



STEELE COUNTY TIMES



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Tuesday, May 23, 2017



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Dodge County Sheriff Scott Rose (in white shirt) placed the wreath for Douglas Claassen at the Minnesota Peace Officer's Memorial May 15 in St. Paul. This is the first time Claassen has been publicly honored statewide and nationally for his sacrifice in arresting a violent offender in 1977. Claassen suffered for many years before he died in 1999 from the on-duty injuries. Sheriff Rose also placed a wreath for Loring Guenther, a captain with the Dodge County Sheriff's Office who died in the line of duty in 2013.

REMEMBERING FALLEN HEROES

LEMA honors Hayfield chief for first time

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

For the first time since his death in 1999, Minnesota and the rest of the nation are honoring the fallen Hayfield police chief.

The Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association remembered Douglas Claassen at a ceremony May 15 at the Peace Officer's Memorial in front of the State Capitol in St. Paul. Dodge County Sheriff Scott Rose placed a wreath

in honor of Claassen during the ceremony.

Claassen was injured in the line-of-duty in 1977 while serving as police chief of Hayfield and died from the injuries in 1999. This is the first time he has been publicly

recognized as a line of duty death in Minnesota. He is the fourth officer to die in the line of duty from Dodge County.

FALLEN HEROES
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Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Police Chief Greg Skillestad agrees that the Blooming Prairie police force could use another officer. He's been advocating for an additional officer for the last year.

Greater police coverage debated for Blooming Prairie

BY EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Last week at the monthly Blooming Prairie city council meeting, Karen Peterson addressed the council to request the Blooming Prairie police force add another full time officer to its force.

The police force currently has three full time officer, which is one shy of the number needed to have 24/7 police coverage. The city currently lacks consistent overnight

coverage.

"I support our Blooming Prairie Police Department and want them to be successful in their jobs with the right resources," Peterson said, "I am passionate about law enforcement & public safety because I also graduated from MSU, Mankato with a Law Enforcement / Corrections degree."

As a resident and business owner

POLICE COVERAGE
Continued on page 3A

Krell named to No. 2 spot in Owatonna Schools

"I loved my seven years in Owatonna. It feels like I am coming home."

—Michelle Krell
New Director of Teaching

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

One of America's best principals is coming back to the Owatonna School District as the second in command.

Michelle Krell of Blooming Prairie will begin July 1 as the director of teaching and learning for Owatonna Schools. She looks at her new job as being the "assistant superintendent," though it's not officially called that.

She has been the middle school principal at Kasson-Mantorville for the past two years and elementary principal there for five years prior to that.

Krell is not a new face to the Owatonna district as she previously spent seven years

as a teacher and administrator. From 1997 to 2004, she was a teacher at Lincoln Elementary and interim principal at Washington Elementary.

"I loved my seven years in Owatonna," Krell said, "It feels like I am coming home."

Krell said she wasn't actively looking for a new job, but "sometimes when an opportunity presents itself, you jump on." She looks at the timing as being the right move for her career.

"I love a challenge," she said. "I think this will be a great challenge," she added.

DIRECTOR OF TEACHING
Continued on page 7A



MICHELLE KRELL

Supreme Court asked to consider feedlot issue

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

The on-going feedlot issue in Dodge County that appeared to be sent out to pasture after years of court battles is not over, after all.

Lowell and Evelyn Trom of Blooming Prairie filed a petition with the Minnesota Supreme Court May 16 asking the state's highest court to review the feedlot controversy that has been swirling in southern Dodge County since 2014. James Peters, attorney for the Troms, said Dodge County and Masching Swine Farms have 20 days to respond to the petition. The Supreme Court then has 40 more days to issue a decision on whether it will look at the case or not.

In April, the Minnesota Court of Appeals threw out the feedlot case based on a legal technicality and issued no decision on the merits of the case. The appeals court said the Troms did not serve county officials properly when they issued the lawsuit in 2015.

Peters argues that there wasn't a technicality in the first place for the appeals court to pitch the case. He said Judge Joseph Chase got the ruling right when he decided that the Troms had properly served the county.

"There never was a technicality to kick it out on," Peters said. "The Court of Appeals didn't want to handle the appeal because it's such a controversial issue," he added.

Peters said there are inconsistent Supreme Court decisions on the issue of service involving lawsuits. In 2011, the Supreme Court ruled one way, but then issued a conflicting decision about



FEEDLOT
Continued on page 7A

Late paper next week

Because of the Memorial Day holiday, the Steele County Times will be published a day later next week.

The Times will be printed on Wednesday and available on newsstands after 2:30 p.m. It will be mailed on Thursday and most subscribers should receive the paper on Thursday.

The deadline for all advertising and news items will be 5 p.m. Friday.

The Times office will be closed on Memorial Day.

We appreciate your understanding with the holiday schedule.

—Rick Bussler, Publisher



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Opinion

Our view

Fracturing the First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

An amendment that has been taken so far away from original intent that if our forefathers had the ability to see into future America, they would have put their own eyes out.

The Constitution of the United States was finely crafted, thread by thread so that it would read as a seamless and a timeless testimony to the price that had been paid against tyranny. It represented not only a new beginning, but was also meant to serve as a lasting guide to future steps we would take as a country.

The Constitution was meant to be read as a single thought. An inseparable document of freedom.

It was lofty, written not as they had already attained, but more of an ideal and a standard that they would hope America could grow into. A nation, under God. Under ONE God. No matter how many want to suppose what they meant to say. We must remember that the country at that time had fought long and hard on the battlefield of history itself to come forth as a new nation.

Have you ever tried to birth a nation? Good luck. They were so respecting and grateful because of what they had just come through. Memories of family members maimed, missing and dead. On a good day, they wondered how they were going to get through.

But the backbone of their new nation was their God. These were people of prayer who had been granted a new spirit of hope. Beaten up for generations, they found the courage to break out and go forth. They were not perfect. They didn't have all the answers. They fell short in many of the personal areas of their lives. And thus... they prayed.

They freely admitted that they needed a helper.

Today, people have all the answers. They don't need God. They think themselves smart enough to find all the solutions. They find the loopholes in the Constitution and the ideals and the original concepts. They are as finely trained medical examiners, cutting a whole heart into sections and ducts and valves and muscle and tissue.

And for all they know about dissection, they wonder why, after they are done, it doesn't beat.

America is dying from a broken heart and wonders why. It does not realize that each time they burn a flag or fist the national anthem or find another loophole to defend themselves in a country they do not love, they are doing it while hiding behind a Constitution that protects them.

Ironic. The only thing that protects them is a document from a nation they despise. Not only despising the nation, but disrespecting all those who died defending their country and ensuring tomorrow for their families.

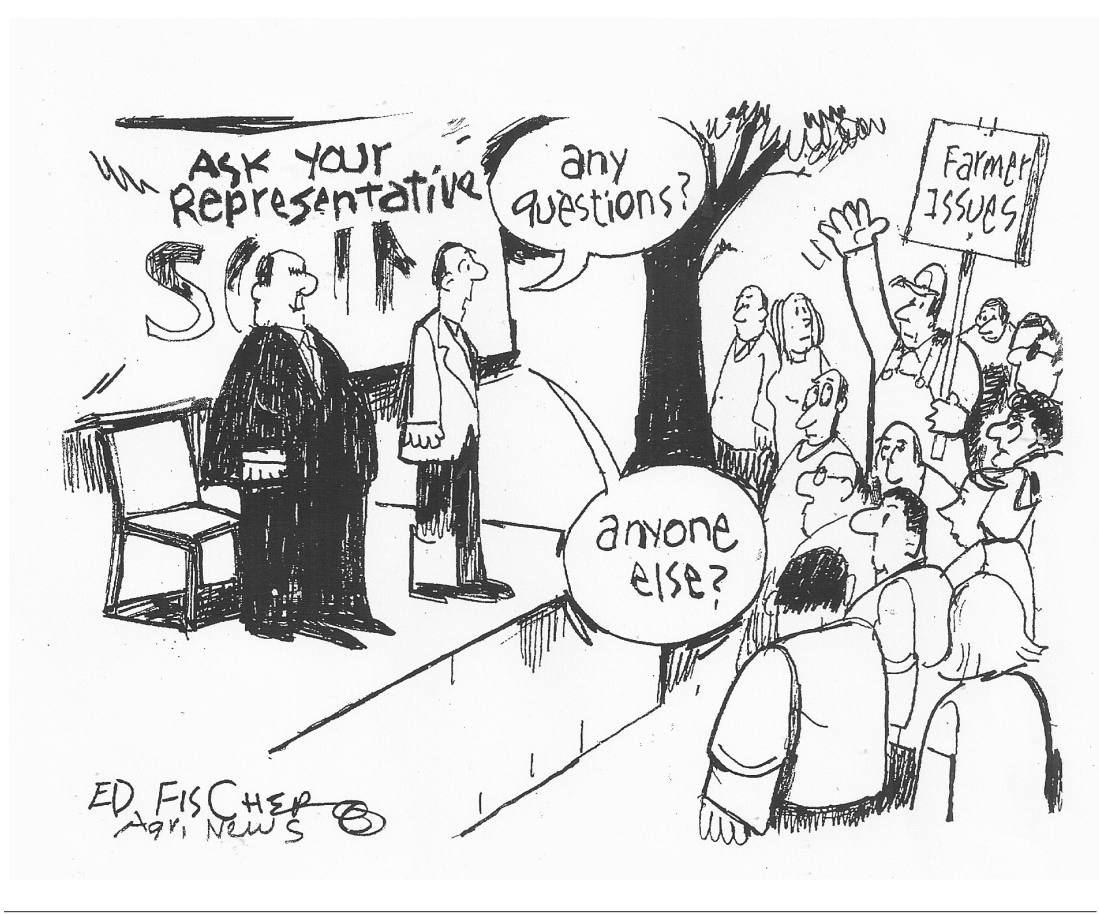
These were the true martyrs, dying for what they believed in. They actually "got it" when it came to things like honor and integrity and valor and courage and love.

And then there were ones with that same character who didn't die. Those who had to live with the scars and the memories of war.

Heroes. Some dead, some alive, gave themselves for all of us. As opposed to one who stands for opposition and loopholes that defend their pitiful and ignorant arrogance.

We who love this country will stand united as we traditionally do at the end of each May. We will stand, we will salute, we will sing aloud, we will lift our voices to renew our pledge to honor what we were given as a new nation 241 years ago.

We will put our hands over our own hearts and pray that the heart of America will be healed. That it will be whole. That it will have the strength to continue writing pages of history as the *United States* of America.



HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

Ever since my daughter Kyrie was born 22 years ago this month, my primary focus has been on preparing her for a life of success. It's a job that I have never once dismissed. I poured my heart and soul into making sure she would some day enjoy a life of independence.

The journey over the past two decades has not always been the easiest for either one of us. For many years, I raised my children as a single parent. And for my daughter she grew up without really ever knowing her mother.

It broke my heart. Actually, it crushed both of us. It has been like a piercing sword that tore us apart. The pain lingers even as years distance from the time when things happened.

The odds were stacked against us, at least myself, nearly from the beginning.

Many years ago when I first started out as a single dad, I got a strong vote of confidence that still sticks in my mind today. I was told there was no way I would last long term at parenting my kids. It sounded like a challenge to me, and that's exactly how I have treated it for all the years in nurturing my children to the greatness they've uncovered in this crazy world we call "life."

Not sure what it's about me, but I do not appreciate being told I'm unable to do something.

The parent of a college grad

Aside from being told I couldn't do it, one of the hardest parts of parenting, I have found over the years, is knowing when to step in and when to step back. It's hard to see your child fall and struggle, but it's necessary in their development.

It didn't help that I always had visions of how kids growing up in single parent families become so messed up in their lives. I've seen it even in my own extended family. My greatest motivation in life was to not allow that to happen to my children.

I'm certainly not purporting to be the greatest parent in the world, but I like to think I know a little something when it comes to being a father, and in my kids' case, also a mother. I juggled both roles for many years with great support from my parents and others.

So that probably explains why I had to be the happiest parent on campus in Columbia, Missouri a few weeks ago when my daughter graduated from college. At the top journalism school in the country, I might add. I was so proud of her as she crossed the stage to pick up her college degrees. Notice I say degrees, plural. Journalism and political science.

The grad weekend couldn't have been any better than watching Kyrie being named to a national journalism honor society and magna cum laude on graduation day.

She busted her butt over the past four years and accomplished things many could only dream about. Her experiences have her

poised for even greater things to come.

My girl, stepping off into a big, bright future.

If you haven't figured it out by now, life can be awfully complicated. Some of that you have control over, but some of it you don't. What you do have control over is how you react to it all.

I may not have been able to provide you with the financial riches, but I hope I have more than made up for it with love and support since God blessed me so richly with a daughter like you.

I hope I have instilled some key characteristics like hard word, self confidence, independence, remaining true to yourself and treating others as you would want to be treated.

At times I wish life was easier, but it isn't. Over the years, I've accepted that the road is not straight, it's not even and certainly no where close to being a bed of roses. Loss, success, pain and joy are all things that will come your way sooner or later. When the going gets rough, get tough and fall back onto the core values of who you are. It will allow you to withstand any difficulties life throws at you.

And so I will say to you, Kyrie, now that you have your degrees in hand: My beloved child, you should feel proud of yourself and your accomplishments. It was all you.

Best wishes with going in hot pursuit of a life of happiness. You've made your old man proud!

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Letter to the editor

Greater police coverage needed

Dear Editor,

I am writing you today to let you know that many people including myself & my husband want more police protection including 24/7 – 365 day coverage. To get that our Blooming Prairie Police Department is in need of a 4th full-time police officer. My husband and I fully support our Blooming Prairie Police Department including having our property taxes increase to fund a 4th full-time officer.

With 802 households in Blooming Prairie as of the 2010

census and over 50 businesses in town who pay property taxes – the added costs to homeowners and businesses would be less than \$0.50 extra per day in added costs. Less than a can of pop to have a 4th full-time officer who would be able to quickly respond to any call for service rather than having to jump out of bed after the last officer has gone home often at 2am leaving a city not protected.

When seconds matter, having an officer on at all times can mean life or death as the officer is often the first responder to arrive on scene.

The neighbor directly to the north of my home on 2nd Street

Northwest across the alley from my home had their motorhome drivers' window smashed out within the last few weeks as have numerous other vehicles in town.

The couple that owns this motorhome is an elderly couple and I'm sure this is a big inconvenience for them. Sad as well that there are people that get thrills from smashing people's windows.

