



DOUBLE TROUBLE

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Sisters Harlee Doocy, left, and Lincoln take bites of some yummy barbecue ribs at the 11th Annual Blooming Prairie Ribfest on Saturday. Harlee is 10 and Lincoln is 7. More than 500 people attended the Ribfest with profits benefiting the Blooming Prairie Youth Club. See Page 3A for additional coverage of Ribfest.

Supreme Court asked to nix Dornink from ballot

Woman claims senator doesn't live in new district

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The Minnesota Supreme Court has been asked to remove Sen. Gene Dornink from the upcoming primary

election ballot because a woman alleges he doesn't live where he claims he does.

Judy Kay Olson of Glenville claims that Dornink does not reside in the new district



Sen. Gene Dornink

formed by redistricting earlier this year.

Dornink is running for re-election in newly formed District 23, which includes most of Mower and Freeborn counties, a large chunk of Steele County and parts of Waseca and Faribault counties. His opponent in the Aug. 9 Republican pri-

mary is Lisa Hanson of Hayward.

Dornink had lived in rural Hayfield in Dodge County up until May 1 when he claims he took up residency at 104 NW Grove St. in Brownsdale, which is located in Mower County and included in the new District 23. Dodge County is not in the new district.

In an eight-page petition filed July 28, Olson claims Dornink still resides lives at his old residence outside of Hayfield, and not Brownsdale. Olson hired an investigative expert, Keith Haskell, who concluded based on extensive investigation documented by See SUPREME on A2 ▶

Local judge tackles racial makeup of juries

BY KAY FATE
STAFF WRITER

An Owatonna judge is making news for ordering a change to the way juries are selected – a response to concerns that the people who sit in judgment don't match the state's diverse population.

Third Judicial District Chief Judge

See JUDGE on A8 ▶



Judge Joseph Bueltel



STAFF PHOTO BY JONI HUBRED

From left, Area Wildlife Manager Jeanine Vorland, Assistant Area Wildlife Manager Shelley Gorham, and Minnesota Pheasants board members Dennis Thompson and Dan Arndt stop near one of the flags Arndt placed for Wednesday's Prairie Walk at the Somerset Wildlife Management Area.

With local help, diverse prairie grows

BY JONI HUBRED
NEWS EDITOR

As I-35 traffic roars to the east, bees and butterflies bounce across native plants in what was once a corn field just outside of Owatonna.

Established in the 1950s, the Somerset Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

encompasses nearly 440 acres of diverse habitat along the Straight River. The latest of several additions, a 26-acre parcel, was farmland for more than 100 years.

Two years ago, the Steele County chapter of Minnesota Pheasants Inc., working with

Minnesota DNR (Department of Natural Resources) Wildlife, applied for and received a \$12,000 Conservation Partners Legacy grant to establish a native prairie. The non-profit contributed a matching \$1,200.

Now in its second year of growth, the area is rich with

grasses and flowers that provide a natural habitat for everything from butterflies to white-tail deer.

DNR Area Wildlife Manager Jeanine Vorland said Minnesota Pheasants also put in for a CPL grant to purchase the original. See PRAIRIE on A10 ▶

Kender to leave Exchange Center

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Less than seven months after taking over as director of the Exchange Center for Family Unity, Mandie Kender is leaving the organization.

Kender notified the board last week that her family is moving to

See KENDER on A7 ▶



Mandie Kender



COURTESY CHELSEY HAGER

Kayla Wimer and Dennis Wimer Jr. are shown in the shadows with their children—back, from left: Elijah, Hunter and Randy; front: Hailey and Sky. Kayla was killed in a work-related ATV crash last month in Houston County.

Friend launches fundraiser to help family who's lost both parents

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Sasha Giesler finds it unbelievable that tragedy could strike a family again in such a short period of time.

Giesler became best friends with Kayla Wimer-Wood about 10 years ago and even closer six years ago when

she lost her husband, Dennis Wimer Jr., who suffered a brain injury after being critically hurt in a motorcycle crash. He survived the crash, but died several months later after falling and getting another brain injury.

"I was a huge support person to Kayla," said Giesler, who grew up

in Owatonna and now lives in Rochester. "She went through so much with Dennis, but she was ready to take on the world."

Last month's sudden and tragic loss of Wimer-Wood has left Giesler and many others heart broken. "Unbelievable" is the only way Giesler See FRIEND on A7 ▶

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ON-LINE: steelecountytimes.com

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AREA DEATHS

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and Steele County
since 1893

Ag Show speaker urges farm families to collaborate

BY JONI HUBRED
NEWS EDITOR

As the number of Minnesota farms dwindles and farmers live longer, more operations are run by generations of families.

And unless everyone gets along, those relationships can cause problems that spread beyond the kitchen table—problems that can undermine the farm's success.

Speaking Wednesday at the NorthStar Ag Expo at Ritchie Bros. in Medford, University of Minnesota (UM) Extension Educator Colleen Carlson laid out a detailed road map to help families find their way through tough decisions. It begins with laying the right foundation.

"Build a culture of collaboration," she said, which is about "forming a group and coming together for a purpose."

Carlson has experience in the area;

she's the third of six children and mother of three boys.

"I told my dad I wanted to farm when I was in seventh grade," she said. "I bought 100 acres with my sister when I was 28."

The purchase required some sacrifices, she said, like buying a less expensive "boom box" rather than an expensive stereo. One of the elements of a successful collaboration, she said, is deciding what the "team" is willing to sacrifice to succeed. It could mean foregoing charitable giving or memberships in ag-related organizations.

"Owning a farm was really important to me," she said, "so I gave up the big stereo so I could have money in the bank for that down payment."

These days, families may have issues based on simple communication. While teenagers keep in touch mostly through their cell

phones, their parents and grandparents probably aren't as tech savvy.

"Grandma and grandpa in their 80s don't share information the way the kids and grandkids do," Carlson said.

Keys to a successful collaboration start with taking stock of your assets—people, time, talents, money. Carlson encouraged using suggested a Strengths-Finder or other tool to learn what each group member does well.

And, equally as important, "What strengths are you missing?", she said.

It's important to have well-defined roles, define your business values, create mission and vision statements. The mission and vision work as a system of checks and balances, and should be reflected in each meeting agenda.

"What is the purpose of your farm?" Carlson asked. "What do you want your farm to be

known for? What do you want it to look like in the future?"

The group should meet regularly and talk about goals and what they're doing to achieve them. Carlson also talked about choosing a leader who makes sure every point of view is heard, even from those who rarely speak up during meetings.

"This is the hard stuff," she said. "These things should be brought up at least every other month."

UM Extension has an online AgPlan tool that can help families with business planning, Carlson said. Something as simple as keeping a shared document online can help ensure everyone has access to information and opportunities to contribute their ideas.

Taking the business approach can make the complicated process of farm succession easier to navigate.



Colleen Carlson offered farm families tips for better collaboration among family members during the inaugural North Star Ag Expo held last week at Ritchie Bros. in Medford.

"We have an aging farm population... a lot of farms are in transition now," Carlson said. "In the 1980s, nobody wanted kids to take the farm (after a few years of bad prices). Now, people want their kids to take over."

For example, Scott County in 2012 had more than 800 farms. Five years later, there were 740. Carlson expects the next count will show even fewer, with a lot of "silent" transitions—where farmers retire and just rent out their land—in recent years.

Carlson also coordinates Annie's Project, a series of workshops for women on the business

end of running farms and ranches, including financial, human resource, legal, marketing and production risks.

Steele County Extension Educator Claire LaCanne said she hopes to offer the in-person workshops locally early next year.

Carlson was among 13 speakers during the three-day event, on topics that ranged from the current commodities market and world influences to better managing your farm business. The first-time event was organized by Tradexpos, which also presents the spring North American Farm and Power Show at the Four Seasons Centre in Owatonna.

Core group leads Litomysl Festival past half-century mark

BY KAY FATE
STAFF WRITER

You'll have to forgive a certain set of folks who might have looked hot and a bit more tired than everyone else at Litomysl's annual summer festival—they had good reason.

Though this year's celebration at the little Czech-founded community in rural Steele County was billed as the 50th, it's actually even older.

That's according to a group of volunteers and church members who have been a part of every one of the past 50 festivals—and then some.

"Father (George) Foffel started it," said Carol Prokopec. "It wasn't as big, but it was still a festival."

Father Louis Cook was the next priest to serve the parish, "and he started prodding everybody to do things," said Bruce Kubicek.

Kubicek's wife, Rose Ann, added: "...like bake the biscuits at the church basement instead of bringing them from home." So, she said, "we're just counting the bigger versions" of the celebrations.

Charter members

Put six people in a room, add 50 years of festivals, and it becomes a story- and laugh-filled walk down memory lane.

If it seems incredible that six people have been involved in a half-century worth of celebrations, know this: There are actually at least 11 who have come back, year after year, to keep the little church and school alive.

The youngest of the bunch is John Styndl, who turned 70 last month.

Most of them either attended St. Isidore's School, which opened in 1958, or sent their children there.

The school closed in 2016; it's now called the Parish Center and is still used for things like their religious ed classes—which bring in up to 80 kids—and quilting groups.

Over the years, they've added air conditioning, an elevator, an accessible bathroom and totally remodeled the kitchen and basement of the buildings.

The parish, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, remains active and thriving, with 166 families.

The Evolution

"I remember they had BINGO on the other side of the church, and there were prizes," Rose Ann Kubicek said of the early years.

"Your mother and I bought the prizes," said Marie Kubicek, now 95. "We got that cart so full we couldn't even see each other over the



Six of the 11 people who have been involved in all 50 of the Litomysl annual festivals gathered to talk about the history of the fundraiser that celebrates Czech traditions from pastries to polkas. In the front, from left, are Carol Prokopec, Marie Kubicek, Janet Miller and Rose Ann Kubicek. In the back are John Styndl and Bruce Kubicek. Not pictured are Bob Prokopec, Jerry and Mary Ann Rysavy, and Leroy and Sharon Schroeder.

top of it. Coffee pots, things like that; everything was nice. It was a fun day."

Those prizes have grown exponentially; they had to, as the festival has grown.

The silent auction alone had more than 300 items, with things like new furniture, Minnesota State Fair tickets, St. Paul Saints baseball tickets, home décor, sports equipment, and much more.

Miller's niece, Debbie Starman Waltz, "gets a lot of things donated for us for the silent auction," she said.

Another biggie: The root beer barrel game, now in its 30th year.

Volunteers wrapped 7,000—that's right, 7,000—little barrels in aluminum foil. Of those, 4,000 had a prize sticker under the foil.

For 50 cents a barrel, players could unwrap their way to prizes like an air fryer, a bicycle, high-quality fishing poles, luggage, a cooler, gift certificates, cash, and more.

Miller found the idea at a festival in Independence, Wis.

"We're always watching for prizes and looking for new ideas," Prokopec said.

The Big Ticket Raffle has been a constant, though. This year, it was just cash: 40 chances and a total of more than \$6,000.

Time and Money

With all of that, there really is no budget, Prokopec said.

"We keep track of all of our expenses, and weigh that against our income, and see if a particular event is worth it to continue or if there's something else that would be better," she said.

Donations are key, of course.

"Businesses in Owatonna and Blooming Prairie, El-

lendale and Geneva, they're all very generous," Bruce Kubicek said. "But we have to keep things so people stay here, and keep coming. BINGO doesn't bring in a lot of money, but a lot of older folks love to play. Not everything is a money-maker."

So why do so many people keep doing the work, year after year?

"It's not only a festival—it's a social event," Kubicek said. "Old parishioners come back, people that have moved away from the area—not even necessarily parishioners—come back, because it's a social event."

"It isn't all just work," said Marie Kubicek, whose late husband was a distant relative of Bruce Kubicek. "We have a good time, too."

A lot of the work was done ahead of time, including the nearly 600 dozen buchtý, which are traditional Czech small, filled rolls. The choices at Litomysl are prune, poppy seed, or apricot.

"Years ago, Marie Kaplan and I used to bake bread, and single batches of all the buchtý—mixed it all by hand," Marie Kubicek said. "The apricot started when Father Herman was here. I said, 'we'll try it,' and by gosh, it worked. They're almost as popular as the other two now."

Though Kubicek said she's been making buchtý "from the time it started," a broken arm kept her out of the rotation this year.

"This is the first year I haven't helped with it, and I'm just lost," she said.

The Big Day

Most of these charter members arrive at the church by 7:30 Sunday morning, "and we're here until we're cleaned up at 8 that night," Bruce Kubicek said.

In years past, a big meal

was served. Now, food stands dot the grounds.

"When we stopped the meal, it freed up a lot of people to help elsewhere," Prokopec said.

Pie, ice cream, buchtý and coffee were sold in the Parish Center. It's also where the silent auction items and quilt sale were; a flea market occupied the lawn south of the Parish Center.

Of course, a hot day needs beer. A hot, humid day makes the beer truck even busier.

Beer? At a church?

"Sure," Bruce Kubicek smiled. "You've got to remember, this is an old Bohemian parish."

That means polka music, well. The Polka Mass began in 1986 and consists of traditional church hymns with a polka beat provided by the Litomyslaneous Polka Group.

Ask the group for their favorite part of the day, and you'll get a variety of answers, from the music to the soft-serve ice cream machine to the flea market to the generous donations. You'll also hear some variation of "seeing people, getting together and visiting."

But how long can they keep working?

"Hopefully, some of the younger ones will take over our jobs," said Bruce Kubicek, "and keep it going. It might change—they might have different ideas, and it may evolve into something a little different. But you've got to let them take over, because if you don't, they won't."

"When the school closed, there were rumors that we wouldn't have the festival," Rose Ann said. "Our parish priest at the time said, 'this is a community event that everybody looks forward to. Keep it.'"

"So we did."

Supreme Court asked to nix Dornink from ballot

◀ SUPREME from A1 videotape that Dornink still resides at his old residence by Hayfield.

Haskell has gained notoriety by claiming to be the state coordinator for National Action Task Force, a grass roots movement aimed at restoring the rule of law and respect for the U.S. Constitution. NATF is a decentralized national network of volunteer investigators, who are dedicated to identifying unconstitutional activity and corruption on a local level.

He also was charged with assault and impersonating a police officer from an incident at an Owatonna grocery store in 2017. Police said he identified himself as the "police" by pulling a person out of a car, restraining him and using pepper spray to defend himself.

It's unclear what kind of evidence Haskell has pieced together regarding Sen. Dornink.

"Gene Dornink fails to satisfy the applicable residency requirement (of the constitution)," the petition argues. "Dornink is not eligible for election to the office of State Senator for District 23."

Olson is asking for the Supreme Court to remove Dornink from the primary ballot and/or general election ballot or simply not allow any votes for Dornink to be counted.

In a statement issued on Friday, Dornink said: "This is an absurd complaint. I've been living at the home in Brownsdale since May. Maybe these investigators didn't see me the six times they visited because I am working during the day and campaigning in the evening. I have been getting a great reception at the doors, parades, and fairs, and I will be continuing on the campaign trail. I look forward to the prompt dismissal of the frivolous accusation."

Attorney Richard Dahl of Brainerd represents Olson in the petition.

Also named in the petition are Secretary of State Steve Simon and the county auditors in all five of the counties that make up District 23, including Steele County's Laura Ihrke. The auditors serve as chief election judges in their respective jurisdictions.

Chief Justice Lorie Gildea issued an order on Friday that Dornink and the other respondents must file written responses and supporting evidence by Monday, Aug. 1.

It's unknown exactly when the Supreme Court will rule on the matter, but presumably it will be before Tuesday's primary.

Dornink was first elected in 2020. He graduated from Austin Vocational School with a carpentry degree and is self-employed in residential construction. He and his wife, Vicki, have 12 children.

Finger-lickin' good ribs in BP

Hundreds enjoy Ribfest

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There's no better way to celebrate the heat and humidity of summer than to lick your fingers of that tasty barbecue sauce added to some delicious baby back ribs.

The 11th annual Ribfest, started by Eric Lofthus, was a grand success, with more than 500 hungry customers coming through the gates. It was held at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club on Saturday, July 30.

This year's Ribfest far surpassed any other because of the growing attendance and the increased number of contestants, 15 compared to the normal 8-10 entries in the competition.

Big John's BBQ won the People's Choice award for the second year in a row.

George A. Hormel & Co. donated 1,500 pounds of the ribs. Vandal's Family Market donated the hamburgers for the kids' contest.

The response by the public was "unbelievable," said event officials.

Ribfest is sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Youth Club. All proceeds benefit the Club, which provides care for school-aged kids.

Last year's bulging attendance forced event organizers to order more ribs. The public began consuming the tasty morsels at 4 p.m. and by 4:30 p.m., some competitors were out of ribs.

Some people chose to eat the pulled pork meal offered inside the Servicemen's Club and, when they stopped at the competitor's stands, found the cooks were out of the ribs offered as samples.

Other activities at Ribfest included a corn-hole (bean bag) tournament, kids' hamburger cook-off, outdoor live auction, silent auction, Youth Club and Kids Dance performance.

A shuttle service was provided this year. Visitors could park in the Blooming Prairie High School parking lot and pick up a golf cart or mule-drawn wagon ride to the site.

Winners of the rib cooking competition were announced at 7 p.m. They are: Mystery meat – Marty's Party BBQ, first Best Sauce – Eroc's BBQ, first People's Choice – Big John's BBQ, first Best Ribs – Big John's BBQ, first; Marty's Party BBQ, second Gold Award – Eroc's BBQ. More complete results will be printed in the Aug. 10 edition of The Times.



Dave Wradislavsky prepares some ribs for public consumption at the 11th annual Blooming Prairie Ribfest. Fifteen teams competed for special awards.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD



Mike Farr prepares some more ribs for some awaiting customers of the Blooming Prairie Ribfest.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

The sister-brother combination of Harper and Rhett Koster competed in the kids' hamburger cookoff as part of the 11th Annual Blooming Prairie Ribfest. Harper is 9 and Rhett is 7. Their hamburger was called "Big Dill."



The mother-daughter team of Margo White and daughter Emmaleigh enjoy some juicy ribs at the BP Ribfest last Saturday at the BP Servicemen's Club.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD



Participating in a duck game at Fireman's Park on Saturday during the Blooming Prairie Ribfest, this girl picks her favorite number, #1.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD



Big winners in the Blooming Prairie Ribfest competition accepted their awards Saturday at the BP Servicemen's Club. Shown from left are: Luke Marty, second place in the Best Ribs category; Caitlyn Marty, best mystery meat; Ward Freese and John Freese, People's Choice and first in Best Ribs category; and Eroc Barbecue, Gold Award and Best Sauce

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Blooming Prairie Youth Club writes the book on Ribfest

If any other community in Minnesota plans to sponsor a ribfest in the future, it is essential that they contact the organizers of the 11th Annual Blooming Prairie Ribfest.

WOW! That's the only descriptive word that can best explain the success of the 11th annual Blooming Prairie Ribfest, sponsored by the BP Youth Club. It was attended by a total approaching 500.

The Youth Club then benefits from this fundraiser and provides parents a location to leave their children during off-school times.

Last Saturday's Ribfest could be called the best ever in the realm of size and also best in quality of the 15 contestants. Ribs were supplied by George A. Hormel & Co.

Each contestant was given a slab of ribs and then directed to their station for judging. Saturday's spectacular was so successful that contestants ran out of ribs to supply the voting public.

There are so many details that a sponsoring organization has to meet before it can even think about sponsoring such a contest. Letters go out the day after the

event in order to plan for next year.

Then, planners think of kids' activities that will entice the little ones to come and bring their parents and grandparents.

Sponsors then have to be contacted. They are too many to mention in this news article. A request goes out to Dwight's 12-passenger mule drawn wagon to provide transportation from the high school parking lot to the site of the event.

Many six-passenger golf carts are also lined up for use for the day.

The area, which includes the Servicemen's Club parking lot

expands to the Fireman's Park adjacent to the Servicemen's Club, gives visitors a place to sit and enjoy the delicious ribs.

New Youth Club executive director Lorissa Hanson and her team of workers deserve a giant-sized call-out for the hours they invested in this outstanding family event.

This year's goal was \$50,000, and it was nearly met.

The BP Ribfest brings families together. That's the Youth Club's main mission.

Ribfest activities actually began in the morning with the First

Annual Go Goette 5K Run.

Results will be printed in the Aug. 10 issue of The Times.

