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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019

Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

# Semi driver faces felonies in fatal crash

BY RICK BUSSLER  
PUBLISHER

A semi-truck driver faces felony charges in connection with a fatal crash on a dangerous stretch of roadway that has become known over the years as the Highway of Horrors.

The Steele County Attorney's Office has charged Hashim Lencha

Siddiq, 30, of Blaine with second-degree manslaughter and criminal vehicular operation. He is accused of causing the death of Allison Anderson, 67, of Owatonna on Feb. 2 around 5 p.m. along U.S. Highway 14 in eastern Steele County.

Anderson was a passenger in a vehicle driven by her husband, Todd Anderson. She died at the scene

of the crash. He suffered a closed head injury, multiple fractures to the face, ribs, thumb and femur among other injuries. His physical and cognitive functioning remains affected by the injuries.

The State Patrol reconstructed the crash. The lead investigator concluded that the primary factor in the crash was Siddiq's

unsafe passing during heavy fog conditions, according to the criminal complaint filed against Siddiq. The patrol said Siddiq was attempting to pass another vehicle in "very poor visibility due to the fog," when he collided head-on with the Anderson vehicle.

The semi was traveling eastbound in the two-lane

stretch while a Pontiac car was going westbound. The State Patrol reported that fog had settled fairly heavy in the area with limited visibility. The roadway was wet, but the temperature was above freezing.

Siddiq told a trooper that a passenger in his semi told him to pass the vehicle. He said he did not see any cars in the westbound lane so he

began to pass. He said he saw the Pontiac coming at him and believed he did not have time to move back to the eastbound lane because of the other vehicle he was passing.

The patrol discovered that Siddiq had 154 hours of driving experience, short of the required 200 hours.

SEE FATAL CRASH, A3



Medford's grand marshal Clayton Just was surrounded by family and friends during the Straight River Days parade Friday night in Medford. Joining Just in the fun included, from left: Jayen Beyer (front), Travis Ernste, Anna Kavitz, Grand Marshal Clayton Just, Lisa Ernste, Kendra Sammon (front) Erin Sammon and Sharon Just.



Mark Raymond, left, and Tim Amberg compete in the pie-eating contest during the Medford Straight River Days Festival Friday night. Amberg, a Medford firefighter, went on the win the competition.

## Just is just Medford's grand marshal

BY DENNIS MARSHALL  
SPORTS EDITOR

Longtime Medford resident and local business owner Clayton Just couldn't have asked for a much better 69th birthday.

Not only was he honored as the grand marshal in Medford's Straight River Days Parade on Friday, June 14, but he also received royal treatment while catching up with some familiar faces afterwards during the festivities that included food trucks, a pie-eating

contest and a free concert at Medford City Park.

"It makes me cry," Just said while fighting back tears. "I loved it. I had a great time. I appreciate it, and I'll live here til I die because I have no desire to be anyplace else."

Just owned and operated CJ Foods in downtown Medford for 37 years, and while many others may imagine retirement as fishing trips and total relaxation, that has certainly not been the

SEE MEDFORD'S GRAND MARSHAL, A3

## Red Oak keeps berry tradition alive

BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
STAFF WRITER

Even though the rains came, it didn't keep 450 strawberry lovers from attending the 78th Annual Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church Strawberry Festival on Tuesday, June 11.

Linda Christianson, one of the organizers for this early summer event, said a team effort of volunteer workers made this year's event a smashing success.

"We are especially thankful to the young workers who volunteered to help with this festival," remarked Christianson.

Two serving times were promoted, one from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., mainly for health care centers and assisted living residents and another for the general public from 4-7 p.m.

Prior to having dessert, visitors enjoyed pulled pork or hot dogs, plus potato salad, chips and baked beans. The dessert, of course, consisted of fresh strawberries (225 pounds), ice cream and shortcake. Angel food cake was also served.

As guests entered the church, they were urged to check out a huge bake sale on the sanctuary level. "The bake sale was extremely busy," said Judy Wambeam. Twelve quilts, nine large ones and three small ones were also sold.

Guests were also offered the opportunity to buy a raffle ticket to win a quilt. Ardell Swenson reported 737 tickets were sold. Sellers were Marlys Peterson and Doris Draayer.

Dorothy Peterson, a Red Oak member, was the winner of the quilt. The quilt was made by the late Evie Hanson, who passed away 12 years ago.

SEE RED OAK KEEPS, A3

## Vets Memorial showcased at open house

BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
STAFF WRITER

Sunshine and warmer temperatures cooperated as an estimated 200 people visited the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial at an open house on Saturday, June 15.

"We are very proud of what we have so far with the Veterans Memorial, and we have another campaign ahead of us to blacktop parking areas near the memorial," Peterson told visitors.

The Veterans Memorial is the project of the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 52.

The third wall was installed just prior to the open house. The memorial now counts over 400 pavers.

Peterson said the BP Veterans Memorial Committee will continue to sell pavers for the Memorial. Owatonna Granite is committed to installing pavers twice a year near Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Peterson also informed visitors that the original goal was to raise

\$250,000. That goal has been surpassed and has reached \$330,000.

Another fundraising campaign is endorsed by the Veterans Committee to provide funds to blacktop the area near the memorial. Parking will be east and west and will include handicapped parking.

Landscaping should be completed soon with Bruce Busho of Owatonna Groundmasters doing the job, donating his labor.

SEE VETS MEMORIAL SHOWCASED, A3



Tom Peterson, chairman of the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial, provides some history on the memorial for those attending an open house on Saturday, June 15 at the memorial.

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### INSIDE

Opinions.....A2  
Public Safety.....A4  
History.....A6  
Faith.....A9

Hometown Living.....B1  
Community Calendar.... B3  
Business Section.....B4  
Sports.....B6

Public Notices.....B8  
Classifieds.....B9  
Ellendale Days  
Preview.....B10

### AREA DEATHS

Maurene Grunwald, 94,  
Blooming Prairie  
Robert Goff, 90,  
Blooming Prairie

Serving  
Blooming Prairie  
and Steele County  
since 1893



OUR VIEW

Sparking safety early

A huge community event has made area youth safer this week. More than 200 youngsters from around Steele County took part in the annual countywide safety camp last week in Owatonna.

For 25 years, the Steele County Kid's Safety Camp Board has been teaching kids how to be safe while at home, outdoors, by the lake or anywhere else. Some of the important lessons are fishing, boating, camping, firearms, bicycle, electrical and fire. Just in the past few years internet safety has been introduced as a valuable safety lesson.

Police agencies from Steele County, Owatonna Fire, Owatonna Public Utilities, Owatonna Park & Rec, the county attorney's office and others come together to provide lifesaving tips for 8 and 9 year olds who are at such an impressionable age. Kids need to learn at a young age how to be safe in every aspect of their lives.

We want to salute detective Matt Oeltjenbruns of Owatonna Police, who serves as the organizer of the camp, for his tireless efforts in keeping our young people as safe as possible. Putting on a camp of this magnitude is no easy task, but Oeltjenbruns and many others have teamed up to find a way to make it happen. In the meantime, they are helping to make our communities safer places to live.

The camp also plays an important role in breaking down the barriers between police and children. The kids get the chance to see officers in a non-threatening way that will help shape their image of law enforcement down the road.

Thanks to the safety board for making our children safer.

Joe Mauer was "the real thing"

It was once said by a former teammate of Minnesota Twins great Joe Mauer, "Joe Mauer is the real thing."

What you see when Joe Mauer walks onto a baseball field is truly what this man really is.

Joe Mauer is a class act and always has been. He treats everyone with dignity and greatly appreciates his fandom. That was so true on Saturday night, June 15, when Mauer's No. 7 was officially retired before a sellout crowd at Target Field.

My son Troy, who now resides in Arizona, gave his dad one of the best Father's Day gifts ever. Troy was back for his grandfather's funeral a few weeks ago and when he returned to Arizona, he made arrangements to provide me with two tickets to the Joe Mauer Retirement Day.

My wife Judy accompanied me and did we ever have fun.

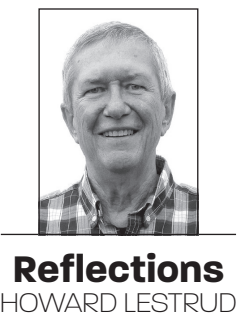
Mauer now joins the group of Twins jersey retirees: Harmon Killebrew (No. 3), Tony Oliva (6), Tom Kelly (10), Kent Hrbek (14), Bert Blyleven (28), Rod Carew (29) and Kirby Puckett (34).

Mauer's jersey retirement event was a festive occasion with his large family in attendance to enjoy the moment with Joe.

The stage was set with Mauer's biological family group on one side and his former Twins teammates on the other side.

Joe was busy accepting congratulations from family, friends and former teammates, but still had time to hold his young son Chip and also found time to accept hugs from his twin daughters Maren and Emily.

Rather than have a large group of former teammates coming to the podium to highlight Joe's banner career, the Twins franchise chose one of Joe's closest former teammates, Justin Morneau, to give a glowing reflection on Joe's career.



Reflections  
HOWARD LESTRUD

Rapper T.I. gave a video tribute. His recording, "What You Know" was Mauer's walk-up music for his entire career.

Joe humbly accepted all of the accolades, but not before paying tribute to all those who supported him during his professional baseball career.

"I hope when everyone here tonight sees that No. 7 hanging in the rafters, you all know that you played a role in getting it up there. I know when I see it, I'll think of all of you and be forever grateful..."

I've had the occasion to meet Mauer on the baseball field, a time when Mauer accepted a batting title trophy and a Silver Slugger bat. As I put my hand out to congratulate him, he responded sincerely, "Thank you, I appreciate it."

Mauer earned three Gold Glove awards (as catcher) and six Silver Slugger awards.

Mauer never forgot his roots of playing Major League Baseball in Minnesota.

Following the retirement program, Twins fans were directed to the scoreboard for videos between innings from former Twins teammates and from former adversaries. Two of the adversaries, Justin Verlander of the Houston Astros and Albert Pujols of the California Angels, applauded Mauer's baseball talent.

The entire evening was laced with Mauer family involvement. Nieces and nephews of Joe sang "Take Me Out To the Ballgame" and also introduced Twins players during the middle innings.

To top off the evening, the current edition of the Minnesota Twins gave Joe a special retirement gift by defeating the Kansas City Royals, 5-4, in a come-from-behind effort.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Saturday, June 15 was Joe Mauer Day in Minnesota and it was a special day for this former Minnesota Twins baseball star. He had his #7 retired. Here, Joe listens to tributes to his 18-year baseball career. He is holding son Chip.

YOUR VIEW

No surprise to find a cougar in factory farm country

It's no surprise that a cougar was spotted recently near Dodge Center. This isn't the first time that a cougar has been sighted in the area; one was observed a few months ago near our family farm in Westfield Township.

Our farm is surrounded by 11 swine factory farms in a three-mile radius. Dead animals from area factory farms are left to rot in open composting sheds, rather than using a rendering service. Area corporate factory

farms are havens for predators such as cougars that are searching for an easy meal, placing rural communities, children and pets at risk.

When will local citizens understand the dangers associated with corporate factory farms and challenge the foolishness of public officials who approve these facilities?

Brad Trom  
Bloomington Prairie

Grieving the loss of a man whose life crossed paths on the police beat

Our lives crossed paths in this journey we call life in a way I would never wish on anyone. It still tugs at my heart and haunts me today.

And I don't believe my son will ever be the same again because of it.

In December 2013, while working as a police officer in Lakeville, I responded to a motor vehicle crash on Dodd Boulevard, which at that time was a dangerous two-lane road, near Lakeville North High School.

Soon after arriving and seeing the lifeless body of a 16-year-old sprawled out across the front seat with seat belt still in place, I discovered it was my son's best friend, Alyssa Ettl.

After realizing there was nothing that could be done to save this girl, I responded with our police chaplain to notify her parents of Alyssa's death. I'll never forget the moment when her mother and father, Jen and Matt Ettl, came to the door carrying on what seemed like not a worry in the world. That's until they saw me standing at the door in a police uniform. They immediately knew something had gone tragically wrong. It was the dreaded visit no parent ever wants to get. It was just weeks before Christmas and boxes were stacked around the living room waiting for the house to be decorated for the holidays. I felt like a mean Grinch coming to steal their Christmas.

While making the death notification, my cell phone was blowing up. It was my son, Caleb. He was at school wondering what had happened. His friend was nowhere to be found, and students were just learning of a horrible crash outside their school. As soon as I could, I responded to the high school where I confirmed my son's worst fear that his best friend had been killed. I'll never forget the look of anguish and dread on my son's face when he received that terrible news.

In the days after Alyssa's untimely death, I got to know the Ettls during the worst time of their lives. I transported them to the impound yard where their daughter's mangled vehicle had been brought. I took them past the crash scene. I explained as best as I could what had happened. I assured them that Alyssa likely suffered no pain as she had been killed instantly. I escorted them during a roadside service where she died. I attended the funeral and graveside service. I took countless calls from them wondering what to do next. I shared many hugs of desperation with them, and I held their hands through their devastating loss and darkest moments of their life. All of it was beyond the call of duty as a police officer.

I continued our friendship in the weeks, months and years after our untimely paths



Hot Pursuit  
RICK BUSSLER

I quickly found that Alyssa's tragedy brought Matt closer to God. I witnessed Matt's faith grow exponentially because of the care, love and exposure he received from the Lakeville community after Alyssa's death. Her classmates made an eternal impact in his life.

But Alyssa's death is only the beginning of this sad story. Within months of Alyssa's death, a close friend of Matt's died of a massive heart attack.

Two months later, his mother died and that same week, the family learned his sister-in-law had breast cancer. Less than a year after Alyssa died, Matt was diagnosed with multiple melanoma, a blood cancer.

"God has been a rock for our family," Matt was known to tell people. Despite a life filled with tragedy and loss in such a short period of time, Matt said through it all he has been blessed. He never lost faith. And he proudly shared his faith with others.

Over the past few years, Matt has been hospitalized many times in both the Twin Cities and Rochester, taken chemotherapy treatments and been on the receiving end of failed stem-cell transplants.

Whenever I would see Matt, I felt helpless. Not only did I feel pain over delivering the worst possible news to him in his life, I also felt pain not being able to make him better or make his family better. I hurt badly for him.

On Saturday, June 15, Matt lost his battle to cancer.

The Ettl story and what transpired through the past few years have been a classic reminder to me that life is anything but fair. I still wonder in disbelief how a single family can be given so much heartache and devastation. It definitely has put things in proper perspective for me and made my faith stronger.

I take great comfort in knowing Matt can now rest well and be free of pain alongside his daughter. This should also be a clue to everyone that we were never meant for this place called Earth. It's just a temporary home, and we are made to live eternally in a place of perfection with no sadness. For Matt, I rejoice in that. And for the rest of us still here, we grieve the loss that will forever change many lives, mine included.

Matt leaves behind his lovely wife and a second daughter.

As much as I wish our paths hadn't crossed the way they did, I now realize I am a better person because of it.

I hope Matt is rejoicing with his daughter and may they go in hot pursuit of resting in peace together away from a life that is far from being fair.

GUEST COLUMN

Budget setting process is broken

BY PEGGY BENNETT

The 2019 session and special session has ended. There have been several articles published recently sharing the outcome of the final bills. I was planning on sharing with you some of these end-of-session accomplishments. However, I find I'm unable to put "spin" on what happened and celebrate when I don't feel we accomplished what was truly important for people.

It took a 21-hour special session, but a compromise was finally achieved to produce another two-year budget for Minnesota. That is good. I am happy with a number of things that were accomplished in the legislature this year, though I do not feel we are focusing enough on our core state priorities.

Though some legitimately good legislation was achieved for Minnesotans within this budget, I feel compelled to raise some concerns.

Some are lauding the ease and speed of getting these bills put together and "agreed" upon, but I cannot – not when I observed the bulldozing of the democratic process that took place; not when I see all the dysfunction.

Process matters in a constitutional representative democracy like we have. It matters greatly that citizens have a strong voice in their government through their elected representatives and through the legislative process. It also matters greatly that the process is transparent so that people can carry on their rightful vigilance of government and of those they've elected to represent them.

During the last two days of our regular legislative session, three people essentially wrote all the final bills that contain our state budget – the leader of the House, the leader of the Senate, and the governor. They did this behind closed doors and without public input, and with little to no input from the people's elected representatives.

The process went like this: the two legislative leaders and the governor (along with some of the governor's commissioners) spent 30 minutes on each omnibus bill the night before session was to be done. They met in a private room with the Senate and House chairs of their respective committees for 15 minutes. Then they asked the two chairs to leave and this select "Power Team" took another 15 minutes to decide

what would and would not be in the committee's final bill.

Because these leaders were so late in agreeing upon budget targets, they felt compelled to abdicate the conference committee process and shoved these bills through behind closed doors all in the name of getting them done "quickly and smoothly." How can abandoning the very process that brings transparency and a voice for Minnesotans be a good thing? It's not!

Process matters because people matter. That three people should have this much power is very concerning to me. That the governor (who is part of a separate branch of government) was so intimately involved in crafting legislation – giving a "yea" or "nay" to bill provisions as part of this secret process – is highly concerning to me as well.

The governor had already been appropriately involved in the legislative process both before session began and again during session. Why should he be allowed an extra veto pen prior to the one he gets when those bills land on his desk?

Folks, the system is broken, and it has been for quite some time.

I believe the core problem of this legislative dysfunction centers in the huge 300 to over 1,000 page omnibus bills that are chock full of a myriad of legislative initiatives. Radical legislation, some of which would never even make it to the floor for lack of votes, gets stuffed into these omnibus bills instead of coming for a vote as independent bills. This results in huge bills that are full of hundreds of pages of various provisions and containing many "poison pills" that must be hashed out at the end of session. It simply degrades and ruins the legislative process.

It is time to reform this broken process for the health of our government and for the sake of the people. There are legislators and others on both sides of the aisle who agree that the system has been broken for some time and it needs to be fixed. I am one of those legislators and am committed to finding solutions to reform this dysfunctional system and get it working for the people. That's what Minnesotans deserve.

