



STEELE COUNTY Times

HOUSE MOVE **B1** **EXTRA: GRADUATION C & D SECTIONS**

www.steeledodge news.com **TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018** Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

Steele commissioners' per diem pay varies widely in 2017

By RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Steele County Commissioner James Brady topped the list of board members in total earnings for salary, per diem and mileage in 2017.

The per diem pay of the Steele County Board shows a wide range of pay between the board members.

A review of the compensation for Steele County commissioners reveals Brady collected the highest earnings of \$28,317 last year. In addition to his regular salary of \$21, 886, Brady was paid \$4,480 for per diem and \$1,951 for mileage. Meanwhile, Rick Gnemi took home only \$350 in per diem pay and \$1,331 in mileage.

Per diem is extra compensation commissioners receive for meetings they attend per day. The county's per diem rate is \$70 no matter how long the meeting lasts or

how many meetings are attended in one day. If commissioners attend one meeting for 10 minutes or several meetings for eight hours, the pay is the same—\$70.

Board members are reimbursed 56 cents per mile. James Abbe was the only commissioner who did not claim any mileage reimbursement last year.

The current board took home collectively the least for per diem pay over the past three years. In 2017, the commissioners were paid \$12,180 in per diem compared to \$18,550 in 2016 and \$19,180 in 2015. Brady and John Glynn were the only commissioners who were on the board for all three of those years.

In 2017, Brady served as the chairman of the board when he collected the highest per diem pay of any commissioner. In contrast, former commissioner Corky Ebeling, who served as chairman in 2016, collected \$4,620 in per diem pay, just slightly higher than Brady's per diem.

"I've never missed a meeting yet. I had more time and took on more."

James Brady
Steele Commissioner

"I've never missed a meeting yet," Brady said, noting if he did it was because two meetings would have been scheduled at the same time. "I had more time and took on more (in 2017). I took on the stuff to help everyone else," he said.

Brady said being a commissioner becomes "full time during the day" with many meetings scheduled for various departments. "It gets ridiculous sometimes," he admits.

Commissioner Rick Gnemi also attends many meetings, but it's not reflected in his per

diem pay. He only turned in for \$350 in 2017. He said he goes to as many meetings as possible usually in the ballpark of 15-18 per month.

"I said I wouldn't take any per diems," Gnemi said.

Gnemi said he turns in for mileage only on longer trips to meetings in Rochester or St. Charles.

Many of the current board members inherited a public outcry over the per diem issue when they were elected in 2016. It is a battle that the board hopes to address later this year in hopes of bringing the controversy to an end once and for all.

Gnemi said he is a proponent of eliminating the per diems all together and raising the commissioner's salary by several thousand. He would like to see board members paid a flat \$25,000 or \$26,000 salary per year, which would

SEE STEELE COMMISSIONERS, A3

A traveling war tribute

Vietnam wall tells tale of the conflict

By HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Follow the story of the Vietnam War by visiting the American Veterans Traveling Tribute, otherwise known as the traveling Vietnam Wall.

That's what more than 6,000 people did in the four days the traveling tribute was set up at the Mower County Fairgrounds in Austin.

"It took about 2 1/2 hours to erect," said Scott Wiechmann, Olaf B. Damm VFW Post 1216 commander in Austin. Wiechmann was one of the key organizers of the four-day event that drew over 5,000 visitors plus 1,000 high school students on Friday.

Many emotions were expressed as family members searched for the names of their loved ones on the Vietnam traveling wall which represents about 85 percent of those names on the large wall in Washington, D.C.

A tent was set up to facilitate people in their search for their loved ones lost in the war which spanned 20 years from 1955 to 1975.

Three siblings, originally from Ellendale, who visited the wall took time to remember their brother, Dale Otto. Lance Corporal Otto, a member of the 3rd Marine Division was killed on May 14, 1967 at the DMZ, Quang Tri Province. He was 22.

"I've seen the wall about five or six times," remarked Larry Otto



Siblings of Dale Otto, who was killed while fighting in the Vietnam War, came to Austin May 20 to visit the Vietnam Wall. They are from left to right, Larry Otto, Darlene Paulson and Paul Otto.

of Ellendale. He handed his sister Darlene Paulson (Lyle), Albert Lea, a piece of paper and placed it over a name on the wall and rubbed a graphite pencil over it as a memento of their loved ones.

This writer was a young reporter for the Albert Lea Tribune covering the moment Otto's parents were presented a Gold Cross in honor of their son. U.S. Marines visited the Otto home.

Brother Paul (Joey), Shakopee, also was present at the family gathering at the traveling Vietnam Wall in Austin. Paul served in the Air Force, Larry served in the U.S. Army from 1969-71 and their father,

Lester served in the U.S. Navy.

"It's encouraging to see so many people here," said Emily Otto, Larry's wife.

Visiting a tent which featured video interviews with Vietnam veterans, the Otto siblings utilized a computer to trace a website called The Wall of Faces. This website lists Otto on 19E, 120 location on the wall.

The Vietnam Veterans Virtual Memorial Wall

SEE VIETNAM WALL, A8



Vietnam veteran Don Broskoff of Dodge Center salutes as he participates in a memorial ceremony at the Mower County Fairgrounds in Austin. The fairgrounds hosted the Traveling Vietnam Wall over four days, May 16-20.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Brokeback author earns top book honor

By RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The author of a book that portrays the life of a Blooming Prairie man has earned a top honor.

Annie Proulx has been named the winner of the 2018 Library of Congress prize for American Fiction, which recognizes a writer whose work has "told us something new about the American experience." She is the author of *Brokeback Mountain* and the *Shipping News*.

Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden selected Proulx as this year's winner based on the recommendation of a jury of previous winners, distinguished authors and prominent library critics from around the world.

"E. Annie Proulx has given us monumental sagas and keen-eyed, skillfully wrought stories," Hayden said. "Throughout her writing, she succeeds in capturing the wild, woolly heart of American, from its screwball wit to its every last detail. She is an American original."

Proulx will receive the honor during the 2018 Library of Congress National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 1.

Her previously prize-winning story "*Brokeback Mountain*," which originally appeared in the *New Yorker*, was made into an Academy award-winning film.

Brokeback Mountain is based on the life of Brad Trom and his relationship with another man. When Trom shared his story with Proulx in 1982, he was battling Stage IV cancer at Mayo Clinic

SEE BROKEBACK, A8



Past VFW Commander Joe Wacek, left, and Ken Trom, representing both the American Legion and VFW of Blooming Prairie, showed Blooming Prairie Elementary School third graders how the American flag is to be folded in honor of a veteran.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

BP Elementary third graders salute America

By HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Third graders at Blooming Prairie Elementary School respectfully saluted America on a recent school day just before Memorial Day.

Forty-three third graders of teachers Angie Avery, Becky Johnson and Chelsea Van Roeckel welcomed members of American Legion Post

52, VFW Post 878 and their auxiliaries who came with a mission.

The mission was to distribute some awards for a patriotic coloring contest and also to give the third graders a lesson on flag etiquette and a history lesson on the Pledge of Allegiance.

"Freedom is not free and our veterans paid the highest price of all to protect our freedoms," said Marilyn Witzel of the

Legion and VFW auxiliaries. She is a former teacher who expertly used her teaching skills to talk patriotism with the third graders and their teachers.

Principal Chris Staloch stood in a corner of the third grade classroom, observing the trip in patriotism.

Assisting Witzel with the history lessons were Gerry Berg, chair of the

SEE PATRIOTISM, A3

\$1.00 | Volume 126, No. 44



507-583-4431 | bptimes@frontiernet.net

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PUBLISHERS NOTE

MEMORIAL DAY COVERAGE NEXT WEEK

Because of early deadlines for this week’s edition with our editorial coverage, stories and photos on Memorial Day will not be in until the June 5 edition.

There are also several other stories that we did not have room for because of limited space with the graduation section and tab.

Thanks for your continued support of reading our award-winning newspaper. ~ Rick Bussler, Publisher

EDITORIAL

Veto

es are a sign of government failure

Not long after the Legislature passed several important bills at the end of the 2018 legislative session did Gov. Mark Dayton whip out his veto pen and ax what lawmakers had agreed on.

On May 23, just three days after receiving the two bills that contained most of the work product of the session, including a tax conformity bill and an omnibus budget bill, the DFL governor nixed the measures through his veto power. Of course, the bills originally made it to his office by a Republican-controlled legislature.

“I guess all his pens are red,” laughed Sen. Dave Senjem, R-Rochester. “He is on a veto rage.”

The governor assures Minnesotans that he regrets that many people who would have benefited from items in the bills won’t get the help they need. “This failure if their responsibility,” Dayton said. “I know they won’t take responsibility for it, but it’s theirs.”

Seriously?

It makes us wonder if the governor’s veto happiness and lack of working together with lawmakers on both sides is a sign of governmental failure.

The tax bill, for example, included cash and fund shifts to produce up to \$225 million for school districts facing budget and staff cuts. The mega-omnibus included money for opioid education and treatment; changes to the oversight of elder care facilities; money for deputy registrars and money for school safety improvements.

Dayton’s vetoes will deny Minnesotans tax relief, force at least 50 school districts to contemplate teacher layoffs and deny people who care for the disabled a pay raise.

Republican leaders say this governor embarrasses them. “It feels impulsive. It feels vindictive. And it didn’t help anybody in Minnesota,” said Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka, R-Nisswa.

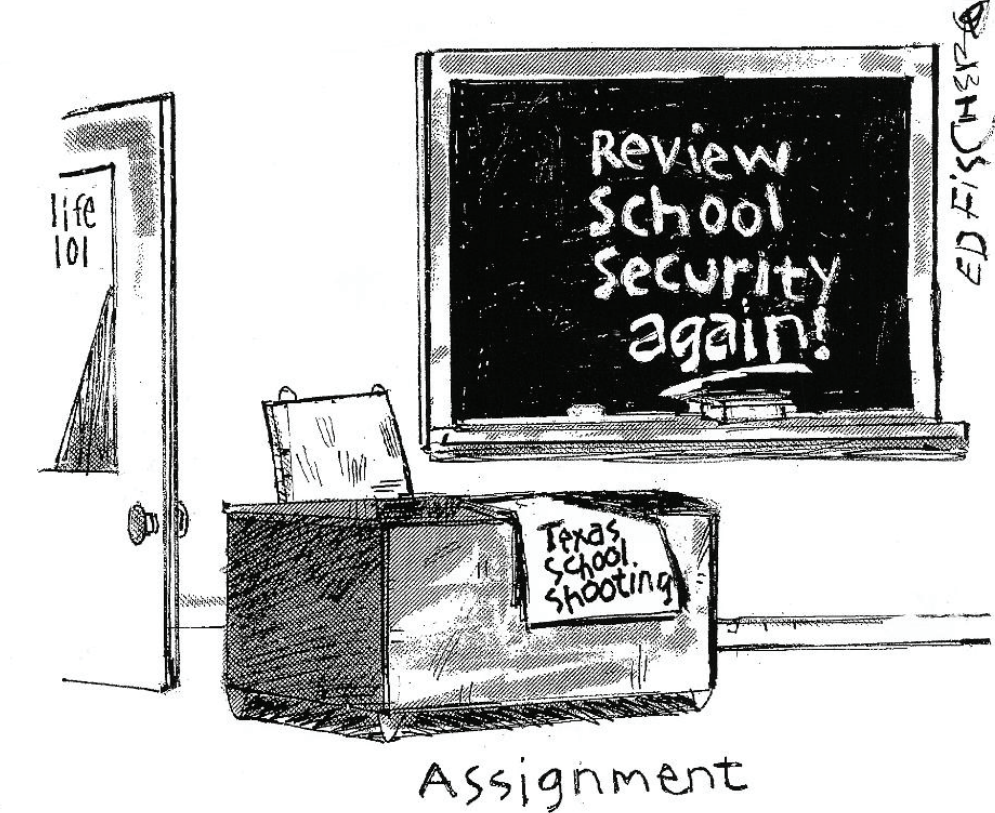
“There are a lot of people who are going to be hurt by this,” House Speaker Kurt Daudt said.

Government is clearly divided. The people of Minnesota are clearly divided. When are lawmakers going to put aside their differences and work for the betterment of our state? The key legislative leaders in this state are nothing more than babbling babies having a temper tantrum in the sand box.

Something obviously needs to change. So many lives are affected as people rely on government for various reasons. It’s sad that taxpayers are paying these political leaders good money to essentially at the end of the day get nothing accomplished.

Perhaps the silver lining in all of this is Minnesota will have a new governor come January.

It’s time government works for the people and not for its own self-interests. It’s as simple as Legislature 101.



How does your name compare?



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

The two O names stole the show in 2017. Oliver and Olivia were the most popular baby names in Minnesota, according to the Social Security Administration.

I’m still agonizing over the fact that Rick didn’t come out on top. In fact, Rick didn’t even make the top five.

It appears the popularity of my name has lost a lot of ground over the years. The highest my name finished is 76th in 1958. It has fallen dramatically since then, coming in at 927th in 2000.

In the year when I was born, Michael, David and James were the most popular names. For the girls, it was Lisa, Kimberly and Michelle. Notice how I didn’t reveal which year. I’ll let you figure that out. Be nice now! The first person to do that correctly and email me at bprick@frontier.com will be awarded a free six-month subscription.

The top five boys names in 2017 were Oliver, William, Henry, Liam and Theodore. As for the girls, Olivia, Evelyn, Emma, Charlotte and Nora came out on top.

Liam and Emma were the most popular baby names in the U.S.

Social Security began compiling the baby list in 1997, with names dating back to 1880. At the time of a child’s birth, parents supply the name to the agency when applying for a child’s Social Security card, making Social Security the greatest resource for the most popular baby names.

Each year the list reveals the effect of pop-culture on naming trends. This year reality television seems to have influenced mom and dad.

Ensley was the fastest riser on the girls’ list, moving 1,461 spots to number 965, from number 2,426 in 2016. Spring has sprung, and Wells had the biggest bloom in popularity for the boys, moving over 500 spots in 2017 from 1,419 to 915. Perhaps his parents are fans of the hit TV show, “The Bachelorette” where one of the popular contestants was named Wells.

The First Lady of the United States appears to be popular as new parents chose Melania at an increasing rate over 2017.

It’s kind of fun poking around on Social Security’s website where you can access all the information relating to names.

As I was sifting through the baby names, it got me to thinking and wondering how my parents decided to name me what they did. My mom laughed when I asked her saying, “That was ** years ago, I can’t remember.” (I’m sure you thought you had me and I’d let in slip up by putting in the number.) After she thought about it some more, she figured it had to do with my grandfather whose name was Richard. My dad was always concerned that the names would be short. All my siblings have names with four letters.

The biggest battle I’ve faced in life is everybody thinking my name is Richard. Not that it would be bad, but I always quickly corrected everyone and said, “No, it’s just Rick. Nothing more, nothing less.”

I just need to adjust to the reality that my name likely will never come out on top. For some reason parents have always been in hot pursuit of naming their child something other than Rick.

GUEST COLUMNS

Results are in from Owatonna MainStreet survey

BY SHIRLEY SCHULTZ

A MainStreet survey to the community this winter received 438 responses (a great response rate!) where businesses and individuals told us who, what, when, where and why they go downtown, along with what they would like to see.

SOME OF THE RESPONSES INCLUDED:

- Community understands the historic and architecture significance. Senses that it is old & boring.
- Vacancies and Store Variety are lacking. (95 percent occupancy rate downtown)
- Food is the primary driver bringing people downtown; albeit Ace Hardware was tops.
- More food, fine dining; pub/restaurants are most desirable.
- Unique shops and activities.
- Saturday evenings could be logical for longer store hours, nationally that tends to be Fridays.
- About 25 percent of respondents would live in the downtown and/or are unsure.