Although I am well aware that crimes can and do happen even when there is 24/7 coverage; I feel that our town would be better protected if there was a 4th full-time officer. The 4th full-time officer would allow the Blooming Prairie Police

Department to have a swing shift to cover those times when there isn't an officer normally on duty.

The 4th full-time officer could also help cover vacations and/or sick time when another officer is gone. Having an understaffed department can burn out the great officers we currently have. Our Blooming Prairie Police Department has some of the best officers around and we need to protect them as assets to our community.

Most law enforcement agencies around the country have 1 full-time officer per 500 people. The FBI says that there should be 1 full-time officer per 588 people. For comparison

the city of Crosby, MN in 2011 had a population of 2,404 and had 7 full-time officers. In this case, Crosby was staffing at levels of 1 full-time officer for every 343 residents. The city of Hoyt Lakes, MN, in 2011 had a population of 2,033 and had 5 full-time officers. In this case, Hoyt Lakes was staffing at levels of 1 full-time officer for every 406.6 residents.

While the amount of the population plays a role in determining staffing level, it often cannot be used as the only determining factor. The calls for service in our community has increased in the last few years as the demographics of our community are ever

changing. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the average number of full-time sworn officers in populations of 1,000-2,499 there were 2.3 full-time sworn officers per every 1,000 people. With a population in Blooming Prairie close to 2,000 our department is currently understaffed.

Supporting our police department with 24 hour coverage would help our officers be able to respond to calls for service including property damage, medicals and traffic incidents in a timelier manner.

Sincerely,
Lee & Karen Peterson
Bloominh Prairie, MN



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A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2017 2 State Awards	2012 2 State Awards
2016 6 National Awards 8 State Awards	2011 4 National Awards
2015 4 National Awards 7 State Awards	(Awards presented by Minnesota Newspaper Association and National Newspaper Association)
2014 3 National Awards 3 State Awards	
2013 2 National Awards 7 State Awards	MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

ETHICS

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Second Front

Governor signs bill for police license plates

Area man initiated the idea to recognize officers

“To fully appreciate the heroes of the present, we must recognize our heroes of the past.”

—Scott Rose
Dodge County Sheriff

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

With law enforcement taking a beating nationally over the past five years with officer-involved shootings resulting in deaths, a Dodge County man felt the desire to find a way to support police officers.

Roger Berge of Kasson pushed for state lawmakers over the past two years to create a specialized license plate to honor police officers. During the Law Enforcement

Memorial Day ceremony in St. Paul May 15, Berge watched Gov. Mark Dayton sign the bill into law.

“It was fantastic to see the smiles on the faces of law enforcement and widows of those who have lost loved ones,” Berge said after the ceremonial signing. It was also an extra special time for Berge as the day marked the 50th anniversary of his father, Sgt. Burt Berge, going into police work. The elder Berge still works for the Olmsted County Sheriff’s Office part-time as a bailiff.

Local republicans, Sen. Dave Senjem and Rep. Duane Quam, sponsored the measure. Berge noted Dodge County Sheriff Scott Rose was a key player in getting the bill passed. Rose testified several times about the importance of having the plates.

“To fully appreciate the heroes of the present, we must recognize our heroes of

the past,” Rose said, adding the license plate would show a daily reminder to everyone of the support for law enforcement.

Beginning Jan. 1, Minnesotans will have the opportunity to purchase license plates. People would be required to contribute \$25 initially and a minimum of \$5 annually to support the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association (LEMA), which is a non-profit organization that helps support families of fallen officers.

Over the past two years, Berge has made at least a dozen trips to the State Capitol to testify regarding the license plate bill. The bill ran into a number of political obstacles, mainly because some felt there was already enough specialized license plates in Minnesota, Berge said. But in the end legislators felt it was important to honor

police officers.

“Law enforcement is out there every day allowing me the freedom to be safe in my community,” Berge said. “They protect us from things we don’t even see.”

Berge said people see LEMA honor guards at police funerals and memorials such as the one this week in St. Paul for National Police Week. But Berge stressed what most don’t see is how LEMA representatives show up within hours of a police killing to write a check for the family to get through the funeral and the grieving process in the weeks and months afterward.

LEMA, Berge said, typically spends between \$12,000 and \$20,000 for each line-of-duty death.

With LEMA being an all-volunteer organization, the funds raised from the license plate will help the group continue functioning

for police families who lose loved ones.

There are currently 10,400 licensed officers in Minnesota as well as 16,000 retired officers, according to Berge. Even if only 20 percent of those chose to order a license plate, LEMA would get about \$22,000 per year. And that’s not including the support, which would likely come from the families of police officers and other members of the public.

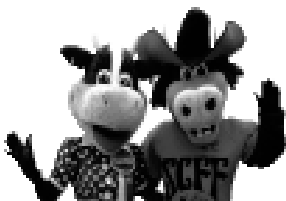
Berge plans to get three police plates for all of his vehicles.

But for Berge it’s not about the money that will be generated by the plates. “This is to show people still care,” he said. “It’s a way to show them support.”

A team from the state motor vehicle department will be working in conjunction with LEMA officials in the coming months to design the plates.

Music selected

FAIR TALK



Todd Hale

A full slate of musical entertainment has been booked for the 2017 fair. The entertainment will be featured on four different stages at the fair: The United Prairie Bank State in Fair Square Park, the KRFO Stage, the Elmer Reseland Stage and the stage at the Historical Society Village of Yesteryear. The schedule of entertainers will be printed and readily available in the fair brochures.

If you are a fan of Dixieland music, you’ll want to be in Fair Square Park on Friday afternoon. The Straight River All Stars, being formed by Owatonna’s Tim Klinkner, will be featured at 12:15 and 2:45 p.m. Klinkner has gathered a group of well-known musicians from Owatonna and Southern Minnesota that will keep the toes tapping to the Dixieland beat. Klinkner has also invited a group of Owatonna 8th graders to play between sets of the Straight River All Stars. The group is known as “Quint Essentia” and features Ashton Jensen, Sam Buegler, Lauren Phelps, Abbi Moran and Cheryl Smith.

A new act that will be featured on the Elmer Reseland Stage all week is “The Moogician”, a fun and entertaining show that promotes dairy. Todd Charles is the Moogician and will present three shows daily.

The SCFF grounds crew, assisted by sound engineer Myron Aldrich, will be constructing a new sound booth that will be located in Fair Square Park. The booth will offer better protection for sound equipment used for acts on the United Prairie Bank stage. Equipment can be locked in the booth overnight offering better security and there will be improved protection from the weather.

Square Dancing and Line Dancing demonstrations have been moved to Sunday afternoon at the KRFO Stage. Square Dancers will perform at 1:00 p.m. and Line Dancers will be featured at 3:30 p.m.

This year, fairgoers will have a chance to see the Owatonna High School Robotics Team in action as they give a demonstration on the KRFO Stage on Thursday at 2:15 p.m.

The 6th grade schools in Steele County are selecting students who will participate in the Jerry Kent Spelling Bee scheduled for Thursday afternoon at 3:30 on the KRFO Stage.

Cars of the 60’s will be featured in the Wells Fargo Auto Museum at this year’s fair.

Dates of the 2017 SCFF are August 15-20. Check the fair website at www.scff.org. The fair office phone is 507-451-5305.

BP Ribfest bigger than ever

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

In the last few years, the annual ribfest sponsored by the BP Boys and Girls Club has generated much needed funding for the many programs at the club. Last year’s proceeds netted over \$10,000 to the cause, and this year’s event promises to be an even bigger celebration as a prelude to the 150th anniversary of the town and the usual Fourth of July festivities.

The ribfest will be held again at the local Servicemen’s Club and will include three bands performing several kids’ games, approximately ten rib cookers, a pulled pork stand, and raffle tickets and beverages on hand for those attending. Hours for the event will run from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. with the 7 to 11 hours for the over 21 crowd.

The three bands performing include the return of the popular Potluck String Band. Also performing will be the Neal Elder band, with the Thrillbillies Band set to close out the musical performances. All three groups have made a name for themselves in

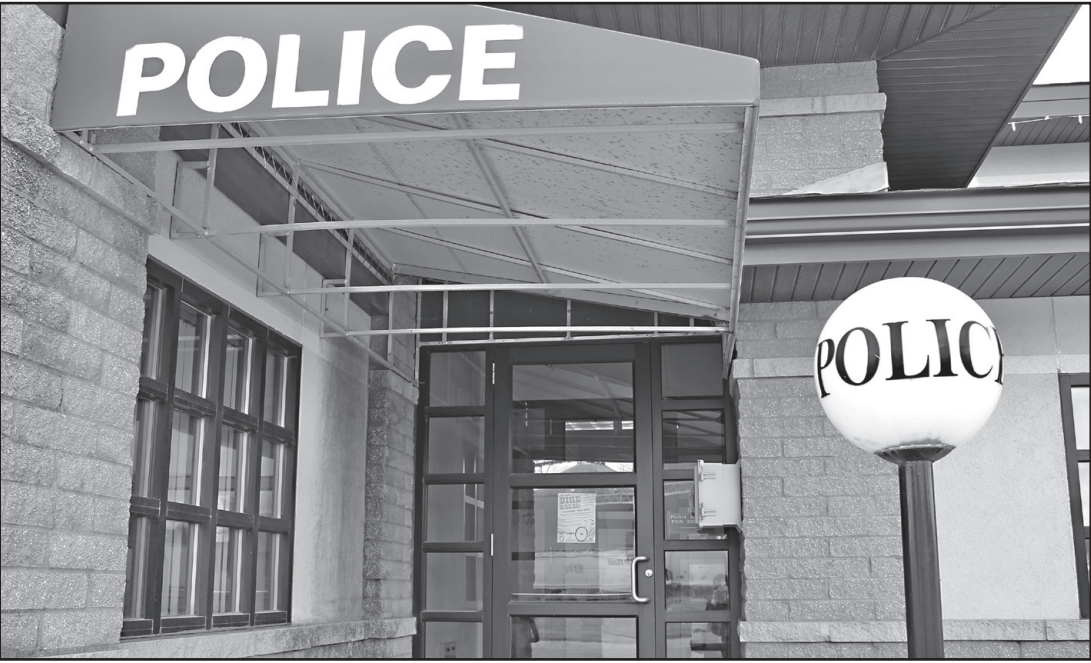
the area and elsewhere in the state with their popular presentations.

Tickets for admission will be \$25 in advance or \$30 the day of the ribfest. That allows unlimited ribs, chicken wings, and pulled pork, with drinks an added expense. There will also be hamburger contests for kids at the ribfest, and prizes will be awarded in several categories of the cooking. A \$250 award is guaranteed for first place on ribs, with trophies for second and third place. A first place cash award will go for chicken wings, and a first place trophy for best BBQ sauce and for People’s choice.

Among the kids’ games will be a bounce house, ring toss, and dunk tank, and those events will take place in the adjoining Firemen’s park. The parking lot on the south side of the Servicemen’s Club will feature the ribs, pulled pork, beverages, and the musical performances. Estimates indicate that a large crowd will take advantage of this entertaining and food-fulfilling day, and the public is encouraged to be a part of the celebration.

Another officer could raise property taxes

POLICE COVERAGE: from page 1A



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Citizens in Blooming Prairie are requesting additional coverage from the police department. Karen Peterson, who wrote council members a letter on the issue, spoke at the last city council meeting.

In Blooming Prairie, Peterson is deeply concerned about the safety of the community. The issue came to a head for her when several windows in Blooming Prairie, including her neighbor’s, were smashed. According to Peterson, the number of calls the police department responds to are on the rise.

She acknowledges that another officer would mean higher property taxes for everyone, but feels the

greater protection is worth it.

“24 hour coverage would potentially impact every resident in town,” Peterson said, “by having an officer available for a call right away rather than losing precious minutes waiting for an off-duty officer to arrive.

Police Chief Greg Skillestad agrees with Peterson.

“I actually requested another full time officer last

year,” he said. Skillestad made his request to the police commission, which reports its minutes to the city council.

The current officers work on 10 hour shifts. Skillestad said a fourth officer doesn’t automatically mean 24/7 coverage, but it would mean enough manpower for overnight coverage. With a fourth officer and some rearranging of the schedule, he said they could make it 24/7 like some nearby communities do. Skillestad said his aim is always the “best protection for Blooming Prairie.”

At the council meeting, Mayor Peterson requested the statistics that Peterson had gathered on police coverage from surrounding communities.

“We deal with budget in September,” he said, “And we’ll take a look at it then.”



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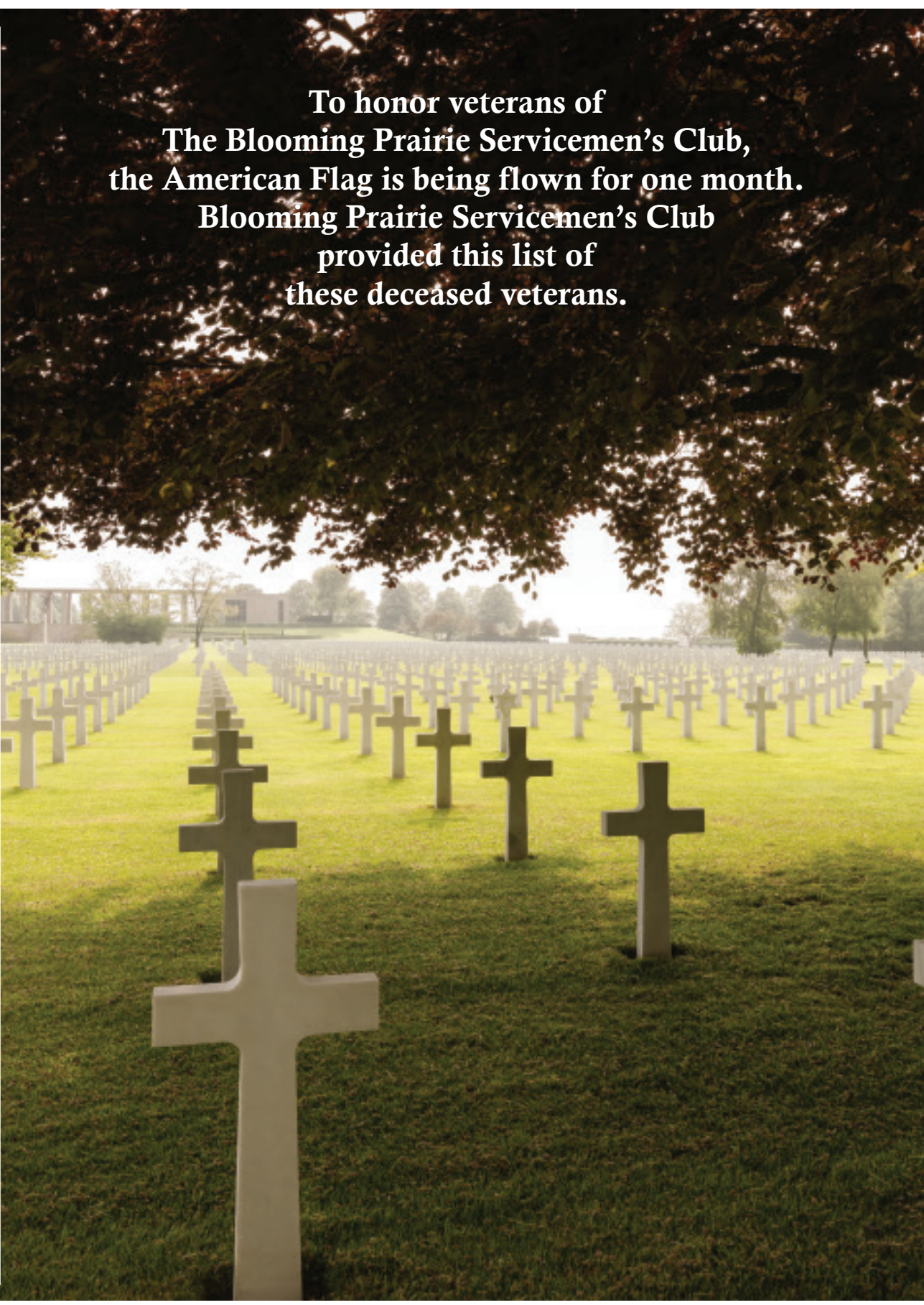
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Memorial Day



To honor veterans of
The Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club,
the American Flag is being flown for one month.
Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club
provided this list of
these deceased veterans.