*Peggy Bennett is a state representative for District 27A, which covers all of Freeborn County, the City of Blooming Prairie and southern Dodge County.*

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2012—2 state awards  
2011—4 national awards

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



# Experts push safety lessons for kids

BY RICK BUSSLER  
PUBLISHER

It's never too early to teach important safety lessons for children. And that's the reason why public safety officials from Steele County bring more than 200 third graders from around the county together for a two-day safety camp. Steele County held its 25<sup>th</sup> annual safety camp last week at the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna. And for organizer Matt Oeltjenbruns, a detective with Owatonna Police, it's all about preparing children for when real-life situations happen. "I want to make sure they are safe," Oeltjenbruns said. "I want to give kids an experience they may not be able to get the rest of the summer." Safety camp focuses on various topics, including boating, camping, swimming, firearms, bicycle, electrical and fire. Within the past few years, the

camp has also added a new component—internet safety. More than 30 volunteers come together to teach the safety lessons in a fun environment for the children. The camp ended Friday afternoon with a special graduation ceremony involving local dignitaries including the sheriff, county commissioners and the Owatonna fire chief. And there were some other guests to add some extra fun for the kids. They were Sparky, Smokey the Bear, Safety Pup, Vince and Larry (crash dummies) and of course, McGruff the crime dog. The safety mascots lined up to give all the children high fives for their accomplishments. Mary Anne Wray of Waterville came to see her 9-year-old granddaughter, Quinlan Wray-Raabolle of Owatonna, complete the safety camp. "I'm really proud of her," Mary Anne Wray said. "I really appreciate the county doing this and that they have safety



on their minds through the summer." Wray agrees that safety starts at home, but she also feels that it needs to be reinforced in other places like safety camp. "Parents' persuasion fades," Wray said, "It really helps to have another adult pushing safety." For Wray-Raabolle, her favorite part of the camp was boating and swimming safety at Lake Kohlmer. She got the chance to go out in a canoe with a life jacket. She also enjoyed the bicycle safety portion of the camp where she learned bike

hand signals. Oeltjenbruns' goal is to get every third grader in Steele County to attend the camp. The board is looking at options to get Blooming Prairie more involved in the camp next year, he said. The board, Oeltjenbruns said, would like to thank the many sponsors and volunteers who help make the camp possible. With summer upon us, Oeltjenbruns now hopes the children who attended camp will focus on safety in their daily lives. "I hope it will be in the back of their minds," he said.



Sparky the Fire Dog extends a high five to Tucker Larson, 9, of Medford Friday at the Steele County Safety Camp in Owatonna. Crash dummies Vince and Larry are shown in the background. More than 200 children attended this year's camp.



Jordan Gleason, 9, of Owatonna receives a high five from Greg Krueger, Steele County commissioner, at a graduation ceremony Friday afternoon in Owatonna. Gleason was one of 210 third graders from Steele County to complete safety camp, which is a two-day camp featuring various aspects of safety.



Children attending safety camp were divided into various teams. During the graduation ceremony for parents, the kids shouted out a safety cheer in an effort to get safety to stick in their minds throughout the rest of the summer and beyond.

## RED OAK KEEPS: berry tradition alive

FROM A1



These two little lads couldn't wait to taste some yummy strawberries at the Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church Strawberry Festival on Tuesday, June 11. Shown with their berries are Henry Hendrickson, 3, and Charlie Hendrickson, 5.

Senior living centers attending the strawberry festival included Cedars of Austin; Oaks Condominium of Austin; Sacred Heart of Austin; Sacred Heart assisted living of Austin; St. Mark's of Austin and Prairie Manor Health Care Center

and Heather Haus of Blooming Prairie. The lineup for the food was steady all day, volunteers reported. Proceeds from the Strawberry Festival go to missions and the general fund, Christianson reported.

## SEMI DRIVER FACES FELONIES: in fatal crash

FROM A1

In an interview with the patrol, Siddiq acknowledged that it was "very foggy at the time of the collision." The patrol's investigation found that the cab of the semi was equipped with a dashboard-mounted camera with both front and rear-facing cameras. The rear-facing camera had been covered with duct tape, the complaint said. The cover-up disabled the rear-facing cameras built-in safety features such as Distracted Driving Detection

and Real-time, in Cab Alerts. Investigators reviewed the front-facing video from the semi, which recorded 20 seconds of footage. The video shows that there was very poor visibility due to the fog, according to the complaint. Headlights from Anderson's car were visible for about six seconds prior to the crash. The video also showed that Siddiq made no apparent attempt to brake and steer back into the east-bound lane of traffic. As

the Anderson vehicle braked and tried to steer off of the shoulder, Siddiq also steered to the shoulder and hit the car in the front driver's side quarter panel area. The manslaughter charge against Siddiq accuses him of culpable negligence, which created an unreasonable risk and consciously took chances of causing death or great bodily harm to another. If convicted of the most serious charge of manslaughter, Siddiq faces 10 years in prison and a \$20,000 fine.

## Quilts for vets

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Veteran Ron Nelson of Blooming Prairie and his wife Diane proudly display a quilt of valor given to Ron on Memorial Day, May 27, at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club. Blooming Prairie honored its veterans with numerous quilts. Others to receive quilts included: Burnell Hanson, Don Clemmensens, Dennis Long, Rob White, David Oswald, Joel Burr, Charles Wagner, Mike Hoffman, Zachary Hoffman, Ethan Hoffman and Stacie Hoffman.



## VETS MEMORIAL SHOWCASED: at open house

FROM A1

Concrete sidewalks and curbs were donated and installed by Lembke Construction. "We were really tickled to see that many

people come out on Saturday, and we want everyone to know that we are closing in on completion," Peterson said.

## JUST IS JUST MEDFORD'S: grand marshal

FROM A1

cause for Just, who required a heart transplant this past January. "If I wouldn't have done it I would have been gone," he said. "I am very lucky though because I checked into Mayo Clinic on Dec. 31, and they had a heart for me on Jan. 5. There are people down there who stay there waiting for a year or two waiting for a heart." Just underwent a nine-hour surgery. He was then in ICU for 36 days and 45 total days in the hospital due to complications from the bypass after the surgery. "If the rest of my life is as good as today, then it's going

to be great," Just said while enjoying some barbecue at a park bench during the festivities. While asked about his favorite memories while reflecting on his 37 years of business, Just turned and pointed to his wife, Sharon. He joked the couples' relationship blossomed because of Sharon's love for free candy. At one point, Just said, he knew about every single person who lived in the Medford area. "Now I don't anymore," he said. "But back then, coming up through first 25 years I knew everybody. I knew

where they lived. I knew their kids and everything." Medford Civic Club President Erin Sammon said deciding on a grand Marshal is the most difficult discussion the group has every year, but it was a no brainer when someone brought up Just's name this year. "We had a couple of sports teams that went to state and there was a shot putter who won state," Sammon said. "But sports are sports. Someone suggested Clayton [Just] and we all unanimously agreed. When you hear his whole journey. It is just so incredible, especially for such a small town."



BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

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

# Area sheriff's offices team up to deliver flag to Washington state

BY RICK BUSSLER  
PUBLISHER

Several Minnesota sheriff's offices have joined together to honor a fallen deputy and injured officer involved in a gunfight in Washington state.

On Thursday, June 5, deputies from the Dodge and Steele County Sheriff's Offices joined forces to transport an American flag to Benito Chavez, a police officer in Kittitas, Wash. He was shot in the leg and suffered a shattered femur during a shootout with a road rage suspect on March 20. During that same incident, deputy Ryan Thompson, 42, with the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office was killed.

It was the first fatal shooting of a law enforcement officer in the rural county of Washington in 92 years. Kittitas is located in central Washington state.

Sgt. Mike Karlen transported the American flag across Dodge County after taking it from an Olmsted County sheriff's deputy. Karlen then met with Sgt. Chad Forystek of the Steele County Sheriff's Office. Forystek transported the flag across Steele County before meeting up with a deputy from Waseca County.

According to Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele, the flag was transported across every county from Fort McCoy in Wisconsin to Kittitas County in Washington. The flag traveled through southern Minnesota counties along the U.S. Highway 14 corridor.

"This is an awesome way to show respect for a fallen law enforcement officer," Thiele said. "It shows our glue for our law enforcement family."

The flag transport was initiated by

Mitch Kriebel, who is from Kittitas, Wash., and currently stationed at Fort McCoy. Kriebel asked that each deputy involved in transporting the flag sign it.

Kriebel said he started the flag signing and transport as a way to bring awareness to other officers and show that they care about each other.

The shootout unfolded when the two officers tried to stop the suspect's vehicle after authorities received a complaint about the motorist's driving. The suspect was chased by police until the driver stopped the car near Kittitas. He got out and exchanged gunfire with the sheriff's deputy and the police officer, hitting and killing the deputy and injuring the officer. The suspect, who was from Mexico and illegally in the U.S., later died at the hospital.



COURTESY STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Steele County sheriff's Sgt. Chad Forystek, left, takes the American flag from Sgt. Mike Karlen of the Dodge County Sheriff's Office. The two sheriff's offices took part in a flag transport from Wisconsin to Washington state for a pair of law enforcement officers, who were killed and injured during a shootout in Washington in March. Each officer involved in the transport signed the flag before turning it over to the next county along the path.

## Sex offender finds new home in Owatonna

A high-risk sex offender is on the move to a new residence in Owatonna.

According to Owatonna Police, Benny Ledesma, 27, moved to the vicinity of Strand Drive and 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW from another location in Owatonna on June 2.

Ledesma was released from prison in late 2016 after serving time for engaging in sexual contact with an unknown girl and holding her against her will. He gained access to the victim by approaching her in public and grabbing her by the neck. He also robbed her.

He has been labeled as a Level 3 sex offender, which is considered the most likely to reoffend.

Police are required to notify the public any time a sex offender moves into the community or relocates within the community. The release of the information is meant to enhance public safety and protection.

Law enforcement may not direct where any offenders live or do not live. Police also can't direct where offenders work or go to school.



LEDESMA

### CRIME BRIEF

## SUSPECTED METH DEALER NABBED IN OWATONNA

A man believed to be a suspected dealer of methamphetamine has been nabbed after a drug bust in Owatonna.

Agents with the South Central Drug Investigative Unit arrested Steven Keller, 28, of Owatonna during the drug raid June 5. He has been charged with first-degree sale of methamphetamine and first-degree possession of meth, both felonies.

Between April 1 and June 1, SCDIU agents conducted several control buys of meth from Keller, police said. On June 5, the agents executed a search warrant at Keller's residence. During the raid, agents located numerous indicators of drug use and possible manufacture, according to police.

Keller was wearing a backpack during his arrest. Police said inside the backpack, agents seized an additional 35.04 grams of meth.



KELLER

### COURT NEWS Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 3 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

Thok K. Chuoi, 28, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony violation of order for protection. Chuoi was sentenced to \$131, 234 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, mental health evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 3 – 9:

**BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Stephen A. Brandt, 36, Austin, stalking, \$281, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no possession of firearms, chemical dependency evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state and 2 years of supervised probation;

Merton E. Burke, 53, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$221; Kamyra T. Burse, 39, Newport, seat belt, \$106; Alex D. Enright, 25, Austin, revoked license, \$281; Neh K. Mu, 20, St. Paul, permit violation, \$131; Sandra L. White, 60, Kankakee, IL, prohibited passing, \$131.

**MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER**

Scott A. Bock, 32, Medford, seat belt, \$106; Melton D. Byrd, 23, Mount Vernon, AL, loaded firearm, \$181; Simran G. Douglas, 22, Warsaw, speeding, \$221; Kara D. Drees, 19, Faribault, speeding and possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, \$231; Connor J. Fries, 23, Overland Park, KS, speeding, \$141; Joshua A. Friesen, 26, Faribault, speeding, \$131; Say O. Gaw, 26, Nashville, TN, speeding, \$131; Alison D. Goergen, 21, Caledonia, speeding, \$131; Fernando E. Hi, 25, Montgomery, revoked license, \$281; Jeffery R. Johnson, 42, New Richland, vehicle weight violation, \$381; Stephen M. Johnson, 40, Blaine, speeding, \$121; Michael R. Kelling, 50, Saukville, WI, speeding, \$121; Timothy L. Kenning, 29, Mankato, speeding, \$121; Mu N. Clair, 19, Omaha, NE, speeding, improper child passenger restraint system and seat belt, \$296; Claudia I. Mendoza, 36, Waseca, suspended license, \$281; Caleigh M. Meyer, 21, Cedar Rapids, IA, speeding, \$121; Ismail A. Mud-ey, 30, Barron, WI, no log book in possession, \$181; Tiara J. Munoz, 21, Faribault, speeding, \$131; Mya S. New, 23, Omaha, NE, seat belt, \$106; Bradley B. Onson, 39, Prior Lake, speeding, \$121; Brady T. Rohloff, 26, Le Sueur, speeding, \$281; Kathryn A. Schlosser, 63, Pepin, WI, DWI, \$406, 2 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, and 3 years of supervised probation; Kenneth A. Sneed, 32, Kansas City, MO, speeding, possession of marijuana and seat belt, \$196; Racey E. Underwood, 40, Owatonna, speeding, \$381; Eric R. Weiser, 33, Emmons, seat belt, \$106; Tori L. Wiuff, 26, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$131; Thomas J. Zylstra, 52, Owatonna, speeding, \$131.

**OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Christine M. Bartsch, 54, Owatonna, failure to obey traffic control device, \$131; Elton Brown, 31, Owatonna, fleeing peace officer and give peace officer false infor-

mation, \$131, 4 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Michael T. Burns, 38, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Vanessa L. Cardenas, 28, Waseca, financial transaction card fraud, \$1,212.04, 60 days in county jail and 2 years of supervised probation; Odilia B. Conde, 51, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$281; Kristi A. Cook, 44, Owatonna, liquor sale to minor, \$100, diversion program and 2 years of supervised probation; Alex Cuevas, 28, Owatonna, possession of paraphernalia, \$131; Albert Egurola Jr., 42, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$381, 2 days in county jail and 2 years of supervised probation; Zakeria A. Fakrudin, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Blake J. Gare, 22, Medford, speeding, \$121; Corbin A. Gedick, 20, Faribault, muffler violation, expired registration and speeding, \$221; Ryan M. Glassmaker, 37, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$181; Thor W. Hanson, 26, Albert Lea, invalid license, \$150; Brayden L. Hauser, 20, St. Peter, speeding, \$121; Brian L. Hecht, 44, Waseca, irregular driving, \$121; Payton F. Hinchley, 22, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Chad J. Holton, 41, Owatonna, passing parked authorized vehicle, \$131; George D. Ide, 56, Owatonna, invalid license, \$100; Jesse D. Kaderlik, 22, Owatonna, revoked license and speeding, \$341; Adreana M. Laabs, 25, revoked license, \$281; Mark A. Marsolek, 58, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$381, 3 days in county jail and 2 years of supervised probation; Nicholas P. Olson, 21, Medford, school bus violation, stay of adjudication, \$75 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Toby J. O'Quist, 54, Ellendale, seat belt, \$106; Patrick K. Powell, 22, Owatonna, open bottle, \$181; Vanessa Rodriguez, 32, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Jonathan R. Rollins, 31, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; David P. Sorum, 37, Austin, theft, \$335.98 and 2 days in county jail; Leah D. Stanley, 35, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$131; Maribel Torres Garza, 35, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Irene A. Varela, 21, Owatonna, invalid license, \$181; Dion E. Wadley, 20, revoked license, \$281; Ma N. Wah, 27, Albert Lea, revoked license, \$281; Andrea M. Wegener, 39, Owatonna, accident-driver failure to stop, stay of adjudication, \$75 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Linda M. Williams, 48, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Nakia N. Williams, 26, Owatonna, permit violation, \$131; David R. Willis, 36, West Concord, DWI, \$406, 1 day in county jail, attend MADD impact panel, obtain permission to leave the state, substance abuse subtle screening inventory and 1 year of supervised probation.

**STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Abdullahi D. Abu, 35, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Safaa F. Al Janabi, 37, Rochester, speeding, \$281; Saleh H. Almarri, 23, Rochester, speeding, \$141; Cody J. Altepeter, 25, Owatonna, suspended license, \$381; Delillah A. Angeles, 20, Danube, speeding, \$381; Amy J. Bailey, 40, Brooklyn Center, revoked license, \$281; Stuart W. Bestul, 59, Apple Valley, speeding, \$141; Nicholas L. Cain, 27, Owatonna, speeding, \$100; Shalaine H. Evert, 50, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Thomas D. Hanson, 55, Morristown, stray farm livestock, \$131; Parker T. Harvey, 20, Sioux Falls, SD, possession of marijuana, \$131; Justin W. James, 34, Waterville, seat belt, \$106; Eric W. Johnson, 40, River Falls, WI, revoked license, \$281; Thomas J. Kohl, 43, Austin, speeding, \$141; Mu K. Ku, 35, Jacksonville, FL, DWI,

\$431, 1 day in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Kallop J. Kunke, 18, Waseca, expired tabs, \$111; Douglas M. Masso, 48, Mantorville, DWI, \$256 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Stephanie K. McCann, 29, Galesburg, IL, open bottle, \$181; Brian L. Morrison, 34, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Nayla M. Morua, 36, Owatonna, no child passenger restraint system, \$131; Tyler A. Nelson, 27, Ellendale, DWI, \$456, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, attend MADD impact panel, obtain permission to leave the state, chemical dependency evaluation, 26 days of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Hunter F. O'Brien, 18, Owatonna, window tint violation, \$131; Jay J. Paulson, 27, Medford, expired tabs, \$111; Richard G. Pettet, 24, Waseca, speeding, \$221; Jose L. Sanchez, 39, Le Sueur, speeding, \$141; Lucy M. Sherman, 16, Albert Lea, speeding, \$221; Bobby J. Smitty, 25, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, \$281; Sherri L. Steele, 33, Waseca, speeding, \$131; Ryan D. Stewart, 22, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, substance abuse subtle screening inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Debra L. Stigen, 61, Medford, DWI, \$306, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Jennifer R. Thomas, 39, Eagan, suspended registration, \$381; Melissa J. Toot, 21, Lonsdale, no insurance, \$281; Austin J. Valenzuela, 20, Faribault, speeding and suspended license, \$161; Quoc Van Le, 21, Austin, speeding, \$221; Leslie L. Vargas, 18, Rochester, speeding, \$141; Benita Z. Vela, 41, Waseca, invalid license, \$181; Melany J. Vogt, 53, Caruthers, CA, speeding, \$141; Joseph M. Wencel, 18, Owatonna, DWI, \$181, 1 day in county jail, substance abuse subtle screening inventory, no alcohol or controlled substance use, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation.

### POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

**BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE**

**JUNE 13**

**Restraining Order:** Police responded to a restraining order violation in the 200 block of 1<sup>st</sup> St. NW at 2:45 p.m.