Delving into our community, Matt Wagoner from National Main Street and his team mined data from four in-person stakeholder sessions; determining the business mix with a tour of Owatonna, retail market studies, along with current demographic and psychographic information presented the following:

MARKET DATA

- Downtown has an undiscovered group of seven small scale producers
- Massive growth in leisure and recreation spending

SEE SURVEY, A8



GUEST COLUMNS

Addressing the child care shortage

BY TIM PENNY

In 2016 Minnesotans were alerted to the fact that there is a serious lack of child care slots in our state leading to a “quiet crisis,” according to a report that year from the Center for Rural Policy and Development. It is clear two years later this crisis is no longer so quiet.

A recent article from Minnesota Public Radio highlighted real stories from providers who are struggling to stay in business, and parents who cannot find care. This has become a major issue not only for families but also for the economic development of our communities and their ability to thrive. At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) we are working collaboratively with numerous partners in the early childhood field to be part of the solution for our region.

Providers are leaving the field for a variety of reasons, including low wages, high start-up costs, and feeling undervalued. There is also a high rate of retirement without enough providers to replace those who are leaving. A 2017 update to the Rural Policy report estimates that there is a shortage of 8,805 child care slots in our 20-county region. We will have to grow our licensed child care capacity by 27 percent in order to fill the shortfall.

One of the problems cited by providers in the study was the difficulty accessing training opportunities. SMIF is working to make sure providers have access to the training that they need to stay in business and grow their business. We have been partnering with First Children’s Finance (FCF) and Families First of Minnesota, Child Care Aware Southern to hold Quality Child Care Program (QCCP) trainings across our region since 2012.

SEE CHILD CARE, A8

STEELE COUNTY Times

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

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

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Steele, Dodge, Freeborn & Mower.....\$42
Elsewhere in Minnesota.....\$44
Out of state.....\$46

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2012 - 2 State Awards
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(Awards presented by Minnesota Newspaper Association and National Newspaper Association)

Concert brings in spring at BP School

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
STAFF WRITER

Nearly half of the students attending Blooming Prairie Elementary School participated in a Spring Concert Friday, May 4 at the elementary school.

Students in the concert represented grades 4-6 and totaled 187.

Family members, friends and staff filled the BP Elementary School gymnasium for the 1:30 p.m. concert.

The beautiful, warm sunshine outdoors brought the concert followers inside for a lively spring gathering featuring the talents of the elementary choir, beginning band, elementary band and fourth, fifth and sixth grade music classes.

Kari Bottin directed the 5-6 choir, Krista Reeder directed the fourth and sixth grade music sections and Ross Reishus directed the 5-6 band and fifth grade music section.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Blooming Prairie Elementary School sixth grader Brandon Ripka drew double duty on Friday, May 4 at the 2018 BP Elementary Spring Concert. He handed out programs and also sang as part of the sixth grade music section.

The program opened with the elementary choir on stage. Choir members involved the audience in the first performance, “Listen to the

Rain. Two more songs were presented: “The Moon” and Sarasponda.” Director Reishus presented the beginning band which

offered three short tunes: “Shoo Fly,” “Mahnomen Harvest,” and “Michael Finnegan.”

The elementary band featured two numbers, “Prehistoric Suite” and “The Tempest.”

The fourth grade music program featured performances of “The Star Spangled Banner,” “Mrs. Reeder Had a Band” and “Try Everything.”

Fifth grade music students performed “Lean on Me” which featured many students soloing on lyric parts. The fifth graders also presented “In My Dreams,” a piece the students wrote.

The final performance of the day came from the sixth grade music program. A medley of Disney songs was presented.

Final song of the day was “Champion,” featuring sixth grade music students. Students held large letters spelling CHAMPION.

THIRD GRADE STUDENTS:

Saluting America

FROM A1

Americanism committee of the auxiliaries; Marilyn Meshke, Legion and VFW auxiliaries and Joyce Johns, president of the VFW Auxiliary and member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Rulers, small flags, patriotic bookmarks and presidential rulers were given to all third graders.

Past VFW Post 878 Commander Joe Wacek and Legion/VFW member Ken Trom put on a demonstration of how to fold the American flag before it is given to a family in honor of their departed loved one who serviced in the military.

Witzel read a flag poem

and outlined the history of flying the flag. She said the flag is flown at half staff until noon on Memorial Day and then raised to full staff.

Witzel also presented historical information on the Pledge of Allegiance. She then led the classroom in the Pledge.

A highlight of the visit from the military organizations was the presentation of awards to students who participated in the 2018 Coloring Contest.

Bella Schiller earned a first place award. Ellie Harthan was second and Neila Nelson was third.

STEELE COMMISSIONERS: *Per diem varies*

FROM A1

be about \$3,000 higher than their current salaries.

In comparison, commissioners in Rice County are paid \$33,000 per year and Waseca County \$22,000.

Steele’s base salary of \$21,886 for commissioners hasn’t been raised in three years, according to Gnemi. Most other departments, he said, have been awarded 3 percent raises each year. “We didn’t take a nickel (extra),” he added.

But he isn’t complaining about his salary. Gnemi, 68, is using it for a retirement for his wife. “The county has been really good to me,” he said. “I feel it’s my turn to give back.”

In Gnemi’s view, the only way to correct the issue it to just do a flat salary. “I try to be the voice of reason. I try to look at what would the people think,” he said, adding he has no desire to be a politician.

Acknowledging that some people are upset about the issue, Gnemi says, “Let’s get rid of per diems.” He said taking away per diems takes away any potential abuses that may arise. “Eliminate this so nobody can give us baloney,” he said.

However, Brady doesn’t agree with Gnemi’s stance and isn’t ready to throw the towel in on per diems. “I’m against getting rid of per diems,” Brady said. If they are taken away, there would be “no incentive to go to meetings,” he said.

In Gnemi’s case, he works on county business at least 30 hours per week. “In some respects, it’s prestige, but it takes a lot of phone calls and meetings,” Gnemi said. He noted he spends at least four hours just reading over his agenda packet for the board meetings.

Gnemi pointed out that he also does things that aren’t required of him. For example, he attends graduations of the Steele-Waseca Drug Court.

“I go to everything plus I try to go to other things that I’m not required,” Gnemi said.

Brady said he wants nothing more than a board that’s transparent and open as possible. “Let’s get rid of the cloud that some people have had,” he said. “We’d like to get everybody happy so we can get the past behind us. This board is stuck with trying to clean up things from the past.”

The commissioners are expected to take up the issue by December.

Per diem elsewhere

Neighboring counties handle per diem in different ways. Comparisons between counties shouldn’t be taken to be exact, but they do offer context and show contrast.

In Waseca County, the board member salary is \$24,000. The per diem rate is \$95 per day. Mileage was the standard IRS rate.

In Freeborn County, commissioners receive \$23,000 and no per diem. Mileage is reimbursed at 54.5 cents per mile, and board members receive meal allowance of \$9, \$11 and \$16.

In Mower County, the

salary for board members is \$24,200. Per diem rate is \$50 per day for in-county meetings and \$65 per day for out of county meetings. Meal allowance is set at \$6, \$8.50 and \$12.50. Commissioners also have the option of utilizing a county cell phone. The rate for mileage is 54.5 cents.

In Rice County, members of the board are paid \$36,514 with the board chair receiving \$37,039 per year. Rice’s per diem rate is \$65 per day. The county follows the IRS mileage rate for business travel at 54.5 cents per mile. For meal allowances, commissioners can be reimbursed for business travel outside of Rice County at \$9, \$14 and \$23. Commissioners may claim \$35 per month for phone.

In Dodge County, commissioners are paid \$21,772 with the board chair paid \$22,406. The board’s per diem rate is \$80 per day. For mileage, members are reimbursed 54.5 cents per mile.

Steele County Board member compensation

Commissioner	Year	Salary	Per Diem	Mileage
James Brady	2017	\$21,886	\$4,480	\$1,951
	2016	\$21,886	\$3,220	\$1,360
	2015	\$21,465	\$2,170	\$1,848
John Glynn	2017	\$21,886	\$2,870	\$484
	2016	\$21,886	\$3,150	\$932
	2015	\$21,465	\$3,080	\$539
James Abbe	2017	\$21,381	\$1,610	0
Rick Gnemi	2017	\$21,381	\$350	\$1,331
Gregory Krueger	2017	\$21,381	\$2,100	\$143

Source: Steele County Administration

Steele County Board Committee Appointments 2018

This is a partial list of committee assignments for members of the Steele County Board:

Board chair: John Glynn

Vice chair: Greg Krueger

Community services committee: Krueger and Jim Abbe

Internal Central Services committee: Glynn and Krueger

Land use/records committee: Rick Gnemi and Glynn

Public safety committee: James Brady and Gnemi

Public works committee: Abbe and Brady

Board of equalization: All commissioners

Association of Minnesota Counties: All commissioners

Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust: Brady

National Association of Counties: All commissioners

Cannon River Watershed Partnership: Gnemi

Children’s Mental Health Collaborative: Brady and Krueger

Community Health Board: Glynn, Abbe and Krueger

Community Corrections Advisory committee: Glynn

Criminal Justice committee: Krueger

Cultural Diversity Network: Krueger

Economic Development Authority: Abbe

County/City Intergovernmental committee: Gnemi and Abbe

Extension: Brady and Glynn

Fair Board liaison: Glynn

U.S. Highway 14 Partnership: All commissioners

Rice-Steele 911 Dispatch Joint Powers Board: Brady and Abbe

Planning Commission liaison: Brady

Parks & Rec Commissioner liaison: Glynn

Minnesota Prairie County Alliance: Brady and Gnemi

Multi-County Solid Waste: Abbe

Regional Railroad Authority: All commissioners

SE MN Water Resource Board: Brady

SE MN Emergency Communications Board: Brady

SMART Transit Authority Board: Krueger

Law Enforcement Center committee: Glynn and Krueger

Steele County Historical Society liaison: Gnemi

Southern Minnesota Tourism: Brady

SE MN Emergency Medical Services: Gnemi

South Country Health Alliance: Krueger

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GARDENING TIP OF THE WEEK

Compliments of Steele County Master Gardeners

As you start your garden projects this year do you best to include some flowers that will provide for pollinators. Ideally clusters of plants that bloom from April to September are desirable. There are many shrubs, trees, and perennials that can be used, but some annuals will do the trick also. A few snapdragons or zinnias added to the vegetable garden aid in pollinating. Even the tomato blossom provides protein for the bees. Even though dandelions are the bane of some homeowners, consider viewing them differently. They are some of the first sources of food for the bees.

A special thank you from Steele County Master Gardeners to everyone for their support during our annual plant sale. Mark your calendars for next year- May 17th & 18th in the Community Center at the Fairgrounds.

Weed control is a never-ending issue for gardeners. Try these practices to save your back:
Mulch- Use 2-4 inches of straw, grass clippings or leaves to provide an organic matter to the soil and deter new weed growth.
Throw away or burn weeds- Do not add to compost pile. Use minimum tillage to discourage weeds from germinating. Landscape fabric will also help.

Did you know
Weed seeds can survive for several years? Surprise! They will only die in a compost pile if the temperature inside reaches 140F—difficult to do in our climate- so no weeds in the compost pile.

Happy Asparagus/Morel hunting!!!!

This gardening feature sponsored by:

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BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT: Restraining Order: At 1:13 p.m. on May 15, deputies responded to a restraining order violation in the 500 block of School St. S. in Ellendale.

REMEMBERING A DARK TIME IN CLAREMONT’S HISTORY

Widow marks 30th anniversary of cop husband killing

By RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Since her husband was killed in the line of duty 30 years ago, Sue Lange has only missed two services at the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Lange returned once again on May 15 to honor her husband, Gregory Lange, police chief of Claremont, who was gunned down and beaten while responding to a domestic disturbance call on July 5, 1988.

“It is so moving,” Lange says. “It is on such a grand scale.”

Soon Lange will have a chance to remember her husband as well as other fallen police officers at the Southeast Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial in Rochester. During a service at Solider’s Field May 18, Lange and other police officers unveiled the site for the new memorial slated for construction this summer.

“This is going to be so good for a lot of families,” Lange said.

In honor of the 30th anniversary of her husband’s death, Lange spoke at the memorial service during National Police Week. She recalled how her life turned upside down in the tiny little community of Claremont.

“It was a time when just breathing for me was quite an accomplishment,” Lange said. “Our world was in total chaos and out of control. My life was so much about ‘we’ and ‘us’ and not about ‘I,’ and I found myself in a new and cruel world.”

After her husband’s death, Lange became involved with Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS). It is a national organization devoted to helping surviving spouses of police officers killed in the line of duty. She has surrounded herself with love



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Olmsted County Sheriff Kevin Torgerson, far left, unveils the future site of the Southeast Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial in Rochester as Sgt. Shannon Boerner of Dodge County Sheriff’s Office, right, and Sue Lange, widow of fallen Claremont police chief Gregory Lange, look on at a ceremony May 18. Construction on the memorial is expected to start this summer and be completed later this year.

and support from people within the organization—many of which replaced friends she thought she had at the time of Greg’s death.

Lange said, “Cops helped me find me again and filled me with hope and truly saved my life. The old me is forever gone, but they helped me find a different version living a new normal and found the voice I needed to help other survivors.”

She says each and every time she has been able to tell her story or taken on a new endeavor she has gotten back 10-fold more than she put into it. “It all is quite humbling because all I have ever wanted was that Greg never be forgotten,” Lange said, adding that if what happened to Greg would perhaps have a teachable moment for other

others, then she calls her endeavors a success.

“I would hope Greg is proud of how I have lived my life without him,” she said.

Olmsted County Sheriff Kevin Torgerson thanked Lange and other fallen officer survivors. “We always try to put you first,” he said. “It is our job to support our survivor families.”

Torgerson said the greatest fear of police survivors is that their loved one will be forgotten and not remembered after the officer funeral. “We will always be here and remember,” he assured the group of many spouses of both fallen and current officers in attendance. “No survivor should ever be felt left out.”

He challenged everyone to do a better job in supporting the families of fallen police officers.

‘I would hope Greg is proud of how I have lived my life without him.’