Blooming Prairie is not just a small town in figures provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. It has one of the BIGGEST hearts in respect to donating to just causes.

How does Blooming Prairie do it year after year in supporting the causes such as those promoted by the BP Cancer Group, the BP Education Foundation, and the Youth Club?

It takes lots of shakers and movers to get the results Blooming Prairie routinely gets in



Reflections
HOWARD LESTRUD

supporting just causes. The Blooming Prairie Youth Club staff and board thank everyone who came to enjoy the 11th Annual BP Ribfest last weekend and donated freely.

Join the BP Youth Club next year for another big event. My stomach can't wait for BP Ribfest 2023.

OUR VIEW

Local government budgets should reflect your priorities

This month, local government officials across Steele County are starting to use the “b” word—and citizens should pay attention every time they do.

By the end of the year, board and council members will have established how much money they expect to spend next year and how much they’ll levy to make those numbers work.

Last week, county treasurer Cathy Piepho told commissioners the estimated levy increase stands at \$1.9 million or 7%, “however, there is still a lot of work to be done.”

Piepho said most of the increase comes through the top departments—detention center, sheriff’s office, central services, buildings and grounds (reflects a change in accounting for fleet vehicles), community corrections, highways, geographic information services (GIS).

She has also received multiple requests for appropriations from local and regional nonprofits and economic development organizations. The Owatonna American Legion, for instance, requested funds for their Memorial Day activities.

Even though budgets won’t be approved until the end of the year, look for discussions to start showing up on meeting agendas. Some will be televised, but much of the work is done in work sessions, which are not.

We’ll be watching, and we urge you to do so as well. Most of the dollars spent come from you, and you deserve a say in those decisions.

YOUR VIEW

Ettinger’s a proven leader, family man

To-the-editor:
On Aug. 9 we the voters of the First Congressional District can make our vote count and elect Jeff Ettinger as our Congressman to complete the term of deceased Representative Jim Hagedorn.

Representative Hagedorn was a staunch supporter of our former President’s failed administration. Jeff’s Republican opponent’s campaign flyer states he will continue to “fight, fight, fight,” haven’t we had enough fighting and division at our nation’s capital?

Jeff Ettinger is a proven leader, community activist and family man. Jeff has been part of the Austin community for over thirty years serving as CEO of Hormel where he included Hormel employees in sharing the profits of the company.

Jeff and his wife are active in making the Austin community

better for everyone which includes life-long residents and new residents. Jeff is now retired and serving as Chair of the Homel Foundation, which provides scholarships for high school graduates to continue their education so they can provide for themselves and their future families.

Jeff and his wife have four adult children who all graduated from Austin High School and have gone on to have careers and families of their own.

Jeff has led and served his community throughout his life and is not a career politician of which we have too many already in Washington, D.C. You can make a positive difference by either using early voting or waiting until Tuesday, Aug. 9 and elect Jeff Ettinger as our First District Congressman.

Philip J. Heim
Medford

State police group urges vote for Dornink

To-the-Editor:
The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) is the largest association representing public safety professionals in Minnesota.

We’re writing to urge your support and vote for Sen. Gene Dornink in the Primary Election on Aug. 9. The MPPOA wholeheartedly endorses Gene because he is an exceptional advocate for the citizens in the district.

Dornink is a strong supporter of our public

safety officials and first responders. He has stood up against attempts to defund and dismantle the police—and we thank him for that. In the Senate, Dornink will continue to promote vital public safety legislation that keeps communities safe.

Please join us in supporting Sen. Dornink in the Primary Election on Aug. 9.

Brian Peters
Executive Director
Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

For nearly a year there has been quite the barnyard ruckus brewing around Steele County.

No, it’s not some fox or other exotic animal tangling with the cows, pigs or chickens. But instead it’s our own Howard Lestrud getting all the dairy cows around the area fired up about a milking challenge.

It started last August after the Steele County Fair when Howard issued a challenge for a real milking contest between himself and yours truly. In his challenge, Howard referred to it potentially being the “battle of the century.”

Howard bragged about his days of nurturing Big Squeeze, a

The big squeeze showdown is set

cow that only let her milk down for him and no one else on the family farm by Corning. My only saving grace is this took place more than 60 years ago.

Last fall the Steele County American Dairy Association jumped on board with Howard’s notion and began to put the udders in motion to make it happen.

I just received a call from Rick Balzer of the ADA Monday afternoon confirming that Howard and I are set for a contest with a live cow on Wednesday, Aug. 17 during the fair. Rumor has it we won’t be the only ones milking real cows. The fire chiefs from Steele County are also going to be trading hoses for udders to see who’s supreme when it comes to milking.

Panic is beginning to set in and I’m utterly scared of what may

happen.

I have some farm experience, but it didn’t have anything to do with milking cows. I slopped the pigs, cleaned the hog pens and tossed straw bales around the barn after baling them. The cows were gone shortly after I came into the picture.

My only real milking experience came last August at the fair when I milked Bella, the fake cow. I squeezed my heart out, but it wasn’t enough to win the contest. Not sure how I really did, but let’s just say no dairy farmers rushed over to bring me on to help them with the milking chores.

Rick Balzer assured me that milking Bella should be the right amount of experience I need to pull this off with Howard. I think that I need to swing over to his farm and grab one of his robotic milkers to

help me along. Maybe I can dress up the robot to be a Rick Bussler-look-alike. Nobody would notice.

The Howard vs. Rick milking contest isn’t the only new twist being provided by the ADA at this year’s fair. The ADA has an additional malt stand this year with the second one being added to the livestock barn area. Fairgoers will be able to enjoy those tasty malts no matter which side of the grounds they are on.

But back to the milking challenge for now. It will be a showdown you won’t want to miss. If anything, at least it might produce a few chuckles for you. Or better yet it may yield me as being the supreme milker over Howard.

I’m in hot pursuit of mastering my squeeze to end this barnyard ruckus once and for all.



Heart Of Steele
JONI HUBRED

Imagine, if you will, a 10-foot-by-10-foot, gated enclosure made of steel pipe and set up in a grassy area under a shade tree.

On the grass, someone has spraypainted a grid to create 100 numbered squares.

Thirty years ago, I stood next to one of those enclosures, camera in hand. With about two dozen onlookers, I watched as a man dressed in overalls,

a white t-shirt, and a John Deere baseball cap led a docile young cow into the pen and closed the gate behind him.

Then we waited. Eventually, the cow lifted its tail and plopped a pie onto one of the numbered squares, prompting a roar from the crowd.

Someone had just won two hundred bucks.

That unique fundraiser was my introduction to covering county fairs in rural Minnesota. There were other stories, of course, about our local Dairy Princess, 4-Hers and their projects, prize-winning plants

and produce, and oh, so many animals.

During the week, I learned how important these events are to the people who attend, who participate, and who make them happen.

When I joined the Steele County Times, I fully expected to write stories about the Steele County Free Fair. I just had no idea how many stories—due well before opening day.

This is not a complaint. Many local folks are passionate and excited about fair week, and it is nothing but fun to share their enthusiasm.

I know now about fair security and the

Auto Museum and Steely & Stella and the roughly \$7 million the fair pumps into the local economy. I’ve talked to a guy who’s bringing playful otters to the fair this year, and I have read—and re-read—the list of new fair foods.

This week, I’ll turn in the last of the stories I’m writing for our fair tab. I’ll be honest, I’m a little disappointed about the absence of “cow pie bingo.”

But rest assured, our hearts go into every single story about the Steele County Free Fair. And I look forward to writing more come opening day!

STEELE Times

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

Where do candidates stand on trans youth in sports?

BY KAY FATE
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to keep you, our readers, well-informed and abreast of relevant issues, today is the sixth in a series of questions we are asking all of Steele County's candidates for state office.

We want voters to know where each candidate stands on the issues in order to make their best

decision at the ballot box.

Each week, we'll ask the candidates a new question. They will all receive the same question, be given a word limit and a deadline of four days to answer. We'll publish their answers the following Wednesday; responses may be edited for length.

The series will continue through Nov. 2, the last Wednesday before the Nov. 8 general election.

If a candidate doesn't respond, we'll note that.

This week, we're asking about transgender athletes:

The issue of transgender rights has been raised in many areas, but Minnesota is widely considered an LGBTQ-friendly state. Since October 2018, it has allowed an "X" sex descriptor on driver's licenses and state ID cards. No such option is

allowed on birth certificates, but transgender students in Minnesota are legally entitled to:

Use the same restrooms, locker rooms, and other facilities as other students;

Use the restrooms, locker rooms, and other facilities that align with their gender identity;

Participate authentically in all school-related activities;

Participate on athletic teams and school activities that align with their gender identity; and Be protected from bullying.

The state Court of Appeals has ruled that segregating transgender students from their peers violates both the Minnesota Constitution and the Human Rights Act, though that has been challenged.

Question of the Week:

What is your opinion of transgender youth participating in high school sports?

The limit was 250 words.

We advise you to ignore the R or DFL behind each name and reflect only on the answers. You might be surprised to find more common ground than you expected. An (i) indicates the incumbent candidate, though with this spring's redistricting, the district numbers may not align with the seat they're seeking.

Minnesota House District 19B

John Petersburg – R (i-24A), of Waseca:

I believe the High School League made a mistake in their decision. In my opinion, it is simple biology. When it comes to competitive sports we have always been concerned with fair competition. We have rules and regulations prohibiting muscle/performance enhancing drugs. In the case of transgender (athletes) we are dealing with the emotional and psychological beliefs of the person, but the body is still built and performs in the traditional way for the body's biological gender. If a person believes they are a woman but has the body of a man, they will have the same muscle development and size of a man. In individual competition we generally want an even and equitable playing field. In regard to transgender athletics, I believe it is the fairest in competition to compete based upon the biology of the body instead of the desire or psychology of the person.



Abdulahi Ali Osman – DFL, of Owatonna:

No response.



Minnesota House District 23A

Peggy Bennett – R (i-27A), of Albert Lea:

What would women's sports be without amazing champion athletes like tennis star Serena Williams, or modern-day Olympians like swimmer Katie Ledecky and downhill skier Lindsey Vonn? It is women like these and others who have inspired countless young girls to strive and compete as athletes. Sadly, it is likely that these amazing women would have never made it to these championship levels had they been required to compete against biological males. Biological male bodies are typically larger and taller. They have attributes like greater bone density, muscle mass, larger hearts and lungs, more oxygenated blood, and enhanced muscle fiber. Even with estrogen supplements, a male body has these physical advantages. For example, simply compare the finalist track times between male high school athletes and female Olympians and you can observe this truth. Male high school athlete times most often beat the female Olympians. Pitting transgender-identified biological male bodies against biological female bodies creates hopeless situations where male bodies easily dominate, beating hardworking girls out for accolades, awards, scholarships, and college opportunities. For generations, women have been treated as inferior to men. Countless women have fought to find their places in the world. With women now making tremendous progress in the marketplace, government, business, sports, and more, how can we rationalize again placing women at a disadvantage? This is not right. Transgender people should be treated with dignity and respect, but we must find solutions for this issue that won't destroy girls' sports. Our girls and women deserve this.



Mary Hinnenkamp – DFL, of Albert Lea:

I am a woman of a certain age. When I was in high school, there were no girls' sports. Basketball, tennis, wrestling, baseball, track – it was all for the boys. While I was not a great athlete, I was a pretty fast runner, and I really liked to play softball and soccer. But until years later, there were no organized high school sports for me, or for half of the high school population. My job, our job, was to cheer for the boys. I think this lack of sports inclusion was unfortunate for a number of reasons. I was a shy kid, and I think I would have benefitted from the teamwork, confidence-building, and friendship-building that being a member of a sports team provides. So yes, transgender youth should be allowed to participate in high school sports. Transgender youth are isolated and bullied at a high rate at school. They suffer higher rates of depression and other mental health struggles than other youth. To further isolate them, to tell them that they don't deserve – and are not welcome – to be on a team, seems cruel. Like me, I think they would greatly benefit from being part of a team, have a chance to build confidence and friendships with other kids. Transgender kids are just that: kids. I always felt as a mom that I wanted my kids to be in extracurricular activities to have fun and be healthy. Why would we deny that to any kid?



Minnesota House District 23B

Patricia Mueller – R (i-27B), of Austin:

I believe it is important to remember the function of the Minnesota State High School League (MSHL): to provide a fair and safe competition for our young athletes. This is why there are many different levels of competition for each sport: varsity, JV, C-Squad, adaptive, and different weight classes. We would never expect a seventh-grade student to compete against a senior in any sport because of the immense size, weight, and skill difference. We recognize the importance of putting athletes of comparative skills together so each individual or team has a fair chance and there is the least likelihood of injury. Title IX was created to empower women and provide a level playing field for female athletes. After the passage of



Title IX, the world witnessed incredible achievements by women and a huge increase in popularity and participation in women's sports. This should be celebrated, honored, and protected. With this background knowledge in mind, I believe an athlete's biological gender, skill level, and work ethic should determine which sports team he or she participates in. Several female athletes have spoken out in opposition to competing against biological males. Coaches of female sports have shared with me their frustrations because they know the work these athletes have invested in and know that women's and men's bodies are different. This is not about excluding individuals; it is about protecting an athlete's ability to have their hard work honored and to have a fair and safe competition.

Tom Stiehm – DFL, of Austin:

This is a subject I investigated a lot. It's clear the suicide rate for transgender kids in high school is well above the average. It's also clear the better integrated, and the more active



kids are in school activities, the lower the suicide rate. Virtually every study I read said that transgender athletes do no better than kids that aren't. It would be unfair to deny transgender (athletes) the same opportunities as everyone else.

Minnesota Senate District 19

John Jasinski – R (i-24), of Faribault:

I do not agree with transgender youth to participate in high school sports. I believe that in the fairness to women and girls participating in sports. Title IX was designed to protect women and girls and their opportunities to participate in sports. We want to see young girls and women participating in school sports to have the fair opportunity to succeed, thrive, and compete for scholarships. Allowing those whose sex at birth is male to participate in girls' sports creates exactly the unfair advantages Title IX sought to protect young girls from. We can't allow progressive ideals to crush our girl athletes' dreams of setting sports records, competing at the next level, pursuing athletic scholarship opportunities, and launching their careers in athletics and coaching. Studies have shown that an influx of hormones doesn't undo males' larger hearts and lungs, denser bones, and stronger muscles. A boy's belief about his gender should not cancel out his physical advantage. In sports, it is biology that matters, not identity.



Kate Falvey – DFL, of Faribault:

I believe that transgender youth should be allowed to participate in high school sports as the gender with which they identify.



Minnesota Senate District 23

Gene Dornink – R (i-27), of Brownsdale:

I thought it best to start by asking some parents this question before I answered. A young mother answered and she gave me this: it is a gut punch for women's sports. My thoughts as a father of many daughters is similar. To watch our daughters work, train and practice in their sport and then simply be beat out by a biological male doesn't encourage our high school girls to participate in sports. I remember girls' sports early on when I was in school. They have come so far and women's sports have been such a great opportunity. Now we want to disregard our female athletes? I believe we need to be very careful in this. Look at Lia Thomas and how she broke swimming records by not just a small margin but by huge, unrealistic proportions. The difference in athletic measurements isn't just conjecture. Our young women and girls deserve the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. Forcing unequal competition is inherently wrong and deeply harmful to the athletic success of our female athletes. How can we encourage these athletes to put their heart and soul into breaking records and reaching new milestones when recognition will, inevitably, land with an individual of different biological traits? I believe there is a way to navigate through this issue in a kind and respectful way without hurting girls and women sports.



Brandon Lawhead – DFL, of Austin:

In 1803, the United States Supreme Court held in *Marbury v. Madison* that the Courts exclusively determine constitutional questions. This determination is a matter for the Courts. On a personal note, I would state that my youth baseball team allowed a girl to play on the team. She was not transgender. She just liked the game of baseball. This was before female leagues were established in Austin, Minnesota. There weren't any lawsuits. Everyone worked together for the betterment of the kids. We, the kids, didn't care. We thought she was a good player, and I thought we were a better team and better people because of her participation. As it relates to youth sports, I think the key is participation and establishing relationships. I've been fortunate to represent some of the great professional athletes of our time. I can unequivocally tell you, the athletes don't reflect on their MVP trophies or Championships. They reflect on the relationships they made in the locker room. Maybe parents of student athletes should be guided, accordingly.



Lisa Hanson – R, of Hayward:
No response.

Next week's question

The results of a national survey in 2021 indicated that voters overwhelmingly support implementing term limits on members of our United States Congress. Support for term limits is broad and strong across all political, geographic and demographic groups. An overwhelming 80% of voters approve of a Constitutional Amendment that will place term limits on members of Congress. Half of all voters, 50%, say they would be more

likely to support a member of Congress who has been opposed to congressional term limits during their 20-year career in office but suddenly announced that their views had evolved and they now supported term limits.

Let's break that down to the state level with Question 7:

What do you think of establishing term limits for all elected state officers? Limit of 200 words.

CELEBRATE THE RED, WHITE & BLUE

Countdown to Minnesota's biggest county fair 13 days



Local historian Nancy Vaillancourt works to preserve the Steele County Fair's long history dating back to 1860.

Klukas to join Hall of Fame



Steele's Insights

WAYNE STEELE

The Equine Hall of Fame is honored to be inducting Kim Klukas into the Equine Hall of Fame at the Steele County Free Fair Tuesday, Aug. 16 at 1 p.m.

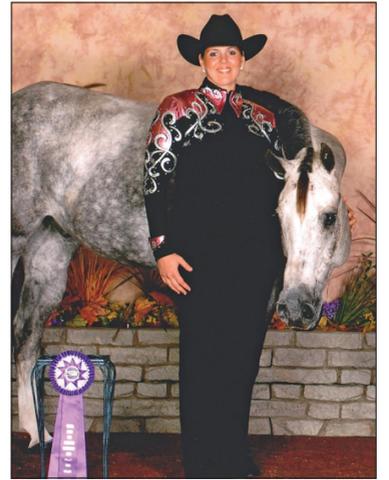
Kim has been the Steele County Show assistant for many years. Kim served as President of Owatonna Saddle Club, president of the Waseca F.F.A., and president of the Southern Minnesota Saddle Club Association (SEMCSA) for three years. Kim has assisted with 4-H clinics in Waseca, Dodge and Steele counties.

She has shown at the Steele County Fair equine shows for over 20 years and has received numerous year-end awards on the SEMCSA circuit. Kim has shown in the Quarter Horse, Paint, Pony of America bred shows and currently shows in the National Pinto circuit. Kim has earned the Register of Merit (ROM) in English riding. Kim has an Animal Science and Veterinary Tech Degree.

She is the Vivarium manager of Horrel Institute for Cancer Research with the University of Minnesota since 2015.

The Equine Hall of Fame, along with the Steele County Free Fair, is very pleased to honor Kim Klukas as our 2022 Equine Hall of Fame inductee.

Wayne Steele is the vice president and publicity director for the Steele County Free Fair.



A blast from the past

Vaillancourt preserves the fair's history

BY JOHNNIE PHILLIPS
SPORTS EDITOR

As the Steele County Free Fair (SCFF) heads into its 162nd year, local librarian and historian Nancy Vaillancourt has once again begun her preparations to make the fair's Muckle Museum a fun blast from the past.

Vaillancourt has been in charge of the Muckle Museum since 2010, and has created a museum layout that gives fair-goers a glimpse into the SCFF's storied history.

"I was approached by Elmer Reseland – he was the longtime fair manager at the time – and he always said that [the Muckle Museum] needed to be fun. He thought I would have fun doing this job, and he was right. I truly have," said Vaillancourt.

Vaillancourt began her duties as the Muckle Museum historian by giving the exhibit a makeover and ensuring that all of the fair memorabilia was kept up to shape.

The museum is chock-full of photos, banners, and flags from fairs past, as well as replicas of former rides and trains that used to be common around the fairgrounds.

According to Vaillancourt, each year she tries

to rearrange certain parts of the museum in order to highlight a different aspect of the fair from years past.

"This year, 2022, I decided to look back 100 years to 1922 to do my research on what the fair was like," said Vaillancourt. "What I found was back in the '20s the fair was promoting radios and how they could be used to make the fair and life, in general, more fun."

Vaillancourt credits her lifelong passion for history as her main drive for keeping the museum fresh and new every year.

As the librarian for the Blooming Prairie Public Library and a member of the Steele County Historical Society, she has gained a vast wealth of knowledge of the community.

