	59. Eagle's nest								
13. N.H. Academy and town	46. Semitic fertility god	42. Broad, flat pieces of stone	61. Ripped a fabric								
14. Most aired	47. Beak	45. Auto fuel	63. Lucre								
16. Prosecuting officer	49. Digital audiotape	46. Derek __, X Harvard Pres.	66. Manuscripts (abbr.)								
17. Badger State	51. Small child	48. Woman's undergarment	67. Frozen water								
19. Atomic #24	52. 4th caliph of Islam	50. Topics of discourse	70. 41st state								
20. Moose genus	55. 4840 square yards	51. Belonging to the peerage	72. Keystone state								
22. Possessed	57. Devious trick (Yiddish)	53. Most recent									
23. Make a smooth transition	59. Overgarments	54. Point of debate									
25. Thug (slang)	60. Large creature	56. Ostend artist James Sydney									
26. Locations or places	62. Ingest										
28. Rivulet	63. Nuisances										
29. The self	64. __, denotes past										
30. Not good	65. Wine waiter										
31. Obstruct	68. I, Portuguese										
33. Decalitre	69. Compunction										
34. Space for sitting	71. Overshadow										
36. Taxi	73. Emphasize										
38. 7th tone	74. An unsuccessful ending										
39. Ethiopian lake											
41. Tears down											

CLUES DOWN											
1. Something comparable	13. Proverb	39. Scarlett songbird	58. Phonograph inventor's initials								
2. Rural delivery	15. Lattice support	40. Kills oneself	59. Eagle's nest								
3. "Laugh-In" co-host Dan	18. Cereal grass	42. Broad, flat pieces of stone	61. Ripped a fabric								
4. Sheep genus	21. Rome, GA river	45. Auto fuel	63. Lucre								
5. Affirmative	24. Disease of cattle	46. Derek __, X Harvard Pres.	66. Manuscripts (abbr.)								
6. Vanilla's flower family	26. Seated	48. Woman's undergarment	67. Frozen water								
7. In a way, made smoother	27. A baglike structure in a plant or animal	50. Topics of discourse	70. 41st state								
8. Belong to he	30. Blatted	51. Belonging to the peerage	72. Keystone state								
9. Greek rainbow goddess	32. Murdered in his bathtub	53. Most recent									
10. S.F. football team player	35. Finish	54. Point of debate									
11. Atomic #52	37. Sheep sound	56. Ostend artist James Sydney									
12. Kiss											

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Jay Braaten,
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.....HOMETOWNEXTRA.....

Owatonna



ABOVE: Tanya Henson, owner of The Hat Chic in Owatonna, puts gems on a Husky hat for a customer to give it some bling. The store officially opened its doors in February after two pop-up store events.