Sue Lange
Police Survivor

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of May with Judge Steven Schwab presiding:

Isaiah H. Coffey, 20, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of any firearm. He was sentenced to \$81 and 60 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

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

Lisa K. Gomez, 35, Shakopee, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of cocaine/heroin/ methamphetamine. She was sentenced to \$131 and 51 months in Shakopee State Prison.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER
Abdulla S. Alshamsi, Abu Dhabi, speeding, \$221; Jorge A. Baez, 23, Faribault, speeding, \$131; Douglas M. Blouin, 58, Ellendale, failure to obey traffic control device, \$131; Deshawn D. Britton, 27, Minneapolis, conspiracy to commit financial transaction card fraud, \$1,440.19, 3 days in county jail, obtain permission to leave the state, maintain employment, 100 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Gabriell A. Edel, 23, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Duel T. Higgins, 25, Austin, weaving over lane lines, \$131; Amanda M. Hodroff, 33, Eagan, no child passenger restraint system and possession of marijuana, \$231; Emily S. Johnson, 23, Waseca, speeding, \$221; Tahlon R. Joslyn, 24, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Jennifer D. Ohm, 33, New Richland, DWI, \$381 and

Benjamin T. Spaulding, 18, Eden Prairie, unsafe lane usage, \$131; Zhiqi Yao, 26, Ames, IA, speeding, \$141.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT
Brandon D. Berg, 28, Owatonna, no license in possession, \$101; Deloris J. Brase, 75, Owatonna, failure to yield right of way, \$131; Kendall K. Brazier-Collins, 24, St. Paul, violation of restraining order, \$381, 10 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Jeremy S. Evenson, 35, Bricelyn, suspended license, \$281; Hunter A. Frank, 18, Waseca, seat belt, \$106; Luisa M. Fuentes, 30, Austin, theft, \$81; Maurice L. Giles, 22, Owatonna, theft and failure to stop for school bus, \$762 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Anthony B. Graham, 34, Owatonna, theft, \$131 and 2 days in county jail; James D. Hoggard, 26, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Abdikafi M. Jama, 26, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Donald M. Ketterling, 34, Owatonna, speeding, \$281; Richard M. King, 34, Faribault, theft, \$381; Michael J. McClatchey, 44, Owatonna, theft, \$181; Daniel P. Moller, 64, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Jennifer D. Ohm, 33, New Richland, tampering with motor vehicle, \$50 and 72 days in county jail; Blendyger J. Olais, 23, Waseca, trespassing, \$131, 38 days in county jail and 1 year of supervised probation; Ryan L. Quaintance, 33, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Larry D. Taylor, 18, Brooklyn Park, domestic assault and violation of no contact order, \$81 and 60 days in county jail; Katie M. Todd, 38, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jackson K. Weatherley, 17, Owatonna, speeding, \$131.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE
Falconer R. Bellefy, 22, Owatonna, possession of firearm – user of controlled

substance, \$281, 86 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, mental health evaluation, no possession of firearms and 3 years of supervised probation; Jathan P. Dettmer, 21, Medford, no insurance and failure to deliver title, \$481; Jorge Duran, 33, Waseca, speeding and no license, \$231; Michael D. Farrand, 52, Austin, speeding, \$141; Patrick M. Hamilton, 22, Owatonna, DWI, \$606, 1 day in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, alcohol monitor and 2 years of supervised probation; Mark A. Motl, 44, Owatonna, DWI, \$606, 30 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, Ignition Interlock program and 2 years of supervised probation; Anthony C. Powell, 51, Cedar Falls, IA, speeding, \$221; John A. Thom, 59, Owatonna, failure to obtain burning permit, \$131.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of May 7 – 14:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE
James A. Blattner, 48, Lake City, parking violation, \$32; Jamison L. Clement, 46, Claremont, parking violation, \$32; Kyle J. Funk, 28, Byron, parking violation, \$32; Jennifer K. Gaskins, 43, Oronoco, parking violation, \$32; Dondre L. Gullickson, 26, Canton, parking violation, \$32; Sierra L. Gustafson, 18, Kasson, possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, \$180; Kristopher K. Hinck, 30, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Victoria M. Hinck, 30, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Frederick M. Johnson

Jr., 69, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Tammy R. Johnson, 49, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Timothy D. Kjarland, 28, Kasson, speeding, \$140; Pamela D. Lujan, 65, Blooming Prairie, parking violation, \$32; Jordon D. Majerus, 22, Hayfield, speeding, \$120; Scott A. Manseau, 49, Pine Island, parking violation, \$32; Joshua J. Mitchell, 30, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Brittney A. O’Brien, 20, Chatfield, possession of paraphernalia, \$130; William L. Oldfield, 66, Rochester, parking violation, \$32; Joshua D. Peterson, 36, Claremont, revoked license, \$280; Mariah E. Peveto, 22, Hayfield, parking violation, \$32; Mark D. Ray, 62, Claremont, cancelled license, \$280; Megan A. Reid, 36, Owatonna, parking violation, \$32; Evonne E. Robbins, 41, Hayfield, parking violation, \$32; Chad L. Sarver, 52, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Stacie M. Vangness, 25, Rochester, parking violation, \$32; Mary B. Weedman, 37, Hayfield, parking violation, \$32.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Darek A. Davidson, 37, Rochester, violation of domestic abuse no contact order, \$280, domestic abuse evaluation, no contact with victim and 1 year of supervised probation; Michael T. Eidenschink, 51, Peterson, parking violation, \$32; Daria J. Enright, 56, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Judy J. Folie, 72, Kasson, speeding, \$120; Keaton J. Grendahl, 18, Kasson, possession of paraphernalia, seat belt, failure to signal and failure to drive in single lane, \$255; Cody W. Jorgensen, 20, Hastings, stop sign and failure to yield right of way, \$180; Colton W. McGraw, 20, Chatfield, parking violation, \$32; Jamie L. Mergen, 26, Dodge Center, invalid license, \$180; Christopher J. Seljan, 47, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Patrick J. Spinler, 50, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Jacob A.

CRIME BRIEF

SPIN ON MINI-BIKE LEADS TO DWI ARREST



COURTNEY M. BAUER

A man is facing drunken driving charges after taking a spin on a mini-bike. Courtney M. Bauer, 29, has been charged with two counts of second-degree DWI, which are both gross misdemeanors. Court records show he has two previous DWI convictions since 2010. Police responded to a disturbance on Arglen Drive on May 20 about a drunk man who had broken things and left in a red pick-up. Officers found the man a short time later on West Frontage Road operating a mini-bike. Police stopped him and conducted field sobriety tests, which Bauer allegedly failed. According to the complaint, Bauer provided a breath test, which showed his alcohol level at .16, which is twice the legal limit.

Ulrich, 20, Rochester, parking violation, \$32; Todd A. Vrleze, 48, Mantorville, seat belt, \$105; Michael G. Yaneff, 56, Sioux City, IA, parking violation, \$32.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER
Juan R. Alcaraz, 41, Claremont, no license and revoked license, \$380; Shane J. Anderson, 27, Hastings, cancelled license, \$280; William R. Bell, 38, Rochester, speeding, \$280; Scott M. Iverson, 57, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Daniel M. Loehr, 54, Rochester, speeding, \$120; Gabrielle R. Louks, 18, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$280; Mariah L. Matrious, 23, Rochester, speeding, \$140; Yimi V. Olivares, 32, Brooklyn Park, speeding, \$120; Jontrell J. Overton-Smith, 21, Dodge Center, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; Dakota J. Swanson, 18, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120; William P. Wyttenback, 46, Dodge Center, suspended license, \$280.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
Jorge Felix Angel, 42, West Concord, parking violation, \$32; Cami M. Fuchs, 42, Rochester, theft, \$100, 2 days in county jail;

May 14
Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 300 block of School St. W. at 11:27 a.m.
Child Protection: Police received a child protection report from the 1500 block of St. Paul Road NE at 3:44 p.m.

May 15
Warrant: Police arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 400 block of Larch Ave. NE at 9:42 a.m.
Fight: Officers responded to a fight in the 300 block of School St. E. at 2:42 p.m.
Theft: Police took theft reports in the 1100 block of Rice Lake St. E. at 3:26 p.m. and the 500 block of Havana Road SE at 5:21 p.m.

May 16
Crash: Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle crash with injuries at Phelps St. E. and Cedar Ave. S. at 2:48 p.m.
Disturbance: At 9:42 p.m., police responded to a disturbance in the 700 block of Bridge St. W.
Fight: Officers responded to a fight at School St. E. and Cedar Ave. S. at 11:23 p.m.

May 17
Fire: Police responded to a fire in the 1500 block of St. Paul Road NE at 1:10 p.m.
Crash: At 6:55 p.m., paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle crash with injuries at State Ave. NW and West Hills Circle NW.

ARRESTS Steele County

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE

Chad Leo Roche, 26, arrested at 4:31 a.m. May 16, felony terroristic threats, held for court.

OWATONNA POLICE
Alejandro Balderas Garza, 29, arrested at 1:38 p.m. May 12, warrant arrest, \$5,000 bail.
Courtney Michael Bauer, 29, arrested at 4 a.m. May 13, DWI, held for court.
Kevin Jackson, 52, arrested at 3:15 p.m. May 12, warrant arrest, held for court.
Martin John Klaustermeier, 23, arrested at 11:43 a.m. May 14, possession of controlled substance, held for court.
Dennis Lenard Jackson, 57, arrested at 9:22 p.m. May 16, domestic assault, held for court.
Jonelle Suezette Hill, 37, arrested at 9:37 p.m. May 16, felony probation violation, held for court.
Esperanza Marie Pena, 21, arrested May 18, warrant arrest, \$300 bail.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF
Kerry Charles Bittrich, 28, arrested at 1:30 a.m. May 14, felony controlled substance sales, held for court.
Nathan Lyn Vigil, 22, arrested at 10:32 a.m. May 14, warrant arrest, \$5,000 bail.
Daniel Joseph Meyer, 38, arrested at 12:20 a.m. May 15, felony theft of movable property and revoked license, held for court.

Dakota Reid Cisneros, 22, arrested at 9:49 p.m. May 16, drugs and warrant arrest, held for court.
Nathaniel Thomas Henderson, 31, arrested at 11:45 p.m. May 17, drug court probation violation, held for court.

OWATONNA FIRE

May 11
Vegetation Fire: At 7:37 p.m., firefighters handled a natural vegetation fire in the 1000 block of Mineral Springs Parkway NE.

WARRANTS: The following individuals have active warrants in Steele County. The Sheriff provides this information as a public service

1. Dragan Trkulja – traffic - \$1,000 bail

2. Arnut Tungsununt – drugs - \$10,000 bail

3. Nyatiem Tut – false name - \$500 bail

4. Peter Uhlig – DWI - \$3,000 bail

5. Joseph Urwin – false name - \$3,000 bail

6. Marco Valdez – DWI, child endangerment - \$6,000 bail

7. April Valliant – false name, revoked license - \$3,000 bail

8. Karah Vandam – theft - \$300 bail

9. Reinaldo Vasques – DWI - \$1,000 bail

10. Eric Veith – theft, shoplifting - \$500 bail

11. Jose Villa Jr. – interference with 911 - \$6,000 bail

12. Lesly Wadley – fleeing in motor vehicle – no bail

13. Rickson Waguk – DWI - \$12,000 bail

14. Alonzo Walker – conspiracy to commit - \$5,000 bail

15. Anthony Walker – controlled substance - \$35,000 bail

16. Deontavious Walker – domestic assault – no bail

17. Desmond Walton – traffic - \$500 bail

18. Tanner Ware – false name - \$1,000 bail

19. Brian Warn – drugs – no bail

20. Tristan Watts – counterfeit currency - \$6,000 bail

Disclosing active warrants promotes public safety and aids in the identification and apprehension of wanted individuals

History from the
News Archives

10 Years Ago

May 27, 2008

DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

Kristi Wanous and Sarah Mans have been named this year's valedictorian and salutatorian at Blooming Prairie High School. They will be presenting speeches at the graduation ceremony on June 1.

The Blooming Prairie School Board is facing some tough criticism. Area farmer Jim O'Connor appeared before the board asking how students are to be taught accountability when the school board and its administration are not held accountable for their actions. O'Connor said some citizens are blaming the superintendent and board members for not operating within their means.

20 Years Ago

May 26, 1998

ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

Five teachers are retiring from Blooming Prairie. They are Bob Nahlovsky, Norma Amundson, Naomi Erickson, Marilyn Srsen and Roger Saathoff.

Jackie Smith of Blooming Prairie won \$5,000 playing the Lottery's Barrel of Bugs instant game. She purchased the ticket at Budget Mart in Blooming Prairie.

The highest honor for customer satisfaction and owner loyalty at Ford Motor Company—the North American Customer Excellence Award—has been given to Krejci Ford of Blooming Prairie, one of 888 U.S. dealers to receive the honor. This is the third award for customer excellence for Cheri and Rick Krejci.

50 Years Ago

May 23, 1968

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

The Class of 1968 features 101 seniors who will be awarded the coveted diplomas at Blooming Prairie High School. Dr. Roger W. Anderson, a 1961 graduate of BPHS, will deliver the commencement address.

A one-car accident on the County Line Road south of Blooming Prairie resulted in \$1,800 damage to Bennie W. Bishop's 1968 Chevelle.

The Blooming Prairie area was hit by a violent spring storm about mid-afternoon Wednesday, May 16, which resulted in extensive tornado damage on several farms, unusually large hail and strong winds. No injuries were reported. The barn on the Raymond Filley farm east of BP was leveled by the tornado.

Marvin Stockstead, a native of Sleepy Eye, is the new general manager of the Central Co-op Oil Association. He assumed duties May 1, replacing Claude Grandprey, who retired after being with the co-op for nearly 45 years.

75 Years Ago

May 27, 1943

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

Sgt. Howard Lysne and Cpl. Albert Svoboda, members of Blooming Prairie Gun Club, were entertained at the club lodge Tuesday evening as a courtesy while home on furlough. Lysne is stationed in California while Svoboda is in New Mexico.

A deal was negotiated yesterday afternoon between Robert Skalisky and Mrs. Earl Oswald, whereby ownership of Oswald's school bus was transferred to Skalisky. Alleged consideration was \$1,700.

SEMAC awards arts grants around region

Several groups and organizations around southeastern Minnesota have been awarded arts grants.

The Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council has awarded 42 grants totaling \$241,465 in funding to applicants in 11 counties.

The only grant awarded in Steele County went to Owatonna Public Schools for a \$3,000 School Residency grant for Tazanian Music Arts.

In Mower County, Austin Area Commission for the Arts received \$4,500 for ArtRocks Open Jam sessions at the Art Works Center. Austin Symphony Orchestra received \$10,000 for jubilation with Austin Symphony Orchestra. Summerset Community Theatre was awarded a \$3,000 Presenter/Production Assistance grant for Summerset 51st Season.

In Freeborn County, the Albert Lea Community Theater received a \$3,000 Presenter/Production Assistance grant for Beauty and the Beast summer musical set construction.

Three grants were awarded in Dodge County. They include Berne Summer Concert Series for a \$10,000 Arts and Cultural Heritage grant for support for musicians and artisans; Mantorville Art Guild for a \$10,000 Arts and Cultural Heritage grant for 2018 Summer Youth Art Camps and Mantorville Theatre Company for a \$2,150 Small Towns/Rural Areas grant for 2018 summer melodrama theater camps.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Included in last week's announcement are 20 Arts and Cultural Heritage grants for \$180,295, 12 Presenter/Production Assistance grants for \$32,220, nine Small Towns/Rural Areas grants for \$25,950, and one School Residency grant for \$3,000.

SEMAC is the State Arts Board-designated granting authority for local/regional arts producing and sponsoring organizations and disburses funds allocated for this purpose by the Minnesota State Legislature. The SEMAC region includes the counties of Stele, Dodge, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha, and Winona.

For information about the grant application process, eligibility, or grant writing assistance, contact the SEMAC office at 2778 D Commerce Dr. NW, Rochester, MN 55901 or call 507-281-4848. Information may also be found on SEMAC's website at www.semac.org.

How to Find Retiree Travel Perks



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Dear Savvy Senior,

What types of travel discounts are available to older travelers? I just retired and am interested in learning about travel deals for people over 60.

~Ready To Go

Dear Ready, There are literally thousands of different travel-related discounts available to retirees that usually start anywhere between the ages 50 and 65. These discounts – typically ranging between 5 and 25 percent off – can add up to save you hundreds of dollars on your next trip. Here's how you can find them.

WAYS TO SAVE

The first thing to know is that most businesses don't advertise them, but many give senior discounts just for the asking, so don't be shy.

You also need to be aware that when it comes to senior travel bargains, the "senior discount," if available, may not always be the best deal. Hotels, resorts, airlines and cruise lines, for example, offer advanced bookings along with special deals and promotions from time to time that may be a lower rate than what the senior discount is. Before you book, always ask about the lowest possible rate and the best deal available.

Another way retirees with flexible schedules can save is to be flexible when you travel. Last minute travel deals can offer huge savings, as well as traveling during off-season or off-peak times, and avoiding holidays.

Club memberships can also garner you a wide variety of travel bargains. AARP, for example has dozens of travel discounts available on hotels, rental cars, cruises and vacation packages – see AARPadvantages.com. Annual AARP membership fees are \$16 or less if you join for multiple years.