"I've always had an interest in history. When I was growing up, I became interested in my own family history, and then when I moved to Owatonna, staff in the arts center asked if I would do historical research on homes. Things like that have taken me all around the county doing different kinds of historical research."

However, the thrill of learning and researching the history of Steele County is only part of the job.

According to Vaillancourt, the part of the job that she enjoys the most is sharing the history of the fair and the county with the kids who walk into the museum.

"When the doors are open and people come in and experience the museum is the best. The kids come in and love the model fair rides and all the trains. It's really great getting to share it all with everyone."



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Thursday-August 18	Hairball Concert	8:00 pm
Friday-August 19	Joe Nichols Concert	8:00 pm
Saturday-August 21	Bulls N Barrels & Mutton Bustin	7:30 pm
Sunday-August 22	Demolition Derby	2:00 pm

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Arthur Lee Evans, 92, Faribault



Arthur Evans

Art Evans died peacefully in his sleep on July 19, 2022 at Allina Health Faribault. He was 92. Art was born Aug. 29, 1929, to Arthur Evans and Mary (Bunnell) Evans in Mauston, Wis. He was raised and educated in Springfield, Mo.

Art served in the Army from 1951-1953 and received his BA in education from Missouri State University. He married Carolyn Fickie in 1951. They had two children – Arthur Lee III and Laurie. They later divorced though remained devoted parents.

He married Carolynn “Pixie” Allen in 1989. Pixie’s career in newspapers took them to Owatonna, Mankato and the Poconos in Pennsylvania. Art was instrumental in transforming houses in each of these communities into homes that welcomed family as well as new and old friends.

Art taught high school art, but was drawn to photography, which took him away from teaching and into the world of photojournalism. He headed photo departments at two different newspapers and was the winner of numerous awards for his photography. He retired in 1993.

Art’s youthful spirit of adventure – hitchhiking to Florida, hopping steamers to Cuba, joining the Naval Reserves, building two sailboats, one geodesic home, woodworking, collecting and restoring too many cars to count – stayed with him even as his memory started to leave.

Pixie’s retirement in 2003 brought them back to Minnesota and a home to

remodel in Faribault. Art, a Southern boy at heart, always found winter in “Minn-e-snowta” to be too miserable so they spent time at their home in Coquina Cove outside of Indian Rocks Beach, Fla. Guests were always welcome and Art was always up for sailing, parasailing, walks on the beach, seafood on the grill, sunsets at the beach, naps and binge-sleeping movies.

While dementia slowly robbed Art of his memory, his charm, sense of humor and good manners remained to the end.

He is survived by his wife, Pixie; son Lee; daughter Laurie; two nephews, Mel Jr. and Paul Evans; Pixie’s Allen family; and many friends across the country.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother and sister-in-law, Mel and Marie Evans; brother-in-law Tom Calhoun; nephews Tommy Allen, Nicholas Allen, Michael Evans and Martin Evans; and niece Marta Allen.

Pixie and the Evans family would like to thank the staff on the third floor at Allina Health Faribault and the Allina Home Care teams for their compassionate and professional care and attention over this most challenging time.

A celebration of life service will be held on Aug. 20 from 1-3 p.m. with a time of sharing at 2 p.m. at the Parker Kohl Funeral Home, 1725 Lyndale Ave. N., Faribault. Interment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis.

The family prefers memorials to Ruth’s House or the Faribault Area Hospice.

Funeral arrangements are being completed with the Parker Kohl Funeral Home of Faribault.

John Paul, 66, Owatonna



John Paul

John Peter Paul died on Thursday, July 14, 2022 in Owatonna.

He was born in Minneapolis on Feb. 17, 1956 to Charles and Mary (Peterson) Paul.

Mass of Christian Burial was Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Owatonna. He was buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis.

He grew up in Coon Rapids and joined the Marines at the age of 17. He earned his GED in 1973 while in the military. He served in the Vietnam War and was involved in the Fall of Saigon in 1975. He was honorably discharged in April of 1976.

John returned to Coon Rapids after serving in the Marines and was married for a time and had two sons. The couple later divorced.

While working at Twin City Testing, he met Stephanie Olson in 1985. They moved to International Falls and John began attending school for an Associate’s degree. John and Stephanie were

married at their home in International Falls on July 14, 1990. The couple had one daughter, Hanah. They moved to St. Cloud where John continued his education at St. Cloud State University, earning a Bachelor’s degree and then a Master’s Degree in History. He was offered a position as an archivist for the Diocese of Phoenix and the family moved to Phoenix. The couple later divorced. After several teaching jobs at the college level, John married again and worked as a professor of history at Florida State. The couple had one son together and later divorced. At that time, John moved back to Minnesota.

John was very passionate about history, was an avid reader and loved to write. He was a very popular professor due to his dynamic, relatable personality. He will be missed for his spontaneous laugh and ability to “tell it like it is.”

John is survived by three sons and one daughter Hanah (Andrew) Bonilla, two grandchildren Wyatt and Porter, one brother and two sisters.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

BRICK-MEGER & MEDFORD
 FUNERAL HOME

cans, and loved to check on the farm. Although Dale was a quiet man, he was especially proud of his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren and all their accomplishments. He was a lifelong, confirmed member of the First Lutheran Church in Ellendale.

Dale was preceded in death by: his parents; parent-in-laws (Athan and Helyn Langlie); brother-in-laws (Curt Waage, Jerry Langlie and Bruce Langlie).

Left to cherish his memory are: his wife (Barbara); sister (Judy Waage); sister-in-law (Julie Langlie); children/in-laws (Monty/Toni Mrotz, Lisa Mrotz, Victor /Kellie Mrotz, and Daniel/Melba Mrotz); grandchildren (Mikkel /Jenny Iverson, Jami Marzolf, Justin/Ashley Mrotz, Dr. Victoria Mrotz, Hudson Mrotz, and Sophia Mrotz); great-grandchildren (Tyler Iverson, Ethan, Logan and Riley Marzolf and Gideon Mrotz); as well as several nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at First Lutheran Church, Ellendale. A memorial service was held on Friday, July 29, 2022, at First Lutheran Church, Ellendale.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to First Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 146, Ellendale, MN, 56026.

Dale Mrotz, 84, Ellendale



Dale Mrotz

Dale Gustav Mrotz, 84, passed away peacefully on July 22, 2022, with his family by his side at his home in Ellendale.

Dale was born on Aug. 1, 1937, in Albert Lea, to Gustav and Mabel (Franke) Mrotz. He was raised on the family farm and graduated from Ellendale Geneva Schools in 1956. Following graduation, he began working at Queen Stove Works in Albert Lea, while determined to achieve his goal of having a family and farming as well.

On June 27, 1957, Dale married his lifelong partner, Barbara Langlie. Together, they raised four children: Monty, Lisa, Victor and Daniel. They bought a piece of land, traded the family car for an Oliver tractor, and never looked back. In 1969, he added school bus driver to his family and farming duties. He drove bus for 38 years at his alma mater. A few years later, Dale and Barb opened their home up to their special nephew, Jason Langlie. Dale and Jason took weekly car rides, collected pop

COLLEGE NEWS

Local college students earn academic honors

Riverland Community College
 Local Riverland Community College students have been named to the 2022 Spring president’s and dean’s lists.

To be eligible for the president’s list students must have completed 12 credits per semester with letter grades and have earned a grade-point average of 4.00 on a 4.00 scale.

To be eligible for the dean’s list students must have completed 12 credits per semester with letter grades and have earned a grade-point average of 3.25 to 3.99 on a 4.00 scale.

Local honorees include:

Bloomington Prairie: Adrianna Bermea, Abigail Hefling, Ava Grace Krejci, Katie Kruckeberg, Jarrett Larson, Sierra Larson, Christopher Naatz, Jacob Naatz, Heather Pirkel, and Samuel Pirkel-President’s List; Heidi Judy, Larisa Judy, Dustin Kremer, Piper Lund, Marquette Millam, Alexander Miller, Gustaof Ogren, Alexander Piller,

Grace Robins, Anika Sunde and Isabelle Sunde-Dean’s List
 Ellendale: Isaac Borchert, Conner Nelson, and Journey Utpadel-President’s List; Jacob Blatti, Katie Lee, and Caleb Smith-Dean’s List
 Medford: Kallen Hoffmann, Madison Jaster, Patrick McCann, and Julia Niles-President’s List; Brianna Nellis and Carson Sobrack-Dean’s List

Owatonna: Bryan Aldrich, Rachel Benson, Jessica Burns, Jaci Burtis, Jennifer Burtis, Andrew Cambronne, Emma Corbin, Hunter Dallman, Nataly Hurtado-Tiza, Nevin Schroeder, Gonzalo Soto Vidal, Erika Thurnau, Alex Tryhus, Giszal Villarreal, and Katie Voss-President’s List; Aaron Bissonette, Evan Buck, Tyler Cobban, Max Degrood, Isaac Goettl, Marielle Jackson, Joshua Kiefer, Evan Little, Ian Moffett, Haley Nelson, Dietrich Piepho, Logan Proechel, Alyssa Ringhofer, Ryan Rohwer, Evelyn

Rosas, Jamilet Sandoval Gutierrez, Anton Schroeder, Andrew Skov, Ashton Sorum, Logan Spaar, Jason Spatenka, Cole Stanley, Scott Stein, Olivia Svenby, Scarlett Tanner, Cassandra Thul, Dominique Wondra, and Anna Youngquist-Dean’s List

Kalamazoo College

Julia Holt of Owatonna has been named to the Kalamazoo College Spring 2022 Dean’s List. Dean’s List recognition is earned with a grade point average of 3.5 or better.

Normandale Community College

Owatonna residents Alyssa Cicero and Jason Domstrand are among Normandale Community College students to earn a place on the 2022 Spring Semester Dean’s list.

Students must be enrolled in at least nine credits and have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.5 for courses completed in the fall semester ending this past May.

Kender to leave Exchange Center

◀ **KENDER** from A1 Cincinnati later this month.

“I’m so sad about this,” said Kender, who grew up in Owatonna and most recently lived in Minneapolis. “This was a hard, hard decision.”

She realizes she caught board members off guard and that her decision impacts the entire community.

“Breaking away from the community of Owatonna is definite grief for me,” Kender said. “Owatonna will always be my foundation.”

But in the end, Kender said “you have to do what’s best for your family.” She added the draw to the Cincinnati area is to be closer to her husband Lexy’s family. They have two children, Grace and Lucas.

Kender drew herself

into the spotlight in April when she revealed publicly for the first time her survival story of childhood abuse at the hands of her father, Michael Bolton of Owatonna. “This is a story about a miracle, second changes and forgiveness. I am blessed to be a survivor,” she said at the time.

Kender’s departure comes just as the board decided in July to make the director’s position full time beginning in October. For years the position has been part time at 20 hours per week.

Speaking from her own experience, Kender said the director’s job “can’t be done without it being full time.”

Despite not being around for very long, Kender said she feels as if she accomplished

great things. Most notable, she said, is getting the board to step up to move closer to the center’s mission and positioning the organization for future growth.

“People know who we are and have a better understanding of who we are,” Kender said.

She said whoever is hired to replace her will find a welcoming board who has done so much over the past six months.

The Exchange Center serves Steele, Rice, Waseca, Dodge and Freeborn counties to provide dependable and efficient support-based in-home mentoring to parents that can use additional support to be successful parents.

An immediate search will begin for Kender’s replacement.

Friend launches fundraiser to help family who’s lost both parents

◀ **FRIEND** from A1 could describe the ATV crash that killed Wimer-Wood on July 22 while she was working for a tree company in Houston County.

“It just feels as if we are doing this again, exponentially worse,” Giesler said. “It’s unbelievable this would happen to the same family.”

Wimer-Wood leaves behind three children, ages 17, 15 and 12, as well as three step children.

To aid the children, Giesler has established a GoFundMe campaign hoping to raise \$10,000. As of Monday, Giesler had already raised about \$6,100. Anyone interested in donating can go to www.gofund.me/5e1fba57.

“People have been so generous... it’s amazing,” she said. “It will all go to the kids to help them with living expenses as well as school supplies and school clothes. Those kids are important to a lot of us. They are loved by a lot of people.”

It’s still unclear what happened in the crash where Wimer-Wood was working for Carr’s Tree Service of Ottertail, Minn. Minnesota OSHA is investigating the incident since it was a work-related fatality.

Wimer-Wood had been doing tree work for several years, according to Giesler.

“She was a beast,” Giesler said. “She was so proud that she could do all the tree service often better than a lot of men.”

Giesler said she will always remember Wimer-Wood for radiating beauty, positivity and happiness into the world. She found her to always focus on the good things in life.

“She was so positive and authentically happy,” Giesler said. “She walked into a room and could light up the room. She was the perfect

example of love and dedication. The world would be better if we had more people like Kayla.”

Despite losing her husband, Wimer-Wood always continued to maintain her positivity, Giesler said. “She experienced hard times and didn’t experience a perfect life,” she added.

Giesler found “something so magical” between Wimer-Wood and Dennis Wimer Jr. “She didn’t leave his side. It was impressive the love they had for each other. The odds were stacked against them,” Giesler said.

Both Wimer-Wood and her late husband have been buried together at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Owatonna.

“They are together,” Giesler said. “It felt like a little peace in all of this.”

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KAYLA WIMER FUNDRAISER

- Fundraiser to aid family of Kayla Wimer
- Goal: \$10,000
- Donate: www.gofund.me/5e1fba57

Local judge tackles racial makeup of juries

◀ **JUDGE** from A1 Joseph Bueltel, who is chambered in Owatonna and presides over cases in Steele County, signed the order July 18.

Though rarely used, Minnesota courts give chief judges or their designees the authority to order "appropriate corrective action" if improvement is needed in the representativeness of the jury source list or jury pool.

It's the U.S. and Minnesota Constitutions, however, that Bueltel was following; they guarantee the right to a jury drawn from a fair cross-section of the community.

Bueltel's order came after the Third District's Committee for Equity and Justice (CEJ) asked for improvement in the inclusiveness of people on the jury source list and jury pools. The CEJ made six recommended changes:

- Send summons and questionnaire twice to non-responding people.
- Require the jury administrator to update the jury source list twice a year instead of once a year.
- Require integration of the public assistance and unemployment compensation databases.
- Require redrawing of grossly unrepresentative jury panels until achieving proportional representation.

• Order jury questionnaires and summonses sent in multiple languages, including Spanish and Somali, and plainly indicate that English proficiency is not a requirement of jury service.

• Provide language interpreters to limited English proficiency jurors.

The order makes only a partial change to just one of the requests: Jury summons and questionnaire forms in the district must be translated into languages other than English and be made available to the public.

Translating those documents is simply in keeping with the way the state's other executive branches operate, Bueltel wrote.

Minnesota's Department of Human Services has translated forms in 15 languages. The Department of Public Safety's Driver and Vehicle Services provides its driver's manual in Spanish, Somali and Hmong.

The Department of Employment and Economic Development provides the unemployment insurance application in Spanish, Somali and Hmong. The DNR (Department of Natural Resources) translates and publishes its hunting and fishing regulations into Spanish, Somali, Hmong and Karen – and makes them

available in print and online.

Bueltel also wrote that the summons form should be changed to clarify that all jurors should have "sufficient command of English to follow the trial, to understand the jury instructions and to discuss the case with other jurors."

If they are unsure of their ability, potential jurors should come to court and raise the issue with the trial judge, he said.

In the letter from CEJ with the recommended changes, its members referred to the "glaring and long-standing racial disparities in the jury selection process," adding that "an inclusive and representative jury pool is critical to preserving the right to a fair and impartial jury."

Bueltel denied the other five requests in full; the order, he said, is "directed at increasing the representativeness of the district's jury panels and increasing the rate of response from summoned jurors across the district."

In addition to Steele County, the Third Judicial District includes Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha, Waseca, and Winona counties.

Everyone registered to vote in Minnesota, all holders of a Minnesota driver's license

and all holders of a Minnesota state ID card are included in the jury source list.

Jurors self-identify their race and ethnicity on the juror questionnaire, sent to all summoned jurors. In the 2018-2019 period, 1.6% of pool jurors did not provide their race or ethnicity and are not included in these results. Thirteen percent of juries have at least one juror who did not provide their race or ethnicity; those juries are not included in the state's results. Trial juries on civil and criminal cases are included in the statistics; each jury typically has either six or 12 sworn jurors.

While the jury selection process itself appears race neutral, racial disparities in the jury box remain.

There's no disputing that Southeast Minnesota is overwhelmingly white.

According to 2018 Census Bureau estimates, Steele County is 89.7% white – but 95.2% of the seated jurors in 2018-19 were white.

Hispanics represent 5.9% of the population in Steele County yet accounted for only 2.4% of seated jurors.

The county has a Black/African American population of 2.4%, with just 0.4% representation in the jury box.

It's unclear when Bueltel's changes will be implemented.

Havelka achieves Spirit of Caring Award

John Havelka, an Edward Jones financial advisor in Owatonna, recently received the firm's exclusive Spirit of Caring Award designed to recognize those financial advisors who exemplify the values, culture and spirit of giving back.

Havelka has demonstrated unyielding dedication to giving back, which has positively impacted his clients, colleagues and community. The award is given to only one financial advisor in each of the firm's 316 regions and is determined by a vote of his peers.

"Edward Jones is a partnership. That structure is not just financial, it's a philosophy," Havelka said. "We work together,

help each other and all share in the rewards of working with long-term individual investors. That brings out the best in everyone. I am humbled to be this year's recipient of the Spirit of Caring Award."

The Edward Jones branch-office business model, with more



John Havelka

than 15,000 branches throughout North America, allows the firm's nearly 19,000 financial advisors to identify what matters most to each individual client and create personalized strategies, with the goal of developing long-lasting relationships to help keep them on track toward their goals.

Edward Jones, a FORTUNE 500 firm, provides financial services in the U.S. and through its affiliate in Canada. The firm's nearly 19,000 financial advisors serve more than 8 million clients with a total of \$1.7 trillion in client assets under care.

BOOK NOOK

Traveling libraries once served rural Steele County



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Did you know that since the early 1900s there has been a Steele County library system? When Owatonna Public Library was founded in 1900, rural residents wanted to use the library also.

School districts outside of Owatonna could pay \$10 per year to allow all residents in their area the use of the library. After some negotiations the Steele County Commissioners agreed to pay \$30 per month for library services for all county residents.

Beginning in 1904, Owatonna Public Library was one of the first libraries in the country to offer county-wide services and the first to do so in Minnesota.

But what about the residents who found it difficult to get to Owatonna regularly in horse and buggy days? The solution offered by librarian Maud Van Buren was to provide traveling libraries in special locking wooden cases.

The cases were sent by train to Meriden, Medford, Blooming Prairie, Pratt, Havana, Ellendale, Merton, Deerfield, and Lemond. They were placed in homes, hardware stores, doctors' offices, drug stores, banks, churches, and post offices. One of the traveling cases is in the schoolhouse at the Village of Yesteryear.

Now, almost 120 years later, both the Owatonna Public Library and the Blooming Prairie Branch Library still receive financial support from Steele County. It is substantially more than \$30 per month! We are grateful for the funding they provide. When you see your Steele County commissioners, tell them thank you!