Neil Zwiener, Donald Peterson, Denis Sime, Otto T. Lund, M. John Christensen, Terry Wold, Rayfield Phillips, Harold Hanson, Manley Westing, Marlyn Dodge, Clair Johnson, Gordon Trom, Marvin Pfeiffer, Frank Betlach, Franklin Burke, Robert Oswald, Robert Rasmussen, Howard Lysne, Richard Trom, Lowell Ingvalson, Ronald Underwood, John Smith, Carl Fiebiger, Allen Peterson, Edgar Bock, Harold Miller, Orville Williamson, Darrell Rasmussen, Richard Peterson, Jerry Peterson, Howard Butler, John Cashman, Mark Coughlin, Kenneth Lysne, Nathan Christenson, Francis Marchwicki, Robert Dandeleit, Gordon "Spencer" Lindquist, Ralph Trom, Ralph Berg, John Haubenschild, Lynwood Ditlevson, Ray Bass, Everett Carlsen, Harrison Oswald Jr., Merlin Madsen, Helmer Peterson, Raynold Knudtson, Robert Hunter, Edward Habberstad, Arnold Hanson, Vyrl Krejci, Helen Lee (Gold Star Mother), Hubert Swenson, Kenneth Lea, Joseph Wacek Sr., Rev. Ernest Johnson, Donald Nordine, Ronald Anderson, Warren Iversen, Victor Jirele, Harvey Ille, Edward Possin, Donald Kaplan, Lyle Hanson, Roger "Nip" Peterson, Edward Walsh, Lloyd Schoer, Leslie Hoffman, Duane LaMaack, Gale Leek, Harris Peterson, Keith Colee, Ralph Stoen,

Donald "Red" Trom, George Tonolli, Arden Wold, James Thorn, Al Jorde, Milton Kaplan, Dale Njos, Dean Johnson, Lyle Jensen, Rickard Ilk, Robert LeBeau, Raymond Wencil, Lawrence Lysne, Overt Christiansen, Harlan Kittelson, George Davis, Arthur Helleck, Benjamin Bishop, Col. Roger Ingvalson, James Maxfield Jr., Burton Ingvalson, John M. Christenson, Donald "Gus" Nordine, Ronald Anderson, Darrell "Pickle" Johnson, Henry Halstenson, Ronald Reese, Joanne VanWyck, John Ulland, Donald Brown, Maurice Basness, Charlie Ressler, Roger Braaten, Sr., John Ryan, Daniel Emanuel, Robert Grooters, James Pechacek, John Cashman, Francis Jenö, David Sponheim, Allen Michaelson, Leo Coughlin, Hubert Pelinka, Darrel Trom, Robert Becker, Floyd Sorenson, Robert Lenort, William Walsh, Milo Hoel, Roger P. Johnson, Derwin Hillson, Raymond Seaton, Willis (Bud) Miller, Gerth (Bud) Anderson, Ronald Malecha, Jerome, Severtson, Edward Lindquist, Loren Rasmussen, Vince Thoreson, Marvin Jensen, Vernon Paulson, Kenneth Baumann, Frank Thissen, Roland Dahl, Howard D. Underwood, Paul J. Ingvaldson, William "Bill" Bailey, Bernard Coufal Marvin Bennett, John Dwain Todalen, Samuel Dandeleit, George O. Jacobson, Gordon H. Diesch

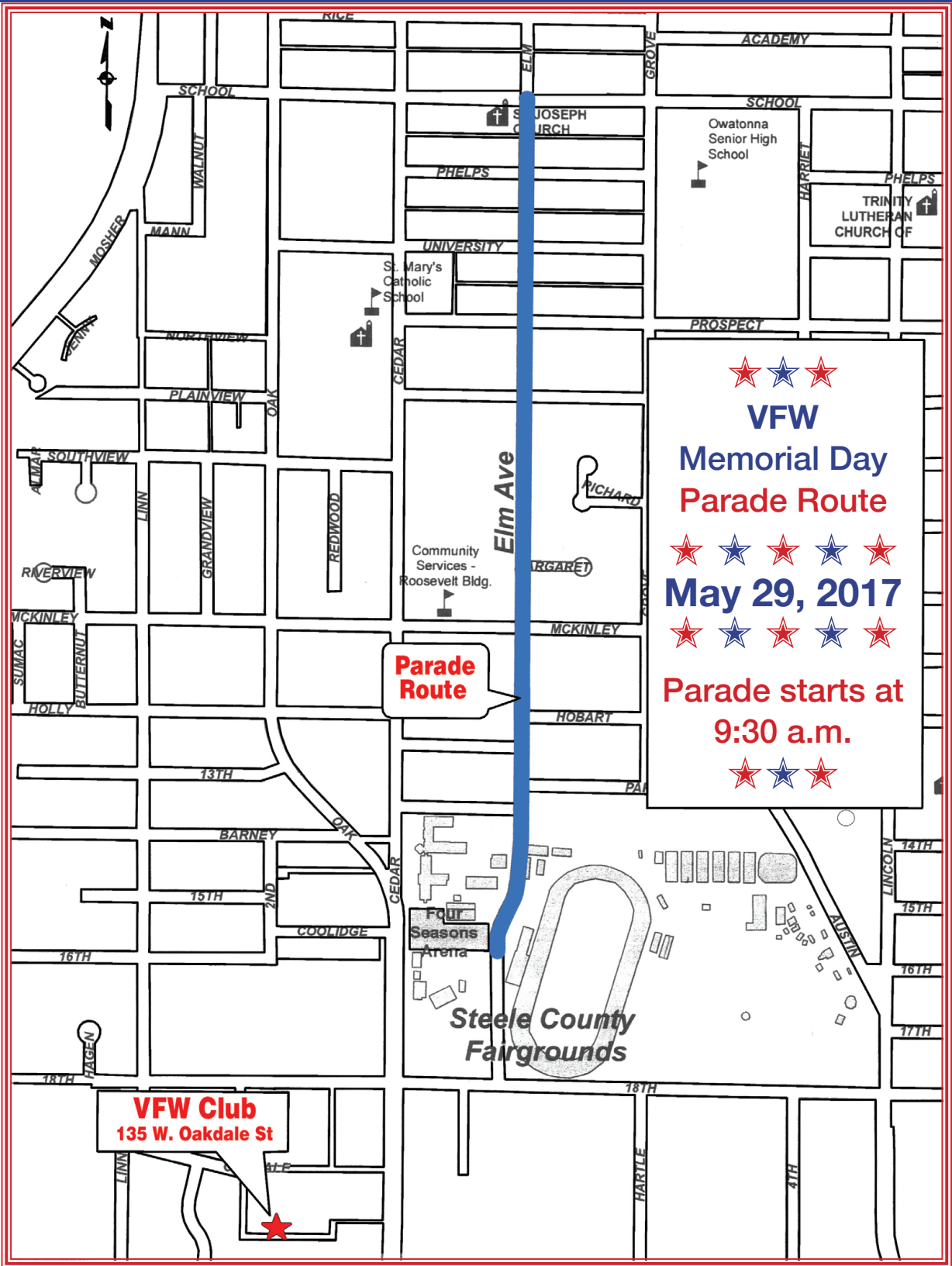


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Steele County
Fairgrounds.
Parade to start at
approx. 9:30 a.m.

Questions:

If anyone has questions
regarding the
parade or program,
call the VFW Monday
morning between
7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.
507-451-1001



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VFW
Memorial Day
Parade Route
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
May 29, 2017
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Parade starts at
9:30 a.m.
★ ★ ★

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

The Memorial Day
program will commence
at the Four Seasons
Building following the
parade, at approx
10:30 a.m. If the
parade is cancelled
due to weather, the
program will still
be held at 10:30
a.m. in the Four
Seasons Building.
Weather cancellation
announcements for the
parade will be made
by 9:00 a.m. Monday
morning of the 29th.



VFW Post 3723
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★ ★ **507-451-1001** ★ ★





Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Members of the Blooming Prairie VFW and Auxiliary, Legion and Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion last year marched from Prairie Plumbing to the Blooming Prairie City Cemetery.

Pastor Sandgren to speak at BP Memorial

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

The Rev. Jeff Sandgren, senior interim pastor at First Lutheran Church of Blooming Prairie, will give this year's Memorial Day address at the Blooming Prairie City Cemetery on Monday, May 29.

The Blooming Prairie VFW and American Legion and their auxiliaries will again host the Memorial Day program in honor of our many deceased veterans.

The public is invited to attend the 11 a.m. event, which will be held in the northeast corner of the BP City Cemetery.

"Memorial Day is a time to reflect and honor all those who have died, not just the veterans who served their country's call, but their

family members and friends who are no longer with us," remarked Joyce Johns, president of the VFW Auxiliary.

Musical selections will be presented by Melissa Stoen and by the Blooming Prairie High School band, under the direction of Ross Reihus.

Military honors will be by the VFW Post 878 and by American Legion Post 52.

Before the ceremony at the cemetery, coffee and doughnuts will be served at 9:30 a.m. for those involved with the event at the BP Servicemen's Club.

The Blooming Prairie High School band and the military honor guard will be assembling in the Prairie Plumbing parking lot located on Highway 218 South. The band and honor guard will not be marching through town.

The parade starts at 10:45 a.m. at Prairie Plumbing and marches to the cemetery and through the 14 American flags donated to the VFW and Legion posts last year by Jesse and Levon Hernandez. The flags will be displayed each Memorial Day hereafter.

Marchers will continue to the northeast corner of the cemetery for the program. Any veteran who is not able to march in the Honor Guard is invited to join in formation at the cemetery.

If it rains, the event will be held at the BP Servicemen's Club.

Participants in the Memorial Day service and others from the public are welcome to reassemble at the Servicemen's Club. There is no potluck at the club this year, but a pulled pork sandwich basket will be

available for \$5.

Following the noon luncheon, a presentation and recognition of the 2016-17 Voice of Democracy winner, Marissa Larson, and also of the 2017 Patriotic Art Contest who happens to be Marissa Larson. She will be accepting two checks totaling \$200 for the contests given by the VFW and its Auxiliary.

Fifteen Quilts of Valor will be presented to local veterans at this program.

A drawing for the "Stars of Freedom" quilt is planned following lunch. The quilt was sewn by Marilyn Meshke and quilted by the Calico Hutch of Hayward. Two cash prizes of \$100 and \$50 will also be raffled by the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee.



MARISSA LARSON

BP Legion Auxiliary to hand out poppy flowers on Friday



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie American Legion Auxiliary member Doris Rasmussen will lead a team of Auxiliary members handing out red poppy flowers on National Poppy Day Friday, May 26.

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Eighteen members of the Blooming Prairie American Legion Auxiliary will be handing out red poppies on National Poppy Day at seven different locations in Blooming Prairie.

By wearing poppies on National Poppy Day, Americans honor every service member who died in the name of liberty, freedom and democracy.

By giving a donation for the red poppy, people provide an opportunity to support veterans for generations to come, says BP Legion Auxiliary poppy chair Doris Rasmussen.

Auxiliary members will be handing out poppies at The Bakery, BP Post Office, Casey's General Store, Subway, Vandal's, Cue Company and the Servicemen's Club.

The American Legion family launches National Poppy Day as a way to honor U.S. service members from the battlefields of France in World War I a

century ago to today's global war on terrorism.

National Poppy Day extends a tradition that dates back to the American Legion Auxiliary's first national convention in the early 1920s when the red poppy was adopted as The American Legion Family's memorial flower.

Auxiliary members distribute millions of poppies annually across the country. Donations go directly to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans in our communities.

Boeing Co. is a sponsor of National Poppy Day. Legion Auxiliary National President Mary E. Davis and Legion National Commander Charles E. Schmidt encourage all Americans to wear or display poppies on National Poppy Day, in memory of the fallen and to honor those who have fought for freedom.

Poppies will be available throughout Blooming Prairie from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Little Red Flower

A man walked down the street the other day
The ladies of the Auxiliary came his way.
He took a poppy and gave a dime.
He mumbled, "why do they take up my time?"
He put the poppy in the buttonhole of his coat,
Next to some pencils and other notes.
When he got home, he placed the poppy on the table.
That red paper flower, with a little white label.
As he looked at the flower, as if inspired,
He wondered "Who put the flower on this wire?"
He's probably a man, who once stood tall,
and for his country he gave his all.
He might once have piloted a plane,
Now gives his all just to walk with a cane.
His strong hands were a sense of power,
Now he makes this little red flower
In our world we are busy with money and power,
While this man's job is this little red flower.
He still takes pride in what he has to do,
Petal by petal he makes this flower for you.
This year when it comes to Poppy Day
I'll be glad to see the Auxiliary come my way.
I'll cheerfully give to them generously,
for the veteran making this flower could have been me.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Friday, May 26, 2017 is National Poppy Day. Members of American Legion Auxiliaries around the country will be handing out the little red flower on this day. Donations go directly to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans in our communities. The following poem tells the poppy story.)