Or, if you don't agree with AARP, there are alternative organizations you can join like the Seniors Coalition or the American Seniors Association that offer discounts on hotels and rental cars.

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.

STEELE COUNTY Times

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★ STARS OF STEELE ★



Thurnau



Johns

OWATONNA lacrosse player Landon Thurnau scored three goals and dished out four assists in the Huskies' 15-3 victory over Rochester Century on Friday, May 18. Thurnau also scored five goals and had four assists on Monday, May 14 when Owatonna defeated Mankato 15-3.

NEW RICHLAND-HARTLAND-ELLENDALE-GENEVA softball Sarah Johns hit home runs against Mabel Canton and Kenyon-Wanamingo (doubleheader) on Saturday, May 12 and Maple River on Friday, May 18.

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A pastor making house calls

Tiny country church shows signs of life

By HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

First Lutheran Church senior Pastor Heidi Heimgartner definitely makes house calls. On Saturday, May 19, she married Pamela Grochowski and Leslie Shawback at Westfield Lutheran Church, located six miles northeast of Blooming Prairie.

On Sunday, May 20, Heimgartner baptized John William Dahl, son of Rachel (Knutson) and John Dahl, born March 10, 2018 in Minneapolis. His sponsors were: Christopher and Crystal Knutson, James Dahl and Rachel Vohs. The baptism was at Westfield.

The Westfield church has not been open for regular services for many years. With the help of organizer Dale Underwood,

the church raised money to refurbish the church. It is now used at least three times a year for spring, fall and Christmas services. Special services, including weddings, are also sometimes scheduled at Westfield.

Greeting about 75 visitors on a cool Sunday afternoon, Heimgartner said Westfield was as festive as the Royal Wedding the day before in London, England. Underwood greeted parishioners and thanked Heimgartner for her role in leading the church service. He also thanked organize Shelly Long.

“You people are incredible,” Heimgartner said in commending them for attending this special Pentecost Sunday service.

She spoke about wind and a whisper. “Wind can blow into a community and can knock you off your feet,” she said.

This church has not had a pastor in 61 years, the pastor noted. “Our world needs both the wind and a whisper, she said. “We need the power of the Holy Spirit,” she emphasized.

“God’s presence will never leave us,” she sermonized.

Heimgartner prayed for local farmers and asked them to stand. Referring to Psalm 104, she said gardeners and farmers are looking at their crops and saying, “Grow! Grow!”

Following the service, visitors were invited to an ice cream and pie social in the church basement.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

The Rev. Heidi Heimgartner delivered the sermon at a special Sunday Pentecost service at the Westfield Lutheran Church in Westfield Township.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Dale Underwood puts some muscle into the act of ringing the church bell at the Westfield Lutheran Church. A special Pentecost service was held Sunday, May 20 at the church.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Jack Dahl, 10 weeks old, was baptized Sunday afternoon at the Westfield Lutheran Church in Westfield Township, about seven miles northeast of Blooming Prairie. He is the son of Rachel and John Dahl. Rachel was born just across the street from the Westfield church. “This is a special place,” she said.

LIBRARY BOOK NOOK

Rock Summer reading begins at library



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

In just a few days school will be out and summer vacation will be in full swing! We are as busy as beavers at the Blooming

Prairie Branch Library getting ready for the non-stop activities that are planned for our Libraries Rock Summer Reading Program.

The fun begins on Friday, June 1 at 10 a.m. Kids’ rock and rollers, Big & Tall will be on hand to get us started. Formerly known as Mr. Billy, the father-son duo gets the audience up and jiving along with their music. After the performance kids can sign up and receive their reading records, temporary tattoos, and other surprises.

Also be sure to pick up a brochure that lists the dates and times for the 60 activities we will be offering this summer. This includes weekly activities like storytime, Movie Mondays, and Adventure Club, as well as special guests like Chione Quartet storytime, Mystifying Magic with Greg Skillestad, Siama’s Music of the Congo, and visits from wild animals! We will be busy all summer long, so whenever the rain splashes or boredom sets in, stay busy with us at the library. Have a great summer!

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

JUNE 1
BEV HOVELAND
VIRGINIA LINDQUIST
JULIE COCHLIN
OWEN GIMBEL
RYDER SMITH
RAYANNE ALWES

JUNE 2
A.J. SLOWINSKI
DYLAN RASLE
SAMANTHA ANDREWS

JUNE 3
CAMDEN HEIMERMAN
KENDRA LONG
GABRIEL HAGEN
EMMA TROM
MADELYN HARVEY
ISABELLA KOHN
LILLY ABBE
DARLENE CHRISTIANSON

JUNE 4
PAUL STENDER
BRENDA SALINAS
LANCE INGVALDSON
STEPHANE BRUGGEMAN
PAM SCHWARZ
MAYLON HEINZ

JUNE 5
LANTRY HOULLION
DOUG JOHNSON
KARA TROTMAN
ZACH PROUTY

ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE 1
MR. & MRS. ROBERT OLSON
BILL & JENNIFER WALSH
ALLEN & DOROTHY JOHNSON
SAMONE & BRYAN JR.
HERNANDEZ

JUNE 3
JEFF & SUE ZWIENER
ANDREW & EMILY SAVARIA

JUNE 4
MIKE & ALYSSA RESSLER

JUNE 5
DICK & BEV HOVELAND
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SENIOR PASTOR
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
OWATONNA

Jesus chooses each of us

“A leper came to Jesus begging him, and kneeling he said to him, ‘If you choose, you can make me clean.’ Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, ‘I do choose. Be made clean.’” - Mark 1:40-41 (NRSV)

How many times have we felt like something is wrong? It might be our health, or it could be our spirit, our relationships, or our families. There are times when the problems and issues that we face can feel overwhelming and we just don’t know what to do.

At these times, people of faith pray;

we come to God seeking help, comfort and healing. But I think there’s something interesting that we can learn from the leper in Mark’s Gospel. He begins his exchange with Jesus by saying “if you choose...you can make me clean.” He was acknowledging that Jesus has the power. Jesus can choose to heal, or Jesus can choose not to heal.

Often, we approach God like one might approach a vending machine. We “insert” a prayer and expect to get out of it what we want. We approach God to ask for help, or healing, but we want God to work on our terms.

But that’s not how the leper prayed. He approached Jesus and the first thing he did was to acknowledge that being healed was on Jesus’ terms, not his own. In that sense, his words “if you choose...” is a confession of faith. It is an acknowledgement that Jesus is God, and is fully in control.

And Jesus reply brings comfort. He says, “I do choose. Be made clean.” Jesus has the power to choose, and Jesus is telling this leper, who occupies the bottom rung on the socio-economic ladder that “I choose you.”

I choose you.
Jesus chooses each of us. And

because of that, Jesus does make us whole. Jesus brings the healing that we hope for; the healing that we need.

What would happen if we began all of our prayers by acknowledging God’s sovereignty and power: “God, if you choose...” I don’t think it will change what Jesus does for us. Jesus’ love isn’t dependent on what we say or do. But I do think that it might change our spirits. It will change the way we approach God. It will give us humble hearts, and remind us of the love of God, on which we all depend.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: 9:00 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
106 Third St. SE., Geneva
Pastor Kristen Venne
507-256-4288
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC
503 Radel Ct., Ellendale
Pastor Richard Sliper
507-684-2451
Saturday: 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship;
10:15 a.m. Sunday School/
Confirmation
Tues.: 7 p.m. Call to Prayer,
open to all churches
Wed.: 9:30 a.m. BibleStudy;
3:30 – 5 p.m. Jesus and Me; 6 p.m.
Call to Prayer; 6:30 p.m. Youth Group

FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA
434 First St. SW.,
Blooming Prairie
Rev. Heidi Heimgartner,
507-583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sundays
Education Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST LUTHERAN – LCMC
8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope
Pastor Sandy Miller
507-451-3854
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m. Sun.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN – LCMS
2500 7th Ave. NE., Owatonna
Rev. Mark Rosenau,
Senior Pastor
Rev. Greg Schlicker,
Associate Pastor
507-451-4125
www.goodshepherdowatonna.com
Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA
7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon
Pastor Nancy Edwardson
507-789-6661
Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA
9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale
Pastor Mike Walerius
507-465-8366
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN – LCMS
1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Kirk Griebel
507-451-2720
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. Sun.

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

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS
4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont
Pastor Alan Broadwell
507-528-2404
Worship: 6 p.m. Saturday; 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS
28959 630th Ave., Sergeant
Pastor Collin Duling
507-251-5568
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA
30450 570th Ave., Waltham
Pastor Dwight DoBell
507-567-2474
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – LCMS
202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA
2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden
Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
507-451-2165
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

TRINITY LUTHERAN
5881 SE 118th St., Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. (First Sunday of the month)

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Rev. Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dean Smith, Associate Pastor
Rev. Amanda Weinkauff, Associate Pastor
507-451-4520
www.tlcowatonna.org
Worship: Saturday: 5 p.m.; Sun.: 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 6 p.m.
Sunday School: 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
104 First St. SE., Hayfield
Pastor Paul Hauschild
507-477-2248
www.trinityhayfield.org
Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS
108 Third Ave. SW., Medford
Pastor Mark Biebighauser
507-451-0447
Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 Sun.
Education Hour: 9:15-10:15 a.m. Sun.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS
57043 300th St., Waltham
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
507-451-2165
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.

CATHOLIC

CHRIST THE KING
203 Second Ave. NW., Medford
507-451-6353
Father Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
Monday Mass: 9 a.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 SW First St., New Richland
Father Raul Silva
Fr. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
507-465-8217
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
Father John Sauer
Fr. Jose Morales, Weekend Presider
507-451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com
Reconciliation: 8:45 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sundays
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Children's Church for Preschool – 1st Grade began Sept. 24
Faith Formation for Kindergarten – Confirmation: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Adult Study: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St., Hayfield
Father Thomas Niehaus
507-477-2256
Mass: 8 a.m. Sun. & 8:30 a.m. Thursday
Reconciliation: 7:30 a.m. Sun.

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
Father John Sauer
Fr. Jose Morales, Parochial Vicar
507-451-1588

CHRISTIAN

CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT
540 SE 18th St., Owatonna
Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor
507-451-1032
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m.

PENTECOSTAL

FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL
230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Eliazar Talamantes
507-363-2240
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

METHODIST

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST
43089 180th St., Medford (Seven miles west of Medford on CR 23)
Pastors JJ & Stefanie Morgan
507-835-8726
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST
200 Sixth St. NW., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirkse
507-684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST
815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
Joyce Parker, Associate Pastor
507-451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship (Pathways): 9 a.m. Sunday

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY
130 W. Bridge St., Owatonna
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Biblestudy: 9 a.m. Sun.
Reformers Unanimous Meetings: 7 p.m. Friday

CEDAR CREEK
30 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
507-477-2255
www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

DESTINY CHRISTIAN
Owatonna Campus
422 North St., Owatonna
Pastors Tyler & Jessica Braucht
507-254-8514
www.destinycc.org
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

ELEVATION NORTH
2002 Austin Road, Owatonna
Pastor Doug Jones
507-363-3099
www.elevationnorth.blogspot.com
Worship (English): 10 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Worship (Spanish): 2 p.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
Spanish Evangelism & Prayer: 7 p.m. Friday

NEW BEGINNINGS
332 14th St. NE., Owatonna
Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson
507-721-1366
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Gateway Connection: 6 p.m. Sun.

SIMPLE CHURCH
4515 NW 22nd Ave., Owatonna (Country Goods building across the freeway from Cabela's)
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday

MENNONITE

PRAIRIE MENNONITE
13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie
Bishop Dennis Martin
507-583-7532
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting:

MORMON

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
404 31st St. NW, Austin
Bishop Rick Bremner
507-433-9042
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.

PRESBYTERIAN

ASSOCIATED CHURCH
Presbyterian Church (USA) and United Church of Christ
800 Havana Road, Owatonna
507-451-1546
www.associatedchurch.org
office@associatedchurch.org
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. (Fellowship, Church School, and Adult Discussions follow)
Wednesday Activities: Sept – May (see website for schedule)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
109 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Kirk Johnston
507-477-2631
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
2373 Seventh Ave. NE, Owatonna
Pastor Bob Brauer
507-340-7143
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat.
Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat.

UCC

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 Main St. S. Medford
Rev. Richard Waters
507-451-4596
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
702 Third St. S., Ellendale
Pastor Patrick Stitt
507-684-3421
www.vibrantlifeag.com
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST
104 First Ave. NE, Blooming Prairie
Pastor Matt Fennell
507-583-2673
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.



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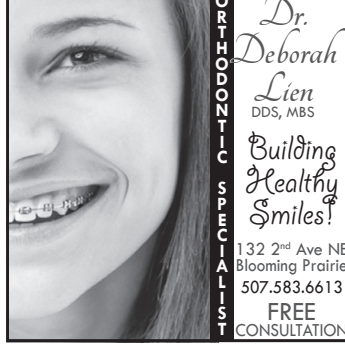
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VIETNAM WALL: *Traveling war tribute*

FROM A1

is dedicated to honoring, remembering and sharing the legacies of all those who died in the Vietnam War. Here you can go beyond the names on The Wall to see the faces, share the stories and read the remembrances posted by friends, neighbors, classmates and family members.

The website includes correspondence from fellow Vietnam veterans.

Ric Langley wrote: “I served with Dale many years ago in Vietnam as a Marine tank crewman. I remember Dale as always having a smile on his face and a positive outlook no matter how difficult things were.

“Serving in a small unit under those conditions over several months made everyone very close. We were truly a band of brothers. As with my other brothers that were lost I think of Dale often. Rest in peace brother Semper Fi.”

The Otto siblings visited the wall Sunday, May 20 to observe special memorial observances which signaled the closure of the Vietnam Wall in Austin.

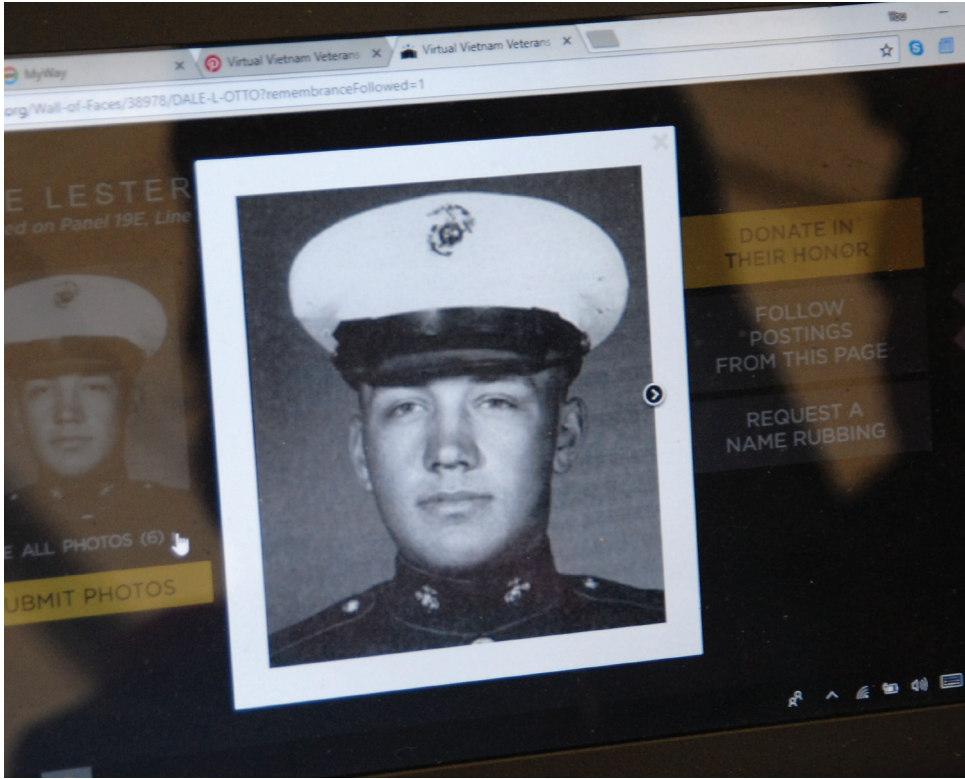
Otto said they were also paying tribute to his brother Dale’s armored tank mate, Ron Knosky, 21, of New Jersey.