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Pulled up stakes
- 5 Squirrels' hangouts
- 9 Trailer hookup
- 14 Mystical glow
- 15 Radar image
- 16 Farewell, in France
- 17 Gets one's goat
- 18 Female store clerk
- 20 "Easy ___ it!"
- 21 "Cinderella Man" star
- 22 In the event that
- 23 Truth ___
- 25 Rubs out
- 27 Stable worker
- 29 One of Santa's team
- 31 Bothersome bug
- 32 Show
- 37 Take the wrong way?
- 39 Umpire's call
- 40 "Stranger Things" star
- 41 View-Master, e.g.
- 44 One of Alcott's "Little Women"
- 45 Third planet
- 46 Lin-Manuel Miranda, for one
- 48 Fleet
- 51 Sonogram subject
- 52 Sprinter's event
- 53 Inventor Nikola
- 56 Website warning
- 59 Native
- 61 Awful
- 62 Louvre's river

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65						66					67			

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- 63 FDR's coin
- 64 Thunderous applause
- 65 Metal-shaping tool
- 66 Husky burden
- 67 Poker stake
- 7 Narc's find, perhaps
- 8 Spit out
- 9 "Hee ___"
- 10 Image worship
- 11 Uses a stopwatch
- 12 "Cut it out!"
- 13 Seeks prey
- 19 Appears
- 24 Prince Harry, for one
- 26 Conference site
- 27 Takes out, mob-style
- 28 Narrow opening
- 29 Shrink's furniture
- 30 Not had by
- 33 Nearly all
- 34 Entry fee
- 35 Numerical suffix
- 36 For that reason
- 38 Bringing to life
- 42 Wax eloquent
- 43 Delighted
- 47 Siberian expanse
- 48 Not quite right
- 49 Extend, in a way
- 50 Radio or TV
- 51 Water chute
- 54 Concludes
- 55 Potting need
- 57 Campus house
- 58 "As you ___"
- 60 Word from the Beaver

Solution to Crossword:

L	E	F	T		O	A	K	S		H	I	T	C	H
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S	W	A	G	E		S	L	E	D		A	N	T	E

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BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 3 Mandy Lembke Ashley Anderson Jeannette Peterson Valanchia Garcia	Alex Peterson Harrison Sunde Hannah Freese Isabel Gardner Russia Smith	John Rumpza Lisa Cochlin Kale Swenson
Aug. 4 Melody Amberg Iris Krueger Linda Kittelson Samantha Hardecoph Katie Wencl Katie Winzenburg Ian White	Aug. 6 Herm Claussen	Aug. 8 Ian Wayne Scarlett Wondra Bronson Lee
Aug. 5 Vern Krebs Craig Kruckeberg Richard Symes	Aug. 7 Arri Meiners Leah Schiefert Roger Toquam Jayden Kvalsten Amy Staloch H. Peterson Madison Worke Kristen Fristedt Cheryl Klug	Aug. 9 Ian Wayne Scarlett Wondra Bronson Lee Cheryl Klug John Rumpza Lisa Cochlin Kale Swenson

ANNIVERSARIES

Aug. 3 Doug & Holli Naatz Paul & Laura Dale Andy & Deanna Weiss	Gary & Susan Thorson
Aug. 4 Dean & Marilyn Meshke Tony & Jess Motl	Aug. 6 Jake & Alecia Peterson
Aug. 5 Vern & Beth Krebs	Aug. 8 Julie & Neil Horn Dawn & Rita Goodnature Dawn & Dwayne Gross Jared & Deb Brown

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Pastor Kyle Smith

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ELLENDALE

It's not uncommon for me to be asked, "Why are there so many different denominations? Don't all Christians hold to the Bible? If so, shouldn't we all agree on what the Bible says?" In other words, "Why is there so much division in Christianity?" This is a fair question.

Why is there so much division in Christianity?

After all, Jesus' prayer for His disciples is that they, and us, would be one, just as He and the Father are one (John 17:20-21).

All Christians indeed hold to the Holy Bible, and in it, we see the call for unity, whether that be in the verses referenced above or elsewhere. For example, there is also Ephesians 4:3 which says, "eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." And yet, there are divisions in the body of Christ. So what's going on in Christianity?

While God is perfect, we are not. God the Holy Spirit inspired man to write His Word and it is without error. However,

even though God's Word is without error, people are not without error. So when we who are capable of making mistakes and errors read God's Word, we shouldn't be surprised when we can't agree on what it means. Does this mean we as Christians should ignore our differences, set them aside, and all join together and make one global church? No, because even though we all use the same Book, the Holy Bible, our different interpretations do matter.

Some churches teach that only certain individuals can read and interpret the Bible because it is only those individuals who can understand it, while

other churches encourage everyone to read and study the Bible. Some churches teach that the Bible must be interpreted by rationalistic thought, which means that when the Bible says something we don't understand, we must find a way to explain it; while other churches accept what is written, are content with the mysteries of God remaining mysteries, and let the Word of God stand for itself.

Some churches teach that man is saved by doing good works; some churches teach that man is saved by doing both good works and having faith; some churches teach that man is saved by grace through faith

but that man has to do something to receive that grace; while other churches teach that man is saved by grace through faith and that their faith ought to result in good works over time.

These differences may seem small on paper, but they play out in very big ways. Our different ways of approaching Scripture result in a different understanding of what Scripture says, which impacts how we live in our daily lives, and even impacts our assurance of salvation. Despite all the differences, there is one silver lining. The silver lining is that our differences encourage us to go back to the

Scriptures to read and study to better understand God's Word.

We see in Isaiah 55:10-11, "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out of my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it." God's Word does something. It accomplishes what He wills. So let us use our differences as an opportunity to go to Scripture and let God do His work in us.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna
507-451-2819
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
Pastor Clark Baldwin
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.
office@auroralutheranchurch.org

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN - ELCA
106 Third St. SE, Geneva
507-256-4288
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Every 3rd Saturday at 5 p.m.
communitylutherangenevamn@gmail.com

FIRST LUTHERAN-AFLC
503 Radel Ct., Ellendale
507-684-2451
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Call to Prayer Monday 7 p.m.
Bible Study
Wednesday 9:30 a.m.
Confirmation
Wednesday 6-7 p.m.
Youth Group
Wednesday 7-9 p.m.
Men's Bible Study
Saturday 8 a.m.
firstlutheranellendale@yahoo.com

FIRST LUTHERAN - ELCA
434 First St. SW, Blooming Prairie
507-583-6621
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
firstluthoffice@yahoo.com

FIRST LUTHERAN - LCMC
8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope
507-451-3854
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Sunday School and Adult Ed 10:15 a.m.
fichopem@gmail.com

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN - LCMS
2500 7th Ave NE, Owatonna
507-451-4125
Sunday Hymn Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Praise Service, Sunday School & Bible Class 10 a.m.
info@gsowatonna.com

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN - ELCA
9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale
507-213-0281
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School 9 a.m.
pontoppidanlemond@outlook.com

REDEEMER LUTHERAN - LCMS
1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
507-451-2720
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Sunday Education Hour 10:15 a.m.
redeemerowatonna@outlook.com

RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN- ELCA
30456 Mower-Freeborn Rd., Austin
BP: 507-402-9333
Austin: 507-437-3000
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
www.rog.lutheran.org

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN - LCMS
4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont
507-528-2404
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. (2nd & 4th Sunday Holy Communion)
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Wednesday: Advent 7 p.m. (with Holy Communion)
sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN - LCMS
28959 630th Ave., Sergeant
320-674-0351
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School 9 a.m.
www.saintjohnssergeant.jmido.com

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN - ELCA
1301 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
507-451-7293
Sunday & Summer Worship 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.
Thursday Worship 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
info@stjohnowatonna.com

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN - ELCA
30450 570th Ave., Waltham
507-567-2474
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Pastor Barbara Finley-Shea
FB - St. Michael's Youth Activities Waltham, MN

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN - LCMS
202 E Park Ave., Hollandale
507-567-2272
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
www.motorcitychurch.org

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN - ELCA
2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden
507-451-2165
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
deaconbilliejo@gmail.com

TRINITY LUTHERAN-ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
507-451-4520
Sunday Worship -Sanctuary 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall 10:45 a.m., Live Stream 9:30 a.m. at facebook.com/tlcowatonna and tlcowatonna.org/worshiplive
Live broadcast 9:30 a.m. on KRUE 92.1 FM, Video on Spectrum (CH181)
Metronet TV (Ch 900) and owatonna.com Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m.
www.tlcowatonna.org/

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

TRINITY LUTHERAN - LCMS
108 Third Ave. SW, Medford
507-451-0447
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
tlcmedfordoffice@gmail.com

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

ZION LUTHERAN - ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
deaconbilliejo@gmail.com

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN - ELCA
1909 St. Paul Rd., Owatonna
507-451-4853
Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m. - In-person service and livestreamed
www.oursaviorsowatonna.com

EMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
750 Jeffery St., Owatonna
507-455-2729
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
www.emmanuel-wels-owatonna.com

CATHOLIC

CHRIST THE KING
205 Second Ave. NW, Medford
507-451-4845
Mass: 5:30 p.m. Sat
Mass: 9 a.m. Mon & Fri
parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 SW First St., New Richland
507-234-6244
Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.
www.stannjan.com

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
507-583-2784
Rev. Bill Becker
Sunday Mass: 8:15 a.m.
www.litomysl.webs.com

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St. Hayfield
507-477-2256
Rev. Bill Becker
Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.
www.stcolumbanuschurch.org

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S Cedar Ave., Owatonna
Mass Times: Daily Tuesday-Friday at 7:15 a.m.
Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 p.m. (Spanish)
Reconciliation 4 p.m.
Saturday Adoration Thursdays 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.
www.sacredheartowatonna.org

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC
114 E Main St. Blooming Prairie
507-583-2784
Rev. Bill Becker
Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.
www.stcolumbanuschurch.org
columbanusbp@gmail.com

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S Elm Ave., Owatonna
507-451-4845
Daily Mass: 8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri.

Communion Service 8 a.m. Thursday
Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m.
Adoration Chapel available Mon-Fri. 7 a.m. -5:30 p.m. (Key fob required after hours or weekend)
www.stjosephowatonna.org

CHRISTIAN
CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT
540 SE 18th St., Owatonna
507-451-1032
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m.
www.owatonnacovenantchurch.org

CHRISTIAN FAMILY CHURCH
2300 Heritage Pl. NW, Owatonna
507-455-3205
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
www.cfchurches.org

VICTORY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1380 Rice Lake St. E., Owatonna
507-451-8111
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
www.victorymn.org

PENTECOSTAL
FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL
230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
507-363-3046
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Wednesday Service: 7 p.m.

METHODIST
BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST
43089 180th St., Medford (Seven miles west of Medford on CR. 23)
507-835-8726
Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
www.bloominggroveumc.org

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST
200 Sixth St. NW, Ellendale
507-382-2483
Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
www.ellendaleumc.org

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST
815 E University St. - Owatonna
507-451-4734
Sunday Traditional Worship (Pathways) 9 a.m.
www.owatonnaumc.org
NON-DENOMINATIONAL

CEDAR CREEK
30 E Main St., Hayfield
507-477-2255
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
www.cedarcreekchurch.org

DESTINY CHRISTIAN
2515 Harvest Lane NW- Owatonna
507-456-4775
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
Wednesday Worship: 6:30-7:30 p.m. 1st & 3rd every month
www.destinycc.org

ELEVATION NORTH
2002 Austin Rd., Owatonna
507-363-3099

Sunday Worship (English) 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship (Spanish) 2 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
Spanish Evangelism & Prayer: Friday 7 p.m.
www.elevationnorth.blogspot.com

NEW BEGINNINGS
332 14th St. NE, Owatonna
507-413-0209
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Wednesday Service: 7 p.m.
www.nbcilife.org

SIMPLY CHURCH
105 2nd St., Geneva
507-438-5418
Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday Worship: 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday Worship: 5:30 p.m.

MENNONITE
PRAIRIE MENNONITE
13638 750th St. - Blooming Prairie
507-583-7532
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Pray Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
www.prairiemennonite.org

MORMON
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
404 31st St. NW, Austin
507-433-9042
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
www.churchofjesuschrist.org

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
2373 Seventh Ave NE, Owatonna
651-955-4032
Saturday Worship: 11 a.m.
Saturday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
www.owatonnasdachurch.org

UCC
CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 Main St. S., Medford
507-451-4596
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
www.ucc.org

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
109 E Main St., Hayfield
507-477-2631
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
www.firstpresbyterianhayfield.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
P.O. Box 66
121 East St. N., Claremont
507-528-2320
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
www.faihtstreet.com

BAPTIST
FIRST BAPTIST
104 First Ave., Blooming Prairie
507-583-2673
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study: 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service: 6:30 p.m.
www.fbcbloomingprairie.org

GRACE BAPTIST-OWATONNA
65 26th St., Owatonna
507-451-3494
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 8:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 5 p.m.
Wednesday Adult Service 7 p.m.
Wednesday Youth Service 7 p.m.
gracebaptistministry.org
info@gracebaptistministry.org

BETHEL BAPTIST
1611 Hemlock Ave., Owatonna
507-451-8548
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

FREE CHURCH
CORNERSTONE EVANGELICAL FREE
1500 18th St. SE, Owatonna
507-446-5850
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
www.cornerstoneowatonna.com

NORTH RIDGE CHURCH OF GOD
1650 7th Ave. NE, Owatonna
507-451-5467
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Prayer: 7-8 p.m.
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With local help, diverse prairie grows

PRAIRIE from A1
nal Somerset property, which the owner also used as a gravel source. "This could have been a big, giant gravel pit," she said. "We're really happy that they stepped in and were able to protect it."

While the land is dedicated to wildlife conservation, it's also part of the DNR's outdoor recreation system and available for hunting, fishing, and trapping, Vorland said. You can even portage your canoe to the river and paddle into Owatonna.

"These areas are where we can study nature and the things that affect our habitat, so there's an educational component to them as well," she added.

Before Somerset WMA was established, "there was very little diverse prairie," said Steele County Minnesota Pheasants board member Dan Arndt.

"It's about 60 percent established, so it's just going to get better from here," he said.

Arndt laid out a route for a short prairie walk on July 27 that included a close-up look at plants like the Showy Tick Trefoil, Bergamot, Golden Alexander, and the Compass Plant, named because of its orientation on a north-south axis.

Vorland said when pioneers put their cattle out to pasture, the animals favored the Compass Plant so much it disappeared from the prairie. Native Amer-

icans used the sap for chewing gum.

Big Blue Stem was the predominant prairie grass when the area was first settled. The leaves eventually turn the same blue color as the stem.

"This is the one, when you read pioneer books, they talk about this... the grass that tickled the bellies on the horses," Vorland said.

The CPL program is tied to the Outdoor Heritage Fund, established by Minnesota voters in 2008. Grants fund projects that restore, enhance, or protect forests, wetlands, prairies, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife.

Other plant species in the area include Western Yarrow, Canada Milk Vetch, Rattlesnake Master, Ox-eye Sunflower, Prairie Phlox, Mountain Mint, Prairie Wild Rose, Black Eyed Susan, Grassed-leaved Golden Rod, Stiff Goldenrod, and Common Ironweed.

Anyone can spend time enjoying nature at the Somerset WMA; you'll find the parking lot at 2554 28th St. SW in Owatonna.



STAFF PHOTO BY JONI HUBRED

Attending Wednesday's Prairie Walk at the Somerset Wildlife Management Area were, from left: Shelley Gorham, Assistant Area Wildlife Manager; Jeanine Vorland, Area Wildlife Manager; Minnesota Pheasants Steele County board members Kevin Herzog, Rex Harriman, Dan Arndt, Kevin Stelter, Jared Prestegard (board treasurer), and Dennis Thompson

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- Remove weedy seed heads and/or pull weeds before they set seed to prevent weeds from spreading.
- Replenish mulch around vegetables, flowers, trees and shrubs to a level of 2-3 inches, but keep mulch away from the stems/crowns/trunks of plants. Mulch helps conserve soil moisture and keeps soil 'soft' as well.
- Compost yard waste but dispose of diseased plant material to prevent spread next year.
- Collect rainwater for watering flowers and landscape plants. Do not use rainwater on edible plants.
- Monitor moisture levels supplementing rainfall with enough water to achieve 1 inch per week. If soil is clay or loam, apply water at one time. If sandy, water half the amount needed twice a week.
- Water at the soil level and early in the morning for best moisture retention without encouraging leaf diseases.
- Monitor plants for disease and insect infestations regularly. Pick harmful insects from plants (i.e. Japanese Beetles etc.) and knock into soapy water.
- Wear hat and long sleeves to protect eyes and skin. Garden in early morning or early evening to avoid extreme heat.

COURTESY: Cathy Nelson, Steele County Master Gardener

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Federated Challenge raises record \$3.8M for Big Brothers

The 2022 Federated Challenge raised a record-breaking \$3,876,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters, during its 18th annual gala on July 24. This year, 83 incredible businesses — 24 of which were first-time sponsors — and nearly 600 generous people attended the gala to support youth mentoring in Minnesota and throughout America.

“Those served by Big Brothers Big Sisters undoubtedly face challenges,” said Federated Insurance Chairman

and Event Chair Jeff Fetters. “You, Federated Challenge family, create opportunities for them they could never imagine were possible.”

One hundred percent of the money raised will be donated to Minnesota’s three Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. These organizations are creating powerful one-to-one mentoring relationships between adult volunteers (“Bigs”) and children (“Littles”) — creating opportunities for our next

generation. A portion of the donations are set aside for the Federated Challenge Scholarship Program which provides up to \$5,000 per year to qualified Littles or high school Bigs enrolled in a non-four-year program focusing on apprenticeship, certificate, trade school, technical, or community college. Hundreds of students have benefited from this fund and are earning job-ready training degrees with little to no debt.

See **FEDERATED** on B6 ▶



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota Executive Director Jackie Johnson; Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Minnesota Executive Director Michelle Redman; Big Brothers Big Sisters Twin Cities CEO Patrick Sukhum; Federated Challenge Chair Jeff Fetters; Big Brothers Big Sisters of America President and CEO, Artis Stevens; Federated Challenge Co-Host and former Little, Sky; and Federated Challenge Co-Host and Little, Tayton proudly display a check for \$3,876,000 raised during the 2022 Federated Challenge.

SUMMER FUN AT LITOMYSL



More than 1,000 people flocked to the Litomysl Summer Festival Sunday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in rural Steele County. **Top left:** Lynn and Mary Hoffmann came from Austin to get their filled biscuits. Officials reported making 700 dozen. **Top right:** Mary Ann Honker of Owatonna was one of the early shoppers finding some goods. **Middle left:** It’s just like the olden days as Bennett Wencil, 8, tries his hand at pumping water by hand. Bennett is from Blooming Prairie. **Middle right:** Spider Man is the most popular of the movie heroes. Lily Schammel puts a new face on Ryder Haroldson, 8, during the festival. **Bottom left:** Brothers Cruz Chladek, left, and Creed Chladek, were having fun playing the root beer game. **Bottom right:** Melanie Winzenburg accepts more winning root beer barrels.

STAFF PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Steele County Attorney makes case for new salary

BY JONI HUBRED
NEWS EDITOR

Steele County’s attorney Daniel A. McIntosh made his case last week for a new way to calculate his annual salary.

Since McIntosh took on the role in 2010, his office’s staff has doubled from four positions to eight. In a memo to county commissioners, he wrote, “Even with the creation of new positions employees in my office can reach, there have been no FTE (full-time equivalent) added to the County Attorney’s Office in over 15 years.”

Back then, he said, he willingly accepted a salary less than some of the other attorneys in his office. In 2015, he and commissioners agreed to a new pay scale, with 5% added to his salary

every year. He asked in June to terminate that agreement in 2023.

McIntosh’s current salary is \$147,097, which he said is the top of the mutually agreed upon pay scale. “My salary’s going to be frozen indefinitely,” he said. “I’m 47 years old. That’s not sustainable for me.”

By contrast, Goodhue County lists its attorney’s salary at \$156,707.20 and Rice County, at \$161,200.

In place of the current agreement, he proposed a salary “not less than 15% higher than the next highest paid attorney in the office up to a maximum of the current base salary for a District Court Judge (as published annually by the Minnesota Judicial Branch).”

See **ATTORNEY** on B6 ▶

Two elections open 2022 voting season

BY KAY FATE
STAFF WRITER

In this strangest of election years, it bears repeating: Figure it out, and go vote.

Tuesday is Election Day in Minnesota, but it’s unlike any you may have seen.

Here’s what you need to know:

SPECIAL ELECTION, AUG. 9

This affects only the residents of the former **1st Congressional District (CD1)** — which includes all of Steele County.

The ballot will carry four names: Jeffrey Ettinger (DFL), Brad Finstad (R), Haroun McClellan (Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis), and Richard

B. Reisdorf (Legal Marijuana Now).

The winner of this election will fill the remainder of the term held by the late Rep. Jim Hagedorn, who died of kidney cancer in February.

The term ends in January, meaning the seat is up for grabs in November’s general election, as well.

PRIMARY ELECTION, AUG. 9

Three of the names from CD1 will be on the ballot twice, because Aug. 9 is also the primary election for the Nov. 8 general election.

A primary is necessary when more than one candidate from any party is running; See **ELECTIONS** on B6 ▶



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Some of the campers from Steele County include, from left: Callie A., Ella K., Stella S. and Olivia B.

Summer is 4-H’s spotlight

Camp for area 4-Hers kicked off in June. 4-Hers got to participate in a Regional 4-H camp themed “You hold the key to power!” held at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls.