Ellendale and Geneva honor veterans

American Legion Post #296 and Veterans of Foreign War Post #8941 will provide Memorial Day Services on Monday May 29th, 2017 at the following times and locations, weather permitting:

8:15 Holy Trinity Cemetery, Litomysol	9:15 St. Aiden's Cemetery, Bath
	10:15 Geneva Community Cemetery, Geneva
	11:15 First Lutheran Church Cemetery, rural Ellendale

The American Legion and VFW Posts will provide an honor guard and firing squad at all locations. A commemorative message will be delivered at the Geneva and rural Ellendale locations, as well as, music by local choir members. Pastor Karen Lundberg member of Vibrant Life Assembly Church, Ellendale, will deliver the Invocation and Benediction.

The Posts are pleased to announce that a former Ellendale resident, now in active service, will be the guest speaker. She is Gail

Kaplan, Sergeant First Class US Army. Her current duties include Senior Financial Services NCO Research. She processes military pay for over 10,000 service members, special projects, and provides training to full time staff and units, while also generating and reviewing daily and monthly reports.

Gail's deployments include: September-December 1995: Kuwait, January-February 2002: JTF-2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games, March-May 2002: TF Falcon Colorado Springs, CO Airport, and April 2007-March 2008: Iraq Operation Iraqi Freedom. Gail is the daughter of Lloyd and Jackie Kaplan.

Please set aside time to attend one of these featured events in honor of those who have given their lives for our country while serving in the armed forces. As citizens of this great nation, let us take seriously the invitation of Memorial Day to pause and consider those who sacrificed their life so we may enjoy ours today.

All area service men and women, both veterans and active duty personnel alike, are asked to join the ranks, whether you have participated in the past or not. Meet at the Ellendale Community Building at 7:45 a.m. We will travel to each site together. If you have any questions please contact Roger Shaunce (507-383-3750) or Larry Otto (507-475-1023).



Remembering our lost loved ones and veterans this Memorial Day.



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

May 23rd:
9:30am - 10:30am OPL It's TALE TIME!
4pm - 5pm OPU Utilities Commission, Utilities Plant Office
5:30 County Commissioners Meeting, County Administration Building

May 25th:
1pm -1:35pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Medford Manor
5:30pm - 6:30pm Medford EDA event, Jennie-O Turkey, 108 S Main Street, Medford
6:30pm - 7:30pm OPL Family Story Time
7pm Bicycle Women Presentation, Steele County Historical Society Building

May 26th:
7pm Medford High School Graduation, Medford High School
7pm - 8pm Movie Night, New Beginnings Church, Owatonna

May 29th:
9:30am Owatonna Memorial Day Parade, St Joseph Church
10:30am Owatonna Memorial Day Celebration, Four Seasons Fairgrounds
1pm -1:35pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Medford Manor

May 30th:
9:30am - 10:30am OPL It's TALE TIME!

Event Spotlight:

LTO Seeks Post-Secondary Scholarship Applicants

Little Theatre of Owatonna (LTO) is proud to announce it is seeking eligible candidates for its eleventh Sarah Foreman Memorial Post-Secondary Scholarship.

This scholarship was established as a memorial to long-time LTO member Sarah Foreman who died in February 2006. Foreman's work as a director extended through 30 years, directing 18 shows and serving 11 years on the LTO Board during three separate terms. Her extensive contribution and dedication to theatre in Owatonna is memorialized in this scholarship.

This scholarship is meant to recognize and support the post-secondary education of a current Steele County resident or a previous (prior to 2017) graduate of a Steele County high school whose studies and/or participation in theatre distinguish him/her. The recipient will be chosen based on theatre involvement, two letters of recommendation, academic achievements and educational goals, and other college and/or community involvement. Previous applicants who qualify and did not receive the scholarship are encouraged to re-apply.

Details and forms for the application can be found on the Little Theatre of Owatonna website, <http://littletheatreofowatonna.org/sarah-foreman-scholarship/2017> or from county high school counselors/career centers. Deadline for application is May 26, 2017.

Announcements and notification regarding the \$1,000 scholarship will be made in June. The recipient will be recognized and the scholarship presented at the opening night of LTO's summer production of Funny Girl, on Friday, June 16.

Little Theatre of Owatonna is committed to providing dramatic arts opportunities and incentives for citizens of Steele County. Questions regarding this scholarship should be directed to Gaylene Steckelberg, LTO Scholarship Chairperson, at P.O. Box 64, Owatonna, MN 55060.



Event Spotlight:

All employee reunion planned in Owatonna

Employees of National Hydro-Ax, National Tree Expert, Omark, Blount and Caterpillar are invited to gather for the reunion on Aug. 12 from 3 to 9 p.m. at the Izaak Walton Building south of Owatonna.

Everyone is asked to bring their own beverage and a dish to pass. Water will be provided.

Come join the group for an afternoon of reuniting, tell some stories or lies or just hang out with some old friends. All employees, spouses or significant others are welcome.



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JULY 22: B.O.B. RIDE: "TOYS FOR TOTS"

ALL EVENT DETAILS AVAILABLE AT J&H LIQUOR'S

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

May 23rd:
7pm - 8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

May 25th:
11am -11:30am Veterans Officer Outreach Hour, Ellendale Community Building
5:30pm - 6:40pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7pm - 8pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7pm - 8pm NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm

May 29th:
6:20pm - 7:40pm NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellndl

May 30th:
7pm - 8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

HAPPENING NOW

EMT Week in Blooming Prairie



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Kids are always curious and that was the case last Tuesday when these three siblings checked out a Blooming Prairie ambulance at a public open house. Shown from left are: Noah Johnson, 4; Grace Johnson, 1 and Eli Johnson, 7. All are children of Corey and Elizabeth Johnson of Blooming Prairie.

LAST YEAR



Archived staff photo by Ahren Backman

Officer Michael St. John stands with his son while being sworn in as the newest addition to the Blooming Prairie police force.





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May 23rd:
10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Storytime
5:30pm Ambulance Commission Meeting, City Center
6pm - 7pm BPBL Book Club

May 24th:
10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Story time

May 25th:
9:30am -10:30am Veterans Officer outreach hour, Serviceman's Club

May 31st:
10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Storytime

Event Spotlight: Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Habitat for Humanity of Steele-Waseca Area is hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on Thursday, May 25 from 6:30 am to 8:30 am at Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna (609 Lincoln Ave. S).

Let US thank you for all your hardwork and dedication. Please join us for breakfast complete with eggs, sausage links, fruit, muffins, juice and coffee.

Hands Up! YOU make this happen and we couldn't do it without you.

Let us know if you will be joining us by one of the following: register: www.habitatswa.org or call Ellen at 507.446.0112 ext. 2.

Event Spotlight: Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias Series

Owatonna In Support of Alzheimer's is hosting its next Program on Tuesday, May 23rd. It will be held from 6:00-7:00pm at the Owatonna Public Library, 3rd Floor Gainey Room.

The program entitled "Twice Bereaved" will include a discussion about the journey facing loved ones of those diagnosed with dementia; navigating the journey with the person who first loses the mind & shared memories, followed by the loss of the physical body.

Co-presenters from Heartland Hospice are Susan Siegle, Account Liaison and Michael Langanacker, Spiritual Care Coordinator. Susan has been involved with the Alzheimer's Association for the last 15 years on the committee for the Owatonna and Rochester Walks and facilitating Alzheimer's Support Groups. Michael provides Spiritual Care to patients facing end of life and their families. Prior to joining Heartland Michael was a chaplain with the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

The public is welcome and there is no cost to attend. For more information or to RSVP please contact Deb Gillard (507) 213-1305, gillard.deb@gmail.com

Event Spotlight: Cultural Diversity Network Annual Meeting

The Cultural Diversity Network will be conducting their annual meeting on Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 3:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the Owatonna Foundation office at 108 West Park Square, Owatonna. The Cultural Diversity Network meets monthly and is responsible for organizing the annual CulturFest event held each September. The mission of the Cultural Diversity Network is to promote understanding and respect, keeping Steele County peaceful, trusting, and respectful in a time of rapid social change and an increasingly diverse population. The public is invited to attend.

This year, CulturFest is slated for Saturday, September 23rd from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm at Wilson Elementary School, 325 Meadow Lane, Owatonna. CulturFest is a free event that is fun for everyone and is an incredible day of music and dance talents, ethnic foods, authentic merchandise and activities for all ages to enrich its visitors with a multi-cultural experience

To enhance the day, the festival invites food vendors to sell their tantalizing ethnic cuisine from around the world. For more information, please visit the CulturFest website at: www.culturfest.org

Event Spotlight: 1st Annual Memorial Day Pot Luck

Where: Ellendale Community Building
Who: Ellendale/Geneva area community members
When: Monday, May 29th, 2017 - following services at the Ellendale First Lutheran Church Cemetery
*If inclement weather, Cemetery Services will be held at the Ellendale Community Building @ 11:15.
Bring dish to pass, plates and own utensils
Beverage and cake will be provided.



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Feedlot battle three years old

FEEEDLOT: from page 1A

three years later, according to Peters.

While acknowledging it is extremely difficult to get the Supreme Court to even look at a case, Peters said, "It seems to me they should take it and clarify what rules they want judges to follow." He added the current case law "doesn't make any sense."

At issue is whether the Dodge County Sheriff's Office served the lawsuit to the county through the board chairman properly in January 2015. At the time, the lawsuit was served on Rodney Peterson, who was the chairman of the board until a day before the lawsuit was served. John Allen

replaced Peterson on Jan. 6, but the Troms claim they weren't aware of the change because the sheriff's office never told them.

The sitting chairperson of the board or county auditor is required by law to be served with lawsuits involving the county.

On the local district level, Judge Chase ruled the county was served properly. However, the Court of Appeals disagreed and tossed out the appeal without digging into the claims any further.

The legal battle over the feedlots has been going on for three years. The Troms are fighting against a large

hog operation that was approved by the county next to their farm in Westfield Township. Throughout the fight, the Troms have been urging officials to address the serious public health and environmental concerns related to factory farms.

Masching Swine Farms was the 11th feedlot to be built within a several mile radius near the Trom family farm.

The Troms won the initial lawsuit, but the county then changed up the rules, paving the way for Masching to build the feedlot. Last year, Judge Chase ruled in favor of the county.

Krell will oversee middle school implementation

DIRECTOR OF TEACHING: from page 1A

In her new role, she will work directly under newly hired superintendent Jeff Elstad, who is currently in the same job with Byron Schools. Both Krell and Elstad begin their new jobs July 1.

The newly appointed educators have never worked together, but know each other, Krell said. "We have very similar views and mission," she said. "We will be a good team."

One of Krell's major responsibilities from the start

will be the implementation of the middle school. Owatonna is transitioning from a junior high of grades 7-8 to a middle school of grades 6-8 this fall.

Krell, who aspires to be a superintendent some day, says the new job in Owatonna gets her "as close as you can get to that."

In 2014, Krell was honored as one of the best elementary principals in America.

During her tenure at K-M, the elementary school was named a Minnesota School of Excellence, which is the

highest honor schools can obtain.

Krell has also worked in the Medford and Waseca school districts.

She graduated from Blooming Prairie in 1988 and later obtained her degree in elementary education from Mankato State University.

"I love what I do," Krell said. "I'm excited to be helping steer the district in the right direction. I'm passionate about the work we do with kids."

28 officers from southeastern Minnesota have fallen

FALLEN HEROES: from page 1A

Earlier on May 15, Claassen was also recognized at the National Peace Officers' Memorial in Washington, D.C. His widow, Kathy Claassen, of Kasson, along with other family members, traveled to Washington for the remembrance in which President Donald Trump delivered a message.

During the state ceremony, Sheriff Rose marched with LEMA members in front of the memorial as another member played Taps and a bell tolled

from a near-by canon.

"It was a great honor to be there and remember," Rose said. It was special to the sheriff because he grew up knowing Claassen as a kid and recalls all the pain he suffered for so many years.

Rose also placed a wreath at the memorial for Capt. Loring Guenther, who died in the line of duty in 2013 while serving with the sheriff's office.

"Loring was one of my best friends," Rose said. "I thought he was going to be the next

sheriff and not me."

Rose said it was because of Guenther's recognition at the memorial that he became active with the special Memorial Day for police in 2014.

In all, 28 officers have died in the line of duty from southeastern Minnesota, including Blooming Prairie police chief Neil Johnson in 1951 and Claremont police chief Gregory Lange in 1988.

"It's important to never forget," Rose said of the sacrifices of the fallen officers.

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Blooming Prairie Times

66 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

WAR: OUR INFAMOUS MEMORIES

OUR DESTROYERS ALREADY ACTIVE IN THE WAR



Some of the American destroyers that, according to official advices, already are in European waters taking an active part in the war on German submarines.