As the Otto siblings and others viewed the extensive wall display, the 34th Infantry Division Red Bull band performed patriotic music.

World War II veteran Duane Klingerman, 93, of Austin was one of the visitors who said the wall was “outstanding” and “breathtaking.”

Klingerman said he visited the military memorials in Washington, D.C. as part of the Honor Flight.

Dodge Center resident Don Broskoff was part of a large contingency putting



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Lance Corporal Dale Otto of Ellendale was remembered by his two brothers and a sister as they visited the Vietnam Wall at the Mower County Fairgrounds in Austin on Sunday, May 20.

flags at half staff in honor of 31 Vietnam veterans from the Austin area. Broskoff served three tours of duty and was assigned to the Americal Division, first in infantry and then in special services.

Col. Stephen Schemenaur paid tribute to the many Minnesota killed in action in Vietnam. “Remember, these individuals

made the ultimate sacrifice,” he said.

The Vietnam War officially ended April 30, 1975, 43 years ago. Col. Schemenaur said more than 25,000 of those Americans killed in Vietnam were 20 or younger. Minnesota counted 1,972 deaths in Vietnam.

BROKEBACK: *Top honor*

FROM A1

in Rochester and wasn’t expected to live. Brokeback was originally intended as a short story for just family and friends, but through Proulx it became a book and hit movie, which ranks in the top 10 of all time for love stories and westerns.

Trom’s story through Brokeback has been a catalyst in changing how the world views gay issues, most notably same-sex relationships. “Many people look at the story as a turning point,” Trom said. “It was the story and the movie that really got to people.”

At the time Trom shared his story with Proulx, she sat on the story for several years. Looking back, Trom knows society was not ready for his story when he initially sat down with the author during the mid 1980s. The story was finally published in 1997.

Asked if it was hard to share his story, Trom said, “There were parts because it got so personal. I didn’t know how much detail to go into.”

Trom admits it was difficult for even him to watch the movie when it first came out. “When I saw the story, you could have carried me out on a stretcher,” he said. “I was devastated. I saw grown men crying,” he added.

Brokeback is a short story of only 30 pages. Trom said he has a stack of books “3 feet high” at home revolving around Brokeback and were published after his story. “It has a huge effect on what people are writing,” he said. “For the most part, it has been very positive.”

Trom added, “Brokeback will always be looked at as a turning point for gay-themed movies.”

He is glad that Brokeback has helped change views on homosexuality. “It really had an effect on people both gay and straight,” Trom said.

Trom said Proulx chose to take on his story because she wanted to have a better understanding gay issues. He recalls telling her at the time that she would be compensated and richly rewarded for writing his story.

In the end, both Proulx and Trom have left behind a gift to the world and changing many hearts and minds along the way.

Proulx lived in the Byron area when she began writing the book about Trom. She now lives in Washington State.

SURVEY: *Historic downtown Owatonna*

FROM A2

- Small surplus on restaurants, but more growth potential based on national trends
- Downtown housing unit growth could help to recapture leakage in the specialty food areas
- Psychographics suggest consumer markets with brand and local shopping loyalties, price point sensitivity, family-oriented, and outdoor recreation focused

COMMUNITY ASSETS

Here are some strategies

identified that we can build upon:

- Straight River (residents and health/recreation)
- City/County Center (residents/workers)
- Cabela’s (health and recreation)
- Proximity to Twin Cities and Rochester (day trippers)
- Owatonna Wildlife Work Area (health and recreation)
- Buxton Trail/Muckele Trail (health and recreation)
- History of Manufacturing, Invention, Innovation

- (small scale production)
- Jostens’s, Federated Insurance (workers)
- Downtown Housing Growth (residents)

TRANSFORMATIONAL STRATEGIES

According to Main Street America, “Main Street commercial districts regain their footing with a sense of purpose, hipness, and place.” Owatonna MainStreet has chosen four transformational strategies built on strengths, assets and data unique to Owatonna to accomplish this task:

- Night Market: Dining

and Entertainment

- Workers and Residents
- Health, Recreation and Trails (additional actions needed such as extensions)
- Small Scale Production (additional actions needed with partners.)

MainStreet is delving into Night Market for 2018. In surveys over 50 percent of reasons to go downtown were related to food. Matt Wagner repeatedly observes three businesses located in the central core of vibrant cities: a coffee shop, fine dining and a brew pub. Next up in 2019 will be workers and residents and the start of small scale production. Looking to round up with health, recreation and trails. These will guide our

goals and transformational activities such as recruiting businesses to fill vacant storefronts and buildings and events.

NATIONAL MAIN STREET: Under-lying Comments and Tasks to be accomplished Regardless of Strategy Chosen.

- Design should transition as major focal point including:
- Façade Renovations (don’t let perfection be the undoing)
- Signage

- Streetscape
- Connectivity to Assets (directional signage, branding, etc.)
- Finding the right spot for

the Brewery

- Local Investment Group (Perry NY LLC example)
- Advocacy with the City around Riverfront Development

Shirley Schultz is the director of the MainStreet program for the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism.

CHILD CARE: *Tim Penny*

FROM A2

announced \$519,000 in grants for the Minnesota Child Care Grant Program, designed to increase the supply of quality child care providers in communities statewide. SMIF, in partnership with FCF, received \$75,000 in funding to target communities that need more, and highly-qualified, family child care providers. In addition to supporting our QCCP trainings, the grant is being utilized to support new family child care businesses in southern Minnesota, with the goal of creating 10 new jobs and 100 child care slots.

As we continue to hear from providers, employers and parents that more solutions are needed, we are working to develop a larger pilot program that will address this issue in our small towns. The specifics of this grant will be unveiled at our Annual Luncheon in October.

Child care providers play a critical role in making sure that our communities and economies are healthy. We value the hard work that providers do to care for children in our region, and will continue to work towards solutions.

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

Tim Penny is the president and CEO of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation in Owatonna. He served as a U.S. Congressman from 1982 to 1994.

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Recipe corner

Serves 4 to 6

- 8 extra-large eggs
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon Creole mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon Cholula Hot Sauce
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

Sunday Picnic Deviled Eggs

- 1/4 teaspoon cracked black pepper
- 2 teaspoons finely chopped pickled jalapeño slices
- 1 teaspoon pickled jalapeño juice
- 1/2 avocado, peeled and pitted
- Pinch of smoked paprika

1. Place the eggs in a medium pot and cover with cold water. Bring to a boil, cover the pot and remove from the heat. Keep covered for 11 minutes, then remove the eggs from the water and place in a bowl of ice water to stop the cooking process.
2. Preheat a sauté pan. Cut the chorizo into very small dice and sauté until crispy. Set aside to cool.
3. In a small bowl, combine mayonnaise, mustard, hot sauce, cumin, salt, pepper, jalapeño, and juice.
4. When the eggs have cooled, peel under cold running water. Slice the eggs lengthwise and remove the yolks.
5. Combine the avocado and egg yolks in a small bowl, and mash together with a fork.
6. Add the avocado mixture to the mayonnaise mixture and blend thoroughly. Spoon the mixture into each half egg white. Dust with the paprika, sprinkle with the cilantro and chorizo, and serve.

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Wizard of Oz in BP?



Dorothy's house from Wizard of Oz was welcomed into the city limits of Blooming Prairie on Tuesday, May 22. The house is owned by builder/realtor Steve Vaith.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Country house moved into BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

For just a brief moment on a foggy May Tuesday morning, it appeared that the Wizard of Oz had landed in Blooming Prairie, Dorothy, Toto and the house, too. No, a tornado did not sweep a Wizard of Oz type house into Blooming Prairie. A moving company from Blue Earth brought a house on wheels into the downtown community from a location just southeast of town. The 22 by 28 foot house (1,232 square feet) owned by Judy and Wayde Bishop of Blooming Prairie is now owned by Steve Vaith, local builder and realtor. Vaith plans on remodeling the small house and renting it out to an interested party.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

A small house owned by Wayde and Judy Bishop of Blooming Prairie was moved across a farm field to a township road the day before it began its trek on Tuesday morning, May 22 toward downtown Blooming Prairie.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

What do we have here? Yes, it's a house on wheels being moved from a location two miles south of Blooming Prairie to a new location owned by local builder and realtor Steve Vaith.

The house, which is said to be over 90 years old, was moved about two miles from the Bishop property to a lot on SE 2nd Street. Craig and Janie Bishop owned it before Wayde and Judy purchased it. They lived in the house from 1974 to 2017, 43 years. They then built a house in Whitetail Estates. The house was purchased by the Bishops from Guy Wold, who built it nearly 90 years ago. "It's cute as a button," smiled Vaith as he watched movers place the wood structure on a foundation waiting for it. Vaith said he has never been part of a full house move. "I've had houses jacked up, but never moved," he said. "They really make it look easy," Vaith said in praising the Spencer House Movers company. The house was moved from its permanent location in Udolpho Township to its new location on SE 2nd Street, but not before the move was strategically arranged. Movers took the house on rollers across a farm field to the Dodge Mower Road and then west toward U.S. Highway 218 where it was guided northward toward the city limits of

Blooming Prairie. The Freeborn Mower Cooperative and City of Blooming Prairie utilities workers helped with power line lifts on the way. The State Patrol had two cars helping with traffic control as the house rolled down Highway 218. Troopers used their public address system to encourage travelers including large semis to use the shoulder to move forward. "It went off without a hitch," remarked Heath Spencer, owner of Spencer's House movers. The company spans six generations, said Spencer. "This was a small project but we had issues with soft ground and the rain," Spencer said. The house move was stalled for a short while near the NAPA store on Highway 218. Power lines were raised quickly and the move continued toward 2nd St. SE. At times, the rollable house moved at 15 miles an hour, Spencer said. "Everybody did a fantastic job," he said in praising his work crew, public utilities workers and law enforcement. The BP Police also helped guide the move once it edged into



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

The Spencer House Movers of Blue Earth are well experienced in moving houses of all sizes. This one now sits in downtown Blooming Prairie after being moved from its rural location southeast of Blooming Prairie. Spencer movers are: Colton Neuhausen, Kyle Osmundson, Wyatt Spencer and Heath Spencer.

Foundation searches for more funds in Ellendale

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The Community Foundation of Ellendale is looking for more funds to help finance some ambitious community projects. The Foundation board of directors met recently to further plan activities over Ellendale Days, designed to help with more plans to improve the Ellendale Community Center. Ellendale Days will be observed June 21-24. Colleen Brekke, Foundation chair, presided over the meeting, also attended by board members Arlen Brekke, Larry Otto, Emily otto, Stephanie Kibler and Pete Paulson. "We want to get the word out about the Foundation's presence in the community," said board member Emily Otto. The Ellendale Community Foundation was started last summer and helped get off the ground by a \$10,000 grant from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation. Other funds were added to that total by the Ellendale Community Foundation. The initial funds were used to finance Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible doors. In its vision statement, The Foundation said leadership, grant making and donor engagement will help the Foundation invest in strategic and innovative solutions for growing philanthropy and leading change to improve the Ellendale community. The Foundation board plans special activities on Saturday, June 23. It is called the Community Foundation FUNd Zone.

SEE FUNDS, B5



Steele Talkin'
STEPHANIE KIBLER

Pancakes with a side of fries

This year my birthday happened to land on a sunny but chilly Sunday. Instead of a fancy birthday dinner, we opted to head to Trumble's in Albert Lea. For those of you not familiar with Trumble's, it is an old school diner with roasted chicken, hot pork and BBQ ribs along with fresh cinnamon rolls, homemade pie and old-fashioned malts. Exactly what you need on a cold spring day! We were seated next to a young couple with two girls (about 5 and 7 years of age). We ordered, ate, visited and noticed they had not received their food yet. These two young ladies were so well behaved, no fussing or wiggling, no whining about being hungry, simply spent the wait talking with one another and their parents, playing tic-tac-toe and coloring. No cell phones or tablets, just family time. When their food finally arrived, I noticed the youngest had an order of pancakes with a side of fries. Unconventional! Daring! Brilliant! This got me thinking, why do we as adults never order our pancakes with a side of fries? Are we concerned with how it might look? Or, are we just not that adventurous. I have noticed that as I age I am less likely to step out of my box, try something new, be adventurous.

SEE PANCAKES, B2

Gathering with friends

Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary hosts Festival of Tables fundraiser

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

From its inception seven years ago, the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary's most popular fundraiser, "Festival of Tables," has grown significantly. During its first year, there were 15 table displays. The event was attended by 122 viewers. On Tuesday, May 22, 23 table displays were highlighted with the attendance swelling to 205. "It's a time to get together with friends and what a wonderful fundraiser it has become," remarked Mary Greene, chair of the event and also president of the Hospital Auxiliary. Greene has chaired the fundraiser each year of its

existence. All table hosts and hostesses pick out a theme and decorate their table accordingly. Joanne Sorenson of Blooming Prairie has had a different theme every year of the fundraiser's existence. All monies are directed to scholarships. Last year, more than \$6,000 was raised. This year, the total grew to over \$10,000. The scholarships are given to those going into a health-related field. Seventeen scholarships were given last year. The annual fundraising event was again staged at the Owatonna Country Club. Led by Greene, other committee members are: Dave Kenow, Deb Albrecht, Gloria Kenow, Joanne Peterson, Judy

Weinke, Ronda Christenson and Shirley Nelson. Guests began viewing tables at 11 a.m. Raffle tickets were sold on decorative baskets containing many surprises. "Each year, I am blown away by the creativity of the table hosts," said Greene. All but one table were designed by women. The men's table featured collectibles saluting Yosemite Sam. The collection is owned by Dave Kenow, past auxiliary president. Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz and Blooming Prairie Mayor H. Peterson were special guests at the men's table.

For a complete list of the tables displayed during this event, please turn to page B8.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Dave Kenow's collection of Yosemite Sam, a Looney Tune character was a big hit at the Festival of Tables, an Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary fundraiser held on Tuesday, May 22 at the Owatonna Country Club.

ATHLETICS

OHS honors athletes



STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL
Owatonna junior athletes of the year Sydney Kretlow and Jason Williamson and senior athlete of the year Peyton Robb and Margo Achterkirch stand for a photo after the Huskies Awards Ceremony on Wednesday.

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Owatonna High School recognized its athletes for their achievements during its annual awards ceremony at the school’s auditorium on Wednesday, May 23.

Peyton Robb and Margo Achterkirch earned the Oldenburg Senior Boy and Girl Athlete of Year awards.

Robb, a University of Nebraska commit, finished his wrestling career as the Huskies’ only three-time state champion. He won the Class AAA 160-pound weight class this past March and finished the season 44-0. Robb won the 106 weight class and the 120 weight class as a freshman and sophomore. He has also won two gold medals for the United States of America in this past summer’s Pan-American Games.

The other finalists for the boys senior athlete of the year were Abe Havelka and Dalton Kubista.

Achterkirch was pivotal member of the Huskies’ soccer, hockey and track and field teams. She has earned six letters in track and five in hockey and soccer.

Achterkirch led the Huskies’ hockey team in scoring this season and was voted the team’s Most Valuable Player.

Achterkirch is committed to run track and play soccer at Saint Benedict in Saint Joseph.