Twenty-nine Steele County youth took part. We also had great leadership representa-

tives. Five youth served as counselors and did a tremendous job. Campers and counselors went tubing down the Zumbro River, had campfires, learned through educational sessions, and made lifelong friendships.

4-H is active year-round, but we make our most significant public showing at the local

county and state fairs that are less than one month away. We invite everyone near and far to come to check out our barns full of livestock and our general exhibit building that houses everything: crafts, science, foods, and more!

The Steele County Free Fair runs from Aug. 16-21. Hope to see you there!



Steele Talkin’
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BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

Hit and Run: On July 23 at 10:35 a.m., a hit and run accident with injuries occurred at Hoffman Dr. NW and State Ave. NW in Owatonna.

Man accused of assault by strangulation

BY KAY FATE
STAFF WRITER

A Blooming Prairie man accused of assaulting a woman and punching her windshield until it broke will make his initial appearance next week in Steele County District Court.

Justin Lee Jensen, 36, faces one count each of felony domestic assault by strangulation, gross misdemeanor domestic assault, and misdemeanor fourth-degree damage to property.

He was released from custody in lieu of \$10,000 conditional bail and is due back in court Aug. 10.

The charges stem from an incident early July 27 when a woman reported an assault. She allegedly told deputies that Jensen body-slammed her on the floor of a home, then put her against a wall and choked her.

According to the criminal complaint, he repeated the actions again in the hall, then

hit the victim in the face multiple times. When she tried to leave, Jensen ran after her and jumped on the hood of the vehicle as she backed out of the driveway.

The report says he began punching the windshield, cracking it in several spots, before getting off the hood.

The deputy's report noted "multiple marks and bruises" on the



Justin Jensen

woman's face, head and neck, a scrape on her forehead and "marks that were consistent with fingers on her neck." Her left ear was red and swollen.

The victim didn't lose consciousness or feel faint while Jensen had his hand on her throat, the complaint says, but she was "concerned that Jensen would not let go."

The deputy report-

edly noticed multiple swollen areas on the woman's forehead and the back of her head, as well as bruises on her ears, the back of her head, and a "deep purple" bruise on her arm.

When deputies went to Jensen's home, he opened the door and stood in the entry with his arms in front of him, "with the expectation of being arrested," the report says.

After waiving his rights, Jensen allegedly said "I (expletive) up,"

and that he snapped, by punching the vehicle windows. He reportedly admitted to pushing the woman, but said he didn't think he had hit her, and allegedly said he thought he just blacked out.

The complaint says the woman went to the hospital, where she was diagnosed with a concussion and multiple bruises.

A review of his criminal history indicates at least three prior convictions for assault.

COURT NEWS
Steele County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of July 18 — 24:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Michael T. Carr Jr., 18, Medford, speeding, \$125; Cheryl L. Coughlin, 63, Blooming Prairie, passing violation, \$125; Justin L. Jensen, 36, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, \$275; Dylan G. Lyke, 28, Claremont, expired tabs, \$105; Cristian Rojas Reyes, 27, Austin, invalid license, \$175; Caleb T. Welte, 18, Farmington, hands free violation, \$125.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Marisol Barrientos de Leon, 38, Waseca, suspended license, \$275; Marayah M. Behne, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$125; Spencer C. Beissel, 21, Lakeville, speeding, \$215; Minerva Bennett, 40, Fort Campbell, KY, speeding, \$115; Amit Bhati, 56, Edina, speeding, \$125; Dylan R. Cornillie, 22, Austin, speeding and following vehicle too closely, \$185; Carlos A. De Jesus, 31, Pharr, TX, unsafe lane usage, \$125; Johnathon E. Degner, 45, Eagle Lake, speeding, \$125; Rubi G. Delgado, 25, St. Cloud, speeding, \$215; Troy L. Derry, 51, Austin, speeding, \$115; Craig R. Deuth, 45, New Market, speeding, \$135; Rebecca M. Garcia, 22, Atlantic, IA, speeding, \$135; Treyton J. Hazelbaker, 20, Burnsville, no insurance, \$275; Ashley M. Heidenreich, 29, Edmond, OK, speeding, \$135; Ronnell C. Herron, 41, Charlotte, NC, speeding, \$125; Justin J. Hoeke, 42, Hudson, WI, speeding, \$115; Timothy C. Holt, 25, Minneapolis, speed-

ing and suspended license, \$335; Isaiah A. Johnson, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$135; Ann M. Kaduce, 62, Clear Lake, IA, speeding, \$125; Katie Keophothisane, 36, Shakopee, speeding, \$135; Jesse M. Knutson, 40, Owatonna, speeding, \$215; Christina K. LaBathe, 37, Owatonna, speeding, \$135; Andrew S. Lannon, 21, Rochester, speeding, \$135; James K. Livingood, 36, Faribault, seat belt, \$100; Bradley G. Markowski, 57, Waukegan, IA, speeding, \$115; Isaias B. Martinez, 28, Chicago, IL, speeding, \$125; Nicholas J. McDermeit, 39, Rochester, speeding, \$115; Tiffany D. Mendoza, 39, Kansas City, MO, speeding, \$135; Robert B. Mills, 75, Richfield, speeding, \$115; Evan A. Munthe, 24, Waseca, speeding, \$115; Samuel D. Peeples, 49, Gilliam, MO, speeding, \$115; Katherine A. Phillips, 51, Longville, LA, speeding, \$115; Shane M. Phillips, 33, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$135; Jessica J. Rich, 21, Lakeville, speeding, \$115; John R. Rose, 58, Liberty, MO, speeding, \$125; Cheryl S. Schiano, 60, Solon, IA, speeding, \$215; Deonta G. Shanklin, 25, St. Paul, speeding, \$135; Alena R. Smith, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$125; Ian E. Smith, 18, Manchester, IA, speeding, \$115; Wendy Y. Vigil Benitez, 23, St. Paul, speeding and permit violation, \$165; Brandon M. Vincent, 33, Hampton, IL, speeding, \$135; Jacob C. Waage, 19, St. Cloud, speeding, \$215; John A. Williamson, 45, Minneapolis, speeding and possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, \$315.

Owatonna Police Department

Sorell C. Colon, 41, Owatonna, DWI, \$400, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel

and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Sadam H. Dahir, 17, Owatonna, seat belt, \$100; Joel M. Fernandez, 33, Owatonna, speeding, \$115; Clinton E. Froderman, 44, New Ulm, speeding, \$135; Jasmin R. Garza, 24, Claremont, speeding, \$135; Gerald R. Gruber, 45, Owatonna, violation of order for protection, \$125, psychological evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, domestic abuse evaluation, obtain and maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 39 days in county jail; Savanna J. Guerrero, 23, Medford, invalid license, \$175; Ingrid Y. Hernandez, 41, Miami, FL, invalid license, \$175; Madison L. Homuth, 16, Owatonna, child passenger restraint system violation, \$125; Olivia E. Jensen, 27, Claremont, hands free violation, \$125; Randi A. Kremer, 26, Owatonna, DWI, \$375, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Patricia K. Kurtz, 33, Owatonna, school bus violation, stay of adjudication, 1 year of supervised probation; Ariana L. Mata, 33, Owatonna, DWI, \$500, 2 days in county jail, substance abuse subtle screening inventory, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Christian J. Nogle, 21, Owatonna, turning violation, \$125; Nicole A. Pratt, 25, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, stay of adjudication, 20 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation; Richard R. Rodriguez, 32, Medford, seat belt, \$100; Abdirahman S. Siraj, 19, Minneapolis, stop sign, \$125; Nicholas D. Smith, 33, Owatonna, speeding, \$125; Lizbeth Vazquez, 19, Medford, suspended license, \$275; Andrew L. Winkelman, 48, Warsaw, driving

restriction violation, stay of adjudication, \$75 and 1 year of unsupervised probation.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Dominik D. Bangu, 20, Mankato, speeding, \$115; Paul W. Bolin, 56, Athens, GA, obstruct legal process, \$125, 64 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Eugene C. Buell, 69, Minneapolis, speeding, \$125; Selvin A. De Leon Lopez, 42, Faribault, revoked license, \$275; Hailey L. Enstad, 30, Austin, speeding, \$115; Darian E. Garcia, 21, Waseca, speeding, \$115; Roshana J. Gordon, 37, Owatonna, speeding, \$115; Carrisa A. Hogfeldt, 24, Owatonna, headlamps violation, \$115; Ruth D. Julue, 30, Cedar Rapids, IA, speeding, \$115; Ashley L. Kay Peavey, 31, Clive, IA, speeding, \$125; Su S. Lay, 29, Roseville, speeding, \$115; Daniel J. Lewison, 52, Rose Creek, tampering with fire alarm, \$375; Chloe R. Malz, 20, Burnsville, no insurance, \$275; Michael L. Marrero, 20, Waseca, speeding, \$115; Santiago P. Perez, 33, Des Moines, IA, speeding and invalid license, \$225; Kala G. Priebe, 19, Waterloo, IL, suspended license, \$275; Nathan W. Quast, 38, Medford, trespassing, 105 days in county jail; Nga Reh, 35, St. Paul, speeding, \$215; Tiger Saw, 21, St. Paul, permit violation, \$125; Dean A. Saxton, 51, North Mankato, speeding, \$115; Aaron L. Stelter, 28, Owatonna, DWI, \$400, 2 days in county jail, chemical assessment, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of unsupervised probation; McKenzie R. Sweep, 19, Willmar, speeding, \$115; Bryant J. Vazquez Chavez, 20, Albert Lea, minor consumption, underage possession of liquor and open bottle, \$375; Brenda M. Wahnee, 54, Elgin, OK, DWI, \$200, 17 days in county jail, do not enter liquor establishments, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Dallin J. Weise, 22, Waseca, speeding, \$75 and 1 day in county jail.

DWI: Police made DWI arrests at Main St. E. and School St. E. at 9:50 p.m. and at 18th St. SE and Sunlight Ave. SE at 11:56 p.m.

July 23 Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 300 block of 22nd St. SE at 1:13 a.m. They took a subject into custody.

Theft: Police took a theft report on 12th Place NW at 2:44 a.m.

Theft: At 3:57 a.m., a motor vehicle was reported stolen from Clark Dr. NW.

Suspicion: Police responded to suspicious activity in the 1000 block of Smith Ave. SE at 5:47 p.m. and the 100 block of 24th Place NW at 10:27 p.m.

July 24 DWI: Officer made a DWI arrest at 24th Ave. NW and Park Dr. NW at 1:34 a.m.

Welfare: Officer conducted a welfare check in the 1800 block of Cedar Valley Dr. NW at 12:17 p.m.

Criminal Sexual Conduct: Police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the city at 9:33 p.m.

July 25 Crash: Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries at Interstate 35 and 26th St. NW in Clinton Falls Township at 12:28 p.m.

Fraud: Police received a fraud report from the 1900 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 3:32 p.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 1000 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 5 p.m. and at 12th St. SE and Lincoln Ave. S. at 6:54 p.m.

Juvenile: Police received a juvenile complaint from 1800 block of Cedar Valley Dr. NW at 10:21 p.m.

July 26 Ordinance: Police issued a citation for an ordinance violation at Broadway St. W. and Cedar Ave. N. at 2:55 a.m.

Restraining Order: Officer arrested a subject for a restraining order violation in the 1700 block of Woodlawn Ave. NE at 9:23 a.m.

July 27 Ordinance: Police issued a citation for an ordinance violation at Broadway St. W. and Cedar Ave. N. at 2:10 a.m.

Suspicion: Officers responded to suspicious activity in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 1:16 p.m.

Warrant: Police made warrant arrests in the 300 block of School St. W. at 2:40 p.m. and 3:09 p.m.

Intoxication: Officers responded to an intoxicated subject in the 400 block of Cedardale Dr. SE at 4:13 p.m.

Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 300 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 5:51 p.m.

July 28 Ordinance: Police issued a citation for an ordinance violation at Broadway St.

W. and Cedar Ave. N. at 2:22 a.m.

Animal: At 6:18 a.m., an animal bite occurred in the 100 block of Clark Dr. NW.

Theft: Police received a theft report from the 300 block of McIndoe St. SE at 12:27 p.m.

Property: At 3:34 p.m., stolen property was recovered in the 200 block of Pearl St. E.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

July 21 Animal: At 3:41 p.m., an animal bite occurred in the 4600 block of County Road 45 N. in Clinton Falls Township.

July 23 Crash: Paramedics and deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Interstate 35 in Owatonna at 12:49 p.m.

July 24 Trespassing: At 5:34 p.m., a subject was trespassing in the 3900 block of 34th Ave. NE in Clinton Falls Township.

July 25 Vandalism: Property damage was reported at Central Ave. W. and Main St. S. in Medford at 2:17 p.m.

July 27 Domestic: Deputies arrested a subject following a domestic disturbance in the 5000 block of 108th St. SE in Aurora Township at 7:29 a.m.

Theft: Deputy took a theft report in the 6800 block of Frontage Rd. W. in Medford at 8:57 a.m.

Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 11:23 a.m.

Arrest: Deputies arrested a subject in the 300 block of School St. W. in Owatonna at 4:02 p.m.

July 28 Crash: Paramedics and deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries in the 4000 block of 58th St. SW in Somerset Township at 10:16 a.m.

ARRESTS
Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE
Peter Russell Caudillo, 29, arrested at 6:45 p.m. July 22, restraining order violation and obstruction without force, held for court.
Holly Denise Hole, 38, arrested at 5:42 a.m. July 22, domestic assault/assault, held for court.

Faisal Mohamed Abdullahi, 32, arrested at 10:12 a.m. July 25, probation violation warrant arrest, held for court.
Cody James Haberman, 19, arrested at 1:30 p.m. July 26, order for protection violation, held for court.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Joshua Sterling Tanner Grams, 33, arrested at 9:20 a.m. July 22, warrant arrest, body only.
Michael Anthony Ritz, 28, arrested at 2 p.m. July 22,
See **BLOTTER** on B6 ▶



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Cheap Basic Cell Phone Plans for Penny Pinching Seniors

Dear Savvy Senior, A few months ago, I read a column you wrote on extremely cheap smartphone plans for budget-conscious seniors. Can you do a similar column for those of us who still use basic flip phones? My old 3G flip phone is about to become obsolete, so I'm looking for the cheapest possible replacement. I only need a simple cell phone (no data) for emergency calls when I'm away from home.

Penny Pincher

Dear Penny, For many seniors, like yourself, who only want a simple basic cell phone for emergency purposes and occasional calls, there are a number of super cheap plans available from small wireless providers you may have never heard of. Here are some of the best deals available right now.

Cheapest Basic Plans

For extremely light cell phone users, the cheapest wireless plan available is through US Mobile (*USMobile.com*), which has a "build your own plan" that starts at only \$2 per month for 75 minutes of talk time. If you want text messaging capabilities, an extra \$1.50/month will buy you 50 texts per month.

US Mobile runs on Verizon's and T-Mobile's networks and gives you the option to bring your existing phone (if compatible or unlocked) or purchase a new device, while keeping your same phone number if you wish.

If your flip phone is becoming obsolete, as you mentioned in your question, you'll need to buy a new device, which you can do through US

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Mobile if you choose their plan. They offer the "NUU F4L" flip phone for \$39 for new customers. Or you can purchase an unlocked phone through retail stores like Walmart or Best Buy, or online. One of the best value flip phones right now is the (unlocked) "Alcatel GO FLIP 4044 4G LTE," available at *Amazon.com* for \$80.

Some other super cheap wireless plans worth a look are Ultra Mobile's "PayGo" plan (*UltraMobile.com/PayGo*), which provides 100 talk minutes, 100 texts for only \$3 per month. And Tello's (*Tello.com*) "build your own plan" that starts at \$5 per month for 100 talk minutes and unlimited texting.

Both Ultra Mobile PayGo and Tello also run on T-Mobile's network and will let you use your existing phone (if compatible or unlocked) or buy a new one.

Senior Targeted Providers

In addition to these super cheap plans, there are several other wireless companies that cater to older customers and offer low-cost basic plans and simple flip phones. One of the least expensive is through TracFone (*Tracfone.com*), which offers a 60-minute talk, text and web plan for \$20 that lasts for 90 days. That averages out to \$6.66 per month.

Three other providers that are popular among seniors are Snapfon (*Snapfon.com*), which offers a 100 minutes and unlimited texting plan for \$10. Consumer Cellular (*ConsumerCellular.com*), which provides an unlimited talk plan or \$15 per month. They also give 5 percent discounts to AARP members. And Lively (*Lively.com*), maker of the popular Jitterbug Flip2 senior-friendly flip phone. Their cheapest monthly plan is 300 minutes of talk and text for \$15.

Subsidized Plans

You also need to know that if you're on a government program such as Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income or food stamps/SNAP. Or, if your annual household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines - \$18,347 for one person, or \$24,719 for two - you might also qualify for free or subsidized wireless plans from various carriers via the federal Lifeline program. To find out if you're eligible or apply, visit *LifelineSupport.org*.

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

History from the News Archives

Memorial plaque dedicated



FILE PHOTO
Jim Gaveske and Robert A. Martin displayed the bronze plaque designed by Ken Westerlund for the memorial to members of the Second Battalion Headquarters and Company F of the 135th Infantry of the 34th Red Bull Division during World War II.

10 Years Ago

Aug. 7, 2012

RICK L. BUSSLER, PUBLISHER

Continuing with their county-wide expansion, The Times is beginning this week. Each week The Times will devote a news page to the Medford community. We will focus on news, features and other important community events. "We have been approached by the Medford Business community to expand our coverage into Medford," stated Rick Bussler, publisher. "We want the people of Medford to know they have a voice through our weekly newspaper."

When Rachel Hansen found out The Highway Roost, a popular deli in downtown Blooming Prairie, was closing so the owner could focus more on her catering business, she had mixed emotions. "I'll miss the Minnesota Mouthful sandwiches," said Hansen, "But I am happy to have this opportunity." That opportunity is a newly remodeled and larger space for her growing 3-year-old hair salon. Hansen owns and operates Rachel's Hair Salon, which had operated out of a small space between Subway and 218 Liquor. In addition to expanding the physical space, Rachel's is also expanding their hours.

20 Years Ago

Aug. 6, 2002

ELSIE SLINGER, EDITOR

Steele County has scheduled several special events during the fair to mark the Centennial Anniversary Celebration of the 4-H. Opening night will be a special recognition program for five special 4-H Centennial volunteers who have made significant contributions to the 4-H. Steele County will also be honoring three, four, and five generation 4-H families at the fair and these families will also be recognized at the State Fair. Many Centennial exhibits will be featured during the fair.

Have you ever really thought about the poem "Children Learn What They Live" by Dorothy Law Nolte? It sums up the efforts of attitudes we use with our children

If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn.
If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight.
If a child lives with ridicule, he learns to be shy.
If a child lives with shame, he learns to feel guilty.
If a child lives with tolerance, he learns to be patient.
If a child lives with encouragement, he learns to be confident.
If a child lives with praise, he learns to appreciate.
If a child lives with fairness, he learns justice.
If a child lives with security, he learns to have faith.
If a child lives with approval, he learns to like himself.
If a child lives with acceptance and friendship, he learns to find love in the world.

50 Years Ago

Aug. 3, 1972

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

Some of the most special places and attractions at the Steele County Free Fair in 1972. The new separate section of the huge Wm. Stanley

Shows is reserved for the "Kiddie Rides" with over a dozen different thrills for the younger set. The fish exhibit is always a favorite in the Izaak Walton League Building, showing over 20 species of fish and other aquatic animals. The 4-H Building with 29 clubs exhibiting everything from butterfly collections to cabbages to four track stereo systems. A most popular place is the FFA Story Book Farm, both urban and rural children along with their parents enjoy watching the antics of the baby animals.

75 Years Ago

Aug. 7, 1947

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

George Burtness and Bob Egge who have successfully operated the Blooming Prairie airport for several years, have sold their two Cessna Cub planes and all equipment pertaining to the airport to Kermit Torkelson and Ellis Van Alstine of Austin. The new owners will take over operations August 1. Torkelson has been connected with the airport since its establishment. He is an ex-Army pilot and has been the flying instructor for Burtness-Egge. Van Alstine is also a licensed pilot with several years' experience. They will conduct a flying school and will be available for charter flights.