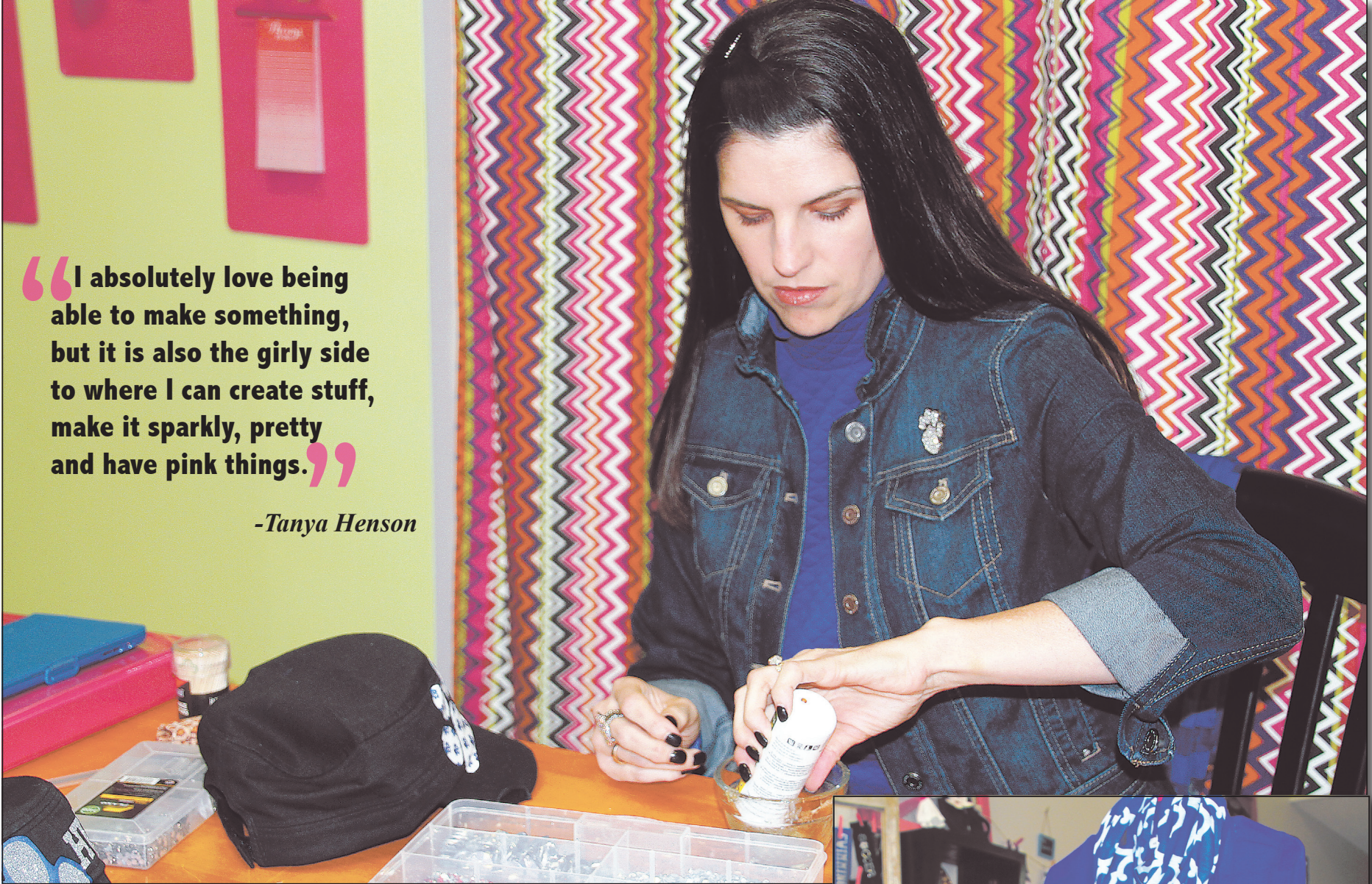


STORY AND PHOTOS BY SHANNON KINLEY | COUNTY WRITER

Local businesswoman finds niche for moms and daughters

Tanya Henson, owner of The Hat Chic in Owatonna, never knew that she would become known as ‘The Hat Chic’, ‘The Hat lady’ or ‘The Hat Girl.’ Henson, originally from New Mexico, attended New Mexico State University and graduated with a degree in fashion merchandising and textile science. However, she did not go right into the fashion industry. Instead she spent six years working for a winery and two years as a pharmaceutical representative. Fourteen years ago she came to Minnesota after her husband, Garret, was transferred to the Viracon office in Owatonna. Shortly after the move she became pregnant with her first son and became a stay-at-home mom. It all started out when Henson wanted to wear something cute to show her support for her sons at their sporting events. “I wanted a hat so I went to find something cute and bottom line I couldn’t find it, and no one was really interested in getting it for me, so I sat down at my kitchen table and I put one together,” Henson said. “I wore it to an athletic event and some of the moms asked if I would make them one. Little by little it just kept growing, people told their friends and it took on a life of its own.”

For two years Henson ran the business out of her house, but it kept on taking over rooms in her house... first the kitchen, then the dining room and then the office. She decided to try out a pop up store on two occasions; first for the week of homecoming and again during the Christmas season. After having big success, Henson decided to try a storefront out for a year and the store’s doors officially opened on Feb. 4, 2014. “I have boys so this is my girly outlet and the creative outlet is fantastic for me,” Henson said. “I absolutely love being



able to make something, but it is also the girly side to where I can create stuff, make it sparkly, pretty and have pink things.” Although the business started out with hats, it has now expanded to include t-shirts, sweatshirts, headbands, jewelry, bows, scarves, quilts, bridal and other special occasion apparel. “What I have tried to do is to bring it all under one roof so that if you want a hat, a shirt, a sweat shirt and some jewelry you have a way to put it all together here instead of just happening upon it one day,” Henson said. “Traditionally in stores that do exist it’s a man’s

cut, it’s a man’s shirt, and you figure out what size fits you and for some people that works out great, but what I am finding for a lot of women they want something curtailed to them.” Henson says she enjoys making items to show school spirit for the camaraderie it forms. “It is really cool because no matter what we are all there for the same reason, we want our team to win. It is so sad when you go into a gym where you walk in, and you don’t know who is rooting for who, there is nothing on them that indicates who the team is,” she said. Even though the store is

only open from Wednesday through Saturday, Henson works on items every day, even if she is not at the store. She said the biggest challenge has been finding enough time to get everything done, yet still be able to experiment with new ideas that she has.



RIGHT: The Hat Chic not only sells hats, but has expanded to include t-shirts, sweatshirts, headbands, jewelry, bows, scarves, quilts, bridal and other special occasion apparel.

Customer Comments

Jodie Dekam first met Henson because the two, not only live in the same neighborhood, but also have sons in the same grade. “Our kids ended up being on a sports team and suddenly she showed up in all of these really cute things and it was ‘where did you get that’ and ‘well I made it’ and then it was could you make me one,” Dekam said. “It is nice to have some things geared toward the moms with a little sparkle to it.” Dekam has purchased several athletic and seasonal hats, numerous shirts for all of her kids sporting events and had many gifts designed for her family including hats and headbands. “It is a show of solidarity and it is especially fun for the moms. It is something for us to show our school spirit and be decked out in things that are designed specifically for us. She gets it. She’s a mom too,” Dekam said. “It is just a fun common thing that you will see around Owatonna. You are starting to notice it everywhere and it is broadening beyond here.” Dekam recommends Henson because she is “incredibly creative and pleasant to work with” and is able to create exactly what you want or as close to it as possible.

Amy Havelka, of Owatonna, has been a customer of Henson’s since the beginning and has a son in the same grade as her son. “I knew her before she was officially The Hat Chic, when she was just a mom making really cute hats,” Havelka said. She has purchased scrunchies, yoga pants, various shirts for all four of her children’s sports, hats, headbands and designed many gifts for family members. “As parents you spend your entire time going to these extra curricular activities and it is so fun to have something a little blingy and fun to wear to these events,” Havelka said. “She just sasses it up and makes getting ready to go to a baseball game kind of fun because you can pick from two or three fun shirts to wear.” Havelka recommends Henson because her products are reasonably priced and her creativeness. “You walk in there and she is just so personable. She puts down whatever she is doing, talks to you about what you are thinking and she will completely personalize it to however you want it,” she said.



LEFT: Tanya Henson's favorite creations are still her hats. She not only makes hats for sporting events, but also for seasonal occasions or customizes them to fit the personality of her customer.