The other finalists for the girls senior athlete of the year were Sophie Amundson and Syd Schultz.

Sydney Kretlow and Jason Williamson were named Owatonna’s Junior Athletes of the Year.

Kretlow was a standout for the Huskies’ gymnastics team that finished third at the state meet.

She was named All-State in the vault and beam.

Kretlow is also the state record holder in the 800-meter run. Kretlow was also a crucial member of the Huskies’ soccer team.

Syler Eaton and Ali An were the other finalist for the award.

Williamson was named the Gatorade Minnesota Player of the Year after leading the Huskies to a Class 5A State Championship.

Williamson also led Owatonna’s basketball team in assists and steals, and he’s a member of track team.

He is committed to play football at the University of Minnesota for coach PJ Fleck.

Cade King and Jake Miller were the other finalists.

Elena Sant was presented with the ExCEL Award; Hannah Gebur and Braden Meier the AAA Awards and Rillee Schmidt and Ryley Glynn with the 110 Percent Awards.

Achterkirch, Jamie Davison, Laura Ebeling, Havelka, Scott Kingland, Kubista, Nolan Malo, Meier, Dylan Meier, Alex Raichle, Schmidt, Schultz, Nate Smith, Alexa Sommers, Spencer Steckelberg, Evan Steiger, Ben Stelter, Erica Svenby, Parker Westphal and Mitch Weise also earned the O-Club Award.

BASEBALL

Blossoms edge Bulldogs in section opener



STAFF PHOTO BY LEMAR NELSON
Blooming Prairie’s Payton Simon throws a pitch in the Blossoms’ 4-2 victory over Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton in the section opener on Wednesday, May 23.

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Awesome Blossom baseball team (10-5) broke a long playoff drought with a hard-fought, 4-2, victory over the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Bulldogs (1-10).

The No. 2 seeded Blossoms had all kinds of trouble on the home field Wednesday, May 23, with the No. 7 seed in the playoffs, primarily because JWP’s Andrew Fisel is a quality pitcher.

“We knew Fisel was a good pitcher,” BP coach Matt Kittelson said. “We knew it would be a tough game. It is hard to square up the ball against his offerings.”

JWP tallied single runs in the third and fourth innings, mainly on throwing errors by the Blossoms, to take a 2-1 lead.

Seth Peterson had doubled in the third inning, as BP scored the first run, and they came back to tie the score in the

fifth. An inning later Peterson and Brad Staska both singled and Dylan Nirk got the biggest hit of the game by stroking a double that drove in the winning runs. Pitcher Ian Wayne took care of the rest.

“Wayne went the distance for us,” Kittelson, “That was big for us. He throws strikes, walks hardly anyone and he keeps the ball down. He understands the situation and doesn’t get rattled. Nothing seems to get to him.”

Peterson led the BP offense with a pair of hits, including a double. Nirk had a double and two RBIs. Ethan Arett added a double and Karson Vigeland’s lone hit was a triple. Wayne pitched all seven innings, allowing just five hits and no earned runs. He struck out five batters and issued no walks. BP play Lyle-Pacelli on Saturday, Mat 25 in Austin.

BP had four runs, six hits and five errors; JWP had two runs, five hits and two errors.

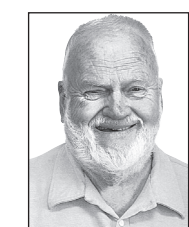


STAFF PHOTO BY LEMAR NELSON
Blooming Prairie’s Seth Peterson catches a pop fly during the Blossoms section win over JWP on Wednesday.

Tiger’s VonRuden and Honsey named senior athletes of the year



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN WERK
Medford senior athletes of the year Jarvis VonRuden and Amanda Honsey stand with Tigers’ Activities Director Kevin Werk after the school’s award ceremony on Wednesday, May 23. VonRuden was standout for Medford’s football, wrestling and baseball teams. Honsey, a star for the Tiger’s volleyball team, will continue her playing career at NCAA Division III Saint Olaf College in Northfield.



Outside the Lines
LEMAR NELSON

REMEMBER AND HONOR

Because of Memorial Day and an early deadline, I will have an abbreviated column this week. Next week, we will summarize the past two weeks of sports, but in the meantime, it would be appropriate that we spend a few serious moments thanking all the service personnel who have served our country through the years.

The Memorial Day service at the cemetery reminded us once again of the obligation that each of us carries in tribute to those who have gone before us. A giant tip of the hat to all service personnel and remember to thank them when meeting them.

In sports, the softball team played Thursday, and the results of the games, as well as those of the baseball team, the track teams, and the golf team will occupy much space on the sports pages next week.

Lastly, I want to offer my personal congratulations to the graduating Class of 2018. Although they comprise the smallest class in BPHS history, the class has a number of very accomplished individuals. They have been good school citizens and will leave their mark on the continuing history of the local high school.

Congratulations to the graduates and the very best luck in the future, no matter what career they may choose. Enjoy the warmer weather, and we’ll talk again.

SOFTBALL

Vikings take down Blossoms



STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL
Blooming Prairie’s McKenna Hein, Emma Christenson, Julia Worke and Linnea Sunde celebrate after picking up a Gopher Conference win against Medford earlier this season.

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Hayfield softball team’s pitching wasn’t spectacular, but the hitting definitely was for Vikings in their 15-3 win over Blooming Prairie (9-9). The Vikings (10-7) ambushed BP with 12 first inning runs, including four home runs, in semifinal sub-section action at Hayfield Tuesday, May 23. The Blossoms stayed with the winners after that first inning, but the deficit just was too much to overcome.

Kyal Heydt and Kate Kruger each had a three-run dinger, and Jaelynn Therring added two of her own in that fateful first inning. The Blossoms plated three runs in the third inning on four singles and a walk.

Maya Lembke, Allison Krohnberg and Maggie Bruns all singled around a walk, and Lila Carlson drove in the final two runs of the three with a base hit. Hayfield’s

single run in the fifth ended the game.

The Vikings pounded out 12 hits, with three RBIs for Therring and Kruger. BP mustered eight hits off Caitlyn Hendrickson, with five strikeouts and three walks. McKenna Hein and Riauna Bishop split time in the circle for BP. Hein allowed seven earned runs and Bishop three.

In an opening game that had been stopped after three innings the day before, the Blossoms defeated Lyle-Pacelli 8-2. BP led 3-1 after three innings on a walk, a stolen base and Julia Worke’s double. A passed ball allowed the third run to score. Emma Christianson, Hein and Worke all singled in the fifth for a run, and Krohnberg capped the inning with a three-run homer.

Lyle-Pacelli tallied a single run in the third and another in the sixth, as Hein kept the Athletics in check the whole game. The third inning run for LP came on a wild pitch.

NRHEG ADVANCES

NRHEG pitcher Sophie Stork twirled her second no-hitter of the season, and the Panther softball team shut down Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial 5-0 in opening round action of 2A sub-section play on the home field.

A scoreless tie through three innings ended when the Panthers tallied a run in the bottom of the fourth. After that the winners scored two runs in the fifth and another two in the sixth to preserve the whitewash.

“The girls played good defense,” NRHEG coach Wendy Schultz said. “Stork struck out 11 batters in her no-hit effort. It was a good win to begin the playoffs.”

Stork also led the offense with two hits, including a double, and four other girls had a hit each and scored a run.. Alexis Anderson and Ava Kylo each had an RBI, and three of the five runs were earned runs.

Everyone becomes an actor

Prairie Children's Theatre comes to Blooming Prairie



The principals of the Alice in Wonderland play put on by the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre get together for an "in character" photo. At far left is the Mad Hatter, Jakob Gomez. Alice (aka Ella Smith) is in the middle and Kayli Porter is at far right

Everybody gets a costume and makeup.

All 82 Blooming Prairie Elementary School students in grades 2-6 who tried out for a part in the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre production of "Alice in Wonderland" earned a part.

Tryouts began on May 14, at the elementary school, led by directors Jakob Gomez, 25 and Kayli Porter, 21. Both are single.

After putting in 17 hours of play practice Monday through Thursday, performers put on the play for all Blooming Prairie Elementary School students at Blooming Prairie High School on Friday afternoon. Dress rehearsal was Friday morning.

ACTING THE PARTS

Fifth grader Ella Smith was given the lead role as Alice. "My goal was to get a big role and to work as hard as everybody else," said Smith.

"Were you nervous?" Smith was asked. A quick "ya" was given by her.

Does Smith want to be an actor when she grows up? "Maybe a teacher or dental hygienist," she said in looking into the future.

Public performance of the play was attended by more than 400 on Friday night. Parents, grandparents and friends were invited to the public performance at the High School.

"We want to show the young students that acting can be fun," remarked Porter, a native of Birmingham, Ala. "The kids get engaged and involved and they learn that they must be big and loud," she said.

Porter is a graduate of the University of Alabama with a bachelor's degree in fine arts in musical theatre. She performed in theatre productions around Birmingham and appeared in productions of "Hairspray" and "Fool for Love."

She also wrote and produced a one-woman show called "Charged -- A Cabaret."

Gomez tried out for Prairie Fire Theatre through Twin City Unified Auditions and Lauren Longyear, tour manager. Porter tried out in Memphis.

"We get to help these kids develop a love and appreciation for the theatre and arts in general," says Gomez. "Maybe when these kids grow up, they will act in a play, or want to go see some theatre shows," he said.

Gomez is a graduate of Apple

"We dump lots of information on the kids in a short time."

Jakob Gomez
Prairie Fire

Valley's Eastview High School. He attended Minnesota State University at Mankato. He acted in "True West" at the 4C Theatre in Orono and in "Legally Blonde" at the Woodbury Community Theatre. He would like to continue a theatre career.

He also helped coach the speech team at Eastview and saw one of his students place third in the state contest. Gomez worked at Starbucks while going to college.

Gomez and Porter teamed together to direct the same show at the Ellendale Elementary School in early May. "It was a blast," commented a wide-smiling director, Porter.

Porter plays the Queen and Gomez portrays the Mad Hatter in this Alice in Wonderland production.

Acting allows youngsters to play a part that show them their real selves.

Answering an interviewer's question, Gomez cracks his knuckles nervously and said these are kids who want to be there. "They open up and express themselves," he added.

The Blooming Prairie show was sponsored by the BP Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization. Nicki Bishop was the show coordinator, representing the PTO. Third grade teacher Kim Lea was an advisor for the play.

Elementary kids in Blooming Prairie have been doing these Prairie Fire shows for the past seven years.

Prairie Fire Children's Theatre (or PFCT) is a professional touring theatre company based in Barrett, Minnesota and has been bringing a theatrical experience to

communities across the upper Midwest since 1987. Prairie Fire tours a variety of original musical adaptations of classic tales.

Throughout the entire year, Prairie Fire Children's Theatre sends two professional Actors/Directors to a community for a one-week residency.

Local children fill the roles, and PFCT provides everything needed to do the show. Prairie Fire writes its own musicals and has Debbie Pick making its costumes.

Fourteen sassy flowers were part of the show which also featured some talented tea pots, trumpets, flamingos, and a rubber ducky. Prairie Fire adds special touches with its singing birds, Tweedle Dee, Tweedle Dumb and Tweedle Dumber.

"We dump lots of information on the kids in a short time span and try to make the kids engaged," Gomez said. Porter gave a 20-minute introductory speech on tryout Monday.

Prairie Fire is in its 30th year and is headquartered at Barrett, Minn.

Following the public presentation of "Alice in Wonderland," actors come back on stage to take their bows and to pose for photos for their fans.

Acting provides students with the opportunity to show a different facet of themselves,, Gomez believes. "We are reaching out to young kids and telling them that the arts are important," Porter said. "It's good for the kids to get all expressions, whether happy or sad, out in the open," she added.

"The level of maturity of the kids varies greatly and that's OK," said Porter. "The kids have a big tool belt and it's all about story telling, telling the right story."

Black Cutworm larvae might be in corn fields at exactly the wrong time

University of Minnesota Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Specialists monitor numerous agronomic pest insects via trapping, scouting, and calculating growing degree days for these various insects. This monitoring helps farmers predict when these pests might become an issue and when treatment is most effective. This year, our IPM Specialists have trapped a large number of Black Cutworm (Agrotis ipsilon Hufnagel) adult moths as they migrate on low-level jet streams to Minnesota from southern states.

These migrant moths usually lay their eggs (up to 1,000 eggs/female) on weeds and crop debris before crops are planted. Farmers who have weeds and crop residue in their fields should be certain to scout. The larval stage, or the caterpillar, is the stage of the Black Cutworm's lifecycle that we have to worry about in our corn. The larvae are dark gray to black in color, with a brown head and they will feed on a wide range of crops and weeds. The larvae are a threat to corn when they reach the 4th stage (instar) of their larval development.

Black Cutworm typically has three generations during Minnesota's growing season, but this first generation of larvae are the highest risk for our corn, because young corn is especially vulnerable to larval damage. Black Cutworm can sever a whole young corn plant (under 5 collars), right at ground level, sometimes below the plant's growing point. A plant cannot recover once the growing point is gone. Larvae can injure larger corn, too, by tunneling into the meristem or consuming plant tissue.

Because small corn is particularly



On The Farm
CLAIRE LACANNE

susceptible to cutting, the later corn planting this year could mean that our corn might be small enough to be extremely vulnerable to cutworm damage right when the larvae are at their damaging stage. In our region of Minnesota, we had an influx of Black Cutworm adults around May 2-3. Using approximately these

dates as a bio-fix, or beginning point for counting growing degree days, we estimate that the Black Cutworm larvae will be large enough to cut corn around June 1. How big will your corn be around June 1? Be sure to scout your fields, especially if your corn is smaller than 5 collars.

Scouting and managing for these buggers may be important this year. The economic threshold is approximately 2-3 percent of corn cut or wilted when larvae are less than ¾" long and 5 percent of corn cut when larvae are larger, as the majority has passed their most damaging stage at that point. Controlling your early season weeds can decrease risk in your field by removing the habitat on which females would lay their eggs. Bt hybrid corn containing the CryF1 protein (Herculex/HX1) or Vip3a protein (Viptera), either alone or in stacks are labeled as managing Black Cutworm, though they can still experience damage. As far as applying insecticide, you may be able to target specific areas where corn is adjacent to weeds or field margins, if the majority of the interior of your field is relatively weed-free.

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

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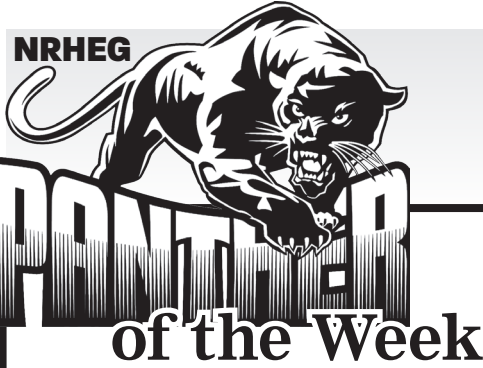
PANCAKES:

FROM B1

I have decided to challenge myself to make the most of every day, try new things, eat strange foods, meet new people, do the things that frighten me. I am going to reach out to the children I meet along the way, let them know while they can learn from the adults that cross their paths, the adults in their lives can learn from them as well.

So I challenge you to get out there, try new things, meet new people. Join me in ordering a side of fries with your pancakes!

Stephanie Kibler is the meetings and events manager at the Steele County History Center in Owatonna. She also serves on the Ellendale City Council. Steele Talkin' is a weekly column featuring authors representing various groups and organizations throughout Steele County.



Studier

Sponsored by:



NRHEG Elementary- Ellendale

This week's Panther of the Week is Morgan Studier. Morgan lives with her parents Grady and Crystal Studier in Clarks Grove. She is in Mrs. Larsen's 2nd grade class.