**OWATONNA POLICE**

**JUNE 7**

**Warrants:** Police made warrant arrests in the 700 block of Oak Ave. N. at 12:56 p.m. and the 500 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 8:46 p.m.

**Thefts:** Police took theft reports at the law enforcement center at 2:59 p.m. and the 200 block of University St. E. at 4:34 p.m.

**Arrest:** Officers arrested a subject at University St. SE and Cedar Ave. S. at 3:36 p.m.

**Forgery:** Police arrested a subject for counterfeit money in the 100 block of Broadway St. W. at 4:14 p.m.

**Domestic:** Police responded to domestic disturbances in the 100 block of Main St. W. at 9:01 p.m. and the 1400 block of Oak Ave. S. at 10:33 p.m. They arrested subjects at both incidents.

**Arrest:** Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Cedar Ave. S. and 18<sup>th</sup> St. SE at 10:50 p.m.

**JUNE 8**

**DWI:** At 12:21 a.m., police arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at Bixby Rd. SE and 18<sup>th</sup> St. SE.

**Weapons:** Officers responded to a weapons-related incident in the 1500 block of Prairie Lane NE at 7:04 a.m. They arrested subjects at the scene.

**Suspicion:** Police responded to suspicious activity in the 300 block of Arglen Dr. NW at 10:38 a.m. They issued a citation at the scene.

**Vandalism:** Property damage was reported in the 600 block of Mound St. SW at 1:42 p.m. and the 2100 block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. NW at 3:43 p.m.

**Identity Theft:** Police received information regarding identity theft in the 200 block of Hobart St. SE at 1:44 p.m.

**Warrant:** Officer made a warrant arrest in the 100 block of Rose St. E. at 4:20 p.m.

**Theft:** Officer took a theft report in the 200 block of Chambers Ave. SE at 8:01 p.m.

**JUNE 9**

**Crash:** Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries in the 1300 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 9:29 p.m.

**JUNE 10**

**Warrant:** Officer made a warrant arrest in the 200 block of Hobart St. SE at 6:50 a.m.

**Burglary:** Police began a burglary investigation in the 400 block of Elm Ave. N. at 8:14 a.m.

**Vandalism:** Property damage was reported in the 100 block of McKinley St. E. at 9:49 a.m.

**Criminal Sexual Conduct:** At 10:11 a.m., police received information regarding criminal sexual conduct in the city.

**JUNE 11**

**Burglary:** Officers responded to a burglary in the 800 block of School St. E. at 1:29 a.m.

**Domestic:** Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of 21<sup>st</sup> St. NW at 4:42 a.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

**Vandalism:** Property damage was reported in the 300 block of School St. E. at 6:56 a.m.

**Theft:** Officer took a theft report in the 500 block of South St. E. at 12:28 p.m.

**Arrest:** At 5:44 p.m., police arrested a subject during a traffic stop at State Ave. NW and Glendale St. NW.

**JUNE 12**

**Burglary:** At 7:21 a.m., police responded to a burglary at Cedar Ave. S. and 22<sup>nd</sup> St. SE.

**Vandalism:** Property damage was reported in the 400 block of Mineral Springs Road NE at 9:26 a.m.

**Hit and Run:** At 2:56 p.m., a hit and run accident occurred in the 100 block of Elm Ave. N.

**Warrant:** Officer made a warrant arrest in the 400 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 5:39 p.m.

**JUNE 13**

**Theft:** Police arrested a subject for theft in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 5:31 p.m.

**Domestic:** Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Riverside Ave. NW at 10:01 p.m.

**STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF**

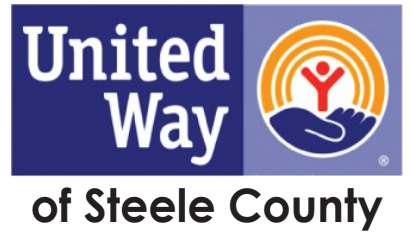
**JUNE 7**

**DWI:** Deputy made a DWI arrest at County Road 45 N. and 76<sup>th</sup> St. NW in Medford Township at 9:07 p.m.





Blooming Prairie  
**YOUTH CLUB**





9th Annual “A Rib and Wing Thing” Ribfest!

Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>

BP Servicemen’s Club

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# Grow Communities grant given to BP FFA



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Dodge County farmer Roger Toquam is pictured with new officers of the Blooming Prairie Future Farmers of America chapter. He recently donated \$2,500 to the BP FFA chapter. The grant was given him by the Bayer Fund America's Farmers Grow Communities program. Pictured are front row: Lexi Steckelberg, Madeleine Stoen, Haven Carlson and Erin O'Brien; back row: Roger Toquam, Cortney Espy, Ethan Grant, Boone Carlson, Cole Christianson, Kaiden Finley and Bill Rinkenberger

BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
STAFF WRITER

A local farm family recently paid tribute to the Blooming Prairie Future Farmers of America by donating \$2,500 to the chapter.

Roger Toquam of Toquam Family Farms of Dodge County was given \$2,500 through the America's Farmers Grow Communities program. The program is sponsored by the Bayer Fund. Toquam selected the FFA to receive the donation.

Farmers across the country are partnering with the Bayer Fund to give back to rural nonprofit organizations through America's Farmers Grow Communities, sponsored by the Bayer Fund. From local FFA chapters and 4-H clubs to fire departments, community centers, food pantries and schools, 1,300 rural community nonprofit organizations are being awarded \$2,500 this spring.

"We support the local FFA and believe the chapter turns out some outstanding young men and women in agricultural venues," remarked Roger Toquam. He farms in Dodge County with his sons Brennen, Josh and Isaiah. All three of Toquam's sons were

active in the Blooming Prairie FFA chapter.

Roger also saluted local FFA advisor Bill Rinkenberger for his work with the local chapter. The chapter counts 48 members.

Rinkenberger said the \$2,500 donation will be used by the local FFA chapter to continue its Feed the Farmer activity. The local chapter goes to the farmers with lunches during the harvest season.

The purpose of the Grow Communities program is to partner with farmers to make a positive impact in farm communities across the country by supporting local non-profit organizations.

Since the program began in 2010, more than \$33 million has been directed to organizations across rural America. Learn more at AmericasFarmers.com.

"FFA is so much more than just for the farmers," says Toquam. Future farmers help provide food, fiber and fuel for the world.

"Our chapter is honored that a local farmer has thought that highly of our various activities," remarked Rinkenberger. He just recently completed his 15th year as vocational agriculture instructor and FFA advisor.

# Almost summer and still planting



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

An over abundance of rainfall this spring has slowed the planting process in the Blooming Prairie area. It has been an unusually cool and wet spring. Here, a farmer plants a crop for the BP Future Farmers of America chapter on the west edge of Blooming Prairie.

# Six graduates end FFA careers at BP

BY ERIN O'BRIEN  
FFA REPORTER

This year from Blooming Prairie High school we had six graduating seniors involved in FFA. Rachael Oswald, Tim Wolf, Colton Ivers, Riley Millam, Cody Anderson and Corey Lyman. These members spoke at this year's FFA banquet. Each senior played an important role in FFA, whether it be intentional or none intentional, these seniors will truly be missed from FFA.



Rachael Oswald was a member of the FFA for five years. She was involved in many things with FFA. Rachael gave a heartwarming speech at this year's banquet where she talked about her successes with the Small Animal team at state and thanked everyone who has helped her along the way. Rachael says that her highlights in FFA are, motion trips to Nashville and Colorado, making it to state for Small Animal judging, making homecoming breakfast and then enjoying the food her senior year. Rachael's future plans are to attend Bethel University where she will study neuroscience. Rachael's advice to the underclassmen is this "don't worry if your life isn't fully planned out." Thank you, Rachael, for your time in FFA!

Tim Wolf was a member of the FFA for six years. He



was this year's president. He was involved in many things with the FFA. Tim gave a cry jerking speech at this year's banquet where he talked about his family and some of his successes in FFA. Tim says that his highlights in FFA are, being president, going to a lake for an officer retreat, placing fifth at state in General Livestock judging, being a region officer and every single farm safety day. Tim's future plans are to attend the University of Wisconsin River Falls where he will play football, major in ag business and minor in agronomy. Tim's advice to the underclassmen is this "don't procrastinate." Thank you, Tim, for your time in FFA!



Colton Ivers was a member of the FFA for six years. He served on the officer team last year. He was involved in General Livestock judging. Colton was unable to make this year's banquet as he had other things going on. Colton says that his highlights in FFA are, being on the General Livestock judging team and bus rides

to contests. Colton's future plans are to attend Kansas State University to study animal science. Colton's advice to the underclassmen is this "have fun." Thank you, Colton, for your time in FFA!



Riley Millam was a member of the FFA for a year. He was involved in this year's Small Animal judging team. Riley unfortunately didn't speak at this year's banquet. Riley says that his highlight in FFA was making it to state in Small Animal. Riley's future plans are to attend Iowa State University to study electrical and computer engineering. Colton's advice to the underclassmen is this "join FFA as soon as you can: it's incredibly fun, and I wish I would've joined it before my senior year." Thank you, Riley, for your time in FFA!



Corey Lyman was a member of the FFA for five years. He was involved in safety day and drive your tractor to school day. Corey gave a heartwarming speech at this year's banquet where he talked the people that have helped him along the way during high-school and FFA Corey says that his highlights in FFA are, drive your tractor to school day, farm safety day, Greenhand and the banquet. Corey's future plans are basic training for the Army National Guard in June and then going to college for diesel mechanic and then for farm mechanic. Corey's advice to the underclassmen is this "never give up, don't quit, keep your head held high."



Cody Anderson was a member of the FFA for two years. He was involved in farm safety day. Cody unfortunately didn't speak at this year's banquet. Cody says that his highlight in FFA was the annual Christmas party at the Cinch Rodeo. Cody's future plans are to go straight into the work force. Cody's advice to underclassmen is this "do your homework and get it in on time." Thank you, Cody, for your time in FFA!

A special thanks again to this year's graduating seniors! You will all truly be missed and have a special place in FFA.

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# Crop considerations during this wet spring

Planting is still considerably behind this 2019 growing season. Many farmers are grimacing with each rainy day and anxiously awaiting enough consecutive dry days to actually get out and finish planting their crops. Along with keeping farmers out of the field at a critical time, the rain can cause concerns about nitrogen loss in crop fields.

Wet conditions often result in nitrogen movement through the soil, which we consider a loss for our crops. Wet springs typically mean less than ideal nitrogen management. However, this year's spring rains have been accompanied by cooler temperatures, which helps reduce the potential for nitrogen loss. Losing nitrogen depends on nitrogen being in the nitrate form, because that's the form that moves with water. Nitrification is the process through which nitrate is formed from ammonium by bacteria in the soil, a process which

On The Farm  
CLAIRE LACANNE

slows down when soils are cold. I guess the cool spring temperatures are good for something.

Once nitrogen is in that nitrate form, it can be lost through denitrification in waterlogged fields or leaching as water moves down below the root-zone or into tile drains.

Anhydrous ammonia is not as susceptible to loss as other forms of nitrogen fertilizer, because it undergoes nitrification slowly. On the other hand, urea nitrifies quickly after application. This is one of the reasons why U of MN does not recommend

applying urea in the fall in our region. If you applied anhydrous in the fall, you may be sitting okay. Having applied little or no nitrogen could be a good thing this year because it provides more flexibility to manage nitrogen as conditions change.

For example, if corn has not been planted yet, switching to a different crop may be an easier decision. This is quite possible, because 66% of Minnesota corn had been planted as of May 28, when the 5-year average planted at this time is 93%. Soybeans have a longer window for planting, but are substantially behind as well, sitting at only 35% planted compared to a typical 77% by this time, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

However, keep in mind that corn does not require much nitrogen early in the growing season, so as long as the application is done around V4, there's little concern of starving the

crop. The only situation where application of nitrogen at planting is critical would be in continuous corn where there is substantial crop residue.

Whether substantial nitrogen loss from spring or fall applications has occurred is still unknown; what happens in June can largely influence whether there is significant loss. Soils will continue to warm up and nitrification will increase. If we have drier conditions moving forward, the potential for loss will be low, but if these wet conditions continue, nitrogen loss will become a bigger concern. Keep your eye on weather conditions and watch your corn closely for signs of nutrient deficiencies as we move forward in the growing season.

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



# History from the News Archives

## 10 Years Ago

June 16, 2009

DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

It was almost five years ago when a clinic closed its doors in Dodge Center. Because of this Jan Lueth of Blooming Prairie and a few others decided to start their own. The Center Clinic located in the Midtown Center Building in Dodge Center is a confidential, low-cost service for teens, women and their partners. Lueth has been a nurse since 1976 and is currently working for Olmsted Public Health.

Jamie Bodenstab opened Studio J Images at the beginning of the year and is looking forward to capturing people's lives. Bodenstab is the owner and photographer for Studio J. She opened her studio at the beginning of the year in her home at 236 W. Main St. in Blooming Prairie.

AgriGold has employed Justin Krell of Blooming Prairie as a Region 8 sales intern for the summer 2009 growing season. Krell will work in several southeastern Minnesota counties, including Dodge, Freeborn, Mower and Steele. He is a 2008 graduate from Blooming Prairie and is currently attending South Dakota State University.

Beth Trom has taken over Jane Prihoda's share and is now the only owner of Highway Roost in Blooming Prairie. The tradition of good food at fair prices in a friendly atmosphere will continue. The new arrangement took effect June 1.

## 20 Years Ago

June 15, 1999

ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

It seems like yesterday that Blooming Prairie's Lisa Meshke surprised the golfing world with a fifth place finish as a seventh grader. Now, after finishing her junior year, she looks back and sees the great strides she's made in her game. This year she took second place at state in St. Cloud. This was the third year she has earned second place.

A new set of disciplinary rules and consistent daily hours have been put into effect at the Blooming Prairie pool this summer. Now the pool will be open seven days a week and lifeguards will have more control over unruly

swimmers. The new policy calls for swimmers to be suspended depending on the number of times they are caught.

## 50 Years Ago

June 11, 1969

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

Verlin Eaker of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and a native of Blooming Prairie, will challenge area race drivers on the Chateau Speedway's one-fourth mile track this Friday, June 13. Eaker is recognized as one of the leading drivers in stock car racing circles and has made quite a name for himself since moving to Iowa.

Richard Alwes of Blooming Prairie was injured in a one-car crash about 2 a.m. on June 6, one mile south of Blooming Prairie on Highway 218. He was traveling north when he lost control and crashed. The 1967 Pontiac GTO is a total loss.

Ronnie Underwood has been appointed temporary substitute clerk at the Blooming Prairie Post Office. He is filling the vacancy created recently when Donald A. Miller was named rural carrier on Route 2.

## 75 Years Ago

June 15, 1944

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

Poultry raisers in this area were enriched to the sum of \$1,608,026 for eggs sold to the Blooming Prairie Egg Pool from June 1, 1943 to June 1, 1944. This huge sum represents purchase of 140,200 cases of "hen fruit" or getting down to single units, 50,472,000 eggs.

A business deal of considerable significance was closed last week between Mrs. Gladys Simpson of Austin and E.J. Betlach whereby the latter purchased the Simpson interests in the Prairie Oil Co. for his two sons, Frankie and Ernie, now serving with the U.S. Navy in the Southwest Pacific. The Prairie Oil Company has been operated by Betlach and Simpson since 1925.

Axel Hanson, well-known barber formerly employed in the Olson shop, has leased the west room in the Johnson building, formerly occupied by Shaw drug company and fitted it up into a near appearing, modern barbershop. Opening of Hanson's barbershop makes four such places in Blooming Prairie.

# How to Protect Yourself from the Social Security Imposter Scam



**THE SAVVY SENIOR**

**Brought to you by:** 

**Prairie Manor Care Center & Heather Haus**

220 3rd St. NW,  
Blooming Prairie

**583-4434**

Dear Savvy Senior,  
I recently received a strange call from a Social Security employee. He told me my Social Security number had been suspended because it was involved in a crime, and that I needed to reactivate it and secure my bank funds by withdrawing them and putting them on gift cards. Is this a scam?  
Worried Rita

Dear Rita,  
Yes. It's actually known as the "Social Security imposter scam" and it's becoming a widespread problem in the U.S. The Federal Trade Commission has received more than 76,000 reports about this growing scam in the past 12 months alone. With average losses of \$1,500, this scam is quickly becoming one of fraudsters' favorite tricks.

The Social Security imposter scam usually begins with a consumer receiving a call from someone claiming to be with the Social Security Administration. The caller informs the victim that their Social Security number (SSN) has been suspended because it was stolen or has been involved in a crime.

The phone call may be a robocaller with a message to "press 1" to speak with a fake support representative who then claims to be able to help reactivate the consumer's SSN.

In a variation on this scam, the caller may also reach out to tell a victim that they qualify for an increase in benefits. All they need to do is provide the scammer with some information. Typically, these callers will ask their victims several questions to get personal information that they can then use to steal their identity or drain their bank accounts.

Because of the numerous data breaches, these scammers may have access to accurate personal information – such as your SSN – that they can use to build trust and appear legitimate. Regardless, before concluding the scam, fraudsters will almost

always request payment to "unfreeze" the SSN or to process the increase in benefits. The scammer may request that they be paid via an unusual payment method such as by gift card (and giving the fraudster the gift card number), or some form of cryptocurrency like Bitcoin.

While the scam can be devastating, there are several steps you can take to prevent yourself, and your loved ones, from falling victim to this scam:

**Don't trust your caller ID:** Scammers can make it look as if the Social Security Administration is calling and even use the agency's real number. If you receive an unexpected call from Social Security, don't answer it. Instead, call Social Security's customer service number at 800-772-1213 to see if they were actually trying to contact you.

**Remember, Social Security will never suspend your number or call and demand money:** If anyone tells you something different, you're being scammed.

**Don't give out personal information:** Never give out your Social Security number, bank information or other personal details to an unknown caller. If you already did, visit *IdentityTheft.gov/SSA* to find out what steps you can take to protect your credit and your identity.

**Don't trust the caller just because they may know some of your personal information:** It's most likely a scam if the person on the other end asks to confirm your information.

**Talk about the experience:** Those who've been targeted should alert friends and neighbors about the call to spread information and report the scam to the FTC at *FTC.gov/complaint*.