Veteran auctioneer, Albert Hopfe, announced that his son, Orval Hopfe, has now joined him as a partner in the auction business. Albert is one of the best known and oldest auctioneers from point of service in southern Minnesota, having completed 35 successful years of service. His son has completed a course in an auction school and will join his father in business. Orval will be the third generation of Hopfe's in the business.

OWATONNA PHOTO NEWS

31 Years Ago

Thursday, Aug. 1, 1991

TOM SHEA, PUBLISHER

On June 30th, Dr. Roger Benjawan, surgeon closed his office and retired after practicing 25 years in Owatonna and yesterday was the final day on the job for A. J. Floersch, MD who has been a general practitioner for over 40 years in our town. "When I came to Owatonna," Benjawan said, "there was just one surgeon, Dr. Honath. Of course, some of the pioneers in medical care were still practicing, including Dr. AJ Olson, Dr. Frank Anderson, Dr. Arneson, Dr. Dewey and Dr. Stransky." Dr. Floersch first joined Dr. McIntyre practice before going into partnership with Dr. Jim McEnaney on Vine Street.

A bronze memorial plaque will be dedicated to the men who fought in the Second Battalion, "F" Company, 135 Infantry Regiment of the 34th Red Bull Division Saturday. A local brass band under the direction of Rufus Sanders will provide music for the dedication and former Owatonna Norbert McCrady will emcee the program. Lt. Colonel Clarence J. "Jess" Lee who led the 2nd Battalion before he was seriously wounded in the North African Campaign is Honorary Chairman. Clerie Houdek competed in her first stock car race Saturday when she raced her husband's 1973 Chevelle stock car in the Ladies Powder Puff race at Chateau Speedway, Lansing. Cherie finished second. "I had so much fun, I'm ready to do it again soon."

Old Hwy. 14 connected and open to traffic

The stretches of old Highway 14 in Steele and Dodge counties have been connected and opened to traffic, according to the Min-

nesota Department of Transportation. The roads are now named Steele County Road 2 and Dodge County 34. This is part of the

work that is wrapping up the Highway 14 expansion project between Dodge Center and Owatonna that opened a new four-lane stretch of the highway in November 2021. The old Hwy. 14 is now a county road connecting to Steele County Road 180 on the west side and to Highway 56 on the east side in Dodge County.

STEELE COUNTY Times

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STEELE COUNTY Times

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BLOOMING PRAIRIE

AUG. 8 1 p.m. — Movie Mondays, BP Library
AUG. 9 10 a.m. — Storytime, BP Library

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

AUG. 5 11 a.m. — SEMCAC, Community Building
AUG. 10 11 a.m. — SEMCAC, Community Building
AUG. 8 11 a.m. — SEMCAC, Community Building
 7 p.m. — Berlin Township Meeting, Community Building
AUG. 11 7:30 p.m. — Ellendale City Council Meeting, Community Building

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

AUG. 6 9 a.m. — 2022 Vehicle Show, VFW
AUG. 8 4:30 p.m. — Owatonna Park Board Meeting, City Hall
 5:30 p.m. — Owatonna Human Rights Commission Meeting, City Hall
AUG. 9 Primary Election Day
 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. — Storytime, Owatonna Library
 10 a.m. — Memory Café, History Center
 4 p.m. — Steele County Board Meeting, County Admin Building
AUG. 10 9:30 a.m. — Garden Time, Owatonna Library
 5:30 p.m. — Medford EDA Meeting, City Hall
AUG. 11 10 a.m. — Create-a-Craft, Owatonna Library
 5 p.m. — Airport Commission Meeting, Airport Lounge
 6:30 p.m. — Izaak Walton League Meeting, Walton Education Center
 7 p.m. — 11@7 Concert Series, Central Park
 7 p.m. — Heritage Quilt Guild, St. Joseph Catholic Church

BP cancer auctions mark 21st with two big events

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

How many people have been touched by the heroic work of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group volunteers? That's an open-ended question, but it could be answered with one word: many.

The BP Cancer Group's annual auctions turn 21 this September, with the big fundraising event scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 9 and 10. The auction activities of last year pushed their all-time fundraising total past \$1 million.

CHANGING THINGS UP

As per usual, said BP Cancer Group treasurer Cheri Krejci, the group is changing things up, adding a few events and subtracting a few. Ham Bingo was skipped this year and Gun Bingo returns, but it will be held one night before the two marquee bingo nights.

Many events remain the same. The auctions will be held under the Big Tent outside the Cue Company. Both nightly auctions will be staged at 7 p.m.

Paint Blooming Prairie Pink begins with the Field of Flags being set up on Sunday, Aug. 29. Many volunteers, including the Awesome Blossom football team and the cheer team, put up 250 flags.

Contact Sue Nelson at 507-213-3337 or Amy Trotman at 507-475-1888 to purchase a flag in memory or in honor of a loved one. The flags are on sale now.

CASH PRIZES

Raffle tickets in memory of Steve Prihoda are currently on sale to benefit the BP Cancer Group. Cash prizes are \$1,000, first place; \$300, second place; and \$200, third place. The drawing will be held Saturday, Sept. 10.

Of course, the popular cancer auctions can't result in success without the many generous donations from local businesses, individuals, and service organizations. Any auction donation can be dropped off at 457 or 459 4th St. S.W., Blooming Prairie, or at the Pizza Cellar.

All donations must be dropped off by Saturday,



FILE PHOTO

As a pre-cursor to the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group fall auctions, the Field of Flags goes up to signal the start of the upcoming events. Flags are now available by contacting any member of the BP Cancer Group board. The flags will be erected on Aug. 29.

Sept. 3 to be included in the Auction Items List.

For more information about donations, contact Cheri Krejci at 507-438-6895, Connie Trom at 507-456-6846, and Jennifer Milton at 507-456-8432.

Family Bingo, with special prizes, is planned for 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10 under the Big Tent.

OTHER FUNDRAISERS

Another benefit is the mum sale. Contact Connie Trom and Cheri Krejci if interested.

T-shirts and hoodies can be purchased in various sizes and styles. The theme is "Not Today Cancer." To purchase, scan the code on cancer flyers or visit bpcancergroup2022.itemorder.com.

A new wrinkle in all the cancer benefit activities is the move of Gun

Bingo to the Thursday before the auction, Sept. 8 under the Big Tent. This will be the 4th Annual Gun Bingo. It was usually held the week following the auctions under the tent.

Gun Bingo games start at 7 p.m. The doors open at 6 p.m. Ten games will be played. Limited tickets are available.

Contact Connie Trom at 507-456-8431 or e-mail tromda@yahoo.com for more information. All proceeds go to the BP Cancer Group. Anyone can sponsor a gun in honor or memory of a loved one.

Treasurer Krejci says people "are so generous." One popular feature comes during the auctions when pleas are made for bidders to turn in their numbers to buy a gas card or parking pass for people affected by cancer.

Owatonna theater new season starts with musical mystery

BY JONI HUBRED
NEWS EDITOR

Ever wanted the chance to star in a Tony Award-winning musical murder mystery? Little Theatre of Owatonna (LTO) has you covered.

Auditions for "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder," the first show of the 2022-23 season, happen Aug. 14 and 15. Written by Robert L. Freedman and Steven Lutvak, the show won four Tony awards in 2014, including Best Musical.

Set in 1907, the story centers around Monty

Navarro and the revelation after his mother's death that he is ninth in line to inherit an earldom as a member of the D'Ysquith family.

After the head of the family dismisses him, the eight people in line ahead of Monty start to die "in natural and unnatural ways," LTO executive director Victoria Bartkowiak said.

And one person plays all eight of those roles.

"This is a fun show," Bartkowiak added. "The music is fantastic."

LTO is looking for six to eight ensemble characters who will also play

multiple roles during the performance, and six lead actors in addition to the one who plays multiple roles.

Auditions are open to anyone age 16 and older—who can handle a British accent.

In its 57th season, LTO will also present:

- "Arms and the Man", a three-act comedy written by George Bernard Shaw about the futility of war,
- The iconic Edward Albee drama, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?," which won multiple awards in 1962-63, and
- "Miss Nelson is Missing," with book, lyrics, and music by Joan Cushing, and based on a novel about an unruly class and their very nice teacher, who disappears and is replaced by a tyrant of a substitute, Viola Swamp. Facing a big test, the kids will do anything to get their

teacher back.

Bartkowiak said play selection starts when the LTO selection committee puts out a call to area directors, asking them what shows they'd like to direct.

"We try to make sure there is something for everyone including a family-friendly, if not a children's show," Bartkowiak said. "Once it's approved by the board, then I get to work."

She's responsible for securing rights to produce the shows.

If you're not interested in auditioning, Bartkowiak said this is also a great time to pick up a membership, which comes with four "flex passes" for the four productions. You can use them for any show, or all for one show.

Performances will begin in mid October.

Learn more about the auditions, season, membership, and LTO gift cards at littletheatreofowatonna.org.

Freeborn historical group plans fun during fair

Join the Freeborn County Historical Museum, Library and Village (FCHM) in the village during the Freeborn County Fair, Wednesday through Friday, Aug. 3-5, noon to 6 p.m. In addition to the historic buildings being open, there are three days of fun planned.

The Dan Stursa Band will entertain fairgoers on Thursday, Aug. 4, 2 to 4 p.m. with fun polka music. Grab your dancing shoes and join us in the village. 112 on Broadway will be hosting a mini beer garden for the day.

On Friday, Aug. 5, a village jamboree with food, fun and games is planned. Plus, there will be fresh grilled hot dogs with all the fixin's, draft root beer, and yard games.

A membership drive will be offered through 6 p.m. on Aug. 5. Renew or sign up for a new membership and you have

a chance to win a \$100 Visa gift card. Individual membership (\$25 annually) receives one entry, family membership (\$35 annually) receives three entries, patron membership (\$50 annually) receives five entries, or a sustaining membership (\$100 annually) receives eight entries.

FCHM is also holding a cash raffle with the winners being drawn at 6 p.m., Aug. 5. Only 250 tickets available, tickets are \$20 each. Grand prize is \$500 in cash with four other cash awards being given, \$250, two \$100, and \$50. Need not be present to win.

The Freeborn County Historical Museum, Library and Village is a non-profit educational and non-profit institutional established in 1948, committed to building the future by preserving the past. The museum is located at 1031 Bridge Ave. in Albert Lea, next to the fairgrounds.

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

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Hometown Sports

STEELE COUNTY TIMES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022

B5

A dream come true for Owatonna's Wiese

BY JOHNNIE PHILLIPS
SPORTS EDITOR

After graduating from high school in 2020 and playing two seasons for the Rochester Grizzlies in the North American 3 Hockey League (NA3HL), Owatonna native Zach Wiese will be staying home to play goaltender for the University of Minnesota next winter.

Wiese, 20, will be taking his next step in his hockey career after a 2021-2022 season that saw the former Grizzlies' netminder post a 20-2-2 record en route to winning the NA3HL's Fraser Cup.

"When you're a little kid you grow up watching the college guys and being like, 'Man, I want to be like them.' It was always a dream of mine to put on the 'M' and wear the maroon and gold. Now it's coming true," said Wiese.

Wiese's rise to the Division One ranks is also a milestone for his former



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Newly signed University of Minnesota goaltender Zach Wiese stays ready in net for the Rochester Grizzlies during a game last winter. Wiese finished the 2021-2022 season with the Grizzlies as a Fraser Cup champion and boasted a 20-2-2 record before signing with the Gophers.

program as he becomes the first-ever athlete from the Rochester Grizzlies to sign a letter of intent to play Division One hockey.

Wiese was able to turn heads with the Grizzlies over the course of the 2021-2022 season by posting a 1.70 goal against average (GAA)

and .927% save percentage to go with his near-perfect record.

According to Wiese, after this past season came to a close he was presented with an opportunity to play for the University of Minnesota next winter, which prompted a quick and easy decision

from the lifelong Gophers fan.

"When it came to my attention that it could happen, I was like, 'I'm going there.' I've been up there before, being from Minnesota, but I mean it's the University of Minnesota. I can't turn that down. Not many kids get the opportunity to go play for the Gophers, so I had to take it."

Wiese will enter next fall with some momentum on his side after three consistent years of success since leaving Owatonna High School.

After posting a 17-5 record and 1.72 GAA his senior season with the Huskies, Wiese posted a 13-3-1 record with a 1.82 GAA in 2020-2021 before reaching his final NA3HL season mark of 20-2-2 with a 1.70 GAA last winter.

According to Wiese, it still hasn't fully hit him that he will be a part of the Gophers' squad in 2022-2023, but the Owatonna native said he's sure that when he puts the "M" sweater on for the first time it will all feel real.

Esports on the rise



Steele Sports

JOHNNIE PHILLIPS

If you have a child at home who likes to play video games, or even if you are a gamer yourself, chances are that you have heard of the sports world's newest upcoming star: Esports.

Esports — short for electronic sports — has been around for over a decade in the public eye and has garnered an extensive audience after games like Rocket League, League of Legends and Call of Duty began to blow up in popularity worldwide.

However, while Esports may not hold much value to those of you uninterested in video games, they might be a way to help pay for your kids' college one day.

Thanks to the founding of the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE) in July 2016, colleges and universities across the U.S. have begun forming teams for competition as well as scholarships to attract the best players to their teams.

Already active and competing in Minnesota alone are teams at the University of Minnesota, Mankato, Concordia University — St. Paul (CSP), and Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU).

According to the University of Minnesota's Esports website, the university has been working since 2017 to form a team and is currently in the late stages of looking for an official partner before building the official program.

Overall, the U.S. currently has over 130 colleges and universities with active Esports teams.

For those wondering how Esports teams practice and compete, as well as what perks come with being an Esports athlete, look no further than the investment that CSP has made into its Esports program.

Since its start in 2019, CSP has invested in a practice facility, competition arena, coaches, merchandise and a boosted social media presence.

According to the university's Esports website, the sport has also been one of the university's "fastest growing sports on campus."

With the rise in popularity and investments from universities, Esports athletes will be able to reap the benefits of their efforts.

The Golden Bears' Esports team currently carries over 30 athletes on its roster with all athletes currently being under scholarship.

For those interested in introducing their kids to the real possibility of competing in a college program, universities have begun dedicating parts of their websites specifically to Esports and have ways to come in contact with coaches through the site.

So, next time you're worried about your kid having his or her eyes glued to their screen playing video games, maybe let them keep practicing.

It might just pay off down the line.

Perfect weather brings great night of racing at Chateau

BY MATTHEW GRAGE
RACING CORRESPONDENT

Mother Nature provided the perfect weather for Friday's racing action at Chateau Speedway, and the drivers took it from there as the field put on a good show for the fans in attendance.

The track started a six week promotion with Team Ellie. Each week a random class will have a \$300 bonus added to the feature winner's check and there will be another random drawing for two more positions in that feature for an extra \$100. This week's class, drawn by a fan, was the Double M Transport USRA B Mods and it was current point Leader Michael Johnson of Dexter who claimed the extra cash after taking his fourth feature win of the season. Johnson came from row five for the win. The drawing for the other bonus checks went to the fourth and fifth place cars, Kevin Johnson of Rose Creek and Hunter Kennedy of St. Ansgar, Iowa. Heat wins in the class went to Kevin Johnson, Kennedy and Zach Elward of Hayfield.

USRA stock cars saw a first time feature winner in the class of Andrew Eischens of Taopi who used a front row starting spot to his advantage to lead flag to flag for the win. Heat wins went to Chris Adams and Travis Shipman, both of Iowa.

It turned into a double feature win night for Eischens as

he was credited with the feature win in the Power 96 Pure Stocks after Jack Paulson of Morristown was DQ'd in the tech line. A couple of Chatfield drivers, Kendra Guttormson and Devyn Deyo, had the classes heat wins.

Front row was the place to start from in another pair of features on the night. Ryan Wetzstein of West Concord led flag to flag from the outside of the front row in the USRA A Mods, and Kadden Kath of Ellendale paced the field from the front row in the WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds. Kath also took a heat win giving him a sweep for the night for the Midwest Mods while Greg Pfeifer Jr. of Austin claimed the other heat wins. Things got wild in their feature when the large field of cars went into turn three and Ryan Goergen of Stacyville, Iowa got a piece of the wall and ended up sideways and rolling over in the middle of the pack. He quickly climbed out and was fine and took the golf cart ride back to the pits. Meanwhile in the A Mods it was Kylie Kath of Claremont and Jason Cummins of New Richland who had top honors in those heats. Cummins put on a nice show in the main event as he came from row 5 to finish second behind Wetzstein.

Shawn Poston of Red Wing took his third feature win of the year in the Manke's Outdoor Equipment Hornets.

Heat winners were Colin Wittenberg of Hastings and Daniel Bjornfald of Bloomington.

Racing action ramps up again Friday at 7:15 p.m. with all Six Classes back in action.

Chateau Racing Results

July 29

POWER 96 PURE STOCK

A Feature 1 (15 Laps): 1. 7X-Andrew Eischens[8]; 2. 44-PJ Duchene[9]; 3. 17-Michael Wick[4]; 4. 46-Devyn Deyo[6]; 5. 96-Kyndra Guttormson[5]; 6. 1-Jack Maas[14]; 7. 71-Jamie Tapp[11]; 8. 31R-Raey Hastings IV[2]; 9. 69-Brandon Wiedeman[12]; 10. 00-Pete DeVries[10]; 11. 5V-Viola Brannan[15]; 12. (DNF) 4-Joshua Bentzen[3]; 13. (DNF) 38-Dylan Pederson[1]; 14. (DNS) 55-Sarah Nipp; 15. (DO) 17P-Jack Paulson[7] Heat 1 (6 Laps): 1. 96-Kyndra Guttormson[1]; 2. 7X-Andrew Eischens[6]; 3. 17-Michael Wick[3]; 4. 4-Joshua Bentzen[5]; 5. 44-PJ Duchene[7]; 6. 71-Jamie Tapp[4]; 7. 5V-Viola Brannan[8]; 8. (DNF) 1-Jack Maas[2] Heat 2 (6 Laps): 1. 46-Devyn Deyo[4]; 2. 17P-Jack Paulson[6]; 3. 31R-Raey Hastings IV[3]; 4. 38-Dylan Pederson[5]; 5. 00-Pete DeVries[1]; 6. 69-Brandon Wiedeman[2]; 7. 55-Sarah Nipp[7]

DOUBLE M TRANSPORT USRA B MODIFIED

A Feature 1 (18 Laps): 1. 22C-Michael Johnson[11]; 2. 28S-Spencer Stock[1]; 3. 56-Ty Griffith[8]; 4. 20S-Kevin Johnson[12]; 5. 02K-Hunter Kennedy[10]; 6. 81K-Caleb Korpi[9]; 7. 88-Bryer McCoy[21]; 8. 77-Colton Weigel[7]; 9. 7M-Matt Tighe[15]; 10. 5B-Jason Pugh[4]; 11. 5-Michael Meyer[13]; 12. (DNF) 28-Autum Winters[5]; 13. (DNF) 83R-Kullen Kath[17]; 14. (DNF) 08K-Toby

Kennedy[3]; 15. (DNF) 18Y-Jeremy Young[14]; 16. (DNF) 13-Jesse Antiporek[16]; 17. (DNF) 20-Gage Motl[2]; 18. (DNF) 15Z-Zach Elward[6]; 19. (DNF) 15-Cole Neisius[20]; 20. (DNS) 71I-Steve Inman; 21. (DNS) 4-Greg Brooks Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1. 15Z-Zach Elward[2]; 2. 28S-Spencer Stock[4]; 3. 28-Autum Winters[3]; 4. 5B-Jason Pugh[5]; 5. 5-Michael Meyer[6]; 6. (DNF) 83R-Kullen Kath[1]; 7. (DO) 15-Cole Neisius[7] Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1. 02K-Hunter Kennedy[2]; 2. 22C-Michael Johnson[1]; 3. 81K-Caleb Korpi[4]; 4. 77-Colton Weigel[7]; 5. 18Y-Jeremy Young[5]; 6. 13-Jesse Antiporek[3]; 7. (DNF) 4-Greg Brooks[6] Heat 3 (8 Laps): 1. 20S-Kevin Johnson[2]; 2. 20-Gage Motl[3]; 3. 56-Ty Griffith[6]; 4. 08K-Toby Kennedy[1]; 5. 7M-Matt Tighe[5]; 6. (DNF) 71I-Steve Inman[7]; 7. (DO) 88-Bryer McCoy[4]