BRITISH VIEWPOINT CHANGES

GERMANS TORPEDO SWEDISH VESSELS

ALLIES START NEW OFFENSIVE

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IN MEMORIAM

TO ALL AMERICANS WHO DIED IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM

1861 — 1865

1898

1917 — 1918

1941 — 1945

KOREA ---

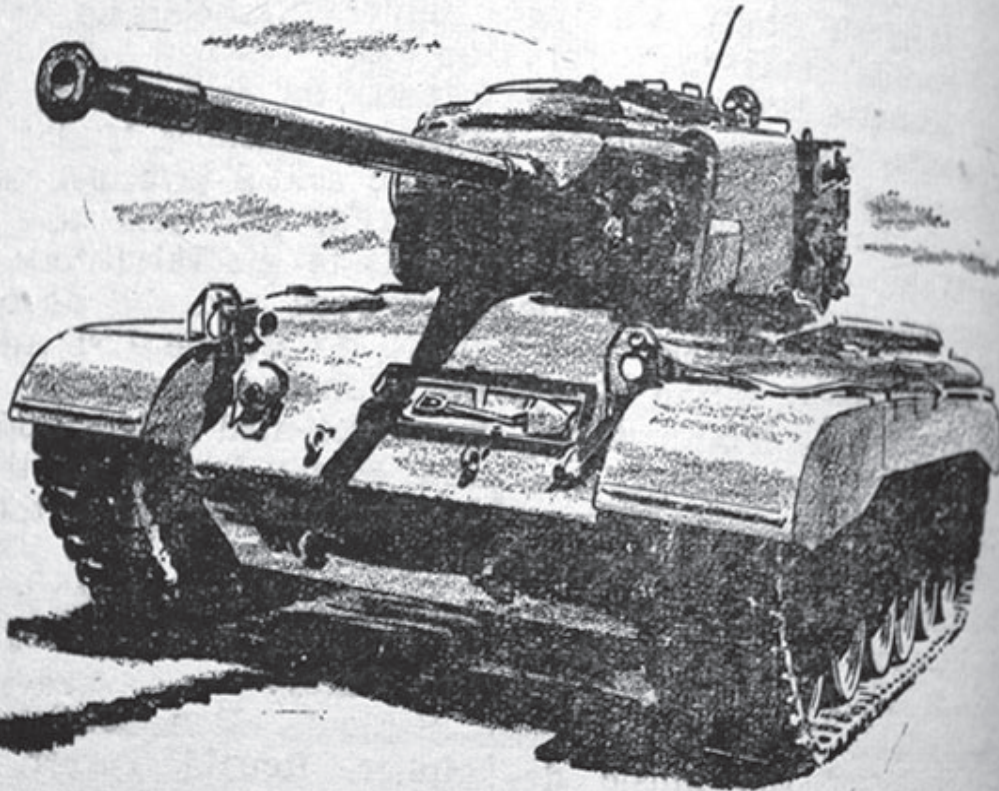


Poppy Wearers Buy 1800 "Red" Flowers

BLOOMING PRAIRIE TIMES

Thursday, May 29, 1952

MORE POWER IN BATTLE...



The U. S. medium tank consistently has outpowered and out-fought tanks of similar size on Korean battlegrounds.

MORE POWER TO YOU

That's Tydol Flying-A-Gasoline

Rasmussens Get Details of Heroic Son's Death

The following letter has been received here by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Rasmussen written by a naval chaplain in which are given the details regarding the death of their heroic son, Lt. Robert Rasmussen. For safety reason, The Times is not permitted to divulge the name of the ship on which Lt. Rasmussen served.

April 16, 1945

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen:

It is with great regret that I write you concerning the death of your son, Lieutenant (junior grade) Robert James Rasmussen, U. S. Navy.



LT. ROBERT RASMUSSEN

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150 BLOOMING PRAIRIE 1867-2017

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150 BLOOMING PRAIRIE



Left: The Wee Jazz group performed to the song "Confident" at the annual JFK spring dance recital. The nights performance was entitled "Get on your feet." Right: Just For Kix, a dance company located in Owatonna, showcased all of their dancers at the 11th annual Spring Show Sunday night. The JFK pre-1st girls danced to the song, "Hero," with their dads.

35th U.S. President born 100 years ago

REFLECTIONS... AND HOW



HOWARD LESTRUD

Happy Birthday President John F. Kennedy!

The centennial of President John F. Kennedy's birth on May 29, 1917 is being celebrated all year, especially by the JFK Library in Boston, MA.

Born in Brookline, Massachusetts, President Kennedy was the youngest president ever elected to office. He became the 35th president.

Let's look back at other interesting tidbits about 1917. Headline in The Daily Missourian said "U.S. OFFICIALLY AT WAR."

On March 4, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson and Vice President Thomas Marshall were inaugurated for a second term in a private ceremony. Because the 4th was a Sunday, the ceremony was repeated publicly on Monday, March 5.

The 65th Congress convened on March 4, 1917, and ran through March 3, 1918. On that day, 54 Democrats and 42 Republicans were sworn into office. Henry Cabot Lodge Sr. (D-MA) was sworn in for his fourth Senate term. The Kennedys and Lodges would oppose each other for decades.

Jeannette Rankin (R-Montana) was sworn in as the first woman elected into Congress. She voted against U.S. entry into both World War I and World War II.

Take a look at some of the consumer prices in May of 1917:

- Sirloin steak, 32 cents a pound
- Eggs, 39 cents a dozen
- Butter, 47 cents per pound
- Milk, 11 cents per quart
- Bread, 8 cents a loaf
- Price of a Model T, \$850
- Price of average home, \$3,200 to \$4,500
- Daily newspaper, 1 cent weekday and 2 cent weekend

KENNEDY

Continued on page 3B

Just for Kix shakes it up for spring

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

"Get on your feet" was theme for the spring dance show in Owatonna Sunday night at the Four Seasons

Centre.

"We were supposed to be at OHS," said Just For Kix (JFK) director, Victoria Johnson. "It just got too big." And Johnson and company had to secure another venue.

The location was different in that the dancers would be dancing on cement rather than a wooden gymnasium floor. Johnson said that she was a little apprehensive, but knew that it was only for one

performance.

And what a performance it was. From tiny girls who hadn't yet learned to write, to both young and middle aged dads who donned dancing shoes. The teams came

forth with great fanfare and exuberance as they danced to everything from hip-hop to 60s pop. For the dads, it

KIX

Continued on page 3B

Police commend Frazier for assistance

By MARISSA LARSON
Staff intern

On March 23, local police responded to a rather interesting situation in the parking lot outside Vandal's Supermarket, and they tribute a local resident for the tremendous help he offered that day.

It started when Officer Jake Peterson, who was off-duty at the time, happened to be driving by what appeared to be a boyfriend and girlfriend engaged in a domestic dispute with one another.

He gave Officer Dan Peach a call and told him to go check it out. Peach arrived at the scene and began talking to the girlfriend, identified as Law. She started screaming and backing away from him as he attempted to get information from her. Suddenly, she threw her Dairy Queen blizzard onto Peach's face and upper body, and took off running.

Simultaneously, the man

involved in the dispute escaped, but Peach chased after the woman. When he eventually caught up with her, she continued fighting and neglecting his commands.

Meanwhile, local citizen Tim Frazier was getting gas across the street at Cenex when he saw Peterson leaving Casey's.

As Peterson was casually driving by Vandal's, he saw Peach struggling with Law, and thought, "If I don't get over there and help, someone is going to get hurt." Without delay, he jumped in to help Peach restrain the woman.

"She was putting up a good fight," Peterson said. As Frazier was leaving the pump, his attention was grabbed by the commotion in the parking lot. He quickly drove to the scene and got out of his car. What he did next was well beyond any citizen's call of duty. His actions

COMMENDATION

Continued on page 2B



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Police Chief Greg Skillstead awarded Tim Frasier with a certificate and coin for his assistance in the Blooming Prairie police's intervention in a dispute outside Vandal's. Officers Jake Peterson and Dan Peach, standing on Frasier's left and right, were the officers responding to the incident.

Farm frenzy ends Meford high school's FFA week



Staff photos by Emily Schoenbeck

Last week Medford High School's Future Farmers of America club hosted FFA Week. To celebrate agriculture they had animal dress-up days and hay bale tosses during lunch. The week concluded with Baby Animal Day. FFA members spent the day in the school's shop class showing off baby farm animals to the Medford elementary students. Left: Paraprofessional Kate Vatsaas lets a goat investigate her hand, while second grader Trevon Allen looks on. Middle: An FFA member holds a young goat while his fellow member pets its head. Right: Second grader Alicia Sondag pets a young milking cow, while it tries to nibble on her shirt.

Blooming Prairie Living



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Senior Carter Millam plays a heavy trombone part in the song, “March of The Belgian Paratroopers.” Millam also doubles on guitar for the jazz band and impressed the crowd with his solo on Aaron Strang’s original piece, “Zero Hour,” which was not only a song composed by Strang, but was named in honor of the band who practices before school begins.

Preparing for the final note

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

“There were things we worried about going into each song,” said Blooming Prairie band director, Ross Reishus. “At the end, we found out that the things we worried about, weren’t a concern tonight.”

The annual spring concert at Blooming Prairie High School last Wednesday night was one for the ages as Reishus crafted a program that played to all ages. He has also created a family of band members who are a precision driven, playing above the level of most high school bands.

And if you close your eyes and listen, the sound is so deep and so large that the venue could barely hold it. The eye-opener being such a small group with such a big presence.

As perhaps an encore to last year’s spring concert, guest composer-in-residence, Aaron Strang who composed a three-suite composition entitled “Blooming Prairie Portraits,” for 2016, followed that incredible feat with another amazing addition this year.

“Zero Hour” was a piece that Strang composed specifically for the Blooming Prairie jazz band. Its title refers to the hour that the jazz band meets for rehearsals; one hour before school starts. It was a strong piece that had audience members standing at the end. Jon Herron, Carter Millam and Strang were all featured soloists on this piece.

Strang not only sat in with the jazz band, but he and his son, Alex added to a very lonely trombone section for the entire concert. The Strangs hail from Webster, Wisconsin, where Strang’s wife is a band director.

The curtain opened to reveal the award-winning jazz band

and the first song was prophetic for the band itself. They played a Micael Giaccino piece that he had written for “The Incredibles.” The jazz band featured Jon Herron on the Hoagy Carmichael & Mitchell Parish favorite, “Stardust.”

With the addition of the Strangs and Reishus mixed with the veteran high school troupe, the sound was deep, rich and satisfying.

Next up was the junior high band which played five numbers including favorites like “The Little Mermaid” and “George of the Jungle” which featured some special sounds and interesting interaction by the band. Parents had commented how much the band had improved since fall with some saying it simply was not the same band. A little older, a little wiser and experience under their belts, the transition to the senior high band next year will be a good one.

After the junior high band played its final note of this year’s performance, the break brought a special jazz encore by Camden Heimerman on drums, Jake Hyland on piano, Carter Millam on guitar and Michael Pape on bass. It was refreshing to hear some extra jazz rifts instead of dead air between transitions and the group left the crowd wanting more.

But it was on to the Senior High band which put resounding whipped cream and cherries on an astounding performance by the threefold cord of bands at BP. The first song made a lot of the older audience members sit up and take notice as the once popular “Bugler’s Holiday” came forth with great military precision and melodic trumpet parts. Trumpeters Christian Sorensen, Jon Herron and Elijah Baker were the featured performers and played against each other very well.

Taylor Christianson came next into the spotlight as the featured performer as the band did “Hungarian Dance #5.”

For a change of tempo, Baker came and did a trumpet solo followed by Marnie Reese who performed her solo ensemble piece. You could have heard a pin drop as these veteran band members played their final solos before a Blooming Prairie audience.

After skillfully performing “March of the Belgian Paratroopers” and then the “Navy Hymn,” the band played John Williams’ award-winning piece, “Star-Wars: The Force Awakens.”

“This band has come a long way,” Reishus said. “Although we are losing a strong group of incredible seniors, we also look ahead to a very talented underclass.”

Events coming up for the band in its final month before the break are the Senior High Choir Pops Concert tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the gym, and a Memorial Day parade and performance at the BP cemetery on Memorial Day, playing at graduation June 4 at 2 p.m.

Here are the awards:
Jazz band—
Woody Herman Award: Jake Hyland (12) and Michael Pape (12)

Louis Armstrong Award: Camden Heimerman (12), and Carter Millam (12)

The entire jazz band received a Superior rating at the solo/ensemble festival in March.

Junior High band awards—
Director’s Award:
Maggie Bruns(8) and Reese Millam(8)

Superior Rated middle school solo awards:

Asha Lighthizer (7), Maggie Bruns (8)

Superior Rated middle school ensemble awards:
Reese Millam(8), Rachel Thompson(8), Emily Kubicek(8)

Senior High band awards—
Excellent Rated Solos: Jon Herron (11), Carter Millam (12)

Excellent Rated Ensemble: Taylor Christianson (12), Mckenzie Jensen (10)

Superior Rated Solos:
Austin Christians (12), Camden Heimerman(12), Jake Hyland(12), Alison Pryor(12), and Viridian Villareal(9)

Pep Band MVP Awards: Austin Christians (12), Jon Herron (11)

Music Listening Contest Team 1 (3rd place winner): Camden Heimerman(12), Jake Hyland(12), Carter Millam(12)

Team 2: Austin Christians (12), Michael Pape (12), Christian Sorensen, (11)

Varsity Letter winners for band:

Austin Christians (12), Michael Pape (12), Jon Herron (11), Christian Sorensen (11), and Viridiana Villarreal (9)

Patrick S. Gilmore Awards: Austin Christians (12), Marnie Reese (12)

John Philip Sousa Award: Camden Heimerman (12)

Lisa Meshke ordained into ministry



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie native Lisa Meshke was ordained into the ministry on Saturday, May 20 at an ordination service held at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. She is shown with her parents, Dean and Marilyn Meshke and her brother Todd. She has accepted a call from the First English Lutheran Church of Tyler, Minn.

Two Blooming Prairie events postponed

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

A nagging rain and unseasonably, cold weather forced the postponement of two Blooming Prairie events scheduled for last Saturday, May 20.

In connection with Blooming Prairie’s 150th anniversary, a cemetery walk was planned from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, May 20. The event now will likely be moved to Saturday July 1 at the same time, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The walk, sponsored by the BP Sesquicentennial Committee,

will include the city cemetery and the St. Columbanus Catholic Cemetery. The cemeteries are located on the south part of BP.

A freewill offering will be asked. The event is a fund-raiser for the BP Sesquicentennial Committee.

The second annual Blooming Prairie Bike Rodeo was scheduled for Saturday, May 20 and was called off due to inclement weather. The event will now be held Saturday, May 27.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. The actual rodeo featuring four obstacle courses starts at 10 a.m. Four stations will challenge kids

to learn hand signals, negotiate sharp turns and to learn how to stop quickly.

All kids will receive a free bicycle helmet provided by Minimizer. The helmets will be available at B to Z Hardware. All will be custom fit.

The rodeo will be held in the parking lot of Minimizer Corporate Headquarters at 824 Center Ave.

Sponsors of the rodeo include Minimizer, KIK Graphics, the BP Boys and Girls Club and the BP Police Department.

Several boys and girls bicycles will be given away, courtesy of Minimizer.

Frazier recieves Challenge Coin for service

COMMENDATION: from page 1B

clearly demonstrate the type of person Frazier is.

“When you see someone struggling, especially law enforcement, you do your part as a citizen.” Without hesitance, he drove to the scene and assisted law enforcement in holding down Law, so that she could be handcuffed.

It wasn’tuntil about 15 minutes later that the County Sheriffs were on scene. At this point, Law was moved into the squad car. This proved to be disastrous, as she not only continued to scream, but also made violent attempts to kick out the windows.

Law enforcement tied her legs, but she found another way by repeatedly bashing her head against the window, so hard that the glass began to bow. They

decided it would be best to use an alternate mode of transportation, so the ambulance was called, and she was tied to the cot.