**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.

HONORING

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



CONGRATULATIONS

Blooming Prairie's 2018-19 Academic Letterwinners

LIST OF ALL WINNERS

| Seniors 3.636 Cumulative GPA                                                                                                                                                                                      | Juniors 3.745 Cumulative GPA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Sophomores 3.818 Cumulative GPA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| William Cardenas<br>Colton Ivers<br>Riley Millam<br>Rachael Oswald<br>Seth Peterson<br>Payton Simon<br>Micah White                                                                                                | Kisha Aquino<br>Riauna Bishop<br>Gemini Johnson<br>Adam Larson<br>Jarrett Larson<br>Maya Lembke<br>Luke Rennie<br>Grace Robins<br>Baylee Sorensen<br>Dondi Stender<br>Parker Vaith<br>Viridiana Villarreal<br>Zachary Weber<br>Julia Worke                       | Ashleigh Alwes<br>Maggie Bruns<br>Maren Forystek<br>Charlie Heimerman<br>Emily Kubicek<br>Luke Larkoski<br>Reese Millam<br>Megan Oswald<br>Rachael Riley<br>Wyatt Voss<br>Taylor Wurst                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Freshmen 3.818 Cumulative GPA                                                                                                                                                                                     | 8th Graders 3.818 Cumulative GPA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 7th Graders 3.818 Cumulative GPA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Bobbie Bruns<br>Larisa Judy<br>Parker Kubicek<br>Asha Lighthizer<br>Josie Lorenz<br>Marquette Millam<br>Xavier Rennie<br>Lauren Schammel<br>Bradley Simon<br>Isabelle Sunde<br>Carson Wacek<br>Melanie Winzenburg | Olivia Anderson<br>Micah Donnelly<br>Stirling Hart<br>Abigail Hefling<br>Ava Krejci<br>Sierra Larson<br>Madison Lea<br>Ethan Marzolf<br>Samuel Michaud<br>Anna Pauly<br>Samuel Pirk<br>Anna Reese<br>Clare Rennie<br>Joie Ruhter<br>Maelaine Stoen<br>Abby Smith | Addison Doocy<br>Annaka Forsberg<br>Tyler Forystek<br>Claire Foster<br>Anna Haberman<br>Shanna Halverson<br>Luke Heimgartner<br>Derek Kubicek<br>Macy Lembke<br>Grant Magnuson<br>Jamie Reinke<br>Benjamin Riley<br>Molly Robins<br>Lily Schammel<br>Jaylee Schleicher<br>Mason Simon<br>Aidan Slowinski<br>Ava Smith<br>Kolby Vigeland<br>Rachel Winzenburg |

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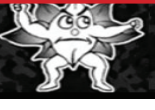
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OBITUARIES

Maurene M. Grunwald, 94,  
Blooming Prairie

Maurene May Grunwald, 94, of Blooming Prairie, died Monday, June 10, 2019, surrounded by her family. She and her twin sister were born at home in Blooming Prairie Township on Dec. 12, 1924, the daughters of Frank and Alma (Eaker) Borchert. She grew up on the Borchert family farm and attended country school next to Trinity Lutheran Church, rural Blooming Prairie.

On June 24, 1947, she married Laurel Grunwald at Trinity Lutheran Church. The couple made their home on the Borchert family farm. Together they raised hogs, cows, sheep, chickens, ducks, riding horses and work horses. She and her husband were honored and proud to grow the farm and eventually purchase it from her parents. The farm earned the honored distinction of becoming a Century Farm in the 1980s.

Along with farming, she enjoyed gardening, flowers, and attending dances with friends, Eugene and Virginia Motl. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church all of her life. One of the most difficult decisions for Maurene was to move off the farm. Her family made sure she enjoyed many visits back to the farm over the years.

She is survived by daughter, Linda (and Mel) Tollefsrud of Rochester; grandchildren, Chad Nelson of Owatonna, Jenny (and Hilario Larios Martinez) Nelson of Lake City, Jesse (and Joani Vidal) Tollefsrud of Wellington, Colo., and John Tollefsrud of Ft. Collins, Colo.; great-grandson, Owen Tollefsrud; twin sister, Lorraine Clemmensen of Owatonna; and son-in-law, Terry Nelson of Owatonna and other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Laurel Grunwald (2009); daughter, Diane Nelson (2013), brother, Woodrow Borchert and two infant sisters.

Funeral services were held Thursday, June 13, 2019 at Michaelson Funeral Home with Rev. Stephanie Wood officiating. Interment was in the Union Cemetery, rural Blooming Prairie.

Memorials are preferred to the donor's choice.

**Michaelson Funeral Homes, Inc. of Owatonna handled the arrangements.**



DEATH NOTICE

Robert Leon Goff, 90,  
Blooming Prairie

**Robert (Bob) Leon Goff**, age 90 of Blooming Prairie, passed away Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at the Owatonna Hospital.

Celebration of Life service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 28, 2019 at the First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service on Friday at the church.

Memorials can be directed to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society. Services are prearranged and performed with Worlein Funeral Home in Blooming Prairie. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.worlein.com](http://www.worlein.com).

A full obituary will appear in next week's paper.

Jensen

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BIRTHDAYS

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JUNE 20:

CARTER BUMGARNER, BROOKLYN SIMON, ANDREA KVALSTEN AND SUE ZWIENER

JUNE 21:

JEFF KRAMER, ANDREA MILLER, ALLAN BENSON AND MICHAEL CLAYTON

JUNE 22:

JOE GARDNER, RANDY KLEMMENSEN, BARB COLEMAN, JANE PRIHODA, RYAN SRSEN, WILLIAM HINES AND LISA TOMS

JUNE 23:

BRECKIN COCHLIN, NORA BODURTHA, CALLIE IVERSON, CLAIRE STALLOCH, COLTON HEMANN AND EFREN HERNANDEZ

JUNE 24:

YVONNE LEE AND ELIOT GIMBEL

JUNE 25:

HUGO EHLERS, LOUIS EHLERS, STEPHEN BASNESS, JOSEPH MASTYER AND THOMAS ERICKSON

ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE 19:

AARON & ASHLEY ANDERSON AND NATHAN & LORI ARNDT

JUNE 20:

TOM & TAMY HARBER, JOSH & ELLIE JONES AND ANN & QUENTIN WEEDMAN

JUNE 21:

NICK & SAMI NELSON AND GREG & KATHY JOHNSON

JUNE 22:

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JUNE 23:

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COLLEGE NEWS

Jensen graduates  
from Gustavus

Macaela Jensen of Blooming Prairie was among the 532 students to graduate with bachelor of arts degrees from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter during the school's annual commencement exercises on June 1.

Jensen earned a degree in psychology.

Students named  
to Dean's List at  
colleges

Several area students have been named to the Dean's List at their respective colleges.

Marissa Larson and Anthony Nelson of Blooming Prairie were named to the Dean's List at Bethel University in St. Paul. Larson is the daughter of Tammy Larson, and Nelson is the son of Brian and Lois Nelson. They are both seniors.

The Dean's List honors students who achieve an outstanding scholastic record during the semester with a GPA of 3.6 or greater.

Two area students were among the 3,740 North Dakota State University students to be placed on the Dean's List for spring 2019.

They are Emma K. Carroll and Alec Holcomb of Owatonna and Mitchell A. Westrum of New Richmond. Holcomb is majoring in sport management while Westrum is in mechanical engineering. Carroll is currently undecided.

A student must earn a 3.5 GPA or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 class credits to qualify for the Dean's List.

GRADUATION

Conklin graduates  
from BlueSky

It is with great pride that family and friends wish to congratulate Victoria Conklin, a 2019 graduate of BlueSky School.

Conklin has earned various Academic Awards of Distinction and Excellence, is recognized by the National Honor Society, and maintained a 3.85 GPA throughout her junior and senior years as a PSEO student.

Her plan is to continue this fall at RCTC to complete her two-year degree before spring orientation in Los Angeles, where she has been accepted into the Master Make-up Artistry program at MUD, as a 2020 freshman.

She is working toward a career in SFX make-up and prosthetics, as well as SCUBA investigation and recovery.

BlueSky was the first charter school in Minnesota to be completely online. It is based in West St. Paul.

Sudoku Corner

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

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Answers

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

BOOK NOOK

STEM programs  
offered at the  
library

NANCY  
VAILLANCOURT

Hold the phones! We have an addition to our Summer Reading Program at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library.

The University of Minnesota Extension office in Owatonna has offered to do three special STEM Club programs at the library. In the past they have presented Adventure Club along with 4-H Ambassadors, but this year they will be focusing on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) subjects. All youth ages 6 and up are invited to join us at the library on Fridays at 11 a.m. on June 28, July 12, and July 26. No sign up is needed.

Sign up is required for an exciting program to be held from 2-4 p.m. on Aug. 7 and 8. The Bakken Science in the summer program is specifically for students entering grades 2 through 5 in the fall. They will learn about the digestive and circulatory systems, how our brains send messages, and about the DNA that makes us each unique. All children must commit to attending both days. (You won't want to miss the second day – a sheep's heart is involved!) Space is limited to 25 children, so sign up now!

Next, an apology – I got the dates for our next Family Movie mixed up in last week's column. The movie will be on Thursday, June 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Finally, don't forget that our June Book Fair will be held on Thursday, June 27 from 1-6 p.m. Not only can you choose a free book if you have read at least 20 minutes per day for 10 days this month, but we will also have some amazing astronaut activities. See you at the library!

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Prairie Family & Sports CHIROPRACTIC

Betlach Anniversary6.20

Recipe Corner

CHOCOLATE REVEL BARS

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup butter

2 cups brown sugar

2 eggs

2 tsp. vanilla

2 1/4 cups flour

1 tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. salt

3 cups oatmeal

DIRECTIONS

Cream butter and sugar. Mix in eggs and vanilla. Sift together flour, soda and salt. Stir in oatmeal. Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture and set aside.

FILLING:

12 oz. pkg. chocolate chips

13 oz. can sweetened condensed milk

2 Tbsp. butter

1/2 tsp. salt

1 cup chopped nuts

2 tsp. vanilla

DIRECTIONS

Mix chocolate chips, milk, butter and salt together and melt. When smooth, add nuts and vanilla. Spread 2/3 of the oatmeal mixture in the bottom of a 9x13" pan. Cover with chocolate mixture. Dot with remaining oatmeal mixture and bake at 350° for 25 minutes.

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15th Presidents Award Winner  
Blooming Prairie, 583-2046



PASTOR’S COLUMN



David Efflandt  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN  
KASSON

Reflecting on answers

I’ve been reflecting recently on how we, as a person of faith, navigate a world that often doesn’t provide us with easy decisions or clear answers. I’ve been pondering how we remain faithful during times of doubt, fear, uncertainty, and grief. In other words, what does it mean in our relationship with God if faith doesn’t come easy all the time.

I think that one of the most comforting things about being

a disciple of Jesus Christ is that we’re not expected to have everything worked out before we can be called a person of faith. I also believe that this makes it difficult to hear the Gospel, because our world values self-sufficiency and success. So if I didn’t earn God’s grace in the first place, then why did He give it to me? This places God’s faithfulness in Christ through the power of the Spirit as pure mystery.

In 1 Corinthians 4:1, Paul says, “Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God’s mysteries.” (NRSV) We’re encouraged to be servants of Christ; loving others as we’ve been loved first. And we’re sent into the world as stewards, as caretakers of the Word, to proclaim the greatest mystery of all: that God’s love cannot be stopped by doubt, by fear, by people, or even by death. We’ve been given

this treasure of God’s faithfulness to care for and share with the world.

The heart of the Gospel is that God has graciously shared His forgiveness and mercy with us for one reason: because God loves us. I thank God every day for this gift, and I pray that this heart of the Gospel beats loud and clear through our words and deeds in a world that desperately needs God’s love still today. Amen.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

| LUTHERAN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN – ELCA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | NON-DENOMINATIONAL                                                                                                                                                                                                   | (Fellowship, Church School, and Adult Discussions follow)<br>Wednesday Activities: Sept – May (see website for schedule)                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AURORA LUTHERAN</b><br>6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna<br>Pastor Stephanie Wood<br>507-676-5696<br>Worship: Sunday at 9 a.m.<br>Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 30456 Mower-Freeborn Road, Austin<br>Pastor Lindsay Brennan<br>507-583-2038 or 507-437-3000<br>www.roglutheran.org<br>Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School<br>(Sept. – May): 10:15 a.m.                                                                                           | 108 Third Ave. SW., Medford<br>Pastor Mark Biebighauser<br>507-451-0447<br>8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.<br>Sunday Worship Service<br>9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie<br>Father Thomas Niehaus<br>507-583-2784<br>www.stcolumbanuschurch.com<br>Mass: 10 a.m. Sun.<br>& 8:30 a.m. Friday<br>Reconciliation: 9 a.m.<br>First Friday & Saturday                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY</b><br>130 W. Bridge St., Owatonna<br>Pastor Keith Haskell<br>507-215-2249<br>Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.<br>Biblestudy: 9 a.m. Sun.<br>Reformers Unanimous Meetings: 7 p.m. Friday           | <b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN</b><br>109 E. Main St., Hayfield<br>Pastor Kirk Johnston<br>507-477-2631<br>Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.                                                                             |
| <b>COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>106 Third St. SE., Geneva<br>Pastor Kristen Venne<br>507-256-4288<br>Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS</b><br>4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont<br>Pastor Alan Broadwell<br>507-528-2404<br>Worship: 6 p.m. Saturday; 10:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.                                                                                                | <b>TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS</b><br>57043 300th St., Waltham<br>Pastor Jesse Krusemark<br>507-567-2272<br>Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH</b><br>512 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna<br>Father James Starasinick<br>Deacon Patrick Fagan<br>507-451-4845<br>Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.<br>Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m.<br>Reconciliation: 3-3:30 p.m. Sat.<br>Daily Mass:<br>8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri.<br>(Communion Service<br>8 a.m. Thursday)<br>Adoration Chapel available<br>Mon. – Fri. 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.<br>Key fob required after hours or weekends | <b>CEDAR CREEK</b><br>30 E. Main St., Hayfield<br>Pastor Aaron de Neui<br>507-477-2255<br>www.cedarcreekchurch.org<br>Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.                                                                          | <b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN</b><br>P.O. Box 66, Claremont<br>507-528-2320<br>Pastor Douglas Walters<br>10 a.m. Worship                                                                                      |
| <b>FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC</b><br>503 Radel Ct., Ellendale<br>Pastor Richard Sliper<br>507-684-2451<br>Saturday: 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study<br>Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship; 10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation<br>Tues.: 7 p.m. Call to Prayer, open to all churches<br>Wed.: 9:30 a.m. BibleStudy; 3:30 – 5 p.m. Jesus and Me; 6 p.m. Call to Prayer; 6:30 p.m. Youth Group | <b>ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS</b><br>28959 630th Ave., Sergeant<br>Pastor Collin Duling<br>507-251-5568<br>Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9 a.m.                                                                                                                       | <b>ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale<br>Pastor: Rev. Dean Smith<br>Worship: 8:00 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>CATHOLIC</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</b>                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>CHRIST THE KING</b><br>205 Second Ave. NW, Medford<br>507-451-6353<br>Father James Starasinich<br>Deacon Patrick Fagan<br>Mass: 5:30 p.m. Sat.<br>Mass: 9 a.m. Mon. & Fri.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>CHRISTIAN</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</b><br>2373 Seventh Ave. NE, Owatonna<br>Pastor Brian Beavers<br>507-340-7143<br>Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat.<br>Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat.                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS</b><br>307 SW First St., New Richland<br>Father Raul Silva<br>Fr. Adam McMillan,<br>Parochial Vicar<br>507-465-8217<br>Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT</b><br>540 SE 18th St., Owatonna<br>Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor<br>507-451-1032<br>Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m.                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie<br>Senior Pastor:<br>Rev. Heidi Heimgartner<br>Associate Pastor:<br>Rev. Mike Walerius<br>507-583-6621<br>firstlutheranbp.com<br>Worship Service- 9 a.m.<br>Sunday School- 10 a.m.                                                                                                                 | <b>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN- ELCA</b><br>1301 Lincoln Ave. Owatonna<br>Pastors Dave Klawiter and Jacie Richmond<br>507-451-7293<br>stjohnowatonna.org<br>Worship: 5 p.m. Thursday & Saturday; 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday<br>Summer Services: 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Sunday                    | <b>HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL</b><br>9946 SE 24th Ave. Owatonna<br>Father John Sauer, Pastor<br>507-451-1588<br>www.litomysl.webs.com<br>Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.c with Children's Church<br>Reconciliation:<br>8:45 a.m. - 1st & 3rd Sundays<br>Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.: Faith Formation for K thru Confirmation<br>Second Sunday of month: Family Faith Formation<br>Litomysl Finance Council:<br>2nd Thursday<br>Litomysl Pastoral Council:<br>2nd Thursday every other month |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>PENTECOSTAL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST</b><br>211 Main St. S., Medford<br>Rev. Richard Waters<br>507-451-4596<br>Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.                                                             |
| <b>FIRST LUTHERAN – LCMC</b><br>8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope<br>Pastor Sandy Miller<br>507-451-3854<br>Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m. Sun.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>30450 570th Ave., Waltham<br>Pastor Dwight DoBell<br>507-567-2474<br>Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>NEW BEGINNINGS</b><br>332 14th St. NE., Owatonna<br>Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson<br>507-413-0209<br>Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.                                                                                        | <b>ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b>                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – LCMS</b><br>202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale<br>Pastor Jesse Krusemark<br>507-567-2272<br>Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>SIMPLE CHURCH</b><br>4515 NW 22nd Ave., Owatonna<br>(Country Goods building across the freeway from Cabela's)<br>Pastor Todd Lundgren<br>507-451-5661<br>Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday | <b>VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b><br>702 Third St. S., Ellendale<br>Pastor Patrick Stitt<br>507-684-3421<br>www.vibrantlifeag.com<br>Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun.       |
| <b>Good Shepherd Lutheran – LCMS</b><br>2500 7th Ave. NE., Owatonna<br>Pastor Greg Schlicker<br>Pastor Mark Neumann<br>507-451-4125<br>goodshepherdowatonna.com<br>Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.                                                                                                                                 | <b>ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden<br>Pastor: Rev. Dean Smith<br>507-451-2165<br>Worship: 9:30 a.m..                                                                                                                                                  | <b>SACRED HEART CATHOLIC</b><br>150 NE Second St., Hayfield<br>Father Thomas Niehaus<br>507-477-2256<br>Mass: 8 a.m. Sun.<br>& 8:30 a.m. Thursday<br>Reconciliation: 7:30 a.m. Sun.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>MORMON</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>BAPTIST</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon<br>Pastor Nancy Edwardson<br>507-789-6661<br>Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna<br>507-451-4520<br>tlcowatonna.org<br>Pastors: Todd Buegler & Amanda Weinkauff<br>Deacon: Kris Oppegard<br>Worship: 5 p.m. Saturday; 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Sunday<br>Sunday School: 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. | <b>SACRED HEART PARISH</b><br>810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna<br>Father John Sauer<br>Fr. Jose Morales, Parochial Vicar<br>507-451-1588<br>www.sacredheartowatonna.org<br>Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday; 8:30 a.m. & 10 a.m. Sun.<br>Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sun.<br>Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.<br>Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Sat.<br>Adoration:<br>8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Thurs.                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>PRAIRIE MENNONITE</b><br>13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie<br>Bishop Dennis Martin<br>507-583-7532<br>Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.<br>Prayer Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wed.                      | <b>FIRST BAPTIST (Owatonna's oldest church)</b><br>123 E. Main St., Owatonna<br>Pastor Cindy 507-451-2803<br>www.firstbaptistowatonna.com<br>Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.   |
| <b>PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale<br>507-465-8366<br>Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA</b><br>104 First St. SE., Hayfield<br>Pastor Paul Hauschild<br>507-477-2248<br>www.trinityhayfield.org<br>Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST</b><br>200 Sixth St. NW., Ellendale<br>Pastor Randy Cirksena<br>507-684-2731<br>www.ellendaleumc.org<br>Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.<br>Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS</b><br>404 31st St. NW, Austin<br>Bishop Rick Bremner<br>507-433-9042<br>Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.                                                                     | <b>ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>REDEEMER LUTHERAN – LCMS</b><br>1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna<br>Pastor Kirk Griebel<br>507-451-2720<br>Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.<br>Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. Sun.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST</b><br>815 E. University, Owatonna<br>Loren Olson, Pastor<br>Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor<br>Joyce Parker, Associate Pastor<br>507-451-4734<br>www.owatonnaumc.org<br>Traditional Worship (Pathways): 9 a.m. Sunday                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>PRESBYTERIAN</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>VICTORY LIFE</b><br>105 2nd St NE<br>Geneva<br>Pastor Diane Butler<br>507-402-0960<br>Worship on Sundays<br>Prayer Service: 7:30 a.m.<br>Church Service: 9:30 a.m.<br>Children's Church: 9:45 a.m. |

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BLOTTER: FROM A3

**JUNE 8**  
**Crash:** At 5:47 p.m., a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 4000 block of Crane Creek Road in Owatonna Township.