FRENCH'S REPAIR USRA A MODIFIED

A Feature 1 (20 Laps): 1. 90-Ryan Wetzstein[2]; 2. 71-Jason Cummins[9]; 3. 83-Kylie Kath[3]; 4. 23-Darwin Karau[1]; 5. 1A-Dwaine Hanson[4]; 6. 77-Jacob Stark[6]; 7. 72-Doug Hillson[8]; 8. 55-Casey Schlichting[12]; 9. OD-Thomas Rolfses[5]; 10. (DNF) Z29-AJ Zvorak[7]; 11. (DNF) 29H-Joe Horgdal[10]; 12. (DNF) 65D-Dustin Brown[11] Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1. 71-Jason Cummins[2]; 2. 90-Ryan Wetzstein[1]; 3. Z29-AJ Zvorak[4]; 4. 77-Jacob Stark[3]; 5. 1A-Dwaine Hanson[5]; 6. 55-Casey Schlichting[6] Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1. 83-Kylie Kath[2]; 2. 23-Darwin Karau[3]; 3. 72-Doug Hillson[1]; 4. OD-Thomas Rolfses[5]; 5. (DNF) 29H-Joe Horgdal[6]; 6. (DNF) 65D-Dustin Brown[4]

MANKE'S OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT HORNETS

A Feature 1 (12 Laps): 1. 21S-Shawn Poston[10]; 2. 19C-Colin Wittenberg[8]; 3. 3X-Brandon Blanchard[7]; 4. 3D-Daniel Bjornfald[5]; 5. 17-Ryan Timm[4]; 6. 7M-Brian Schott[6]; 7. 97X-Carter Kmett[2]; 8. 33-Aaron Morgan[3]; 9. 12-Hayley Herrick[11]; 10. (DNF) 15-Bo Noble[1]; 11. (DNF) 21X-Maison Poston[9] Heat 1 (5 Laps): 1. 19C-Colin Witten-

berg[1]; 2. 3X-Brandon Blanchard[4]; 3. 15-Bo Noble[6]; 4. 17-Ryan Timm[3]; 5. 97X-Carter Kmett[5]; 6. (DNF) 21S-Shawn Poston[2] Heat 2 (5 Laps): 1. 3D-Daniel Bjornfald[1]; 2. 7M-Brian Schott[5]; 3. 33-Aaron Morgan[2]; 4. (DNF) 21X-Maison Poston[4]; 5. (DNS) 12-Hayley Herrick

HANSON TIRE WISSOTA MIDWEST MODS

A Feature 1 (18 Laps): 1. 83X-Kadden Kath[2]; 2. 24M-Adam Martinson[6]; 3. 83K-Kobie Kath[7]; 4. 96-Charlie Zander[4]; 5. 35-Tony Bloom[1]; 6. 33-Darryl Hainka[14]; 7. 83-Greg Haman[11]; 8. 79H-Luke Hainka[15]; 9. (DNF) 16-Jacob Bennett[12]; 10. (DNF) 00JR-Greg Pfeifer Jr[8]; 11. (DNF) G12-Ryan Goergen[5]; 12. (DNF) 86-Noel Hoppe[9]; 13. (DNF) 27-Brandon Underdahl[10]; 14. (DNF) 79-Jeremy Misgen[3]; 15. (DNF) 22H-Jayme Hiller[13] Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1. 83X-Kadden Kath[2]; 2. 24M-Adam Martinson[4]; 3. 35-Tony Bloom[3]; 4. 96-Charlie Zander[5]; 5. 86-Noel Hoppe[6]; 6. 83-Greg Haman[8]; 7. (DNF) 22H-Jayme Hiller[7]; 8. (DNF) 79H-Luke Hainka[1] Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1. 00JR-Greg Pfeifer Jr[7]; 2. 79-Jeremy Misgen[2]; 3. 83K-Kobie Kath[3]; 4. G12-Ryan Goergen[6]; 5. 27-Brandon Underdahl[1]; 6. (DNF) 16-Jacob Bennett[4]; 7. (DNF) 33-Darryl Hainka[5]

SKJEVELAND SANITATION USRA STOCK CARS

A Feature 1 (15 Laps): 1. 7X-Andrew Eischens[2]; 2. 32-Jason Newkirk[8]; 3. 87-Travis Shipman[7]; 4. 14A-Chris Adams[10]; 5. 00-Ryan Bjerkeset[9]; 6. 67-Darin Toot[14]; 7. 21-Jesse Stahl[3]; 8. 16K-Kevin Vogt[12]; 9. 22-Ryan Jacobsen[13]; 10. 39J-Dan Klingfus[1]; 11. (DNF) 28-David Gustafson[11]; 12. (DNF) 2-Marcus Berndt[5]; 13. (DNF) 9Z-AJ Zimmerman[6]; 14. (DNF) 7K-Chad Schroeder[4] Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1. 14A-Chris Adams[3]; 2. 7K-Chad Schroeder[2]; 3. 2-Marcus Berndt[7]; 4. 9Z-AJ Zimmerman[4]; 5. 32-Jason Newkirk[5]; 6. 28-David Gustafson[6]; 7. 22-Ryan Jacobsen[1] Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1. 87-Travis Shipman[1]; 2. 7X-Andrew Eischens[2]; 3. 00-Ryan Bjerkeset[7]; 4. 21-Jesse Stahl[4]; 5. 39J-Dan Klingfus[6]; 6. 16K-Kevin Vogt[5]; 7. (DNF) 67-Darin Toot[3]

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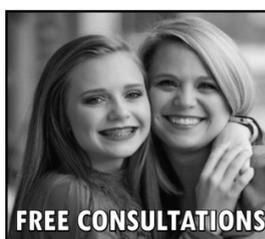
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Federated Challenge

◀ **FEDERATED** from B1 “Imagine the Possibilities” was the theme for this year’s Federated Challenge, and it was evident in every part of the event. Master of Ceremonies Julie Rethemeier opened the evening by reminding everyone in attendance that in order to imagine the possibilities, they have to imagine what’s possible.

“We all need someone who speaks truth and life into us ... someone who sees things in us that are bigger than we can see ourselves. Someone to be Big for us,” said Rethemeier, vice president — director of Public Affairs and Advertising at Federated Insurance.

Following opening remarks, Jeff Fetters welcomed everyone to the event as he shared his and his late wife Marty’s reason for advocating for youth mentorship in our communities, and why they’re passionate about the Federated Challenge.

“You demonstrate your love for people by how much you care ... tonight, we will put our nation’s youth first, learn their stories, and show our support through our gifts, our words, and the joy we share with them,” said Fetters.

Joining Jeff Fetters as hosts were two Littles in the program, Sky and Tayton. The event also featured legendary WCCO radio host, Dave Lee, and master auctioneer, Glen Fladeboe. Guests had the opportunity to mix and mingle and enjoy a custom, catered menu of food in the Saint Paul River-

Centre, while listening to American Idol finalist and international recording artist, Pia Toscano.

The gala’s program also featured inspiring messages from Big Brothers Big Sisters of America President and CEO, Artis Stevens; John Thomas, vice president of basketball development for the Minnesota Timberwolves and Lynx; and Minnesota’s Big Sister of the Year Peggy Hansen. Also recognized during the event this year were Principal and Co-Founders of Bristol Development Group, Sam Yeager and Ashlyn Meneguzzi — they were this year’s Federated Challenge Honorees.

New this year, Federated Challenge attendees took to the links on July 25 at the world-renowned Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska — future site of the 2024 U.S. Amateur Championship and the 2029 Ryder Cup.

“This event continues to overwhelm me,” said Fetters. “Tonight, you once again proved that anything is possible. Together, we can ignite potential, change lives, and better our communities through positive mentor relationships. Imagine the possibilities of what your generosity has done and will do.”

The Federated Challenge was founded in 2005 as a two-day fund-raising event hosted by Federated Insurance of Owatonna. Now in its 18th year, this event has raised more than \$47 million for youth mentoring programs.

Two elections open the 2022 voting season

◀ **ELECTIONS** from B1 it determines which candidate will be on the ballot in November. The “winners” aren’t actually elected to any office, they’re just selected as the favored candidate of their specific political party.

The federal CD1 seat is on the primary ballot as well, since Hagedorn’s term is ending. Though the field is smaller than it was in the special primary, there are still multiple candidates in the two major parties.

There will also be new voters in this race; the district was redrawn last winter, following the results of the 2020 census. It still includes all of Steele County.

Jeremy Munson is challenging Finstad for the Republican spot on the November ballot.

DFLers James Rainwater and George H. Kalberer are taking on Ettinger.

Reisdorf is running again with the Legal Marijuana Now party; Brian Abrahamson replaces McClellan in the Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis party. Because those two are unchallenged in this primary, they automatically advance to the Nov. 8 general election.

At the state level, former Albert Lea business owner Lisa Hanson forced a primary with her challenge of incumbent Sen. Gene Dornink to be the Republican candidate for **State Senate District 23** on the November ballot.

The winner of the Dornink-Hanson race will face Austin attorney Brandon Lawhead, the lone DFL candidate.

Gubernatorial incumbents Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan of the DFL are challenged by Ole Savior and Julia M. Parker.

Republican-endorsed

candidates Scott Jensen and running mate Matt Birk face two teams of Republican challengers: Joyce Lynne Lacey and running mate Kent Edwards, as well as Bob “Again” Carney Jr. and his running mate Captain Jack Sparrow.

DFL incumbent Steve Simon will face off against challenger Steve Carlson in the race for **Secretary of State**.

Kim Crockett, who was endorsed by the Republican party, is being challenged by Republican Erik van Mechelen.

And finally, DFL incumbent **Attorney General Keith Ellison** is squaring off with DFLer Bill Dahm.

Jim Schultz, the Republican-endorsed nominee, faces two challengers: Doug Wardlow, who lost to Ellison in 2018, and Sharon Anderson, who’s been running for public office — including U.S. President — for

more than 40 years.

GENERAL ELECTION, NOV. 8

The winners of the August primary election will represent their party on the November ballot. There will be just one candidate per party, per race, in the general election.

Other candidates will be on the local ballot Nov. 8, including candidates for Steele County Board, city officers and school board members. Filings for the city and school races opened Tuesday and continue until Aug. 16.

Filings for local city offices and school boards began Tuesday and run through 5 p.m. Aug. 16.

For more information on openings, as well as filing information, contact your city clerk or school district clerk, or the Minnesota Secretary of State at candidates.sos.state.mn.us.

Steele County Attorney makes case for new salary

◀ **ATTORNEY** from B1 The new agreement would eliminate the annual 5% increase, and cost of living adjustments would be on par with union contracts and what other salaried staff receive.

A 2.1% budget reduction in his department includes new staff and

his salary proposal.

McIntosh said his office is at the tail end of a transition, with three new attorneys starting Aug. 1. He has also promoted two attorneys to a Senior Attorney position he created as part of a plan to ensure staff has opportunities for advancement.

Around 80-110 cases each month land on the county attorney’s desk, McIntosh said. Despite some turnover, “we are not asking for continuation of cases. The people who are there are doing more.”

He said his office also did not slow down during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We really made a point of pushing business as much as we could during COVID, to not have a backlog,” he said.

McIntosh had only a short time to present information during a Tuesday board work session. Commissioners will hear more during a future meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY

◀ **BLOTTER** from B2

warrant arrest, \$1,000 bail. William Woodrow Kilwy, 59, arrested at 11:23 a.m. July 27, warrant arrest, body only. Adam Michael Pederson, 32, arrested at 6 p.m. July 27, warrant arrest, \$12,000 bail. Macey Eleanor Misgen, 43, arrested at 4:03 p.m. July 27, warrant arrest, \$3,000 bail. Justin Lee Jensen, 36, arrested at 11:20 a.m. July 27, felony domestic assault, held for court.

Dodge County Sheriff’s Office

Micah E. Emmons, 19, Rochester, speeding, \$140; Jordan S. Hoffmann, 30, Chatfield, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; Victor M. Lopez Rosas, 37, Faribault, speeding, \$140; Kyle M. Moe, 27, Byron, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$100, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 2 years of supervised probation.

Kasson Police Department

Dean A. Donovan, 18, Kasson, failure to yield, \$130; Jerome J. Duenes, 34, Kasson, disorderly conduct, \$305, 22 days in county jail, domestic abuse batterer’s intervention program, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, 15 hours of community service

and 1 year of supervised probation; Rodolfo E. Melgar, 50, Dodge Center, parking violations, \$57; James R. Savells, 37, Byron, speeding, \$220; Mackenzie M. Snow, 29, Kasson, revoked license and speeding, \$340.

MN Dept. of Natural Resources

Willis L. Fretueg, 62, Kasson, take fish without angling license, \$180.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Erin K. Derks, 25, Minneapolis, speeding, \$130; Dezirae A. Dotterwick, 17, Rochester, speeding, \$120; Brooke D. Dye, 23, Lonsdale, speeding, \$120; Yves T. Eveillard, 17, Owatonna, seat belt, \$105; Jordana M. Glazer, 57, Omaha, NE, speeding, \$140; Sarah J. Holsky, 25, Montgomery, speeding, \$120; Justin L.

Jensen, 36, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, unsecure load and brakes violation and seat belt, \$465; Luis A. Jimenez Huesca, 27, Oklahoma City, OK, no license, \$180; Gavin A. Karow, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$140; Samantha A. Kaus, 22, Rochester, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$105 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Tammy L. Perttula, 48, Elk River, speeding, \$130; Kelley K. Quinlan-Kittleson, 53, Rosemount, speeding, \$130; Jose G. Santana Caraballo, 21, St. Paul, seat belt, \$105; Deedra K. Stoffel, 37, St. Peter, speeding, \$140.

West Concord Police Department

Niall F. McNeilus, 43, Dodge Center, DWI, \$505, chemical dependency evaluation, do not enter liquor establishments, Ignition Interlock program and 1 year of supervised probation.

COURT NEWS

Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of July 10 — 17:



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AUGUST 17 *SxSE Brewfest*
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AUGUST 24 Pour Boys Ramblers • JT & The Gunslingers

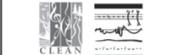
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JENSEN AUCTIONS

Vans Trailer Horse Buggy & Sleigh

Viewing Day: July 29th 9am-1pm or contact Dennis for private showing 507-456-1210

Saturday, August 6, 2022

TIME: 9:30 a.m. • Auction Location: Waseca County Fairgrounds ~ 8th Ave., NE, Waseca MN



2005 Dodge Grand Caravan — 110,000 miles, 3.3 V6 engine, Gold in color, Third row seating, no rust (nice)



Black Bear full body mount on log



Seeburg Stereo Model STD-2 Entertainer Jukebox Phonograph (SN: 1595067)

Vehicles/Outdoor Equipment

2005 Dodge Caravan — 136,000 miles, 3.3 V6 engine, gray in color, (has some rust) Big Max 5'x 8' Black Steel Utility Trailer w/ramp Toro/Wheel Horse Model 15-380HXL lawn tractor w/ 38" deck EV Rider Royale 4-wheel scooter (needs repair)

Collectibles

— 1948 St Paul Fire hydrant and dalmatian dog — 2 47" wagon wheels — JD (BR) toy tractor in box — JD 1953 D toy tractor in box. — Allis Chalmers 8030 toy tractor in box — 200+ vinyl 45 records — many country western CD's — National Model 724 cash register — Crosley CR-9 No. 3615 collector radio (19) Ertl Farm Country sets — Hohner student accordion — Carmen accordion — Scandall accordion w/case — Echo Hohner harmonica — Antonius Stradivarius violin & case — Sekova banjo w/case — Jim Beam 5pc Train Decanter set plus many other decanters — Many Collector plates of Elvis, Gun-smoke & Marilyn Monroe, — Elvis Dolls in box (Jailhouse Rock, 68 Special, Teen Idol) - 1/64 farm toys — 8 track tapes — 2 Gumball machines — Daisy Western Carbine Model 111 Lever action BB gun — Crossman Power master Model 66 air rifle — Crossman CO2 10 shot semiautomatic 22 cal. Pistol — Large floor safe 40"x24"x28" — Many beer signs lighted & unlighted — Many beer steins (in boxes) — Coke glasses — Many plastic horse figurines — Animated items — Horse TV clock — Deerskin coat — (2) leather coats — Holiday Blow molds — Many brass & cast figurines — (10) prestige plastic model car cases — (3) Hurricane table lamps (electric)

Household & Furniture

8 pc Nautilus Egg Shell Dinner set — (2) coffee tables w/ side tables — Coat Hall tree — Round back chair — wood desk — Antique American Tiger oak side by side bowcase bookcase secretary — Duncan Phyfe table w/ 6 chairs — Whirlpool stacking washer & Dryer — Full size Grandfather clock — Entertainment center — Black side by side Refrigerator w/water — Black electric range and microwave oven — Round oak table w/press back chairs — corner curio hutch — Amara washer & dryer (white)

Sunday, August 7, 2022

TIME: 9:30 a.m. • Auction Location: Waseca County Fairgrounds ~ 8th Ave., NE, Waseca MN



16' stock trailer



Horse Drawn Carriage Buggy (all restored)

Auctioneer Comment: Welcome to the weekend! Come join us for two days of auction fun! Lunch available. Bring a chair. Thank you, Dennis!

Horse Equipment & Miscellaneous

Horse Drawn Cutter Sleigh (nice) — Horse Drawn 2-wheel pony cart — Leather Fly Nets — single trees — (2) single yokes — Extra Draft Shafts — canes — (3) horse blankets — NEW red, white & blue 16" western saddle w/cover — Black leather 16" western saddle w/cover — Black Leather 16 1/2" Saddle w/cover — Brown leather 12" pony saddle (used) — Black leather 12 1/2" pony saddle (nice) — Saddle pads — Lead ropes — Saddle bags — Gun holster — Lasso — Hay bags — Bridles — Girths — Metal Cowboy yard art — Single saddle rack — 3' saddle rack & stand — Toy covered wagons — Cast Iron 8 horse drawn wagon — Many more Toy horse wagons & teams — Steer Horns — Large 17" Cast Iron Bell — Walking Plow — Steel wheels — (2) Cistern hand pumps — (2) Cast Iron Stoves — (3) Large Cast Iron Cauldrons - Lots of metal yard art - Homemade large metal Pirate ship — Stone Wheel & cart — Metal Fire Ring — 6 hole chicken nest — Galvanized pail & sprinkler can — (4) Bar Stools — (2) Swivel Barstools

Shop & Outdoor

36" Steel entry door & frame — 28" Werner Alum. Ext. Ladder — 16" Werner Alum. Ext ladder — Century 50/25/2 battery charger — Farm King 97 Kerosene Heater — LB White Heater — 100# LP Tank — (3) Cast Iron Hand Wall Pumps — Empire Wall Heater — John Deere 10 spd. bike (needs repair) — Metal Patio table w/chairs — Bostitch 2hp pan cake 6 gal air compressor — Air Tank — Tool Box — Hand Tools — Small Floor Jack — (2) Bostitch coil air nailers — DeWalt Sawzall — (2) Roofer forks — Car Ramps — 13'x 10' Roof Style Gazebo (new in box) — Agri-Fab Garden trailer — 15' Fiberglass canoe — Appliances Cart — (3) wheelbarrows — Fiberglass Feed Cart — Metal Gas Cans — Coast to Coast Quest 12 spd. Bike — His & Hers Murray Monterey bikes — Homelite Jacobson snowblower — Toro Power lite Snowblower — (3) Gas Chainsaws — Many more items will be added for sale day!

Merlen Gekeler Estate





View Auction On: www.auctionsgo.com (Search by Jensen)

AUCTIONEERS
Dennis Lic. #74-13-009
507-456-1210
jensenauctions@gmail.com
Larry Born, Lic. 81-05400

Terms: Cash or good check w/proper I.D. required. 10% buyers fee applies. All major credit cards with 4% convenience fee. All sales final and selling as is, where is. Everything must be paid for on auction day. Verbal announcements take precedence over all printed materials. Not responsible for accidents. Lunch and Restroom on-site.

JENSEN AUCTIONS 507-456-1210

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

Notice is hereby given that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 25, 2018

MORTGAGOR: Logan M. Vincent, a single man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: January 25, 2018

Steele County Recorder

Document #: A000416707

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

Said mortgage was assigned to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing on April 14, 2020 and said assignment was recorded on April 28, 2020 and given document number A000428763.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

LOT 9, IN BLOCK 2, ORIGINAL PLAT OF VILLAGE OF BLOOMING PRAIRIE (LOCATED IN THE NW 1/4 OF THE SE OF SECTION 25-105-19), STEELE COUNTY, MINNESOTA.