Morgan is a great friend to all of her classmates. She is the first person willing to share her crayons, markers, etc. when others are in need. Morgan shows integrity every day with her panther pride. She always has a positive attitude towards learning and is a great example of a star student. Morgan is a wonderful artist.

At home, she loves to play with her brothers Boedy and Eli. We are so lucky to have Morgan in our school. Keep up the great work!



Saluting the great educational accomplishments in the land of Awesome Blossoms!



We want to recognize the valedictorians at Blooming Prairie High School dating back to 1947:



1947-	Delores A. Johnson	1969-	Virginia Beinhorn
1948-	Delores F. Pechacek	1970-	Kristi Hoel
1949-	Constance J. Brainerd	1971-	Charles Halstenson
1950-	Barbara Ann Angell	1972-	Vicki Frey
1952-	Lois Underwood	1973-	Lois Marsh
1953-	Sylvia Harms	1974-	Sheri Olsen
1954-	Ruby Simonson	1975-	Co: Sherrie Kaplan and Sheila Leek
1955-	Thelma Harms	1976-	Karen Angell
1956-	James PirkI	1977-	Nancy Heinz
1957-	Sonja Stensrud	1978-	Annette King
1958-	Barbara Wuertz	1979-	Bill Becker
1959-	Patricia Peterson	1980-	Peggy Johnson
1960-	Janet Post	1981-	Robert Swenson
1961-	Howard Kittleson	1982-	Kelly Magnuson
1962-	William Schlichting	1983-	Janelle Prokopec
1963-	Joan Marsh	1984-	Tammy Christianson
1964-	Wayne D. Ruther	1985-	Cindy Stoelk
1965-	Dennis Kruckeberg	1986-	Co: Steve Lindblom and Sandy Haberman
1966-	Susan Kubicek	1987-	Paula Klemmensen
1967-	Janette Kittleson	1988-	Douglas Busho
1968-	Marty Svercl	1989-	Rachel Underwood
		1990-	Susan Herdina
		1991-	Amy Hendrickson
		1992-	Aaron Reichl
		1993-	Ron Peterson
		1994-	Julie Schnebly
		1995-	Jason Jacobusse
		1996-	Eric Engelken
		1997-	Kerry Kruckeberg
		1998-	Ian Rausch
		1999-	Lindsey Carlson
		2000-	Jessica Wonderlich
		2001-	Kristi Beckman
		2002-	Kristi Schwake
		2003-	Gary Tashima
		2004-	Kraig Olson
		2005-	Co: Kari Lueth and Lauren Trotman
		2006-	Samuel Tashima
		2007-	Co: Esther Mizrachi and Jenny Wencil
		2008-	Kristina Wanous
		2009-	Katelin Strand
		2010-	Amanda Wanous
		2011-	Kristin Hagen
		2012-	Lyndsay Pryor
		2013-	Co: Jason Jirele and James Mans
		2014-	Morgan Hagen
		2015-	Co: Taylor Hagen and Macaela Jensen
		2016-	Anthony Nelson
		2017-	Co: Alison Pryor and Jake Robert Hyland



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BLOOMING PRAIRIE

JUNE 3
2 p.m. – Blooming Prairie
Graduation, BP High School

JUNE 5
10:30 a.m. – Storytime,
BP Library



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2 p.m. – NRHEG
Graduation, NR Gym



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

MAY 30
4 p.m. – Free Balloons at
McDonalds Owatonna and
Medford

MAY 31
3 p.m. – Free T-Shirts at
McDonalds Owatonna and
Medford
6 p.m. – Chat with
Owatonna City Council,
Central Park
7 p.m. – 11@7 Concert
Series, Central Park

JUNE 1
Smokin' in Steele
8 a.m. – Free Coloring
Sheet with crayons at
McDonalds Owatonna and
Medford

JUNE 2
Smokin' in Steele
7 a.m. – Farmers Market,
Central Park
9 a.m. – The Retrofit
Company Electronics
Recycling Day, Retrofit
11 a.m. – Free Kids
Planting Kit at McDonalds
Owatonna and Medford

JUNE 3
8 a.m. – Smokin' in Steele
1 p.m. – Free Can Koozie
at McDonald's Owatonna
and Medford
2 p.m. – Owatonna
Graduation, Four Seasons
Arena, Owatonna

JUNE 4
1 p.m. – Senior Place Inc.
Board Meeting, Senior Place

JUNE 5
9 a.m. – The State of
Manufacturing Event,
History Center
10 a.m. – Tri-Valley Early
Head Start Open House
Noon – 6 p.m. – Red
Cross Blood Donation Drive,
St. John Lutheran Church
6 p.m. – Owatonna City
Council Study Session, City
Admin Building
7 p.m. – Owatonna City
Council Meeting, City Admin
Building
7 p.m. – Steele County
Board of Adjustments
Meeting, County Admin
Building

Shredding event comes to Owatonna

The Owatonna Noon Rotary Club will hold its annual shredding event on Saturday, June 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Look for the shredding truck parked in the lot behind the Retrofit Company (former Wal-Mart). A free-will contribution will go toward the Rotary sponsored STRIVE program at the Owatonna High School. Also being held that day is the Retrofit collection event. They will accept TVs, monitors, printers, computers, fluorescent bulbs, microwaves, fridges/freezers, stoves, batteries, cell phones, cables and mercury devices.

FUNDS: Ellendale

FROM A1

“Family games are planned and we also hope to cook hot dogs and serve root beer floats from noon to 3:30 p.m.,” said Paulson. “Our goal is to have an area to congregate and provide information to the public about our foundation,” Paulson further explained.

The City of Ellendale has been very involved in supporting the Foundation’s future plans. The city hopes to build a new basketball court in the city park.

It was just recently announced that Dennis and Jackie Miller have offered a \$10,000 matching grant. The millers will match dollar-for-dollar all donations from individual or corporate supporters whose donation is \$100 or greater throughout 2018.

Brekke says an exhibit board will be posted in the park showing plans for future collaboration with the city. The city has pledged \$12,000 each year over three years.

Future plans are to remodel the community center’s kitchen, bathrooms and Great Room. Plans are also shaping up to put in new carpeting and to paint the building exterior.

All projects will cost about \$100,000 the Foundation board reported.

“Public response has been positive with monthly contributions being received and public donations given to community collection jars.

“We’re just getting started,” Kibler remarked. “We are always looking for new Foundation members,” she added.

Kiwanis Club continues tradition of handing out scholarships



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN
Kiwanis District Scholarship winners from left: Michelle Benson, Stephanie Liebl, Jacob McMains and Spencer Steckelberg. Not pictured: Rilee Schmidt, who was playing a softball double header.



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN
Kiwanis Gold “K” Club Scholarship winners from left: Julia Harrstad, Bryce Knutson, Ahnna Stelter, Benjamin Stelter and Jenna Zeman.

By CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

The Owatonna Kiwanis Club has awarded students excelling with their academic prowess and extracurricular involvement scholarships.

On Thursday, the Kiwanis Club gifted 10 Owatonna seniors with scholarships.

In 1992 the Owatonna Club presented its first scholarship to an area student. Since then the club has given 84 scholarships in its annual event. This year the club was able to give out 10 more, including five \$1,000 scholarships and five \$500 scholarships.

Vice President and Past President Robert Stark describes the scholarship event as, “a highlight of the year for us.” Standing before the audience of students and their parents he explained, “this is a happy moment for you I’m sure, but it is also a happy moment for the Kiwanis Club.”

Stark says that he was inspired to do community service in his retirement after taking some of his kids to sporting events and staying involved with them and their friends. “I liked that sort of work,” he said. Stark has been retired since 2002, and has been an active member of Kiwanis since then.

The Kiwanis Education Foundation was founded in 1915 in Detroit, Michigan as a business network organization. They would later switch their focus to community service and take up the motto: “molding good kids into exceptional adults.” According to Stark, there are currently over 600,000 members and 8,000 clubs in 96 countries.

Many of the scholarship recipients have been involved in Kiwanis Club at a young age. “I get a little emotional about this because I’ve seen where some of the kids started,” Stark said. This year’s recipients were asked to tell a little bit about themselves and some of the school activities they are involved in, as well as their future plans.

All of the recipients displayed both dedication and hard work in their commitment to the many extracurricular activities they are involved in. Stark drew a few laughs by exclaiming that, “it’s always amazing how much they do besides school. I wonder when they find time to be in school.”

After handing out the scholarships, Club President Twylah Ottman thanked all in attendance, including the Kiwanis members who were able to make it. “What a great way to give back to the community,” she said of their collective work.

One member who was singled out by Ottman during the proceedings was Elmer Lamont, a former teacher in Owatonna. Lamont retired in 1994, and gave a brief speech about his service in WW II after being thanked by Ottman. “Some of you may have had him as a teacher,” she said to their parents in attendance.

The District Scholarship winners this year were: Michelle Benson, Stephanie Liebl, Jacob McMains, Rilee Schmidt, and Spencer Steckelberg. All of the recipients of the District Scholarship will receive \$1,000 to help with their college education.

This year’s Golden “K” Club Scholarship winners were: Julia Harrstad, Bryce Knutson, Ahnna Stelter, Benjamin Stelter, and Jenna Zeman. The Golden “K” recipients

will receive \$500 to help pay for their college education.

Benjamin Stelter, one of the Golden “K” recipients, said that he was, “honored and thankful, this is a great opportunity, and anything helps.”

Stelter plans on attending the University of Wisconsin La Crosse where he will major in bio-chemistry with an eye towards pre-med. He will also compete on the La Crosse swim team. “I’m excited to see what the future will hold,” Stelter concluded.

Bryce Knutson, another Golden “K” Scholarship winner was also grateful for the opportunity. “For me it’s really an honor to be recognized for what I’ve been able to do,” Knutson said. He will be attending Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter where he will be majoring in math and physics and running on the cross country and track teams.

“I’m proud of my involvement,” Knutson said of his many sports and extracurricular activities during his time at OHS. “This scholarship will definitely help me continue my educational career and set me on the right path to continue to serve the community.”

For the Kiwanis members, giving out scholarships is a tradition they hope to continue, but they are also involved in outside community service. This includes donating food to local churches, and helping out at places like the Steele County Food Shelf or the Steele County Clothesline.

“We don’t just do things to honor kids. We also help anywhere we can,” Ottman said of her work at local churches. “I think that’s important.”

Veterans Memorial work begins



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Groundbreaking for the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial is history as of last Saturday. Excavation began in earnest early last week with Bishop Excavating doing the site preparation work. The memorial is expected to be completed by Veteran’s Day.

Snell Motors promotes BP native

Snell Motors of Mankato recently announced the promotion of Jeff Wondra to general sales manager on April 2. With 12 years of sales experience at Snell, Wondra will manage the sales and finance departments and oversee all its operations.

“One of Jeff’s strengths is building long-standing relationships with customers and his colleagues,” said Todd Snell, president/CEO of Snell Motors. “Jeff is a natural-born leader and mentor. He brings expertise, energy and a desire to deliver quality experiences for everyone he interacts with.”

Wondra started his career at Snell Motors in 2006 as a sales consultant and was continually a top performer for the team. He received his first promotion to sales manager in 2015 before taking on the general sales manager role.

A native of Blooming Prairie, Wondra holds a sales and marketing degree from South Central College. He currently resides in North Mankato with his wife, Thea, and daughter.

For more information about Snell Motors and its various services, please visit www.snellmotors.com.

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• **July 4:** Open 9 a.m. to close
• **July 21:** B.O.B. ride: “Toys for Tots”

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FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE 18-108522

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 22, 2007

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$280,000.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Timothy J. Nelson and Stacy A. Nelson, husband and wife MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

MIN#: 100024200017549680 LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: American Brokers Conduit SERVICER: Specialized Loan Servicing LLC

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed June 26, 2007, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000350611

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP; Dated: October 23, 2009 filed: November 20, 2009, recorded as document number A000367871; thereafter assigned to Specialized Loan Servicing LLC dated February 2, 2018 recorded February 9, 2018 as document number A000416923.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

Lot 2, Block 2, Emerald Acres No. 3 PROPERTY ADDRESS: 618 Birchwood Ln SE, Owatonna, MN 55060 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-593-0202 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$309,989.03 THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 6, 2018, 10:00am

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on January 6, 2019, or the next business day if January 6, 2019 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 6, 2018, 10:00am PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

Dated: May 7, 2018

Specialized Loan Servicing LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

5/15, 5/22, 5/29 6/5, 6/12, 6/19

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No: 74-PR-18-921

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In RE: Estate of Janice Gaye Boe, a/k/a Janice Austin-Boe, Decedent

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

Notice is hereby given that an application for informal probate of the above named decedent's last will, dated May 5, 2011, has been filed with the Registrar herein, and the application has been granted informally probating such will. Any objections may be filed in the above named Court, and the same will be heard by the Court upon notice of hearing fixed for such purpose.

Notice is hereby further given that informal appointments of Erick R. Boe whose address is 233 Elmwood Avenue, Le Sueur, Minnesota 56058 as Personal Representative of the estate of the above named decedent has been made. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as Personal Representative or may object to the appointment of the Personal Representative, and the Personal Representative is empowered to fully administer the estate including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of the letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate, unless objections thereto are filed with the Court (pursuant to Section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders.

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

Kris Schmitz Registrar 5/11/2018

Gary L. Monahan (#126214) Monahan Law Office 419 North Main Street Le Sueur, MN 56058 507-665-3329

5/22, 5/29

NOTICE

17-107494

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: July 10, 2013 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$105,738.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Danielle Kay Strommer and Stephan Charles Strommer, wife and husband

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. MIN#: 100603713070078628 LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC SERVICER: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed July 12, 2013, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000392396 ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

Lots 15,16 and South 14 feet of Lot 14, all being in Block 29 in Johnson and Company's Addition to Medford (said Block 29, being located in North part of SW 1/4 SW 1/4 of Section 9-108-20) PROPERTY ADDRESS: 211 1st Ave NE, Medford, MN 55049 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 16-101-2915 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$103,204.26 THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: October 19, 2017, 10:00am PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on April 19, 2018, or the next business day if April 19, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: August 25, 2017

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for October 19, 2017, at 10:00 A.M., has been postponed to November 21, 2017, at 10:00 A.M., and will be held at sheriff's main address Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by May 21, 2018. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: October 16, 2017.

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for November 21, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., has been postponed to December 21, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., and will be held at sheriff's main address Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060. Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by June 21, 2018. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: November 15, 2017

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

17-107494 Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for December 21, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., has been postponed to January 23, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., and will be held at sheriff's main address Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by July 23, 2018. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: December 19, 2017

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559 Diane F. Mach - 273788 Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778 Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X Gary J. Evers - 0134764 Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X 12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200 Burnsville, MN 55337 (952) 831-4060 17-107494 Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for January 23, 2018, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to March 27, 2018, at 10:00 AM, and will be held at sheriff's main address Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by September 27, 2018 If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: January 19, 2018.

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559 Diane F. Mach - 273788 Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778 Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X Gary J. Evers - 0134764 Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X 12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200 Burnsville, MN 55337 (952) 831-4060 17-107494 Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

5/29

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for March 27, 2018, at 10:00 AM, has been postponed to May 31, 2018, at 10:00 AM, and will be held at sheriff's main address Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by November 30, 2018. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: March 23, 2018.

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559 Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778 Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X Gary J. Evers - 0134764 Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X 12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200 Burnsville, MN 55337 (952) 831-4060 17-107494 Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

The above referenced sale scheduled for May 31, 2018, at 10:00 am, has been postponed to July 31, 2018, at 10:00 am, and will be held at sheriff's main address Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060.

Unless the mortgage is reinstated under Minnesota Statute 580.30 or the property is redeemed under Minnesota Statute 580.23 the property must be vacated by January 31, 2019. If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the date to vacate will be the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

Dated: May 25, 2018.