**JUNE 9**  
**Vandalism:** Property damage was reported in the 3300 block of 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. NW in Clinton Falls Township at 6:06 a.m.

**JUNE 10**  
**Domestic:** Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 4100 block of 66<sup>th</sup> St. NW in Medford Township at 6:21 a.m.  
**Crash:** At 11:56 p.m., a motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred at 58<sup>th</sup> St. SE and 89<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE in Aurora Township.

**JUNE 11**  
**Burglary:** Deputies responded to a burglary in the 7900 block of 59<sup>th</sup> Ave.

NE in Merton Township at 8:49 a.m.  
**Restraining Order:** At 1:31 p.m., deputies arrested a subject for violating a restraining order in the 6500 block of Kenyon Road in Merton Township.  
**Probation:** Deputies made probation violation arrests in the 6200 block of Kenyon Road in Merton Township at 2:58 p.m. and 3:51 p.m.

**JUNE 12**  
**Fire:** At 2:52 a.m., deputy issued a citation for a fire alarm at the detention center.  
**Drugs:** Deputies responded to drug activity in the 6500 block of Kenyon Road in Merton Township at 8:29 a.m.  
**Weapons:** Deputies responded to a weapons-related incident in the 10000 block of 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave. SW in Meriden Township at 9:35 p.m.

**ARRESTS**  
Steele County

**OWATONNA POLICE**  
**Patrick Charles Rose, 49, arrested at 12:30 p.m.** June 8, felony dangerous weapons and possession of pistol, held for court.  
**Jesse Colin Guy, 39, arrested at 2:25 p.m.** June 11, receiving stolen property, held for court.  
**Donnie Dwayne Antonio Jones, 39, arrested at 5:50 p.m.** June 11, cancelled license, held for court.  
**Joel David Brownell, 39, arrested at 11:50 a.m.** June 12, felony failure to register as predatory offender, held for court.  
**Steele County Sheriff Emily Lynn Amundson, 34, arrested at 1:28 p.m.** June 11, drugs, held for court.  
**Eloy Tarango, 40,**

**arrested at 12:37 a.m.** June 12, warrant arrest, held for court.  
**Joshua Scott Almendinger, 37, arrested at 1:08 p.m.** June 11, order for protection violation, held for court.  
**Chris Anthony Vruno, 32, arrested at 3 p.m. June 11, apprehension and detention arrest, body only.**  
**Buster Travoire Roosevelt Gaston, 42, arrested June 12, felony controlled substance, held for court.**  
**MN State Patrol Theresa Marie Lindskog, 37, arrested at 9:13 p.m.** June 12, felony controlled substance, held for court.

**COURT NEWS**  
Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors

were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of June 2 – 9:

**DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
Allen M. Farrow, 45, Rochester, speeding, \$130; \$220; Jeramy A. Gorman, 25, Kasson, registration violation, \$110; Michael King Jr., 19, Rochester, possession of marijuana, \$130; Tara L. Minnick, 43, Austin, parking violation and expired registration, \$130; Pedro Molina Lemus, 68, Dodge Center, invalid license, \$180; Leonardo D. Orozco Saravia, 34, Dodge Center, stop sign, \$130; Ann M. Pickett, 38, Waseca, speeding, \$130; Brooke L. Sederstrom, 26, Stewartville, registration violation and revoked license, \$310; Carl S. Ulwelling, 30, Rochester, revoked license, \$280; Joshua M. Vondeglen, 23, Watertown, WI, speeding, \$140; Brittany A. Winter, 31, Inver Grove Heights, speeding, \$120.

**Kasson Police Department**  
Bethany A. Buus, 35, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Ryle J. Chilson, 25, Kasson, revoked license, \$280; Michael J. Galloway, 63, North Pole, AK, stop sign, \$130; Amanda L. Janssen, 21, Rochester, speeding, \$220; Jack G. Jensen, 17, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Rebecca A. Kamrath, 42, Kasson, texting while driving, \$130; Elizabeth A. Markell, 33, West Concord, texting while driving, \$130; David C. Patrick, 59, Carpenter, IA, seat belt, \$105; Bryan D. Paulson, 44, Byron, texting while driving, \$130; Diego Perez, 22, Kasson, revoked license, open bottle and possession of marijuana, \$530; Joshua J. Rocha, 25, Faribault, speeding, \$130; Nichole M. Ruedy, 33, Dakota, suspended license and no insurance, \$480; Shelly M. St. John, 45, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Carl S. Ulwelling, 30, Rochester, revoked license and no insurance, \$480.

Joe's Repair saluted for patriotism

BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
STAFF WRITER

Strong winds on Friday, June 14, put American flags flying proudly in Blooming Prairie.

To recognize local patriotism in Blooming Prairie, the BP VFW Post 878 Auxiliary presented the Seventh Annual Patriotic Citizen Award to Joe Haberman of Joe's Repair in Blooming Prairie.

The award recognizes local citizens for the daily display of the American Flag and for unsolicited, inspirational and patriotic service to the community of Blooming Prairie.

A special recognition certificate was presented to Haberman by Joyce Johns, VFW Auxiliary president. She was accompanied by two other Auxiliary mem-

bers, Vikki Wacek and Judy Lestrud. VFW Commander Joe Wacek was also at the presentation.

Haberman was congratulated by Johns "for the daily display of our National Flag for unsolicited, inspirational and patriotic service to the community of Blooming Prairie."

Past recipients of the VFW Auxiliary's Patriotic Citizen Award have been: Minimizer; the Rev. Richard Hegal and wife Norma; Merle McNutt; Farmers & Merchants State Bank, US Bank and the Sundine family of Blooming Prairie.

"Keep our flag flying and thank you," Johns told Haberman.

Haberman said he soon will have an area landscaped to include the American flag.



A Patriotic Citizen Award was presented by the Blooming Prairie VFW Auxiliary Post 878 to Joe Haberman of Joe's Repair. Shown from left are: Auxiliary members Judy Lestrud, Vikki Wacek and Joyce Johns; Haberman and Joe Wacek, commander of VFW Post 878.

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Music Director: Michael Burke  
Technical Director: Victoria Bartkowiak  
Choreographer: Kyra Rahn

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Thur-Sat: 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Sun: 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased online starting June 1 (Members) & June 8 (General Public) at www.LittleTheatreofOwatonna.org

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## Tour offers Ellendale history

BY RICK BUSSLER  
PUBLISHER

Goldmines, Truth tools and a popular night club may be as diverse as can be, but they all have on thing in common. They're a part of the historical fabric of Ellendale.

A pair of local history buffs is bringing the history of what had been three important staples of Ellendale years ago to life during a history tour held in conjunction with Ellendale Days.

Barb Mrotz and Lloyd Kaplan of the Ellendale Area Heritage Society are teaming up to make it a special afternoon by offering insight into the Patterson goldmine, Ellendale Tool Company and Kernie's Night Club. The travel back in time will get underway at 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 29 at the Ellendale Park.

"We have a lot of things to cover on that day," Kaplan said. "It's a way to get people to come to town."

Ellendale's history into gold began in the late 1880s when a prognosticator in Philadelphia told Morris Patterson that if he would go to Minnesota, purchase a piece of land and dig in a certain place he would find much gold. Morris sent his father, Robert, and an uncle, John Platt, to the prescribed place, and they bought the farm located one mile east and one mile north of Ellendale.

In the early 1900s, Arthur Cowden had a small blacksmith shop in Ellendale. In his spare time, he liked to make chisels and punches. In 1919, he moved the business to Mankato and eventually Truth Tool Company was born. In 1950, Reub Kaplan, founder of Owatonna Tool, and a former Truth Tool employee, bought the company and merged it with Owatonna Tool.

Kernie's Night Club was the place to be during the 1950s, 60s and into the 70s, according to Mrotz. She said they will dig deep into the history of Kernie's, which many people around the area recall as a popular hangout, through storytellers who used to work there during the 1950s.

"We think the frosting on the cake is Kernie's," Mrotz said of the upcoming history tour. "In the 1950s that was a real happening place to be."

**ELLENDALE HISTORY TOUR**  
Saturday, June 29  
12 p.m.  
Ellendale Park  
Spectators are encouraged to bring lawn chairs

SEE ELLENDALE, B2

## Ready to see my friends?



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Look mom! Without a hint of fear, Sadie Trom, 5, pulls Razor, a big snake, out of the box during The Zoo Man's show at the Blooming Prairie Library on Thursday, June 13.

## The Zoo Man entertains children at BP Library

BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
STAFF WRITER

"Oh, I love the kids"

That confession is proudly uttered by The Zoo Man who showed up the other day at the Blooming Prairie Library. He brought some animal friends with him. The Zoo Man and friends are from Sleepy Eye, Minn.

The Zoo Man, who refuses to divulge his real name, has made several appearances before kids at the BP library, says librarian Nancy Vaillancourt.

His main mission is "to get kids excited about reading," he says.

"It's not really work, and I have been doing this for 32 years," says The Zoo Man.

The Zoo Man is very adept at estimating sizes of crowds and he says last Thursday afternoon's younger kids totaled 122. "I'll take his word for it," laughed Vaillancourt. Most of the kids in attendance came from the Blooming Prairie Youth Club, local day cares and other families, Vaillancourt said.

The Zoo Man put on his show in the council chambers room.

The Zoo Man's appearance was the first of many Blooming Prairie Library programs this summer,

designed to promote summer reading for young kids. His favorite crowds are kids ages K-6.

With several large Star Wars figures behind him, The Zoo Man began his presentation, welcoming youngsters to the Universe of Reading. "Read all the books you can, this summer," The Zoo Man encouraged.

The Zoo Man doesn't get much time to watch television, he said, because he is reading.

Prefacing his introduction of animals to the kids, the Zoo Man informed the kids that on July 20, we will mark 50 years since the first man walked on the moon. He then brought out two creatures that reached the moon before man. They were Russian tortoises.

The tortoises are named "Ma" and "Pa." Inserting humor every chance he got, the Zoo Man said Ma ate fruits and vegetables and Pa ate vegetables and fruit.

The Zoo Man's talks to kids are so successful because he involves them in his show. He took each of the tortoises around the room and gave "high fives" to the kids, explaining that the tortoises only have four fingers and toes on each limb.

"Are you reading to see more of my animal



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Maverick Schlichter tries out a new neck warmer. It's a friend of The Zoo Man who urged young kids to do lots of reading this summer. He was a guest at the Blooming Prairie Library on June 13.

friends?" the Zoo Man asked the captive audience. He asked the question three times and the answer, an affirmative "yes" got louder each time. "Don't yell, this is a library," the Zoo Man smiled.

Offering to show more examples of the universe of reading, the Zoo Man brought out a Honduras milk snake. He tied him in a knot and let the kids touch him. He even put the snake slyly on top of Grant's head.

His next friend was "one of the coolest snakes in the universe," the

Zoo Man believes. He is orange and come in many different colors.

"Let's see what's in the lunch box," the Zoo man remarked as he opened a cooler. "Maybe, it's cheese-cake," he joked. It was another snake.

Next, the Zoo Man brought out a box and kept removing the contents which revealed a huge black and white snake named Razor. He's a python. He asked Sadie Trom, 5, to reach in the box and find out if there was anything in the box.

SEE READY TO SEE, B2

## Ellendale hires new clerk

BY DENNIS MARSHALL  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Ellendale City Council approved the hire of the city's next clerk and treasurer during its bimonthly meeting on Thursday, June 13.

The council unanimously approved Tiffany Krueger to replace the retiring Lee Ann Højberg.

Krueger has previous city clerk experience. She worked as the city clerk and treasurer from both the cities of Hayward and Freeborn.

Ellendale council member Stephanie Kibler said Krueger is from the area and recently moved back.

Krueger is already involved in the community as a board member for the Community Foundation of Ellendale.

Kibler said Krueger's official start date is still uncertain, but it will be sometime in early July.

In other action, the council:

- Approved the replacement of two pumps at a city pond. Kibler said seals in the pumps had been bad and the city will replace them for approximately \$30,000. The pumps help plants, fish, aeration and rocks and gravel by filtering the ponds to keep the water clean and clear.
- Approved a street maintenance project for \$195,000 that will include some resurfacing in the Crown Ridge area, Rose Drive and chip sealing

SEE ELLENDALE HIRES, B2

## Dementia: What would (insert name) do?



**Steele Talkin'**  
HEATHER FAST

I'm not native to Owatonna but I remember a day when it was considered cool to wear or say, "What would Jesus do?" This phrase was supposed help

SEE DEMENTIA, B2



PHOTO COURTESY SKYE DEVORE

With roses in her arm, MaKinley Smith radiated with a big smile Thursday, June 13 after being crowned Miss Medford as part of Straight River Days.

## Going above and beyond yields special honors in Medford

BY DENNIS MARSHALL  
SPORTS EDITOR

Lauren Smith was selected as Miss Congeniality during the sixth annual Miss Medford Pageant at Medford High School on Thursday, June 13.

Makinley Smith was selected as Miss Medford, Adrianna Schlund was named Junior Miss Medford and Jaida Erickson earned Little Miss Medford.

One of the main reasons Smith was selected Miss Congeniality was because of her willingness to help others.

"We base Miss Congeniality on personality alone," said Anna Kavitz, Medford Civic Club member and pageant organizer. "The reason we picked Lauren [Smith] was be-

cause not only is she a really outgoing person, but she also really helped all of the younger girls this year."

Kavitz said Smith took it upon herself to show the younger girls where to walk and what to do.

"She was very active as far as helping us get ready for the whole thing," Kavitz said. "She showed up early and was asking questions about how she could help. We couldn't have picked a better person for it."

Smith's mother, Kristin, said her daughter's honor means a lot to her.

"She is always like that," Kristin Smith said. "She always wants to help people and

SEE SPECIAL HONORS IN MEDFORD, B2



STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

2019 Medford Miss Congeniality Lauren Smith and her mother, Kristin, took time out to enjoy the festivities during Straight River Days in Medford Friday night.







BLOOMING PRAIRIE

- JUNE 20**

1 p.m. – Children's Museum of So. Minnesota, BP Library

6:30 p.m. – Family Movie, BP Library
- JUNE 22**

Cruise for Cancer, J&H Liquor

3 p.m. – BP Youth Club Ribfest, Servicemen's Club
- JUNE 24**

1 p.m. – Movie Mondays, BP Library
- JUNE 25**

10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library

2 p.m. – Pony Tales, BP Library
- JUNE 26**

1 p.m. – Teen Time, BP Library
- JUNE 27**

Prohibition Dinner, Servicemens Club

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

- JUNE 21**

10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building
- JUNE 24**

10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building
- JUNE 25**

6:15 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do, Ellendale Gym North
- JUNE 26**

10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

- JUNE 20**

10 a.m. – Children's Museum of So. Minnesota, Owatonna Library

6 p.m. – Be Well: A CommUnity Table about Self-Care & Healthcare, History Center

7 p.m. – 11@7 Concert Series, Central Park
- JUNE 22**

7 a.m. – Farmers Market, Central Park

9 a.m. – Fun Fly #1, Owatonna RC Modelers
- JUNE 23**

2 p.m. – Ducky Dash, River Springs Water Park
- JUNE 24**

4 p.m. – Owatonna HRA Meeting, City Admin Building

7 p.m. – Medford City Council Meeting, City Admin Building
- JUNE 25**

9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Summer Storytime, Owatonna Library

11 a.m. – Deml Heating & AC 50-Year Anniversary, Deml Heating & AC

2 p.m. – Fun & Games – Star Wars Style, Owatonna Library

4 p.m. – The North Market, Grace Baptist Church

4 p.m. – Owatonna Public Utilities Meeting, OPU

5 p.m. – Owatonna Planning Commission Meeting, City Admin Building

5 p.m. – Steele County Board Meeting, County Admin Building
- JUNE 26**

9:30 a.m. – Garden Time, Owatonna Library



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

The cast of “Once on This Island” rehearse dance numbers for the upcoming production, which opens this Thursday in Owatonna. The play features a calypso vibe with a fantastic island setting and numerous colorful characters and songs.

Get swept away on an island adventure

Little Theatre’s newest production features trip to the Caribbean

BY CHRIS BALDWIN  
STAFF WRITER

“Once on This Island” whisks audiences away to a fantastical Caribbean island where gods control the fate of mortals, peasants and rich live in segregation, and a young girl dreams of crossing this class barrier to marry the one she loves.