The Blooming Prairie Police Department was not going to let Frazier’s selfless act go unnoticed. He was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation and a Department Challenge Coin, featuring a badge on one side, and a shield on the other. “Receiving this recognition was an honor.”

However, Frazier was quick to note that his motive for giving a helping hand was not to receive something in return. “That’s how I was raised. Going to bed knowing that I helped out and that everyone was safe puts me at ease.”

It’s not every day that people

are willing to help in the way this Samaritan did. “There is so much hatred towards law enforcement,” commented Frazier. That’s not the view he has, though. The vast amount of respect that he paid to law enforcement, combined with the fact that that he was brave enough to step forward is simply miraculous.

Frazier is a former law enforcement explorer, and through this program, he took part in medical services, SWAT training, and emergency situational training. “It’s nice to have that background so I know what to do in these types of situations.” We salute Frazier. It’s difficult to know how the situation would have ended, had he not jumped in.

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

‘Tis the season to beautify BP

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

It ‘tis the season to give Blooming Prairie a beautiful look.

That was the message brought forward by Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce President Greg Johnson at a regular membership meeting held Wednesday noon, May 17, at Bunkies Grill & Lanes.

With the community into celebrating its 150 years this year, Johnson said it was important to put up colorful flower baskets and to make the Main Street look attractive. New flower containers may be purchased. He reported that eight benches will be installed early this summer on Main Street.

Leanne Hanson, Carol Holman and Lisa Kubista are on the beautification and visitor committee.

Chamber Executive Director Becky

Noble went over the highlights of the 150th Sesquicentennial celebration planned for Sunday, July 2.

A kiddie parade is planned. A picnic in Central Park will feature free cake and ice cream and will see 150 balloons released.Live music and beer gardens will follow.

“We want the community to come out and meet business people and our non-profits at Central Park on July 2nd,” Noble said.

Fourth of July button sales begin on Wednesday, May 24. Meet at the Pizza Cellar at 5 p.m. and go door to door in teams.

The Fourth of July of course will feature a gigantic parade and lots of activities in Central Park.

President Johnson reminded Chamber members about its annual Fun Day Golf Tournament on Wednesday, June 21.

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Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Senior Marnie Reese, a first-chair flutist for the past two years did her final solo performance in front of a Blooming Prairie Crowd last Wednesday at the Spring Concert. She was one of two featured soloists at the concert as well as being featured with freshman Raynee Fawver on the ensemble piece, Hungarian Dance #5 by Brahms.

County Living

The heart of an Eagle scout

By **MARISSA LARSON**
Staff intern

An Eagle Scout at Owatonna High School has a miraculous story to share.

Spencer Heim, who belongs to Troop #351, underwent open-heart surgery in August of 2015. He was born with a congenital heart defect that affected the valves. Because of the specific troubles his heart was having, finding a solution was very difficult, which is why Heim claims that how they were able to fix him up was a miracle. Having this procedure done has really amplified the meaning of something that he’s been living by. “It made me realize how valuable life is.” Having this work done on his heart allowed him to reach higher heights, literally.

Before the surgery, he was not able to be at a high elevation, due to his heart. After the valves were fixed, he had the opportunity to visit Wyoming with his troops. There, he climbed mountains that were as high as 11,000 feet.

His experience with Boy Scouts has been so meaningful to him. Heim has put an enormous amount of work into the program. Only about five percent of Scouts make it as far as the Eagle rank. Young beginners start out as Cub Scouts, and once they are halfway through sixth grade, they take the step into Boy Scouts. The rankings,

from lowest to highest are as follows: Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class, Star, Life, and Eagle.

Moving up a rank requires meeting many different criteria, and it can depend upon how many Merit Badges one has. Merit Badges are one of Heim’s favorite parts of being a Boy Scout. They are earned upon the completion of requirements within a given area of study.

Another key component of earning a rank are the projects, which include putting in over 100 hours, either serving or improving the community.

For his Eagle Scout project, Heim put two compost bins at Riverland Community College in Owatonna. He chose this project because his Scout Master offered it, and he jumped on it.

He joined Scouts in 1st grade because his older brother and dad had long been a part of it. He is currently a junior in high school, and although he will be turning 18 this summer, his Boy Scout career will not be coming to a close.

Once Scouts turn 18, they cannot be a troop anymore, so he plans to be a junior assistant scoutmaster. He was recently elected by fellow troops into the OA (Order of the Arrow). The OA is a group of scouters that are trusted by everyone else, and they practice youth leadership.

The best thing about being a Scout, Heim says, are the many opportunities that he



Submitted photo

Spencer Heim of Troop #351 stands in full uniform. Heim has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and logged over a hundred hours of community service, despite health complications.

has had to go explore different places. This summer he will be attending the National Jamboree in West Virginia, where he will participate in a large array of outdoor activities.

Along his journey as a Scout, he has come to embrace the motto: “Be Prepared.” Heim is very grateful for the values that he can take away from both being a Boy Scout and being a recipient of heart

surgery.

Although he has faced a lot of adversity, his attitude about life, paired with his passion for growing personally and as a troop, prove to make him unstoppable. This living miracle will surely be a great asset to Boy Scouts as a leader in the future. He has already contributed so much and will live to tell about his perseverance and success.

Brain training center opens in Owatonna

Proven program strengthens brains at any age

A new LearningRx Brain Training Center opened on May 15 in Owatonna, Minnesota will offer programs for children and adults who struggle with learning, memory, reading, thinking quickly or paying attention.

“LearningRx does for the brain what a physical trainer does for the body,” says Sonja Harris, Director of the new Owatonna center. “We train cognitive performance by targeting the underlying cognitive skills that are responsible for how we grasp and process information. In other words, our programs train the core skills the brain uses to think, learn, read, remember, and pay attention.”

Many of the company’s clients are struggling students, although Harris explains that brain training is an entirely different process than tutoring. “Tutoring reteaches information, but doesn’t address the reason the information didn’t ‘stick’ in the first place. Our programs address the root cause of learning struggles by working on the way a person thinks, reads, learns, focuses and

remembers. When core brain skills are developed, learning is easier.” The programs have also worked with children and adults diagnosed with ADHD, dyslexia, concussions, or autism.

Harris adds that the centers also work with people who do not have diagnoses but are simply frustrated by some aspect of their mental performance at school, at work, or in life. Clients with a variety of challenges and at all different stages of life have benefited from LearningRx programs. LearningRx brain training programs can be completed in as little as 12 to 24 weeks.

Sonja has an extensive background in working with nonprofit agencies that have had a focus on child development, early childhood education, and families.

The center hosted a grand opening celebration on May. There were brain games, contests, food and prizes, as well as demonstrations on how brain training works.

For more information, contact Sonja Harris, Director, at 507-414-7287 or visit www.LearningRx.com/Owatonna.

Panther Pride picnic and Buddy Bench installation

NRHEG Elementary School, Ellendale will hold a Panther Pride Community Wide Picnic Lunch on June 5.

Tickets may be purchased at the NRHEG Elementary School Office until May 30. Adult tickets are \$4 and a child ticket will be \$2.50. Elementary students may use their lunch accounts.

The lunch schedule is listed below:

Bridges and Kindergarten 10:45 a.m.
Grade 2 11:10 a.m.
Grade 1 11:30 a.m.
Grade 4 11:50 a.m.
Grade 3 12:10 p.m.
Grade 5 12:30 p.m.

Beginning at 1 p.m. the Steele-Waseca Habitat for Humanity organization will be at the school, along with our students, to install our Buddy Benches on the elementary playground.

They have been working with Ellen Heydon, Community Engagement Coordinator for Habitat for Humanity and through her contacts, she is able to bring this event to the school. Buddy Benches are popping up on playgrounds on schools across the country.

Here at NRHEG Elementary the anti-bullying committee, The PAWSitive Team, has taken on this initiative to create an inclusive school climate.

It is their hope that no student

feels disconnected from their school community.

A Buddy Bench allows those students who may feel left out to be seated on the bench, thereby indicating they are looking for a friend or classmate to play with.

An all school assembly will take place before the benches are installed. The expectations below will be shared with students at that time:

- Before you sit on the Buddy Bench, think of something you would like to do. Ask someone else to play with you.
- The bench isn’t for socializing. Only sit there if you can’t find anyone to play with.
- While you’re sitting on the bench, look around for a game you can join.
- If you see something you want to do, or a friend you want to talk to, get off the bench.
- When you see someone on the bench, ask that person to play with you.
- If you’re sitting on the bench, play with the first friend who invites you.
- Keep playing with your new friends.

They are still seeking a few able-bodied adults who can assist with the construction of two buddy benches on Monday, June 5, at 1 p.m. If you can help, please contact Jean Greenwood, Administrative Assistant at 507-684-3181.

Kennedy took office in a wave of changes

KIX: from page 1B

was more like a scene from “Sweatin’ to the Oldies.” The crowd enjoyed those special dances almost as much as the dads getting a chance to dance with their daughters.

The pre-first grade girls and their dads danced to “Hero” and brought tears, smiles and laughter from the audience. The 7th-12th grade girls did a rousing western show with their dads, dancing to the theme

of “Rodeo.” That, of course brought “hoots and hollers” from the crowd and towels were ready for the dads as their dances concluded. The 2nd-sixth grade girls danced with their dads in a summer spectacular and danced in swimwear to the Beach Boys.

After Senior Kix performed and brought down the house with “Salsa,” the senior awards were handed out with tears coming from director, Johnson.

Some of the dancers had been there since the program originated 11 years ago.

A grand finale was a culmination of every dancer (minus the dads) on that huge stage, dancing, jumping, waving flags and props and performing to “Get on your feet.” The crowd responded

with a standing ovation and at the culmination of their final dance of the year, many awards were handed out to the dancers for their years of service.

Other dance coaches were Taylor Scott, Kyra Rahn, Sydney Sampson, Cayce Tekautz, Arianna Volkman and Bailey Rau.



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Just For Kix, a local Owatonna dance company performed their final dance recital of the school year. The performance was moved from Owatonna High School to the Four Seasons Centre because of an overwhelming show of support resulting in numbers too big for the high school venue. Pictured are the Wednesday hip-hop dancers performing to the song, “Be Real.”

Kennedy took office in a wave of changes

KENNEDY: from page 1B

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I plan to write more about JFK and his accomplishments as 2017 continues.

He narrowly defeated Richard M. Nixon for

president in 1960.

One of President Kennedy’s most recognized speeches was his Inaugural Address on Jan. 20, 1961.

According to Wikipedia, his inaugural address

encompassed the major themes of his campaign and would define his presidency during a time of economic prosperity, emerging social changes, and diplomatic challenges.

Kennedy’s inaugural address was the first delivered to a televised audience in color.

The speech is considered among the best presidential inaugural speeches in American history. The address was 1364 words and took 13 minutes and 42 seconds to deliver, from the first word to the last word, not including applause at the end, making it the fourth-shortest inaugural address ever delivered.

The most repeated part of the Kennedy address included these words: “And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for



you, ask what you can do for your country.”

If there’s anyone else out there who has been inspired by President Kennedy, please contact me or go to the JFK Library at www.jfklibrary.org

Or, go to www.jfk.org and find the web site for The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza in Dallas, Texas.

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Obituaries

Beverly J. (Nelson) Hoium, 80 and Sterling E. Hoium, 82 of Austin

Beverly J. (Nelson) Hoium, age 80 of Austin, died at home May 11, 2017.

Sterling E. Hoium, age 82 of Austin, Minnesota, died at Mayo Clinic Health System, Austin May 12, 2017.

Sterling and Beverly both attended Blooming Prairie High School. On Aug. 29, 1954, they were united in marriage. Beverly was a housewife and worked for Morgan Building Maintenance in Belvedere, Illinois. Sterling worked for Chrysler in Belvedere, Illinois, for 26 years. When he retired, the couple moved to Austin.

Beverly is preceded in death by her parents, John and Sophia Nelson, and one son Danny

Hoium.

Sterling is preceded in death by his parents Roy and Clara Hoium, their son Danny Hoium, and a brother Arthur Hoium.

Survivors include their children, daughter Peggy (Hoium) Carpenter and her husband Thomas Carpenter, son John Hoium and his wife Stacy Hoium, daughter-in-law Jamie Hoium (Danny’s wife); 7 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren; Sterling’s brother Donald (Merilyn) Hoium, his sister Ann Hoium and her partner Eydie (Penn) Hoium, sister-in-law Esther Hoium (Arthur’s wife); Beverly’s sister Avis (Nelson) Krampitz and her husband Martin; many nieces, nephews, other

relatives and friends. They will be dearly missed by their family and friends.

A Memorial Service was held for Sterling and Beverly at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 18, at the First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, with pastor Heidi Heimgartner officiating.

Friends may call from 10:00-11 a.m. at the church Thursday, immediately preceding the service. Interment will be in First Lutheran Cemetery, Blooming Prairie.

Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Funeral Home of Austin. Memorials can be directed to recipient of donor’s choice. Condolences may



be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com

Leo M. Rendahl, 100 of Blooming Prairie

Leo M. Rendahl, age 100 of Blooming Prairie, died Tuesday, May 16, 2017, at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie. He was born April 25, 1917, at his home in rural Ostrander, Minnesota, the son of Laures and Kaia (Amdahl) Rendahl.

Leo attended country school and graduated from Leroy High School in 1935 before studying Business for one year at Waldorf College. He married Eulah Highm Sept. 7, 1941, in Ostrander. Eulah died Feb. 1, 1995. On June 3, 2000, Leo and Ardis Krejci were married at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie.

Leo served his country during WWII in the U.S. Army. He was drafted in 1942 and served in the South Pacific, earning the rank of Staff Sergeant. His honorable discharge was in December 1945. Leo was a very hard worker. Following school, he worked at a chicken hatchery in Spring Valley, then purchased a hatchery in Ostrander with his brother Vernon.

After serving in the Army, Leo and Vernon, along with

brother-in-law Burton Highum and brother Walter started an agri-business, Rendahl & Highum, in Spring Valley. In the early stages of the business, his brothers Vernon and Walter left the business to farm. Burton died in 1972 and Leo continued to operate the business until his retirement in the 1900s when the business was sold. Leo was a great father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and a good provider who was very proud of his Norwegian heritage.

He never forgot a birthday – everyone got a card from him. Leo believed in faith, family and friends. His children could always count on him for anything. He enjoyed ‘coffee’ with the group in Spring Valley and was an avid sports fan. He followed the Minnesota Twins and was a Vikings season ticket holder.