PARCEL ID #: 14-100-0209

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 220 2nd Street NE, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

TRANSACTION AGENT ID NO.: 1006919-1000043642-0

CURRENT MORTGAGE SERVICER: NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$90,350.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$97,939.86

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/ Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; that no Mortgages have been released from financial obligation on said Mortgage; that no action or proceeding has been instituted by law to recover that debt secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof; that all conditions precedent to foreclose of the Mortgage and acceleration of the debt secures thereby have been fulfilled;

PURSUANT to the power of sale therein contained, said Mortgage will be foreclosed and the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 8, 2022 at 10:00 am

PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Law Enforcement Center 204 East Pearl

Street, Owatonna, MN 55060

Phone 312-541-9710 Fax 312-541-9711 7.20-8.1

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT:

1. Default has occurred in the conditions of the mortgage dated October 14, 2011, executed by Kevin E. Prestegard, a single person, as Mortgagee(s), to Wells Federal Bank, fsb a federally chartered savings bank, as Mortgagee(s), and filed for record October 19, 2011, in the Office of the County Recorders, Steele County, Minnesota as document number A380702.

2. The Mortgage has been assigned as follows: n/a.

3. The maximum principal amount secured by the Mortgage was: \$20,000.00.

4. No action or proceeding at law is now pending to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part thereof.

5. The holder of the Mortgage has complied with all conditions precedent to acceleration of the debt secured by the Mortgage and foreclosure of the Mortgage, and all notice and other requirements of applicable statutes.

6. At the date of this notice, the amount due on the Mortgage, and taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage is: \$26,653.46.

7. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the land located in Steele County, Minnesota and described as follows: All that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 15, Township 107 North, Range 20 West, Steele County, Minnesota, described by: Beginning at the Southwest Corner of Lot 4, Alexander, Buxton, and Schoeneman Addition, Owatonna, Minnesota; thence North 0 degrees 02 minutes West, assumed bearing, 66 feet along the West line of said Lot 4; thence North 89 degrees 45.5 minutes West 188 feet along a boundary line of said Lot 4 and its extension to the centerline of Austin Road; thence South 31 degrees 39.25 minutes East 77.74 feet along said centerline to the Northwest corner of Kast's Addition to City of Owatonna, Minnesota; thence South 89 degrees 45.5 minutes East 147.24 feet along the North line of said Kast's Addition to

beginning; Subject to a public street easement along the Westerly 33 feet thereof. will be sold by the sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota at public auction on Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 E. Pearl Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.

8. The time allowed by law for redemption by the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee's personal representatives or assigns is 6 months after the date of sale.

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

10. Unless the mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, the mortgagee and/or its assigns must vacate the property by 11:59 p.m. on February 18, 2023, or the next business day if the forgoing date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

11. In order to comply with Minn. Stat. Section 580.025, the undersigned hereby states that the following information is correct to the best of its knowledge: (a) The street address and tax identification number of the mortgaged property: 1173 Austin Road Owatonna, Minnesota 55060 Tax Identification Number: 17-015-3111

(b) Transaction agent and transaction agent's mortgage identification number: N/A (c) Residential mortgage servicer, broker and/or originator: N/A (d) Lender: Wells Federal Bank, fsb a Federally chartered savings bank.

12. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Dated: June 17, 2022 Citizens Community Federal, N.A. successor by merger with Wells Federal Bank, fsb, a Federally chartered savings bank

By: /s/ David A. Lutz

David A. Lutz Attorney for Mortgagee 120 South 6th Street, Suite 1515 Minneapolis, MN 55402 612-424-2110 7.6T6

NOTICE

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756 BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 55917 MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2022 HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER

PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGENDA

6:00 a.m. Thursday, August 11, 2022 *Regular School Board Work Session 7:00 p.m. Monday, August 15, 2022 *Open Public Forum - High School Media Center 7:15 p.m. Monday, August 15, 2022 *Regular School Board Meeting - High School Media Center

Any person may raise a question to the School Board. The Board will not act on any item presented to them, which is not on the agenda, until the following Board meeting. Also, the Board would like persons to limit themselves to five minutes, with a maximum of 15 minutes per topic. These limitations are needed for us to run a timely and orderly Board meeting. Persons are requested to identify themselves prior

to speaking.

I. CALL TO ORDER - CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL - CLERK

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED

- A. Consent Agenda Minutes Bills Treasurer's Report Resignations Donations B. Employment Volunteer Coaches C. Annual Policy Renewals/ Additions/ Changes D. Meal Prices Bus Contract Resolution Relating to the Election of School Board Members and Calling the School District Election E. Equipment Purchase

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY

- A. Building Project Report B. Committee Reports C. Enrollment Data

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

Independent School District #756, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, in compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act announces that directory-type information on public school students in the district will be disseminated from time to time without further authorization from parents of such students.

Directory-type information under this policy is defined as:

- 1. The student's name 2. The names of the student's parents 3. The student's address 4. The student's date of birth 5. The student's class designation (i.e. 1st grade, 10th grade, etc.) 6. The student's extracurricular participation 7. The student's achievement awards or honors 8. The student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team 9. The student's photograph or videotape of the student 10. The school or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in Independent School District #756

Any parent wishing to withhold such information from distribution must make the request to the Office of the Superintendent of Schools within ten days of this publication.

(8/24, 8/31)

DISCLAIMER:

The Sample Ballot is reflective of the race and candidate(s) that will appear in voting precincts throughout the county. The Primary and/or Special Election Ballots are unique to each voting precinct and may not appear exactly as shown in the Sample Ballot. If you have questions regarding the ballot for your precinct, contact the Steele County Auditor's office at (507) 444-7410. You may also view your precinct sample ballot by visiting the Secretary of State website at https://myballotmn.sos.state.mn.us

SAMPLE BALLOT

State Partisan Primary Ballot Steele County, Minnesota August 9, 2022. Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: [X]. This ballot card contains a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot. On the partisan ballot you are permitted to vote for candidates of one political party only. Federal Offices: U.S. Representative District 1 Vote for One. Candidates: Brian Abrahamson, Richard B. Reisdorf, Brad Finstad, Jeremy Munson, Jeff Ettinger. State Offices: Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for One Team. Candidates: Darrell Paulsen and Ed Engelmann, Steve Patterson and Matt Huff, Chris Wright and L.C. Lawrence Converse, James McCaskel and David Sandbeck. State Senator District 23 Vote for One. Candidates: Lisa Hanson, Gene Domink, Brandon Lawhead. Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for One Team. Candidates: Scott Jensen and Matt Birk, Joyce Lynne Lacey and Kent Edwards, Bob 'Again' Carney Jr and Captain Jack Sparrow. Secretary of State Vote for One. Candidates: Erik van Mechelen, Kim Crockett, Steve Carlson, Steve Simon. Attorney General Vote for One. Candidates: Sharon Anderson, Doug Wardlow, Jim Schultz.

SAMPLE BALLOT

State and County Nonpartisan Primary Ballot Steele County, Minnesota August 9, 2022. Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: [X]. This ballot card contains a partisan ballot and a nonpartisan ballot. On the partisan ballot you are permitted to vote for candidates of one political party only. Federal Offices: Special Election for U.S. Representative District 1 To fill vacancy in term expiring January 3, 2023 Vote for One. Candidates: Haroun McClellan Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party, Richard B. Reisdorf Local Marijuana Now Party, Brad Finstad Republican Party, Jeff Ettinger Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party.

D. Dates to Note

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

*Agenda may be subject to changes

8.3

NOTICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #756 BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA June 20, 2022

A regular school board meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #756, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, was held in the High School Media Center on June 20, 2022 at 7:15 p.m. (Open Forum at 7:00 p.m.)

OPEN FORUM – No comments.

PRESENTATION BY WOLD ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS WITH RENDERINGS OF THE BUILDING PROJECT

I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL - CLERK
Dean Meshke, Jenny Thurnau, Melissa Stoen, Rodney Krell, Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister

ALSO PRESENT:
Superintendent of Schools, Elementary Principal, Associate Principal; School Patrons; Member of the Press

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Jon Sunde

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Reports given by Mr. Schwarz and Ms. Mach.

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED

A. Minutes, Bills, Treasurer's Report, Resignations, Termination, and Donations

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve minutes, bills, treasurer's report, resignations, termination, and donations. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

B. Employment

Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve the employment of Deborah Nelson as an elementary special education paraprofessional effective August 29, 2022. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve the employment of Abigail DeDina as a junior high volleyball coach, an FFA advisor, and assignment of three extended days. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Melissa Stoen to approve the employment of Diane Anderson as a long-term substitute sixth grade teacher for a staff member who will be out on maternity leave. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

C. Principals' Contract 2022-2024

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the principals' contract for 2022 through 2024. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

D. Noncertified Salaries/ Grids 2022-2024

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Melissa Stoen to approve the custodial union agreement for 2022 through 2024. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve the clerical grid for 2022-2024. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the paraprofessional grid for 2022-2024. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Summer Technology

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Melissa Stoen to approve a summer technology hourly rate increase beginning June 2022. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Student Workers

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve a student worker hourly rate increase beginning June 2022. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

E. Volunteer Coaches

None at this time.

F Maternity Leaves

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve a nine week maternity leave for a high school staff member. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Melissa Stoen to approve a ten week maternity leave for an elementary paraprofessional. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

G. Food Service Budget FY 22

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Melissa Stoen to approve the FY 22 food service updated budget provided by Taher, Inc. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

H. Permanent Transfer

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve a permanent transfer covering expenses incurred prior to the passage of the bond referendum in the prior fiscal year. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

I. District Audit FY 22

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve Clifton Larson Allen as the firm to conduct the district's FY 2022 audit. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

J. Resolution Establishing Dates for Filing Affidavits of Candidacy

Motion by Melissa Stoen and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve a resolution regarding dates of filing (August 2-16) for the upcoming election where there are four members up for re-election. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY

A. Building Project Report

Wold Architects and Engineers presented the school board with current renderings of the building project.

B. Committee Reports

A committee report update was given for the following committees: Negotiations and ZED.

C. Enrollment Data

Enrollment (per JMC) for the 2021-22 school year as of June 2, 2022 was 469 at the elementary school (grades K-6) and 360 at the high school (grades 7-12) (341 attending BPHS and 19 PSEO). The PSEO number consisted of 10 full-time and 9 part-time.

D. Dates to Note

The Board noted dates of importance.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

The following items were discussed: ESSER funds; LTFM; National Supt. Certification Program; and reflecting on the school year.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dean Meshke and seconded by Pam Hameister to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay)

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 6:00 a.m. in the High School Media Center.

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Meeting will be Monday, July 18, 2022 at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center (Open Forum begins at 7:00 p.m.).

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Stoen
Pro Tempore Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

8.3

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

JUDICIAL DISTRICT: Third Court File No. 74-JV-22-989

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of: Laynie Alisse Rogness

Summons and Notice Termination of Parental Rights Matter

Notice to Brian Thomas Woods, above named parent(s) or legal custodian(s).

1. A Termination of Parental Rights Petition has been filed in the Juvenile Court alleging that parental rights of the above-named parent(s) or legal custodian(s) to the child(ren) named in the petition should be permanently severed.
2. **This is your notice**

that this Termination of Parental Rights case is scheduled for a remote hearing before the Juvenile Court located at **111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, on August 31, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.**, or as soon after as the case can be heard. Please contact court administration to get the remote hearing information.
3. **YOU ARE ORDERED** to appear before the Juvenile Court at the scheduled time and date.
4. You have a right to be represented by counsel.
5. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Court may still conduct the hearing and grant appropriate relief, including permanently severing the parental rights of the above-named parent(s) or legal custodian(s) or taking permanent custody of the child(ren) named in the Petition.

Dated August 1, 2022

BY: Robin Hoesley
County Court Administration
111 East Main Street,
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-686-7012

8/4

NOTICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA June 16, 2022

A regular school board work session of the School Board of Independent School District #756, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota was held in the High School Media Center on Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 6:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dean Meshke, Jon Sunde, Melissa Stoen, Rodney Krell

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jenny Thurnau, Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister

ALSO PRESENT:

Superintendent of Schools

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

General review and discussion was held on agenda items for the June 20, 2022 regular school board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Stoen
Pro Tempore Clerk of the School Board

Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota 8.3

Committee/Commission Reports

1. B.P. Public Utilities
2. B.P. Economic Development Authority
3. B.P. Planning & Zoning
4. B.P. Fire Commission
5. B.P. Police Commission
6. B.P. Ambulance Commission

NOTICE

City of Blooming Prairie City Council Meeting Agenda August 8, 2022 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2022 – Regular City Council Meeting
3. Approval of Appointment for Planning Commission

Financial Report

Business

1. Discussion – Alley Split
2. Approval of Hire for Public Works/Assistant Wastewater Operator

City Administrator's Report

City Attorney's Report

Council Members' Reports

Adjourn

8.3

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Caring For An Aging Loved One

As average lifespans continue to increase, many will be faced with the challenge of caring for an aging loved one. This can seem overwhelming, financially and emotionally. We want to help. This checklist can help you manage the variety of considerations, both as caregiver and care recipient.

Health and well-being

- Work together to identify and document medical professionals, pharmacy, medications and dosages.
- Develop a network of potential caregivers, including family members, friends, neighbors and health-care professionals.
- If the situation warrants, consider purchasing an alert system to call for help in an emergency.
- Discuss sharing access to medical information through a healthcare power of attorney (POA) to ensure Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy laws are met. Without this, a medical provider can't give medical information to anyone other than the patient.
- There are a number of resources available to help caregivers. Research organizations such as the Alzheimer's Association, the Caregiver Action Network and the Family Caregiver Alliance.

Housing

- If your loved one can continue to live in his or her home, research local social service or faith-based agencies that may assist with volunteer home maintenance or other needs.
- Work together to assess whether your loved one's current living situation is still a good choice with respect to mobility, cost and maintenance issues.
- If your loved one has trouble with stairs or other obstacles, discuss options for improving access and safety.
- Gather information about assisted living facilities and other long-term care options. See the U.S. Administration on Aging's Eldercare Locator.
- Understand the different levels of care available at senior living centers – independent living, assisted living, nursing care, etc. – to determine the right place for your loved one.

Financial considerations

- With your loved one's consent, work together with him or her to:
 - Review financial records and insurance coverage to get a clear picture of his or her situation.
 - Identify a strategy to make financial decisions. Who will handle daily money management? Will a group work together to make larger financial decisions?
 - Make sure all medical and financial documents are up-to-date. Complete any forms now to ensure those designated by your loved one can access his or her accounts and safe-deposit box. Ensure coordination with existing POA documents to prevent inadvertent revocations.
 - Establish a trusted contact on your loved one's financial accounts. The trusted contact cannot transact on the account but provides a contact if the account owner cannot be reached and is feared to be subject to potential fraud or exploitation.
 - Research trust services options to manage expenses, investments and financial paperwork. Edward Jones Trust Company may be an option as successor trustee, discuss with your financial advisor.
 - Meet with your financial advisor to review the caregiver's life insurance policy to ensure it provides for the needs care of loved ones in the event that something would happen to the holder.
 - Look into local property tax deferral or abatement programs. For more information, start by searching your state's Treasury office or contacting the local appraisal office.
 - Establish direct deposit of benefit checks into bank and brokerage accounts.
 - Learn about his or her Social Security benefits.

Navigate Medicare, Medicaid and any other health care benefits he or she may be receiving. This may include:

- Learn about Veterans benefits as appropriate.
- Discuss how he or she will pay for out-of-pocket costs such as premiums, deductibles and other items Medicare doesn't cover.

Important documents

- Help your loved one locate his or her will, living will or health care directive and any trusts that may exist. Review them with an attorney to ensure all are up-to-date and in line with your loved ones wishes. If your loved one doesn't have these documents, consider setting up any that are appropriate.
- Create a list of all your loved one's online accounts and documents, such as Facebook, email accounts and cloud-based photos.
- Offer to accompany your loved one to meet with a financial advisor to review savings and investments, including Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), 401(k) accounts, and life insurance and annuities. Ensure beneficiaries are up-to-date.
- Help locate any documents for prearranged funeral or burial arrangements.

Contact us today

Caring for an aging loved one can be a challenging responsibility, but you don't have to do it on your own. We can help. Talk to your Edward Jones financial advisor to identify strategies that may work for you. As part of your team, your financial advisor can incorporate many of the options above and run different scenarios to ensure you and your loved one can address these important considerations.

To learn more, call today.



Jeffrey M. Hall
Financial Advisor

143 W. Bridge St.
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-446-0150
jeffrey.hall@edwardjones.com

edwardjones.com
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Dodge County Advantage
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NEED CASH? I give free appraisals of your older coins from 1964 and older. I am also looking to buy older coins such as silver dollars, halves, quarters, dimes, and Indian Head cents. Please call Ron from Hayfield at 507-477-2427 or 507-259-6460. TFN

solve and possess strong technical and communication skills. We offer competitive wages and an excellent benefit program. Please submit your resume to KMTelecom, ATTN: Human Resources, 18 2nd Ave NW, Kasson, MN 55944 or email to hr@kmtel.com.

inquiries to: Ellendale United Methodist Church email: umcofellendale@gmail.com

hay. \$30 each. Southeast of Kasson. 507-696-8798

WOODEN SPOOLS
13" x 17" \$5, 21" x 28" \$10, cabinet with drawer, cabinet with door both 29" x 24" w x 14" d \$5 each. 507-477-3255.

BARGAIN FINDERS

FOR SALE Large round bales of grass

FOR SALE

PUPPIES FOR SALE: Australian Cattle Dog / Blue Heelers. Born April 6. 4 Male, 3 female. \$400.00. 507-438-2490.

GARAGE SALE

Aug. 5th 8 am – 5 pm and Aug 6th 8 am – Noon – 419 Front Street, Claremont.

Collectible toys, kitchen items, men's and women's clothing Med-XL, luggage, crib mattress, twin mattress, HD Webcam, speakers, plastic lawn chairs and lots of misc

HELP WANTED

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ASK THE MOTOR MEDICS
From the Hosts of the Under The Hood radio show.
By Shannon Nordstrom and Russ Evans

Dear Motor Medics,
During a recent episode of Under The Hood you were talking about intake gaskets and the failure of them. I have one of those cars that have had them fail twice in an eight-year period. The car is a 2004 Pontiac Grand Prix with a non-supercharged engine. What is it that causes them to fail? I heard you address fixing them but not why they go out.

Sandra in Madison Wisconsin

Dear Sandra,

Many cars have intake gaskets fail after they have been in use for several years, but we tend to see more failures on the v6 non-supercharged General Motors engines in our shop. Now with that said it is important to note that I have friends down south where the climate shifts are not as extreme, and they rarely see this issue. Because we see a greater failure in our cold climate, we must think that it is the cold weather that causes the intake, heads, and the block, to contract and expand at different rates due to their different metal content and this causes extreme wear on the gaskets. This constant movement eventually breaks down the gasket and allows coolant and oil to start to move beyond the block. Combine this with coolant that is not maintained regularly, and the wear can be increased even more so. The best preventative is using the best set of gaskets you can find and regular cooling system service. **Take care, the Motor Medics**

Dear Motor Medics,

How often should I have my brakes checked? I have a 2004 Honda Accord Sedan and as far as I can remember I have never had the brakes replaced. They seem to be working good as far as I can tell but I don't want them to suddenly fail. Do they do that? Suddenly fail without warning. I am one of those drivers that change my oil regularly at the quick lube but never do any preventative maintenance. I just wait for it to break and fix it then to save money. So far, my luck has been good, not even a tune up yet in 80,000 miles knock on wood.

Mark in Bennington Vermont

Dear Mark,

Brakes are nothing to play around with and they should be inspected regularly. In your owner's manual there is a severe service interval for checking these things and it should be followed. If you don't know the condition of your brakes, you need to find out so you can prevent that sudden failure or at the very least an expensive repair. There is much more to the system than just pads, there are hoses and other hardware, and regular maintenance is an important part of keeping repair costs down and safety up. Now aside from the brakes... No other maintenance, not even a tune up? I have two important words that could possibly cost you a bundle in the future. Timing Belt, check it out!

Take care, the Motor Medics

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