The musical centers around TiMoune, played by Maddie Mularky, an orphaned girl whose story is told to another young girl during a stormy night. This story within a story soon envelopes the tale, as the storytellers recount TiMoune’s journey to marry Daniel Beaux-homme played by Aaron Thevenot, a member of the upper class, called grand hommes.

Heather Burke helms the production in her directorial debut at the Little Theatre of Owatonna. “It’s really, really surreal, ever since I was in this show when I was in high school 14 years ago, I’ve loved it,” Burke said. “It’s followed me all these years.”

Burke has appeared in past productions at LTO such as “Sweeney Todd,” “A Streetcar Named Desire,” and “Shrek.” According to her, this can help or hinder her as a director. “I am familiar with the stage and I know what actors will be looking for,” she explained. “But then

there’s that double-edged sword where I block everything the way I would do it as an actor,” she added.

“They’ve been doing a really great job of creating their own characters and doing a lot of things I never thought to do with some of the characters which is really neat to see,” Burke said of her large cast of actors, some of whom are appearing in their first production at LTO.

Her lead actress Maddie Mularky is no stranger to the stage, having acted in productions at the Owatonna High School and Little Theatre. “I saw the show in New York on a trip last year for choir,” she said of seeing “Once on This Island” during its revival run on Broadway. “I was really drawn to this character, and her personality,” Mularky said of TiMoune, the story’s heroine. “I thought that we have a lot in common and that it would be a perfect fit.”

Mularky also finds much value in the timeless story. “It’s a very moving story. TiMoune is a peasant, and she wants to be with a grand homme, which is a richer man, but there’s this curse that they can never be together and the gods that TiMoune prays to basically make this bet,” she said of the story. “Will she choose love, or death.”

In a musical like this, there are no shortages of

catchy and touching numbers. The play features 19 songs, all of which are performed live with a five-piece music section. “I really like ‘Waiting for Life,’ which is my solo song,” Mularky said. “TiMoune is in this little world, and she wants more, and she’s looking at the gods, and she’s waiting for her life to begin. It’s really fun, and upbeat, and it changes moods throughout the song.”

Mularky also singled out the character of Asaka played by Angela Shquist in her first performance at Little Theatre. “She’s amazing, and I just want to give her a shout out, her voice is so powerful and strong,” she said of Soquist, who plays one of the goddesses.

“I like the message, because it’s basically about how TiMoune chooses love, love wins for her, and she would rather die for her love that see him die, or live without it never happening,” Mularky said. “It’s unique, it’s a very unique show, and I think it’s different than anything else LTO has done.”

Both Mularky and Burke emphasize the minimalist approach to the production, which features a simplified set and limited props. However, the technical flourishing, involving lighting and sound effects to give the play atmosphere, allow the

audience to become drawn into the story.

“There is a somberness that happens throughout the show,” director Heather Burke said. “It’s about parents having to let go of their child, and I think parents are really going to connect with having to let go and having to go off on your own.”

Like her leading lady, Burke sees another important message in how the play handles class differences and social barriers. “It is definitely a lot about class, you have these grand hommes on one side of the island, they are the rich and they are the haves of the group, while the peasants are the have nots,” she said.

Burke credits her large cast and crew with helping her bring to life this wonderful story, including technical director Victoria Bartkowiak, and her husband Michael Burke, who acts in the musical as the god Agwe and serves as music director, as well as choreographer Kyra Rahn.

For audiences looking for a unique and fantastical show filled with music, fun, dancing, and emotion, “Once on This Island is a perfect summer getaway.

“Once on This Island” will be showing at the Little Theatre of Owatonna on June 20-22 and 27-29 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday matinees will be held June 23 and 30 at 2 p.m.

Road closed by Medford for construction

County Highway 12 from County Highway 17 to County Highway 23 by Medford has been closed for construction. The project began Thursday, June 13.

A detour will be posted using County Road 111 and County Highway 23.

Steele County will be reconstructing the highway to meet current safety standards with wider shoulders and flatter side slopes, to replace deteriorated pavement, and to improve drainage. The project will also make intersection improvements at County Highway 23 (W. Frontage Road). Work along County Highway 23 will

be done under traffic, but lane closures with flaggers will be needed at times. Expect delays.

Construction is expected to be completed late fall. All dates are subject to change due to weather or other factors.

Steele County advises motorists to drive with caution and slow down through work zones for their safety and for the safety of the construction crews.

For updates on this or other Steele County Highway construction projects, visit: [www.co.steele.mn.us/divisions/public\\_works/transportation/construction\\_projects.php](http://www.co.steele.mn.us/divisions/public_works/transportation/construction_projects.php).

Celebrating prohibition’s 100th anniversary in BP

A special program celebrating the 100th anniversary start of prohibition is planned for the Blooming Prairie

Servicemen’s Club on Thursday night, June 27. The program is sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion and is

limited to 70 guests in the Liberty Room. Sign up by June 20, calling 507-583-7884.

Burgers will be served,

beginning at 5:30 p.m. The presentation by Steve Wencil will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Cost is \$10, which includes the burger basket.

A Night in the Village comes to Albert Lea

The Freeborn County Historical Museum (FCHM), Library and Village invites the public to join in for a good old fashioned Mortgage Burning and enjoy an evening in the Village on Friday, June 21, 7—8:30 p.m.

Mortgage burning is a twentieth-century American custom that is the ritual burning of a paid off mortgage document by homeowners. It is done as a celebratory event and is sometimes accompanied by a party in which extended family and friends are invited.

Executive director Stephanie Kibler invites family and friends to join for A Night in the Village. “Celebrate the burning of our mortgage for the new addition on the Historical Museum, build a s’more, walk through some of the historic buildings, listen to live music,” Kibler said.

The event is free to the community. Guests will also have an opportunity to interact with Kibler, who just recently joined the historical society, and current Board members.

The expansion of FCHM added approxi-

mately 10,000 square feet to the existing building. The addition houses an expanded museum library, meeting rooms, a children’s learning lab, additional restrooms on both levels, an elevator, as well as a new entrance and reception area. The expansion provided FCHM with additional archive, storage and work areas, expanded exhibit space, and space for exhibit items from the Albert Lea High School.

The project cost was just over \$1.7 million. “Community members and businesses were instrumental in the

success of the expansion,” said Kibler. “Board members and staff look forward to celebrating with the community on June 21.”

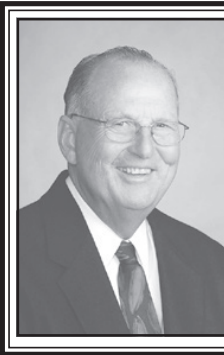
The Freeborn County Historical Museum is a non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1948, committed to building the future by preserving the past. The Society collects preserves and tells the story of Freeborn County’s past through museum exhibits, research, collections, tours,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



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8 p.m. - Midnight  
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**July 4:** Open... 9 a.m. to close (Bar & Off Sale)  
**July 20:** B.O.B Ride... Toys for Tots

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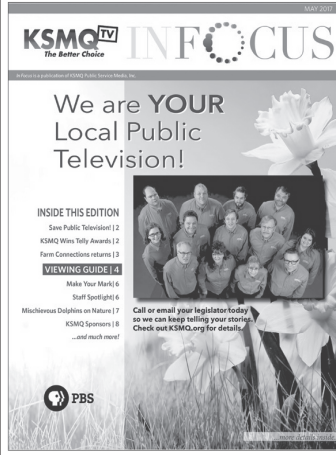
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# STEELE-DODGE BUSINESS

## Federated Insurance chosen a 2019 top workplace

For the second consecutive year, Federated Insurance of Owatonna has been named one of the Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota by the Star Tribune.

Now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, the Top Workplaces program recognizes Minnesota companies with outstanding organizational health based on employee opinions regarding company vision, leadership, benefits, satisfaction, connection, and more. Top Workplace rankings are based on survey information collected by Energage, an independent company specializing in employee engagement and retention. The analysis included responses from more than 140,000 employees at Minnesota's public, private, and nonprofit organizations.

"We are proud to once again be recognized for the tremendous culture and team here at Federated," said Jeff Feters, Chairman and CEO, Federated Insurance. "Being named a Top Workplace is an honor shared among all 2,580 employees. As our organization grows, we are pleased to offer an outstanding employment experience to people in Minnesota and across the country."

Federated Insurance was ranked No. 7 on the large company list. Star Tribune Publisher Michael J. Klingensmith said, "The companies in the Star Tribune Top Workplaces deserve high praise for creating the very best work environments in the state of Minnesota. My congratulations to each of these exceptional companies."

To qualify for the Star Tribune Top Workplaces, a company must have more than 50 employees in Minnesota. More than 2,000 companies were invited to participate. Rankings were composite scores calculated purely on the basis of employee responses. A complete list of companies selected is available at [startribune.com/top-workplaces2019](http://startribune.com/top-workplaces2019).

Founded in 1904, Federated Insurance is a national insurance and risk management organization that serves the property, casualty, and life insurance needs of clients in select industries. The organization has more than 500 recommendations from state, regional, and national associations and buying groups and is rated A+ (Superior) by industry analyst A.M. Best.

## S'CREAM IF YOU LOVE ICE CREAM

*Giant twist finds a new home in Owatonna*

**BY RICK BUSSLER**  
PUBLISHER

The S'Cream shop in Owatonna is more than just ice cream novelties to eat and slurp on. It's also in its first year of being home of the giant twist.

Gale and Nancy Crandall, owners of S'Cream, have resurrected a 48-year-old giant ice cream cone statue as a way to draw ice cream lovers into their shop along South Oak Avenue in downtown Owatonna. The statue had been located at the Barrell Drive-in in Clear Lake, Iowa since 1971. The drive-in was demolished last year, but the Crandalls saved the iconic statue.

"It's one of the largest twists known," Gale Crandall said, noting it stands 20-feet tall. "People were disappointed when it left Clear Lake."

Since purchasing the statue two years ago, the Crandalls have been busy repairing it. And it needed some mighty repairs, they said. "It was in tough shape," Gale said. "It looked like someone shot cannon balls through it."

The Crandalls did most of the work on their own, but hired an engineer to create the base. Designed to withstand 115 mph winds, it has already withstood one massive storm when a tornado ripped through the downtown area of Owatonna last September.

Gale hopes the giant twist will be a draw for people for years to come. "Communities need



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER  
**Miley Fulton, 11, of Blooming Prairie enjoys a refreshing ice cream treat Friday afternoon at S'Cream in Owatonna.**

something like this," he said. In July, the Crandalls "It has turned out to be more of a social event for us. We look forward to talking to people."

**Gale Crandall**  
School Board Chair

says. "It's all about creating memories."

So far the giant twist has been a huge hit. "You can't believe some of the moments we have with the kids," said Gale, who grew up in West Concord. "Kids are just in awe of it. You can't buy these moments," he added.

The giant twist isn't the only new attraction at S'Cream this year. The shop has added hard ice cream to its menu along with 1919 Root beer. S'Cream also features many soft serve treats and homemade waffle cones. The shop also handles soft-serve ice cream machine rentals for graduations, weddings and other parties.

will be celebrating their fifth anniversary of owning the small shop that features outdoor-only seating. Nancy said the plan is to celebrate the entire month with various specials.

Gale said the venture into ice cream began with them looking for something to introduce their daughters to work. The Crandalls acknowledged they don't need the income as they both have full-time jobs. The revenue has provided their oldest daughter, Emma, with money for college. Their youngest daughter, Abbey, 16, currently works at the shop. They also employ around 15 college and high school-aged teenagers.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER  
**The S'Cream ice cream shop has become the home of the giant twist. S'Cream owners Gale and Nancy Crandall resurrected a 20-foot twist cone statue last year after it had been in Clear Lake, Iowa for decades. The cone is now an icon for S'Cream located along South Oak Avenue in Owatonna.**

"Making ice cream is fun," Nancy said. "It also gave our daughters a chance to have jobs," she added.

Asked about the greatest satisfaction of owning the shop, Gale said, "The community wins from us. We have the ability to hire young people."

The Crandalls pride themselves on offering reasonable prices for ice cream treats, including \$2 cones. "Where else can you buy a \$2 ice cream cone?" Gale asked. "We keep it reasonable so families can come down to enjoy a dessert so they don't have to feel put out by the cost."

For Gale, he enjoys seeing families come down and sit on the deck for hours while enjoying their refreshing ice cream treats. "We've created an environment that's welcoming," he said. "We're not trying to rush them through," he added.

Owning the shop also provides a stress relief, at least for Gale. In his

full-time job, he works around natural gas lines in the area with Northern Natural Gas. "I go to work every day and worry about getting blown up," he said. Looking around the ice cream shop, he said, "This is our risk-free job. This is a fun job."

Children who have come to enjoy some of his treats have affectionately dubbed Gale the "ice cream guy." He has found people recognize him even away from the shop.

"It has turned out to be more of a social event for us," Gale said of operating the shop. "We look forward to talking to people," he said, adding the girls heckle him regularly because he's always talking.

S'Cream is open daily from 12 to 9 p.m. After Labor Day, the hours become more limited from 3-9 p.m. The shop stays open as long as it can in the fall depending on the weather.

"When it starts snowing, we won't be here," Nancy said with a smile.



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## Plan to rock downtown July 11

The next Downtown Thursday in Owatonna is set for Thursday, July 11 from 5-8:30 p.m.

Travis Thamert will perform during the upcoming event.

Downtown Thursday is an effort by Owatonna MainStreet to bring people back to the downtown area. The event promotes fun for all ages.

In addition to music, there are also food vendors and craft vendors available throughout the evening.

The events are held once a month throughout the summer. The first Downtown Thursday was held on June 6 with a big crowd attending.

## Arkema awards scholarship to Millam

Riley Millam, a graduating senior at Blooming Prairie High School, is the recipient of the annual Arkema Blooming Prairie Plant scholarship award.

"Arkema's Blooming Prairie is honored to recognize Riley Millam for this scholarship," said Michael Green, plant manager. "It provides an opportunity for Arkema to help a deserving student move to the next level of their education in their journey to a successful future."

The award is in the amount of \$4,000. One half is given at the time of graduation with the balance coming after successful completion of the first college year with the intention of enrolling for a second year. The award is designed to encourage graduating seniors to enter selected fields of science or engineering.

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Reporting annual sales of \$10.4 billion in 2018, Arkema employs approximately 20,000 people worldwide and operates in close to 55 countries. It is committed to active engagement with all stakeholders. Arkema's research centers in North America, France and Asia concentrate on advances in bio-based products, new energies, water management, electronic solutions, lightweight materials and design, home efficiency and insulation. [www.arkema.com](http://www.arkema.com).

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# Federated Challenge awards \$30K in scholarships

The Federated Challenge Scholarship Program was established in 2014 with the purpose of assisting “Littles” and High School Bigs who participated in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program with an opportunity to attend a two-year program, technical, vocational, or trade school.

The funding for this scholarship is made possible by Federated Insurance as well as over 50 corporate sponsors who support youth mentoring through their donation to the annual Federated Challenge supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Nine local students, who were former Littles and High School Bigs, received scholarships totaling almost \$30,000. We are pleased to announce the 2019 Federated Challenge Scholarship recipients:

- Brooklyn Aarsvold: Early Childhood Education at Rochester Community & Technical College
- Journey Anderst: Communications at Riverland Community College
- Jason Donkers: Agribusiness Production at South Central College
- Madison Flynn: Business at South Central College



Several area students have been awarded scholarships from the Federated Challenge program. Some of them include, from left: Jason Donkers, Ashley Ortiz, Jacqueline Zamarron, Annabelle Wellnitz, and Madison Flynn. Not pictured: Brooklyn Aarsvold, Journey Anderst, Shayna Pender, and Jewel Stewart.

- Ashley Ortiz: Nursing at Riverland Community College
- Shayna Pender: Paramedic at Century College
- Jewel Stewart: Business at Riverland Community College
- Annabelle Wellnitz: Radiography at Rochester Community & Technical College
- Jacqueline Zamarron: Nursing at South Central College
- Big Brothers Big Sisters' Mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong

and enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. For over 40 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Minnesota has been serving children and youth in Steele, Dodge, Rice and Waseca counties. To learn more about getting involved, visit their website [www.bbbsofsouthernmn.org](http://www.bbbsofsouthernmn.org), Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/bbbsofsouthernmn>, or call 507-451-5922.



Kasson-Mantorville High School has continued to enjoy its partnership with the Rochester Area Builders. That partnership was celebrated recently with an assembly at the school.

# Partnership continues to be huge asset for students

BY ALEX MALM  
STAFF WRITER

About three years ago Kasson-Mantorville High School Technology Education teacher Aaron Davis and the school were approached by the Rochester Area Builders about forming a partnership.

The reason for the partnership was to be able to introduce students into the field of trades, as there is a huge demand for skilled tradesmen.

Through the partnership, RAB knew they would be able to help train young people in needed trades.

After thinking it over, Davis knew it would be a great opportunity for students and it has grown ever since.

“They asked what they could offer to give our

students a better experience,” said Davis. “I liked the idea of a job shadow program they had going and asked how we could make it successful for our students. It all started with the job shadow program and has grown from there.”

With hands on training and real life learning becoming a big part of high school education, Davis explained that having partnerships with RAB and other area businesses is extremely important.

“Having a relationship with Rochester Area Builders (RAB) and other businesses in the area allows us to stay in touch with industry, it allows students to see what is out there in their areas of interest and gives them opportunity to experience those areas of interest

whether through job shadows, internships, or job opportunities,” Davis said.

Davis explained that through their partnership, they are able to have more opportunities for students and help them make decisions about their future careers.

“RAB has really made it easy for us to get our students into job shadows. They staff there does a ton of legwork to set it up. I believe this partnership has done great things for our students. Students get a chance to experience what it is like to be in a certain job, even if it is for a day, and it can really help them to make some big decisions for their future,” Davis said.

K-M and RAB are looking forward to continuing their partnership for the years to come.



Sherry Rush and Debra Fugleberg were the first customers of Angel Nails in Byron, which had its grand opening last week.

# Nail salon comes to Byron

A new business came to Byron last week, as Angel Nails had its grand opening on Thursday. The new business is owned by Jerry Mai and Vu Tran and is ran by their wives, who are long

time professionals in the industry. The business offers a number of different nail services, and they are looking forward to providing a need in the community.

The business is located at 1067 4th St. NE, Suite 500, in Byron. Regular hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and Sunday from 12-5 p.m. To make an appointment, call 507-244-1199.