Leo belonged to the Spring Valley Kiwanis club for over 50 years, the American Legion, and served on the board of directors at Home Federal in Rochester. He was a very active past member of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Spring Valley, serving

as president of the congregation and singing in the choir.

Most recently, Leo was a member of First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. Leo enjoyed fishing in Lake of the Woods, traveling, especially trips to Europe and throughout the United States, and doing crossword puzzles. He wintered in Arizona for many years beginning in 1978.

Leo is survived by his wife Ardis Krejci of Blooming Prairie; his children pastor Robert (Joyce) Rendahl of Dundas, Minnesota, Wayne (Ann Sullivan) Rendahl of Rochester, Jean (Dr. Robert) Breitenbach of Spring Grove, Minnesota, Mark Rendahl of Edina, Lois (Lon) Fjelstad of Apple Valley; 12 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren; and his sister Arlene (Wilbur) Radach of Brainerd. He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife Eulah and 3 brothers.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 20, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with pastor Heidi Heimgartner officiating.



Visitation was held for one hour before the service at the church.

Interment was at Our Savior’s Lutheran Cemetery, Spring Valley. Memorials can be directed to First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, Our Savior’s Cemetery in Spring Valley, or recipient of donor’s choice. Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary announces scholarship recipients

The Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary recently awarded scholarships, totaling nearly \$17,000, to 16 area students who are attending or will attend an accredited educational institution in pursuit of a nursing or health care-related career.

The Donald Sanford Nursing Scholarship program is for those individuals who are pursuing a career in nursing and are entering their first year or more of school. The Auxiliary Health Related Career Scholarship program is for those individuals entering or currently attending school in a health-related career.

Recipients of the **Donald Sanford Nursing Scholarship** are:

- Mariam Omar – attending

Mankato State University and is planning to major in nursing.

- Caitlin Anderson – attending Winona State University and is planning to major in nursing.
- Timon Higgins – attends the University of St. Thomas and is pre-medicine.
- Britt Schultz – attends Winona State University and is majoring in nursing.
- Molly Jacobs – attends Winona State University and is majoring in nursing.
- Heather Miller – attends

College of St. Catherine and is majoring in nursing.

- Sydney Langeslag – attending Augustana University and is planning to major in nursing.
- Millie Wanous – attends Augustana University and is biology/pre-medicine.
- Callie Nagel – attending Mankato State University and is planning to major in nursing.
- Ryann Hagen – attends Winona State University and is majoring in nursing.
- Meagan Nowariak – attends Gustavus Adolphus College and is biology/pre-medicine.
- Ariana Buck – attending University of Wisconsin – La Crosse and is planning to major

in biology and sports medicine.

- Malorie Rappe – attending University of Minnesota – Rochester and is planning to major in health sciences.
- Carissa Kahnke – attends Winona State University and is majoring in nursing.
- Cassidy Schelling – attends Mankato State University and is majoring in nursing.

Proceeds from Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary’s Festival of Tables go towards the funding of these scholarships.

To be eligible for an Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary scholarship, students must pursue a career in health care and live within Steele County.

Riverland College, South Central College to receive funding increases under Higher Education Budget

The Minnesota State Senate last night passed [Senate File 943](#), a \$3.28 billion higher education budget that provides funding increases for Minnesota’s higher education institutions. The budget includes a \$1.66 million increase for Riverland Community College in Owatonna, and a \$1.8 million increase for South Central College in Faribault. In addition, all two-year non-metro colleges will receive additional supplemental funding of at least \$100,000, but potentially as much as \$300,000.

“Minnesota has long tradition of strong colleges and universities,” said Sen. John Jasinski (R-Faribault). “Riverland and South Central College are an important part of that tradition, and our budget makes sure they’ll have the resources they need to continue that track record of success.”

In addition to significant funding increases for the University of Minnesota and Minnesota state

campuses, the higher education budget bill increases funding by \$210 million over forecasted spending for a number of critical programs, such as:

- \$36 million for the state grant program for financial aid
- \$8 million to advance cancer research
- \$5 million for Spinal Cord and Traumatic Brain Injury Research
- \$1 million for Workforce Development Scholarships
- \$750,000 for Large Animal Veterinarian Loan Forgiveness
- \$400,000 to help students with intellectual or developmental disabilities
- \$350,000 for students facing homelessness

The bill also includes a modified tuition freeze for Minnesota State campuses, and a provision requiring student fee increases of more than 2% to be put before students for a vote.

Prairie Family & Sports Chiropractic, P.A. presents:



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Scoliosis

It is thought that scoliosis is the result of a hereditary problem or a result of some type of trauma, such as the birth process, or an injury, such as falling off a bicycle. It usually starts with problems in the lower back. And because spinal bones continue to grow well into the early 20’s, if left uncorrected, scoliosis often worsens.

Unfortunately, the most common treatment approach has been to wait and see how bad it gets, resorting to unsightly braces, or eventually surgery, if it progressed too far.

The chiropractic approach is to use specific spinal adjustments, often combined with corrective exercises. If detected early enough, chiropractic care has had excellent success with scoliosis cases.

To learn more about scoliosis and chiropractic, log on to our website at www.drchad.org. Feel free to e-mail Dr. Chad through the website with any questions. Prairie Family and Sports Chiropractic is here to serve you and your family with gentle and effective chiropractic care. We are located at 344 East Main Street, Downtown Blooming Prairie. Call us at 583-2271 or toll free at 1 (866) SDR-CHAD to schedule an appointment.

Milestones

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays	Amy Simon	Val and Ashley Garcia Clarence & Diana Boyd
May 24 Jacob Peterson Margaret Swenson Sawyer Emanuel Leah Thompson Bella Hernandez	May 28 Jill Lindeman Kristin Lueth Koening Eleanor Harms Karen Valentine Jerry Ingvalson Isaac Ille Jennifer Wondra Jesse Hernandez Kolby Vigeland Ella Salinas	May 25 Mr & Mrs L Dean Christianson
May 25 John Welch Porter Francis DeYoung Maddie Broten Anderson	May 29 Brian Kerrigan Deb Farr Grayson Spinler	May 26 Sarah & Adam Bumgarner
May 26 Alyssa Alwes Sean Ingvalson Dave Klug Connie Williamson Justin Kormann Lou Sheppard	May 30 Gene Myre Ragna Thompson	May 28 Jim & Monica Prihoda Mr & Mrs Doug Krell
May 27 Darrick Schewe Mary Malherek	Anniversaries May 24 Paul and Jackie Smith	May 29 Mr & Mrs Lerald Farrow
		May 30 Michael & Kathleen Iversen

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Wednesday - Turkey

Thursday - Your Choice
Friday - Beef

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SEMCAC senior menu

May 24 Baked Chicken Baked Dumplings Broccoli Carrot Coin Salad Flavored Ice Cream	Calico Beans Pickles Fruit Cocktail Cake
May 25 Roast Beef Mashed Potatoes Stewed Tomatoes Dinner Roll Melon Wedge	May 30 Salisbury Beef Steak ALT: Liver and Onions Baked Potato Seasoned Peas/Celery Pears in Caramel Sauce
May 26 Hamburger on a Bun Potato Salad	May 31 Tater Tot Casserole Coleslaw Beet Pickles Rhubarb Rosies

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Area Church Spotlight

Streetfire Ministries, Blooming Prairie, MN

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Pastor's corner: The power of marriage

I had a chance to do a wedding a few weeks back and it prompted me to once again revisit the whole concept of marriage from a spiritual vantage point. First of all, we must remember that a marriage is a powerful relationship and also a powerful tool against spiritual darkness.

It is, in fact, the second greatest relationship God created after his relationship with man. The first joining of the man and woman fulfilled not only the provision from God for fellowship, companionship and propagation, but also set them up as a mighty team to fulfill Matthew 18:19 which gives power to two in agreement: “Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.”

The words of two in agreement brings the possibility of power. The power of agreement.

I think of those who think of Adam and Eve as just a tale, but in its truth there is much that can be gleaned by us today. God caused Adam to fall into a great sleep and then took from him a rib, or as it translates out in Hebrew, “a portion.”

A piece of man is missing until he finds what was taken from him. The rib. Not taken from the arch of the foot, or under the print of the thumb, from the knee or from the back. The rib. This is very important because when a man finds the one God has chosen for him, she comes and stands by his side.

Not under his foot or his thumb, not running ahead of him or lagging behind him. Right by his side. That

is the perfect fit. The possibility of power. That is coveted by so many. That brings a smile to God's face, but also brings a chill to the bone of the enemy.

People say, “I didn't have as many fights before I got married.” And that is true, but certainly not a cause for abstinence from marriage. Once you are married and enter into commitment, contract and covenant, you become a very serious threat to the kingdom of darkness.

He will fight you for your marriage harder than he's ever fought for anything else you have ever had. He hates the intimacy. He hates the Godly love and covenant. He hates the power you suddenly possess. Bottom line, he wants to take away your prayer of agreement.

Even Peter who was a married

disciple admonishes men to take care to honor that relationship, telling us that it is so powerful that prayer itself could become hindered without it. In Genesis 4:1 Adam became intimate with his wife. Too bad it couldn't have happened while in the garden of Eden. While in the garden, they didn't become intimate, but they did have a battle against Satan himself. And they lost.

That tells me that a couple must never put their warfare before their intimacy, for with their intimacy comes the power to win the battles. Love your spouse, beat down the enemy and never the other way around.

Pastor Mark DeLap
Streetfire Ministries
Blooming Prairie

Area Church Schedule

Lutheran

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 38th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
Sundays at 9:00 am

Sunday School at 10:15 am

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
5881 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 am

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie
Jeff Sandgren, Interim Pastor
Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor
(507) 583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com

Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN—LCMS
2500 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna
The Rev. Mark Rosenau,
the Rev. Gregory Schlicker
(507) 451-4125
www.goodshepherdawatonna.com

Services: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. &
10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN—ELCA
30456 Mower-Freeborn Road, Austin
Pastor Lindsay Stolen
(507) 583-2038 or (507) 437-3000
www.roglutheran.org

Service: 9 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School (Sept-May): 10:15 a.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Kirk Griebel
(507) 451-2720
www.redeemerawatonna.org

Service: 9 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH —LCMS
4532 S.E. 84th Ave., Claremont
The Rev. Alan Broadwell
(507) 528-2404
sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net

Weekly Church Services:
Saturday Evening at 6 p.m. with Holy
Communion, Sunday Morning at
10:30 a.m. with Holy Communion
offered during the 2nd and 4th Sunday
of each month. Sunday School 9:00
a.m. - 10:15 a.m. (Sept. - June)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
28959 630th Ave., Sergeant
Pastor Collin Duling
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
104 First St. S.E., Hayfield
The Rev. Paul Hauschild
(507) 477-2248
www.trinityhayfield.org

Services: 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

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

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

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

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Interim Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
(507) 451-2165
Worship 8:30 AM



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

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2781 S.W. 92nd Ave., Meriden
Interim Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar
(507) 451-2165
Worship 10:30 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor
Dean Smith, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4520 www.tlcowatonna.org
Worship Services: Saturday: 5 p.m.
Sunday: 8:15 & 9:30 a.m.
Sunday: 10:45 a.m. Contemporary
Holy Communion served
All Saturdays & 1st/3rd Sundays
8:15 & 9:30 am Sunday School

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, AFLC
Ellendale, Minnesota
Pastor Richard Sliper
Saturday - 8 a.m. Men's
Bible Study Sunday - 9 a.m.
Worship: 10:10 Sunday School;
10:15 Coffee and Fellowship
Tuesday - 6 a.m. Call to Prayer, open
to all Churches; 7 p.m. Call to Prayer
Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study;
6 p.m. Call to Prayer; 6:15 Hands
of Praise; 6:30 Confirmation;
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

MOLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
7618 NE 84 Ave, Kenyon
Pastor Nancy Edwardson
(507) 789-6666
(Sept. - May) 10:45 a.m. Worship
(June - Aug.) 9:00 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Catholic

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St. Hayfield
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 477-2256
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.
Reconciliation: Before Mass
Adoration: Thursdays 9 to noon

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC PARISH
114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 583-2784
stcolumbanuschurch.com
Sunday Mass: 10 a.m. Sunday.
Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 First St. SW., New Richland
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 465-8217
Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor
Fr. Jose Morales,
Weekend Presider
(507) 451-1588
www.litomyslwebs.com
Reconciliation: after Mass 1st Sunday
Eucharistic Adoration: 6:45 p.m.
Stations of the cross.
Memorial Day May 29th, At the
Litomysl Cemetery - Military Services
@ 8:15 a.m. by Ellendale American
Legion & VFW; @ 8:30 a.m. (note
Time) Mass with Father Sauer (Bring
your own Chairs)

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer
The Rev. Jose Morales,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588

www.sacredheartawatonna.org
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday,
8:30 a.m., & 10 a.m.
Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sunday
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday
Adoration: Thursdays 9 a.m.- 10 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
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Fr. Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sat. Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Reconciliation 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday
Daily Mass 8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri
(Communion Service 8 a.m. Thursday)
Adoration Chapel avail Mon-Fri
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. key fob
required after hrs or wknds

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING
205 NW Second Ave., Medford
(507) 451-6353

Fr. Kevin Connolly, Pastor
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
Monday Mass: 9 a.m.

Christian

CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH
540 18th St. SE, Owatonna
Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor
507-451-1032
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Connections 10:15 a.m.

DESTINY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Owatonna Campus
422 W. North Street, Owatonna
Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
507-254-8514 www.destinycc.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

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616-788-1044
www.streetfireministries.net

Pentecostal

FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF OWATONNA
230 Locust Ave, Owatonna
Pastor Eliazar Talamantes
(507) 363-3046
www.upcowatonna.com
Sundat Service: 10am

Methodist

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Medford
(7 miles west of Medford on CR 23)
Pastor Cindy Kennedy
(507) 835-8726
Service: 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday
ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 Sixth St. N.W., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirkseña
(507) 684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday
Free home style meal on the first
Sunday of the month through Dec.
2016. Worship is at 10:30 a.m.
followed by the free meal at
11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday
Contemporary Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Church School/Adult Classes: 10 a.m.
*Starting June 4, there will be one
service at 9 a.m. followed by coffee time.

Non-Denominational

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
130 East Bridge St. Owatonna,
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Sundays 10:00 AM

Coffee Fellowship starts at 9:30 a.m.
Reformers Unanimous Meetings
Fridays at 7 p.m.