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559 Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778 Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X Gary J. Evers - 0134764 Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X 12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200 Burnsville, MN 55337 (952) 831-4060 17-107494 Attorney for Assignee of Mortgagee

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEELE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE: Harassment

Court File Number: 74-CV-18-684

Affidavit and Order for Publication (Harassment) (Minn. Stat 609.748. subd.3(b))

April Siebold Petitioner vs.

Shane Radke Respondent

I am the Petitioner in this matter. I understand that I must tell the truth. I request that the Court allow publication of the Court's Order dated April 9, 2018 because Personal Services was attempted by the sheriff and was not made because it is believed that the Respondent is avoiding service by hiding or others means, AND a copy of the Petition and Order or Notice of Hearing was mailed to Respondent's last known address or place of business.

I declare under penalty of perjury that everything that I have stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat 358.116.

Dated April 19, 2018

April Siebold Steele County 565 Adams Ave. Owatonna, MN 55060 507-456-3142 aprilwood27Q@live.com

Joseph A. Bueltel Dated: April 20, 2018

5/29

THE CLASSIFIEDS- Where the Deals Are! APARTMENTS FOR RENT SITUATIONS WANTED AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES GARAGE SALES HOMES FOR SALE STEELE COUNTY TIMES Call to place an item in the Classifieds today: 507-583-4431

Cancer Corner

Blooming Prairie Cancer Group



8th annual Cruise for Cancer event planned for June 23



Times file photo

Some mint condition antique autos and some attractive motorcycles were piloted by participants in a benefit ride for the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group last year. This year's event is planned for Saturday, June 23, registration from 9-10:15 a.m. at J & H Liquors.

BY HOWARD LESTRUD STAFF WRITER

More prizes than ever will be part of the 8th Annual Cruise for Cancer benefit ride for the BP Cancer Group.

This fun, annual event is planned for Saturday, June 23, rain or shine.

Motorcyclists or car drivers are encouraged to participate.

Registration is from 9-10:15 a.m. at J & H Liquors, Blooming Prairie.

This fund-raising event, sponsored by J & H Liquors of Blooming Prairie and the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group, has traditionally brought in large donations from participants with monies labeled for the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group in its efforts toward finding a cure for this dread disease.

Store owners Nancy and Harvey Farr have

been staunch community supporters and use this event to bring more awareness to how cancer has affected many lives of our families and friends.

Harvey will lead the journey, riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He has designed a 125-mile route and chooses not to advertise it until the time of the ride.

The ride, begins 10:30 a.m. after Harvey Farr has given his rousing pep talk to participants at J & H on Main Street and will end there hopefully about 4:30 or 4:45 p.m., he says. There will be four stops on the ride.

A taco bar will be featured with the public welcome to partake in the meal from 5-6 p.m.

Door prizes will then be given. Pam Folkens, organizer, says Thrivent is helping support the event. "We will have some exciting prizes," Folkens said.

Any questions, call J & H Liquor at 507-583-7557 or contact Folkens at 507-391-4336.

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NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No:
74-PR-17-770
NOTICE AND ORDER
FOR HEARING ON
PETITION FOR DESCENT
OF PROPERTY

Estate of
Willard L. Ehrich,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on July 9, 2018, at 2:45 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 E. Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, December 12, 2003, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Timothy L. Ehrich, whose address is 2340 3rd Avenue NE, Owatonna, MN, 55060 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Joseph A. Buellet
5/21/2018
Judge of District Court

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Robin Hoesley
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner
Eric J. Mattison
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver &
Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 151609
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
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5/29,6/5

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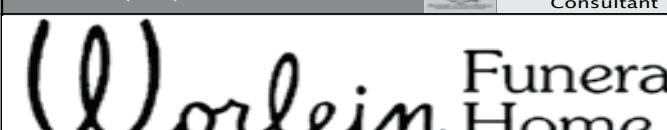
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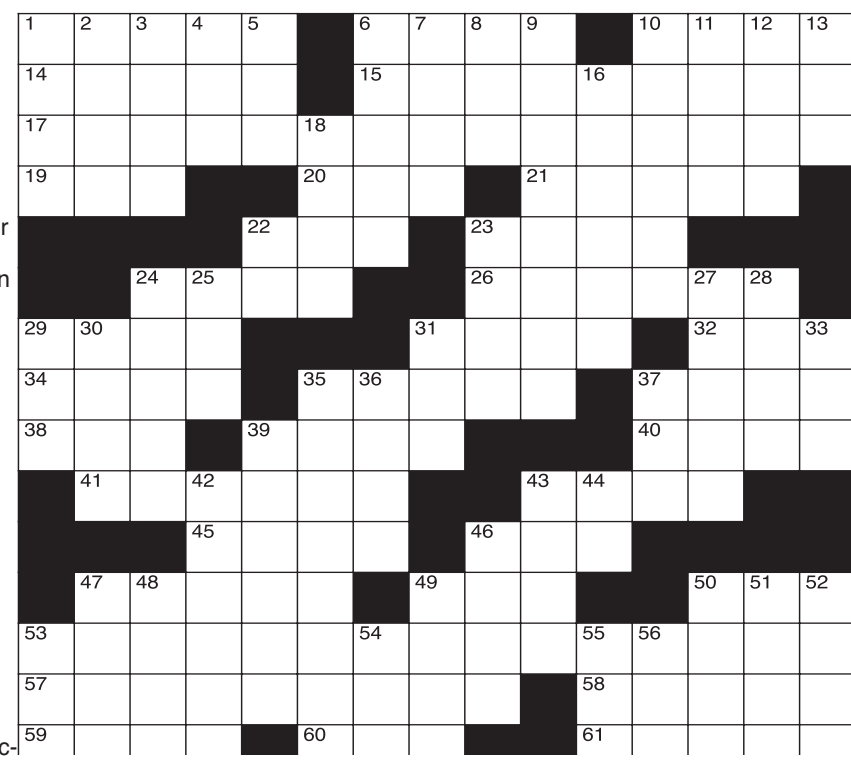
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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS
1. Elephant's name
6. Support
10. Mures River city
14. Bastard wing
15. One was named Desire
17. PGA Tournament prize
19. A way to leave unchanged
20. Unchangeable computer memory
21. Harangues
22. 6th Hebrew letter
23. Well informed
24. Turfs
26. In a way, obeyed
29. Lawyers group
31. Increases motor speed
32. Political action committee
34. Light pokes
35. Struck down
37. Central Philippine Island
38. Japanese sash
39. Afresh
40. Bluish green
41. Inspire with love
43. Without (French)
45. Counterbalance container to obtain net weight
46. Express pleasure
47. Cheap wine (Br.)
49. Signing
50. ___ compilation, compiling computer language
53. Have surgery
57. Being trompe-l'oeil
58. Extremely mad
59. Day
60. Small coin (French)

CLUES DOWN
1. Cry
2. Wings
3. Baseball play
4. Flower petals
5. Drive against
6. Velikaya River city
7. A single unit in a collection
8. Stray
9. Bring back
10. Repented
11. Receipt (abbr.)
12. Expresses pleasure
13. Not wet
16. In a way, takes off
18. Macaws
22. "Fast Five" star's initials
23. Sharpen a knife
24. Oral polio vaccine developer
25. Former CIA
27. Fencing swords
28. Aba ___ Honeymoon
29. Bustle
30. Minor
31. Propel a boat
33. Passage with access only at one end
35. Underwater airways
36. Small, slight
37. Box (abbr.)
39. ___ Blake, actress
42. Repents
43. Merchandising
44. Exclamation of surprise
46. With fireplace residue
47. A small lake
48. Bait
49. Tip of Aleutian Islands
50. K___: watercraft (alt. sp.)
51. Norse variant of "often"
52. Adolescent
53. Visual metaphor (Computers)
54. River in Spanish
55. Cowboy Carson
56. Powerful gun lobby





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June 1

- 11:00am Food Vendors open for lunch
- 4:30pm Steak Cook-Off meeting; 7:30-8:00pm Turn In; 9:00pm Awards
- 4:30pm JUNK! in Park Square Free 🎵
- 5:00pm Greetings and Instructions to Pro BBQ Teams; Anything goes Distr.
- 5:15pm Kids Q Kick Off (Instructions and distribution of meat/ grills)
- 5:30pm Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal in Beer Garden 🎵
- 7:00pm Special Olympics Chef's Tour
- 7:30pm Hurricane Ruth w/Scott Holt in the Beer Garden 🎵
- 9:30pm The Fabulous Lovehandles in Beer Garden

June 2

- Tickets for Beer Garden Music (1 or 2 days) \$10!
NOTE: Schedule is subject to change.
- 7:00am Backyard Amateur BBQ Competition (Cooks' Meeting)
 - 7:00am Registration for 5K Walk/Run
 - 8:00am Start of 5K Walk/ Run
 - 9:00am Family fun and games with "Ride For The Brand"
 - 9:30am Start Family Bike Cruise
 - 11:00am Food Vendors open for lunch
 - 11:30am Squishy Mud in Park Square Free 🎵
 - 12noon-4pm Hot Rod, Antique Car/Tractor & Big Rig Cruise in/show Free
 - 12:30pm Mark Cameron in Park Square Free 🎵

- 1:30pm Blues 4 Kids Harmonica lessons Park Square Free
- 1:30pm Avey-Grouws Band in the Beer Garden 🎵
- 2:30pm Craig Clark Band in Park Square Free 🎵
- 4:00pm Awards Ceremony Park Square Free
- 3:30pm Long Tall Deb & Colin John Band in the Beer Garden 🎵
- 4:30pm Boom Boom Steve V & the Knockouts in Park Square Free 🎵
- 5:30pm Lisa Mann in the Beer Garden 🎵
- 7:30pm Altered 5 Blues Band in the Beer Garden 🎵
- 9:30pm Koch-Marshall Trio in the Beer Garden 🎵

June 3

- 8:00-12:00am Pancake Breakfast in the Beer Garden only \$7

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Margo Achterkirch



John Adams



Olivia Ahlberg



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Joshua Belting



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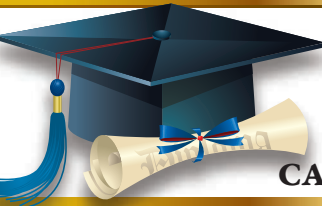


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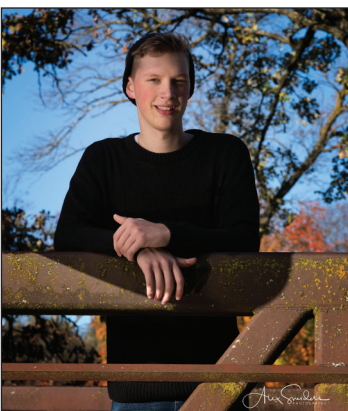
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Arianna Forcelle



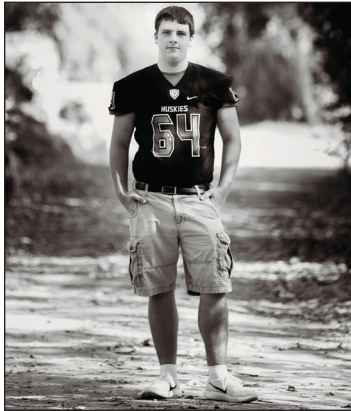
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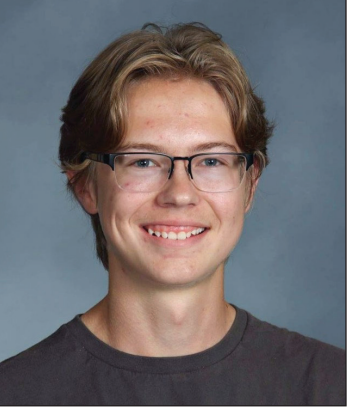
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Jessica Hoffman



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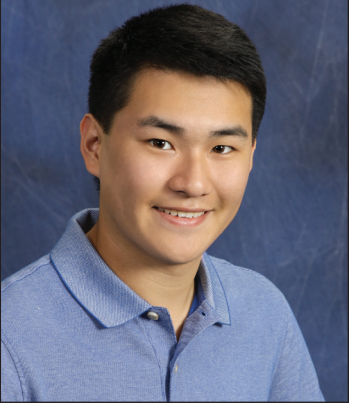
Sheldon Jensen



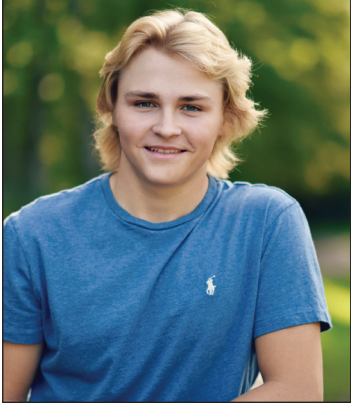
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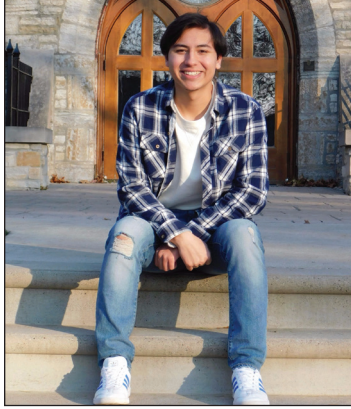
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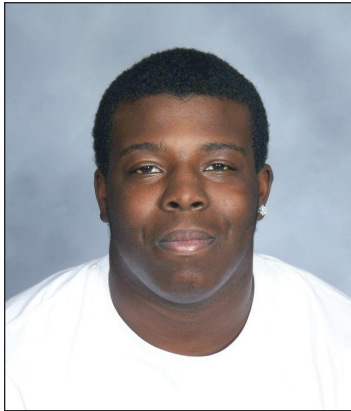
Alyxandra Phillips



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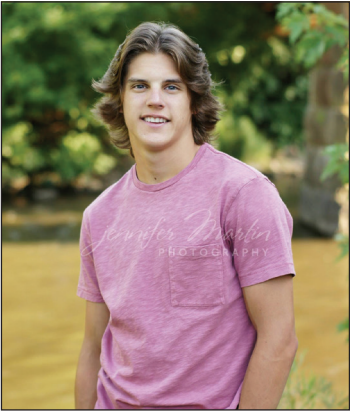
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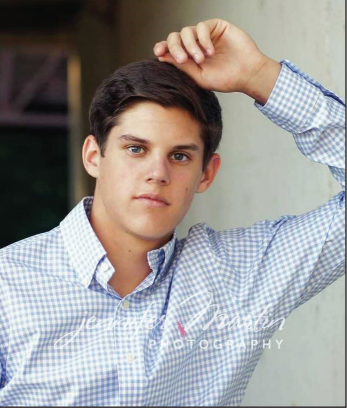
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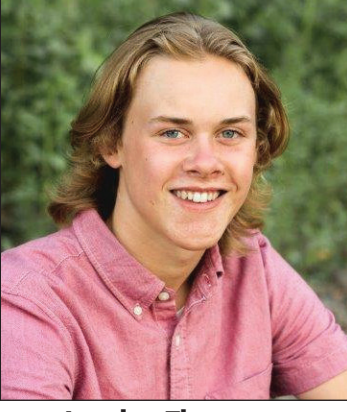
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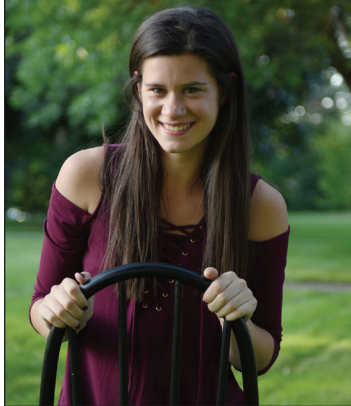
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