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GOLF



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARL PETERSON  
Blooming Prairie golfer Kollyn Alwes competes during the Class MSHSL State Tournament on Tuesday, June 11 at Pebble Creek Golf Course.

## Alwes competes at state golf meet

BY DENNIS MARSHALL  
SPORTS EDITOR

Blooming Prairie golfer Kollyn Alwes closed at his sophomore season at the Class A MSHSL State Tournament on June 11 and 12.

Alwes finished the two-day tournament at Pebble Creek Golf Course in Becker, Minnesota with a score of 178 and was 49th out of the 87 total golfers.

Blooming Prairie golfer coach Carl Peterson said that overall it was good tournament for Alwes because he gained invaluable experience that will help in the future. “[Alwes] good play really started at the section meet,” Peterson said. “We always

knew that he had the ability to be good enough to make it to the tournament. He actually had played as our number two player most of the year. The 85 he had at section the first day was his best score of the year and the 76 the second day showed his real potential.”

Alwes started the state tournament off with a bang.

“On day one [Alwes] birdied the first hole and just missed and eagle on second,” Peterson said. “He was still one over par through the 12th hole which may have been leading the tournament at that point. A couple bad holes cost him, but an 83 at the state tournament course was a very good score.”

Alwes had a much tougher time on the second day.

“The wind was causing trouble all day,” Peterson said. “It seems like every time [Alwes] hit it a bit off line it found trouble either in a bunker or water. He did a good job keeping his composure even though I know he was not satisfied with his score.”

Peterson said it’s always fun to be at the state tournament.

This was the eighth consecutive year that the Blossoms have either had an individual or a team at the state tournament, and that’s a streak that could absolutely grown considering the amount of talent that BP returns.

“The future for the team looks very good,” Peterson said. “We finished second at

the section with three sophomores, three freshman and an eighth-grader that lettered this season.”

Freshman Colin Jordison had the best scoring average for the season. He was followed by Alwes and then freshman David Kartes. Sophomores Ethan Grant, Boone Carlson and eighth-grader Sam PirkI were also letter-winners this year. The Blossoms also had seven seventh-graders out for the team that showed promise.

“A couple of them could be fighting for a varsity spot if they spend some time on the course this summer,” Peterson said. “We are looking forward to next year. It should be fun.”

FOOTBALL

## College football HOFer set to speak in Owatonna

STAFF REPORT

Former University of Iowa quarterback and College Football Hall of Famer Chuck Long will be the keynote speaker for the Owatonna Rotary Club on Monday, July 1.

“Hawkeyes’ great Chuck Long will share stories of his football life and career and sign copies of his must-read biography *Destined for Greatness*.” Long is also a Big Ten Network college football analyst and will provide a preview of the upcoming Big Ten football season,” the Owatonna

Rotary Club said in a news release.

Guests are welcome to attend the event that is set to begin at noon at the Owatonna Country Club.

Long will also be available for photos and will sign copies of his book which will be available for purchase.

Long still holds the Big Ten career record for completion percentage. He completed 64.9 percent of his passes while at Iowa. Long went on the play professional for the Detroit Lions and Los Angeles Rams. He was inducted in the College Football HOF in 1999.

After his professional career, he served as an assistant coach at Iowa, Oklahoma and Kansas, and was the head coach of San Diego State.

Long is CEO and Executive Director of the Iowa Sports Foundation, an organization that runs the Iowa Games, the Seniors Games and the Live Healthy Iowa Challenge. He also serves as an analyst for the Big Ten Network.

If you would like to attend the event than you should email Corey Mensink at corey.mensink@usbank.com by Wednesday, June 26.

ATHLETICS

## Two Owatonna head coaches accept college positions

STAFF REPORT

Owatonna head girls’ lacrosse coach Dan Paur and head girls’ hockey coach Sarah Murray recently announced they would be leaving Owatonna to coach among the college ranks.

Murray will serve as the new head women’s hockey coach at St. Mary’s in Winona and Paur will coach the men’s

club team at Minnesota State-Mankato.

Murray won two national championships while attending Shattuck-Saint Mary’s in Faribault. She then moved on to play at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, where she won two NCAA Championships and also earned a spot on the Western Collegiate Hockey Association All-Academic Team. She earned her degree

in education and went on to play professional hockey in Lugano, Switzerland.

Murray was the head coach for the Korean Women’s Hockey National team when they competed in the 2018 Winter Olympics.

Paur played professional lacrosse and held coaching positions at many different levels including as an assistant with the Czech Republic National Team.

AUTO RACING

## Father-son combo capture feature wins

SUBMITTED  
BY MATTHEW GRAGE

Friday Nights action at Chateau Speedway, sponsored by GT Construction was some of the best of the season. A great field of cars filled the pits for the nights action in six classes with two and three wide racing highlighting each and every feature in the second half of the night. One of many highlights of the nights was the father and son duo of Steve and Ryan Wetzstein of West Concord, who scored feature wins in their respective classes. The two wins could not have been more different as Ryan made his pass for the win on the final lap of his feature while dad Steve lead flag to flag for his win.

Ryan, racing in the WIS-SOTA Midwest Modified Class, made his charge from outside row three to the front. A big move on the first lap moved him up to second behind pole sitter Michael Wytaske of Hartland. Ryan along with Kylie Kath of Owatonna kept things interesting the entire race. Cory Asmusen of Waseca got a piece of the wall in turn four bringing out the second and final caution of the race on lap six. It was a tough break for Asmusen as he was running in third at the time and in the mix for the win. On the ensuing restart Wytaske brought them back to the green and Kath and Wetzstein made it a three wide battle for the lead. Michael hung on to the lead with Ryan and Kath swapping positions a couple times for second before Ryan took control of the spot. The three stayed close with Ryan taking several peaks along side Wytaske. As the field took the white

flag Wetzstein got a good run on Michael and got his nose out in front of him as they went to turn three for the final time. As Wetzstein dove low to pass a lapped car Michael ended up hung up behind the car which allowed Ryan to finish off the pass. It would be hard to say that the car cost Michael the win as Wetzstein did have the advantage at the time but it sure eliminated any chance he had to making a return move out of turn four. It was the first Chateau Feature win of the season for Ryan. Kath held on for third ahead of Ryan Goergen (Stacyville, Iowa) and Casey Trom of Austin. Cole Anderson of Northfield and Kath scored the classes heat wins on the night.

Steve, racing in the French’s Repair USRA A Mod Class drew a front row starting spot outside Kevin Stoa of Albert Lea. Steve got the better jump on the drop of the green and shot to the front on lap one Stoa fell in line second just ahead of Jason Cummins of New Richland. Josh Angst of Winona, making his first appearance at the track this season moved up to fourth on lap two. Three cautions in the races first eleven laps slowed the pace some but once they restarted after that final caution they ripped through the final 14 laps. Wetzstein stretched out his lead while Angst and Cummins went side by side for second as they shuffled Stoa behind them. Josh took control of the spot and Cummins was soon joined by Brandon Davis of Hayfield who had picked his way forward after starting back in row five. The pair ran the final half dozen of so laps side by side with Cummins running the top of the track and

Davis on the bottom. The third place position changed several times but at the end it belong to Cummins. Davis took fourth followed by Stoa. It was the first time this season that Davis did not go to Victory Lane this year at Chateau as he had been a perfect five for five before the night. Angst and Greg Pfeifer Jr of Austin took heat wins in the division.

Brandon Hare of Elma Iowa claimed his second Action Builders USRA B Mod Feature win of the season as he lead flag to flag after coming off the outside of the front row. Kadden Kath of Owatonna was running second early in the race when he got a little loose out of turn four on lap seven and came down into the middle of a three wide scramble for position. His contact caused several cars to spin bringing out the fourth of five cautions in the race and sending him to the tail end for the next restart. Noah Grinstead of Austin, who started on the pole moved back up to second and out duelled Scott Demmer of Ellendale for the runnerup spot. Alex Schubbe had a solid run coming from a row six starting spot to finish fourth just ahead of Kath who rebounded for a top five finish. AJ Hoff, last weeks Feature winner, who went out on the lap seven caution had a heat win on the night as to Kath.

In Adams Graphix WIS-SOTA Street Stock action Zach Elward of Hayfield chalked up his third Feature win of the season as he moved through the field from a row four starting spot to claim top honors. Fred Prudoeh of Winona stated on the pole and lead

SEE FATHER-SON, B7

## Random thoughts

STAFF WRITER

My rambling commentary last week about the years I have spent in Blooming Prairie probably bored many readers, but they touched many highlights in my time here.

The problem is that I have at least as many notable incidents or events that I would like to reminisce about.

Let the reader beware for that coming conversation.

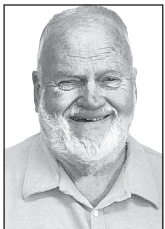
It is strange how one can dredge up many, many experiences when one puts a mind to remembering the past. I probably should be accused of spending too much time in bygone events and not enough time in the present. I hope readers will forgive that little idiosyncrasy.

It is this time of the year when topics for discussion become a little difficult to raise. One can only talk about the weather so many times (although it is always interesting), and with summer vacation in full swing, activity at the local schools is almost non-existent.

Maybe this is a good time to limit my gift of gab and write items of reasonable length.

A FAVORITE DIES

With the death of Tim



### Outside the Lines

LEMAR NELSON

Conway last week, my very favorite comedian passed away. Of all the characters that provided humorous moments for me, he ranked at the very top. His skits on the “Carol Burnett Show” for those many years always broke me up, and his sketch with Harvey Korman and the dentist will always rank as number one for me as a comedy sketch.

For me, there just aren’t many comedians around who can match Conway, Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Flip Wilson, and a very few others. I guess I am just stuck in another age and time, but I really do miss those old-timers. They belong to another era.

COMING UP

Those people who thought that June was benefit of events obviously didn’t read the calendar.

Tomorrow the Chamber of Commerce will hold its June meeting at Brookside Campgrounds, and it promises to be a fun event. I urge chamber members to take advantage of the Brookside hospitality and join in the fun. Next Saturday two events of note take place. A Cruise for Cancer takes place during the day, and the ninth annual BP Youth Club-sponsored Ribfest takes place at the Servicemen’s Club from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

I still remember the first time the Ribfest took place at the club. Two blue grass bands provided music and almost a dozen cooks dished up a lot of samples of ribs and chicken wings. A good profit benefitted the local youth club from that Ribfest. A problem always arises because the local event follows the big “Smokin’ in Steele County” by just two weeks.

Let’s hope that enough cooks take this latest challenge and compete on Saturday.

Finally, a prohibition commemoration will take place at the Servicemen’s Club on Thursday, June 27. Residents should make plans now to attend that event. We will hope that we can continue to enjoy summer weather, go, Twins, and we will talk again.



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**FATHER-SON:** FROM B6

the first half of the race before Jesse Stahl of Austin came out in front after a thrilling three lap side by side battle for the lead. Stahl's time up front only lasted two laps as Elward made a big move on lap ten. Running fourth he skirted the top cars in one circuit to put himself on point. Stahl was able to hold on for second ahead of Kory and Bernie Adams (Stacyville, Iowa) who came home in third and fourth followed by Cody Hyatt of Waseca. Kory Adams and Jason Newkirk of Austin had heat wins

Jack Maas of Faribault picked up his fist win of the season in the Power 96 WISSOTA Pure Stock class and put an exclamation point behind it as he drove off to the win in the Feature as well. Jack started outside row two and leap frogged the field on the first lap to get to the lead. Brady Krohnberg of Walters who has scored three feature wins on the year came home in second after a back and forth race. He came up to second no less than three times in the race only to get loose at one end of the track or the other than fall back a few spots. He would gather himself back up and charge back forward to second but by the time he got there the final time there was no chance to reel in Jack. Michael Wick of Faribault, Troy Maas of Faribault and Kendra Nies of Chatfield made up the rest of the top five

Daniel Knish of Kilkenny picked up his third feature win in the last four weeks in the Y Waste WISSOTA Hornet Class. Nick Sillman of Minnesota Lake made a move from the inside of row two to the front on the first lap and had himself a pretty good lead as the race went caution free. Knish however was able to pick his way forward from row six and

caught Sillman just before the white flag and made the pass for the lead, and the win on the last lap. Sillman had to settle for the runnerup finish followed by Michael Weiss of Bloomington, TJ Pearson of Burnsville and Luke Giesler of Northfield. Weiss and Blake Jacobson of Burnsville scored heat wins. Each win was there first of the season with Jacobson's coming on the last lap of his heat event.

The much anticipated Inaugural Chateau Speedway Hall of Fame Night and Induction Ceremony is next on the schedule next Friday, June 21. There will be 15 members that make up the inaugural Class for the New Hall of Fame including 13 former drivers and the two original owners of the track. Howard and Art Smith, original owners and builders of the facility in 1956 will be inducted as "Legacy Members" while 13 Drivers will be enshrined with them. Family will represent the Smiths. Former Drivers expected to be on hand for their awards will be Dave Bjorge of Austin, Verlin Eater (Mechanicsville, Iowa and originally from Blooming Prairie), Greg Pfeifer, Leroy Scharkey, John "Sonny" VanWilligen, Merit Williams and Gerhard Wollenburg. Its anticipated that Dave Noble who was from Blooming Prairie but is not in Plymouth will be there but it has not been confirmed. Family Members have been lined up to represent deceased Inductees Ole Brua of Albert Lea, Mike Guttormson of Austin, Don Lowe of Rose Creek, Don McAllister and Don Wytaske who were both from Mapleview. The Inductees and there representatives have been invited to be there by 6:30 p.m. on Friday to gather and visit and get prepared for the nights festivities. Several other former drivers

have said they plan on being there as well to be able to get a chance to visit with these honorees and there families who they may not have seen in years. Fans are invited and encouraged to come out early as well to get a chance to see some of the past stars of the track as well. The induction ceremony will be at Intermission of the nights regular racing program. The first green flag of the night is scheduled for 7:15 p.m.

Chateau Speedway also made it official they will be conducting the Stock Car Race for the 2019 Dodge County Fair in Kasson. The Track which use to run weekly shows will host the Fair Race on Thursday July 18 with a rain date of August 4reserved. Five classes of cars will be featured on the card with a \$1,500 to win A Mod check awaiting someone. The A Mods will be a combination of the USRA A Mods, WISSOTA A Mods and IMCA Modifieds. USRA B Mods and IMCA Sport Mods will race together in one class while WISSOTA Midwest Modified's, WISSOTA Street Stocks, and WISSOTA Hornets with the Chateau Rule Exemptions being the other four classes that will run that night. Race time will be 7:00 with Draw Cutoff and Hot Laps scheduled for 6:30 p.m.. It will be a straight \$30 pit pass for everyone. Grandstand pricing will be \$15 for Adults, \$5 for Juniors (age 6-12) and 5 and under free. It will be a Non-Points Event.

**WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds**  
**A Feature 1** (20 Laps): 1. 90-Ryan Wetzstein-West Concord, [6]; 2. 37-Michael Wytaske-Hartland, [1]; 3. 83-Kylie Kath-Claremont, [8]; 4. G12-Ryan Goergen-Stacyville IA, [12]; 5. 77T-Casey Trom-Austin, [3]; 6. 97-Cole Anderson-Northfield, [7]; 7. 26-Brad Minske-Northfield, [9]; 8. 79H-Luke Hainka-Wannamingo, [2]; 9. 79-Jeremy

Misgen-New Richland, [5]; 10. 14-Cole Kroneman-Austin, [10]; 11. 23B-Britt Olson Jr-Waseca, [11]; 12. (DNF) 97A-Cory Asmussen-Waseca, [4]; (DNS) 33-Darryl Hainka-Wannamingo.

**Heat 1** (8 Laps): 1. 97-Cole Anderson, [3]; 2. 79H-Luke Hainka, [1]; 3. 77T-Casey Trom, [5]; 4. 97A-Cory Asmussen, [7]; 5. 26-Brad Minske, [4]; 6. 23B-Britt Olson Jr, [2]; (DNS) 33-Darryl Hainka.

**Heat 2** (8 Laps): 1. 83-Kylie Kath, [2]; 2. 90-Ryan Wetzstein, [4]; 3. 37-Michael Wytaske, [5]; 4. 79-Jeremy Misgen, [1]; 5. 14-Cole Kroneman, [6]; 6. (DNF) G12-Ryan Goergen, [3].

**Power 96 WISSOTA Pure Stock**  
**A Feature 1** (15 Laps): 1. 31-Jack Maas-Faribult, [4]; 2. 26-Brady Krohnberg-Walters, [3]; 3. 17-Michael Wick-Faribault, [2]; 4. 1-Troy Maas-Faribault, [5]; 5. 96-Kyndra Neis-Chatfield, [7]; 6. 7X-Andrew Eischens-Taopi, [8]; 7. 11-Michael Gift-Faribult, [6]; 8. (DNF) 3G-Josh Sousa-Al-den, [1].

**Heat 1** (6 Laps): 1. 31-Jack Maas, [1]; 2. 1-Troy Maas, [3]; 3. 26-Brady Krohnberg, [7]; 4. 17-Michael Wick, [6]; 5. 3G-Josh Sousa, [8]; 6. 11-Michael Gift, [2]; 7. 96-Kyndra Neis, [5]; 8. 7X-Andrew Eischens, [4].

**Y Waste WISSOTA Hornets**  
**A Feature 1** (15 Laps): 1. 193-Daniel Knish-Kilkenny, [11]; 2. 5-Nick Sillman-Minnesota Lake, [3]; 3. 89W-Michael Weiss-Bloomington, [4]; 4. 79T-Taylor Pearson-Burnsville, [5]; 5. 5L-Luke Geisler-Richfield, [6]; 6. 17-Ryan Timm-Austini, [13]; 7. 21-Brandon Downs-Austin, [1]; 8. 16-Blake Jacobson-Burnsville, [8]; 9. 20-Joe Frahm-Stewartville, [9]; 10. 6-Timothy Barnett-Owatonna, [2]; 11. 02-Bryce Lisowski-Faribault, [7]; 12. 28-Patrick Andrus-Austin, [10]; (DNS) 89-Timothy Gores-Garden City.

**Heat 1** (5 Laps): 1. 89W-Michael Weiss, [1]; 2. 5-Nick Sillman, [4]; 3. 79T-Taylor Pearson, [3]; 4. 5L-Luke Geisler, [2]; 5. 20-Joe Frahm, [5]; 6. (DNF) 193-Daniel Knish, [7]; (DQ) 17-Ryan Timm, [6].

**Heat 2** (5 Laps): 1. 16-Blake Jacobson, [5]; 2. 21-Brandon Downs, [2]; 3. 6-Timothy Barnett, [1]; 4. 02-Bryce Lisowski, [6]; 5. 28-Patrick Andrus, [3]; 6. (DNF) 89-Timothy Gores, [4].

**Adams Graphix WISSOTA Street Stocks**  
**A Feature 1** (18 Laps): 1. 15-Zach Elward, [7]; 2. 21-Jesse Stahl, [4]; 3. 01-Kory Adams, [5]; 4. 101-Ken Adams, [6]; 5. 42-Cody Hyatt, [3]; 6. 2-Fred Prudoehl, [1]; 7. 47-Brent Holland, [2]; 8. 32-Jason Newkirk, [8]; 9. 31-Raey Hastings IV, [9]; 10. 39J-Dan Klingfus, [10].

**Heat 1** (8 Laps): 1. 01-Kory Adams, [1]; 2. 101-Ken Adams, [3]; 3. 15-Zach Elward, [4]; 4. 21-Jesse Stahl, [2]; 5. 31-Raey Hastings IV, [5].

**Heat 2** (8 Laps): 1. 32-Jason Newkirk, [2]; 2. 2-Fred Prudoehl, [1]; 3. 42-Cody Hyatt, [3]; 4. 47-Brent Holland, [4]; 5. (DNF) 39J-Dan Klingfus, [5].

**Action Builders USRA B-Mods**  
**A Feature 1** (20 Laps): 1. 56H-Brandon Hare-Elma IA, [2]; 2. 99-Noah Grinstead-Austin, [1]; 3. 30-Scott Demmer-Ellendale, [10]; 4. 72-Alex Schubbe-North Mankato, [12]; 5. 83X-Kaden Kath-Owatonna, [3]; 6. 44-Matthew Brooks-Austin, [4]; 7. 10-Danny Barger-Marshalfield WI, [9]; 8. 54-Jett Sorensen-Rochester, [8]; 9. 83K-Kobie Kath-Owatonna, [6]; 10. 81K-Caleb Korpi-Claremont, [13]; 11. 8-Dan Lewison-Dexter, [15]; 12. 66V-Dustin Von Hagen-Glenville, [16]; 13. (DNF) 55H-Aaron Hoff-Mantorville, [7]; 14. (DNF) 55-Brody Shaw-Brownsdale, [14]; 15. (DNF) 75-Cole Suckow-Cresco IA, [5]; 16. (DNF) 21-Taylor Ovrebø-Wells, [11].

**Heat 1** (8 Laps): 1. 55H-Aaron Hoff, [1]; 2. 54-Jett

Sorensen, [3]; 3. 99-Noah Grinstead, [5]; 4. 56H-Brandon Hare, [7]; 5. 30-Scott Demmer, [6]; 6. 21-Taylor Ovrebø, [4]; 7. 81K-Caleb Korpi, [2]; 8. (DNF) 8-Dan Lewison, [8].

**Heat 2** (8 Laps): 1. 83X-Kadden Kath, [1]; 2. 83K-Kobie Kath, [5]; 3. 44-Matthew Brooks, [2]; 4. 75-Cole Suckow, [3]; 5. 10-Danny Bargender, [4]; 6. 72-Alex Schubbe, [7]; 7. 55-Brody Shaw, [6]; 8. (DNF) 66V-Dustin Von Hagen, [8].

**French's Repair USRA Modifieds**  
**A Feature 1** (25 Laps): 1. 90-Steve Wetzstein-West Conocrd, [2]; 2. 99-Josh Angst-Winona, [7]; 3. 71-Jason Cummins-New Richland, [4]; 4. 50-Brandon Davis-Hayfield, [10]; 5. 98-Kevin Stoa-Albert Lea, [1]; 6. 4A-Joel Alberts-Mantorville, [6]; 7. 3A-Taylor Ausrud-Hayfield, [16]; 8. 24-Charlie Steinberg-Kasson, [8]; 9. 73-Greg Pfeifer Jr-Austin, [3]; 10. 23-Darwin Karau-Kasson, [11]; 11. 72-Doug Hillson-Blooming Prairie, [14]; 12. 24M-Adam Martinson-Blaine, [17]; 13. 15-Chris Loberg-Elma IA, [12]; 14. 21-Troy Gudmonson-Savage, [15]; 15. 11-Nicholas Winsky-Kasson, [18]; 16. (DNF) 96-Greg Jensen-Albert Lea, [13]; 17. (DNF) 51W-JT Wasmund-Pine Island, [5]; 18. (DNF) 77-Jacob Stark-Austin, [9].

**Heat 1** (8 Laps): 1. 99-Josh Angst, [4]; 2. 90-Steve Wetzstein, [1]; 3. 50-Brandon Davis, [6]; 4. 98-Kevin Stoa, [9]; 5. 51W-JT Wasmund, [5]; 6. 23-Darwin Karau, [8]; 7. 96-Greg Jensen, [3]; 8. 21-Troy Gudmonson, [7]; 9. 24M-Adam Martinson, [2].

**Heat 2** (8 Laps): 1. 73-Greg Pfeifer Jr, [2]; 2. 71-Jason Cummins, [7]; 3. 4A-Joel Alberts, [4]; 4. 24-Charlie Steinberg, [5]; 5. 77-Jacob Stark, [3]; 6. 15-Chris Loberg, [8]; 7. 72-Doug Hillson, [9]; 8. 3A-Taylor Ausrud, [6]; 9. (DNF) 11-Nicholas Winsky, [1].



**MEDFORD HIGH HONOR ROLL**



**Grade 7**

Mia Amberg  
Riley Babcock  
Ava Clark  
Abigail Cloutier  
Ava Cottrell  
Avery Dressen  
Lily George  
Broderick Goodnature  
Omar Guerrero  
Sadie Kern  
Annette Kniefel  
Isabel Miller  
Liliana Murphy  
Addison O'Connor  
Hunter Perdue  
Carolina Perez  
Kynnedie Schauer  
Peyton Snow  
Tessa Underdahl  
Sarah Wall

**Grade 8**

Andrea Bock  
Samantha Bueckslor  
Casey Chambers  
Kylie Dusek  
Abigail Fitzgerald  
Dylan Heiderscheidt  
Tate Hermes  
Josephine Homeier  
Connor Jones  
Grace Keller  
Beau LaCroix  
Jenesis McGuire  
Jack Meyer  
Riley Norland  
Payton Ristau  
Martina Smith  
Tyler Steffen  
Reagan Sutherland  
Mackenzie Zacharias

**Grade 9**

Logan Bueckslor  
Isabel DeLeon  
Henry Grayson  
MacKenzie Kellen  
Clara Kniefel  
Julia Niles  
ElizabethPeterson  
Hannah Schull  
Anna Sobrak  
Erika Thurnau  
Ava Jae Westbrock  
Jeancarlo Zuniga

**Grade 10**

Brayden Beede  
KinseyCronin  
Garrett Fitzgerald  
Johanna Grant  
Lizbeth Gutierrez  
Catrina Herr  
Madison Jaster

Brock Merritt  
Luz Peralta  
Jesse Phillips  
Isabella Steffen  
Tyler Stursa  
Alex Vandereide  
Haley VonRuden  
Hanna VonRuden  
Miya Weber  
Gunner White

**Grade 11**

Natily Buck  
Sviantiana Danilyuk  
Jordan Edel  
Devon Federly  
Taylor Fette  
Zachary Finholdt  
Shelby Ganske  
Kaylin Hanson  
Riley Hill  
Hailee Homeier

Shawn Johnson  
Emma Kniefel  
Morgan Langeslag  
Kiley Nihart  
Mackenzie Paulson  
Brendan Rahn  
Jordyn Stadler  
Zachary Wetmore

**Grade 12**

Mary Braasch-Turi  
Bailey DuChene  
Meredith Gillis  
Brett Johnson  
Taylore Keppers  
Jade Pekarek  
Sophie Proehl  
Brandon Sisler  
Brianna Sisler

**HONOR ROLL**

**Grade 7**

Maizee Alberts  
Jacqueline Arriaga  
ElizabethBautista  
Mya Borwege  
London Caron  
Kelsie Casper  
Presley Condon  
Dakoda DuChene  
Tyler Ernste  
Hannah Hansen  
Beau Lawson  
Emely Lazaro  
Luis Lopez  
Rachel Miller  
Olivia Mullenberg  
Darrion Rech  
Mataya Roos  
Evan Schweisthal  
Ethan Solomon  
Raeanne Spitzack  
Kourtney Stoneking  
Montana Strommer

**Grade 8**

Autumn Bender

Rian Cloutier  
Landon Driscoll  
Jacob Esch  
Morgan Jones  
Lydia Krenske  
Adalia List  
Preston McCarty  
Kael Neumann  
Cohen O'Connor  
Makinley Smith  
Charles Spitzack  
Paige Stadler  
Josephine Witter  
Anahi Zuniga

**Grade 9**

Jacob Andrews  
Carter Blome  
Jordan Capello  
Reed Cumberland  
Cheyenne Fedder  
Ryllei Federly  
Nicole Harfmann  
Nathan Johnson  
Megan Klein  
Jacob Kucera

Samantha Miller  
Journey Palluck  
Jack Paulson  
Scott Scholljegerdes  
Nicole Schrot  
Jayme Stransky  
Malachi Sutcliffe  
Amelia Thompson  
Rosie Tobar  
Jared Zuniga

**Grade 10**

Braden Barbeau  
Jenna Berg  
Adam Cammock  
Emily Chadwick  
Cole Dusek  
Isaac Enzenauer  
Krista Esch  
Jasive Guerrero  
Kaelan Hermanstorfer  
Gavin Hermes  
Malia Kircher  
Ernesto Lazaro  
Angela Lippert  
Devin Luckey

Sierra Lustig  
Mason Nagel  
Alexander Oatway  
Brooke Purrier  
Lily Roehrick  
Peyton Seiler  
Nevaeh Smith  
Layla Wenker  
Halli Zumburrunen

**Grade 11**

Jade Arriaga  
Conrad Blome  
Wyatt Brewer  
Kylie Cumberland  
River Disher  
Jacey Dressen  
Sebastian Duncan  
Veronica Gonzalez  
Yazmin Gonzalez  
Hannah Knutson  
Sierra Larson  
Reilly List  
Isabel Reuvers  
Kevin Robles  
Elizabeth Ruiz Becerra

Makayla Smith  
Carson Sobrack  
Jeremiah Sutcliffe  
Abigail Tellijohn  
William VonRuden  
Lanaya Wacek

**Grade 12**

Journey Anderst  
Zackariah Andrews  
Andria Archibald  
Camisha Chavis  
Isaiah Chavis  
Natalea De Alba  
Jason Domstrand  
Cody Kosel  
Rachael Luebbe  
Anthony Manderfeld  
Noah Pirkil  
Bailey Purrier  
Madison Schletty  
Joseph Schull  
Austin VonRuden  
Kelsey Walock

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Dodge County Advantage

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MOVING SALE: 61319 251st Ave, Mantorville, June 21 (9-5) and June 22 (9-noon), couch and love seat, easy chairs, misc. kitchen and household items, printer/copy machine, small crock; wildlife prints by Paul Scholer, Terry Redlin, Dave Constatine, plus other framed art; name brand women's clothes size 12 and 14, bed

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CALEB'S PET SITTING, Cats and Dogs, please call me at 507- 634 -7907. 33tfc

SAMANTHA UPHAM'S BABYSITTING/NANNY services I'm a 15-year-old honors student entering my sophomore year at Kasson High School. I have babysitting experience and have been through a class specific for caring for young children. I am best suited to care for toddlers through young teens. Available 7 days a week and can be very flexible with times. I will ensure a summer full of fun! (references upon request) 507-358-3415 27tfn

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| City of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota<br>Summary Financial Report<br>Revenues and Expenditures for General Operations<br>Governmental Funds<br>For the Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 |              |              |                             |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Revenues                                                                                                                                                                                    | Total        |              | Percent Increase (Decrease) |   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2018         | 2017         |                             |   |
| Taxes                                                                                                                                                                                       | \$ 680,427   | \$ 656,556   | 3.64                        | % |
| Special assessments                                                                                                                                                                         | 80,767       | 119,436      | (32.38)                     |   |
| Licenses and permits                                                                                                                                                                        | 10,649       | 9,171        | 16.12                       |   |
| Intergovernmental                                                                                                                                                                           | 815,772      | 800,207      | 1.95                        |   |
| Charges for services                                                                                                                                                                        | 116,323      | 102,422      | 13.57                       |   |
| Fines and forfeits                                                                                                                                                                          | 8,832        | 11,475       | (23.03)                     |   |
| Investment earnings                                                                                                                                                                         | 44,130       | 33,687       | 31.00                       |   |
| Miscellaneous                                                                                                                                                                               | 58,015       | 127,963      | (54.66)                     |   |
| Total Revenues                                                                                                                                                                              | \$ 1,814,915 | \$ 1,860,917 | (2.47)                      | % |
| Per Capita                                                                                                                                                                                  | \$ 909       | \$ 933       | (2.57)                      | % |
| Expenditures                                                                                                                                                                                | Total        |              | Percent Increase (Decrease) |   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2018         | 2017         |                             |   |
| Current                                                                                                                                                                                     |              |              |                             |   |
| General government                                                                                                                                                                          | \$ 344,044   | \$ 313,995   | 9.57                        | % |
| Public safety                                                                                                                                                                               | 518,952      | 475,235      | 9.20                        |   |
| Streets and highways                                                                                                                                                                        | 240,781      | 243,475      | (1.11)                      |   |
| Culture and recreation                                                                                                                                                                      | 234,121      | 236,164      | (0.87)                      |   |
| Economic development                                                                                                                                                                        | 11,405       | 23,376       | (51.21)                     |   |
| Sanitation                                                                                                                                                                                  | 2,613        | 2,716        | (3.79)                      |   |
| Miscellaneous                                                                                                                                                                               | 5,900        | 11,985       | (50.77)                     |   |
| Capital outlay                                                                                                                                                                              |              |              |                             |   |
| General government                                                                                                                                                                          | 1,422        | 5,944        | (76.08)                     |   |
| Public safety                                                                                                                                                                               | 14,565       | 18,402       | (20.85)                     |   |
| Streets and highways                                                                                                                                                                        | 145,813      | 589,571      | (75.27)                     |   |
| Culture and recreation                                                                                                                                                                      | 19,701       | 6,414        | 207.16                      |   |
| Economic Development                                                                                                                                                                        | -            | -            | 100.00                      |   |
| Miscellaneous                                                                                                                                                                               | 1,062        | 877          | 21.09                       |   |
| Debt service                                                                                                                                                                                |              |              |                             |   |
| Principal                                                                                                                                                                                   | 140,973      | 230,262      | (38.78)                     |   |
| Interest and other charges                                                                                                                                                                  | 90,734       | 44,363       | 104.53                      |   |
| Bond issuance cost                                                                                                                                                                          | -            | 20,285       | (100.00)                    |   |
| Total Expenditures                                                                                                                                                                          | \$ 1,772,086 | \$ 2,223,064 | (20.29)                     | % |
| Per Capita                                                                                                                                                                                  | \$ 887       | \$ 1,114     | (20.37)                     | % |
| Total Long-term Indebtedness                                                                                                                                                                | \$ 2,000,000 | \$ 2,140,973 | (6.58)                      | % |
| Per Capita                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1,002        | 1,073        | (6.68)                      |   |
| General Fund Balance - December 31                                                                                                                                                          | \$ 1,568,459 | \$ 1,569,971 | (0.10)                      | % |
| Per Capita                                                                                                                                                                                  | 785          | 787          | (0.20)                      |   |

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DODGE COUNTY INDEPENDENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST POSITION

The City of Dodge Center, seeks a Community Development Specialist.

General Duties:

The position will direct the Planning and Zoning and Economic Development activities of the City of Dodge Center as well as oversight of development projects as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Minimum qualifications include a bachelor's degree in urban and regional planning or other closely related field, or five (5) years of relevant experience and a valid Minnesota driver's license or the ability to obtain one in a reasonable period. Desired qualifications include a master's degree in urban and regional planning or other closely related field and increasingly responsible experience in a municipal planning or economic development setting. Salary range: \$54,343.83 to \$63,190.50 DOQ.

Apply:

Additional information available online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us. Cover letter, application, and resume may be submitted electronically to adminasst@ci.dodgecenter.mn.us or by mailing to City of Dodge Center, Community Development Specialist Search, P.O. Box 430, Dodge Center, MN 55927. All application materials must be submitted to be considered for the position. This position will remain open until filled, with the first review of applications taking place on July 1, 2019. For information contact City Administrator Joshua Tetzlaff at jtetzlaff@ci.dodgecenter.mn.us or by calling 507-374-2575.

Additional information available online at www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us.

wk27,28





# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS LINE UP

## Thursday, June 27:

Tacos at Ellendale Municipal

6:30 p.m.- Christmas in June with ice cream treats  
Victor Mrotz Building

## Friday June 28

4:01 p.m.- 401K Color Run Starts at the park

5 p.m.-Food vendors open

7 p.m.- Bingo In front of Community Building

8 p.m.- Street Dance- Neon Live featuring

Nick Wayne Behind the bar

8:15 p.m.- Unsung Hero Community

Building (after bingo)

8:45 p.m.- Wishes in the Night

Football Field

## Saturday June 29

8AM RUMMAGE SALES THROUGHOUT TOWN

10-12:30 p.m.- Parent/Child Bean Bag Tournament

Behind the bar

12 p.m.- Historical tour at the Park

12 p.m.- Lunch at the Park

12 p.m.- Root Beer floats at the Park

1-6 p.m.- Adult Bean Bags

Behind the bar

2 p.m.- Kiddie Parade

Line up at Pioneer Seed Building

4 p.m.- Annual Parade

4:30 p.m.- Lions Club Games

Grass behind the bank

4:30 p.m.- Human Football

Lot south of Post Office

5-7 p.m.- Ellendale Commercial Club Pork Chop Supper

5:30 p.m.- Kiddie Tractor Pull

In front of Post Office

6:30 p.m.- Pie in the Face

Lot south of Post Office

7:30 p.m.- Lions Club Meat Raffle

At the bar

8 p.m.- Street Dance- Neon Live featuring Nick Wayne

Youth Dance

Community Building



## Sunday, June 30

8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.- Pancake Breakfast

9 a.m.- Tractor Pull registration

10 a.m.- Tractor Pull

10 a.m.- Worship in the park (Methodist Church if rain)

10 a.m.- Lions Club Food Wagon

TBD- Motorcycle ShowNext to bar

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