CEDAR CREEK CHURCH
30 E. Main St. P.O. Box 224,
Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
(507) 477-2255
www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

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

NEW BEGINNINGS CHURCH
332 14th St. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Scott Peterson
(507) 721-1366
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
Gateway Connection: 6 p.m. Sunday

DESTINY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Owatonna Campus
422 W. North Street, Owatonna
Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
507-254-8514
www.destinycc.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
SIMPLE CHURCH
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661
Sundays 9:30
Meeting in the Country Goods
building across the
freeway from Cabela's.
Other gatherings? Please call.

Mennonite

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

Mormon

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

Presbyterian

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

Seventh-Day Adventist

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

UCC

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

Assembly of God

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

Baptist

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



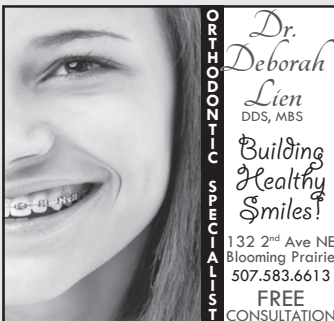
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HOMETOWNEXTRA

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

Young actors take the stage in Blooming Prairie

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer



Staff photos by Howard Lestrud

Sixth grader Sierra Larson was the magic mirror in the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs in Blooming Prairie last week.



Prairie Fire Children's Theatre director Derek Brookens played the part of the Huntsman in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at the Blooming Prairie High School last weekend. He is shown in the magic mirror.

Snow White and seven of her little friends, plus a larger cast of characters, visited Blooming Prairie last week.

With a unique twist to the popular fairy tale, two directors from the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre, Shannon Fields and Derek Brookens worked with 75 young aspiring actors and actresses.

Seventy-five students of Blooming Prairie Elementary School in grades 3-6 participated in the production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Public performances were staged at the BP High School last Friday night before 300 theatre goers and to a crowd of about 150 on Saturday afternoon.

This year's Prairie Fire production was the seventh show put on by elementary students with sponsorship provided by the Blooming Prairie Parent Teachers Organization, said Nicki Bishop of the PTO.

Other Prairie Fire productions staged in Blooming Prairie were: "Sleeping Beauty," "Beauty and the Beast," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Cinderella," the "Wizard of Oz" and Robin Hood and his Merry Band."

Fifteen second graders, coached by second grade teacher Kim Lea, were part of the show as "The Opening Act." The 10-minute opening featured second graders showing Prairie Pride through Snow White.

"The kids showed a lot of creativity during the performance," said Mrs. Lea. "They had an opportunity to portray themselves in a different manner," she added.

In memorizing their parts, cast members were caught laughing and joking with one another, Mrs. Lea said. Her fourth grade son played the part of the prince and her sixth grade daughter Madi was cast as Snow White.

The shows featured actors in full costumes provided by the Prairie Theatre.

Prairie Fire Children's Theatre (PFCT) is a professional touring theatre company based in Barrett, Minnesota and has been bringing a theatrical experience to communities across the upper Midwest since 1987. Prairie Fire tours a variety of original musical adaptations of classic tales.

Throughout the entire year, Prairie Fire Children's Theatre sends two professional Actors/Directors to a community for a one-week residency. Local children fill the roles, and PFCT provides everything needed to do the show.

Prairie Fire not only specializes in touring original adaptations of classic children's tales but also has a touring program for junior and senior high schools.

Theatrical workshop residencies are also available from Prairie Fire. For more information, go to prairiefirechildrenstheatre.com.

The theatre group held tryouts on Monday, May 15 and rehearsals started that same day at the elementary school.

Four-hour rehearsals continued on Tuesday and Wednesday at the elementary school and Thursday at the high school. Dress rehearsal took place Friday afternoon with the first public performance on Friday night.

Director Shannon Fields is a native of Madison, WI. She graduated from high school in Stoughton, WI. Fields earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Western Illinois in musical theatre. She joined Prairie Fire last January.

Director Derek Brookens is from Port Allegany, PA. He was a graduate of a 96-member high school senior class in

Allegany. He then attended Ohio Northern University where he obtained a BFA in musical theatre. He met up with Prairie Theatre at tryouts in Memphis, TN last October. He auditioned amongst a field of 400 candidates looking for a job.

Prior to going on the road with the Snow White production, Shannon and Derek took some intense training from Prairie Fire.

Their first show was Jan. 27 in Mahanomen, MN. Derek plays the role of the Huntsman and Shannon plays the role of the evil queen.

Most of their presentations are elementary, however they have done exclusively middle school and a production of just seniors.

The Blooming performance represents the 35th of Snow White for Shannon and Derek. Both hope to continue their careers with Prairie Fire.

"We're getting pretty good at Snow White," smiled Shannon. Shannon plays the part of the evil queen and Derek is cast in the role of the Huntsman. "We switched roles in a recent rehearsal and that was fun," Derek related.

The Prairie directors were very complimentary to the Blooming Prairie actors. "Some of these Blossom kids have been in past Prairie Fire performances and they know the ropes," Derek said.

"The kids really did a great job and had fun in playing to a live audience," said director Fields.

Second graders performed an opening act entitled Prairie Pride, The Blossom Way as told by Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Narrators were: Gracelyn Anderson, Daisy Heimer, Riley Johnson, Aubrey Klocke and Neila Nelson. The Seven Dwarfs were: Dopey, Logan Beadell; Grumpy, Jasper Doocy; Sleepy, Sophia Esplan; Sneezy, Cooper Foster; Happy, Avry Hoffman; Doc, Zachary Holmberg and Bashful, Evan Westphal.

BP second graders recited a Prairie Pride pledge to the melody of a Queen song, "We Will Rock You."

The main show featuring 75 cast members then began with the directors saying that his show set time records versus other Snow White performances.

"There were so many lines for the kids to learn in just five days and they did it," remarked Nicki Bishop, Blooming Prairie PTO volunteer.

The Grimm fairy tale featured many colloquial twists with the Seven Dwarfs actually having different names. They also sang "Oh Yeah" refrains rather than the familiar "High-Ho" Seven Dwarf theme.

References were made to rock and pop entertainers Michael Jackson (Thriller)

and to Elvis Presley (Heartbreak Hotel).

Directors Brookens and Fields coyly guided the production with their professional acting abilities. The Huntsman, with characters at his side, went into the audience searching for Snow White. He caught a PTO member on her cell phone and asked: "Have you seen Snow White? Who are you texting? If you are texting Snow White, let me know if you find her."

Directors Brookens and Fields said it was challenging to work in the part of Prince Charming waking Snow White with a kiss. Since they were siblings in real life, the Heimlich Maneuver was used to save Snow White from the Evil Queen.

Cast members included: Snow White, Madi Lea; Prince, Alex Lea; Mirror, Sierra Larson; Raven #1, Anika Sunde; Raven #2, Kolby Vigeland; Raven #3, Shanna Halverson; (Seven Dwarfs) Hickory, Hannah Freese; Bebop, Abby Smith; Bart, Mason Simon; Jazz, Brady Kittelson; Tumalum, Drew Reinke; Banzai, Madelyn Harvey and Daybreak, Natalie DeVries.

Forest creatures were: Jenna Johnson, Miley Ripka, Allison Blume, Jason Harberts, Nash Fawver, Carter Bishop, Kaydance Schumacher, Sierra Miller, Jazlyn Kapuch, Isaiah Jones and Ayden Jones.

Cast as townspeople were: Hannah Green, Madison Thurnau, Bo Zwiener, Anna Reese, Grace Krejci, Sandz Hamersma, Hanna Hamersma, Haven Carlson, Sophie Thomas, Lily Schammel, Layla Lembke, Milayna Davis, Jacob Pauly, Colby Johnson, Lance Lembke, Will Sunde, Lilihana McDaniel, Cleopatra Carlson, Ella Farr, Abigail Suchanek, Ambriella Miller and Chloe Weber.

Spellbinders were: Rachel Winzenburg, Madelaine Stoen, Ella Smith, Hailey Schumacher, Cameron Blume, Claire Foster, Olivia Anderson, Karrah Green, Bailey Brown, Anna Pauly, Abby Hefling, Jaylee Schleicher, Hailey Hensrud, Anna Kuglin, Zoey Alwes, Samantha Hefling, Ruby Evans and Addison Haugland.

The technical crew consisted of Karter Snyder, Sandz Hamersma, Paul Sunde and Avery Dean Miller.

The play featured 20 scenes, all eliciting heavy applause following their conclusions.

Brookens and Fields thanked the parents, PTO members and the teacher/parent volunteers who helped make the play a success. Special credit was also given to Haley Tollefson, US Bank, Rachel Harberts, Kari Bottin and school custodians.



These are not the typical Seven Dwarfs (Dopey, Grumpy, Sleepy, Sneezy, Happy, Doc and Bashful). They are instead, Hickory (Hannah Freese), Bebop (Abby Smith), Bart (Mason Simon), Jazz (Brady Kittelson), Tumalum (Drew Reinke), Banzai (Maddelyn Harvey) and Daybreak Natalie DeVries).



Submitted photo

The cast of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs takes a curtain call after its evening performance last Friday night at the Blooming Prairie High School. BP Elementary School students, grades 2-6, were in the play. A matinee performance was also given on Saturday afternoon. The play directed by Prairie Fire Children's Theatre staff was sponsored by the BP Elementary Parents Teachers Organization.

Hometown Sports

C Section

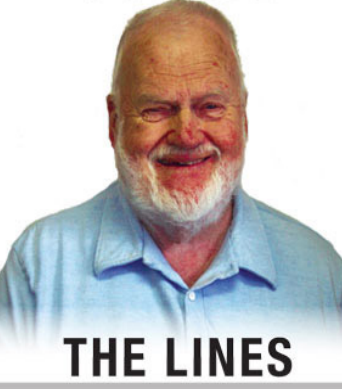
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Tuesday, May 23, 2017



Triple threat, 5C

OUTSIDE



THE LINES

LeMar Nelson

This week of sports

I hope it wasn't a harbinger of the playoffs, but the Blossom softball team had a rough week in losing three-straight games. After an 11-game win streak culminating just two weeks ago, a losing streak is the last thing the team needs going into sub-section play yesterday.

The team is a good one, and success at the sub-section is certainly a distinct possibility. We wish them the best of luck, as they compete this week. If they play good defense, get some good pitching, and have the hitters make contact, everything will work out.

The baseball team had one of its better weeks of the season with two wins in four games. A loss to NRHEG earlier in the week, and a last inning defeat at the hands of No.5 ranked Mankato Loyola balanced wins over Glenville-Emmons and a strong Bethlehem Academy nine. The team played Medford at home last night and then has to travel to Adams Thursday for a sub-section game against Southland. We also wish the team luck as it does battle in the sub-section tournament.

The track teams struggled in team competition, but several individuals are faring well. Alec Ille looks to break his own records in the 1600 and 3200-meter runs, very time he competes in either race, and Sam Wurst is shining in the 400-meter races. A couple of the relay teams are also putting up some good numbers. In their competition. We wish the teams good luck this week in their sub-section performances.

Finally, we look forward to the action in golf, as the boys' team and individuals play in sub-section action this week. If the boys can repeat as sub-section champs will be a question, but most importantly, can Tommy Braaten and Taylor Christianson defend their individual crowns. Certainly fans and the whole BP community will be rooting for them.

Concert a real treat

An attentive audience appreciated and enjoyed a great band concert at the BPHS auditorium last Wednesday evening, as the band members displayed a great deal of talent in presenting the numbers. From the original

LINES

Continued on page 3C



Staff photos by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna's Brock Hanson (20) lays down a bunt in the bottom of the third inning during the Huskies Game 1 win over Northfield on Thursday night at Dartr's Park. Hanson reached safely after a throwing error was committed by a Northfield player.

Hanson's bunt in third inning sparks rally in Owatonna's Game 1 win of doubleheader with Northfield

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

After a comeback win over Faribault on Tuesday, the Owatonna baseball team returned to Chuck Fuller Field in Dartr's Park to host Northfield in a Big Nine Conference doubleheader.

Thursday night also happened to be Senior Night, where the Huskies were to recognize the future graduates on all their contributions to the program over the years.

In game one, there was one senior that decided to make it just a bit more memorable.

Despite allowing three runs late, Owatonna starting pitcher Jacob Gauthier fired 4 2/3 hitless innings to fend off the Raiders for a 6-3 win in game one Tuesday.

"At home it hasn't been an easy thing for us, but overall, we took some momentum from

Tuesday's game in Faribault and we were down 3-0 in that game," commented Huskies head coach Tate Cummings after the second game of the evening. "I thought we came back very nicely in that game, some great small ball played and a couple big hits."

Gauthier was on his game early and it pretty much stayed that way for much of the contest. Through three innings, the senior faced just ten batters without allowing a hit. In fact, in the second inning, Gauthier needed just seven pitches to retire the side. Cummings noted that it was one of the better starts for the senior this season.

"This is one of his first games that he was really able to pitch deep into the game," he said. "He got through the sixth inning for us which is awesome and I think that was important for him. It was good, he did what we needed."

The senior held a no-hitter through 4 2/3 innings and then the Raiders started to dial in on Gauthier.

Managing to easily record the first two outs of the inning, Northfield's Hunter Koep was able to force the senior into a full-count prior to being walked. Just two batters later with runners on first and second, Seth Thompson delivered a RBI double, scoring both runners to give Northfield the early 2-0 lead. Thompson would extend the lead to 3-0 after Ryan Bielenberg delivered a RBI single.

Facing an all too familiar hole at home, Owatonna's Zach Mensink and Ben Staska started the inning with back-to-back walks. With runners on first and second, Brock Hanson managed to reach safely on a throwing error by Northfield's Nic Zabel, scoring Mensink, cutting the lead to 3-1. The following at-bat, Nolan

Malo delivered an RBI single to bring in Staska, bringing the Huskies just a mere run away from tying the game.

Malo's RBI single was just the third hit of the game for Owatonna. For the game, the Huskies finished with eight hits.

After Kodey Kiel delivered a single, Tucker Alstead's sacrifice fly to right tied the game at 3-3. Cummings added that Alstead's hit was big. The final hit of the inning was Noah Budach's RBI double to score Kiel to give the Huskies a 4-3 lead.

Holding a slim one-run lead, Gauthier appeared to regain his composure, allowing just two hits in his final two innings. In six innings of work, he registered four strikeouts and allowed just three runs on five hits. He also allowed five walks.

In the bottom of the inning, Tucker Alstead's RBI double extended the Huskies' lead to 6-3

after Spencer Parker Westphal and Spencer Glynn – who was pinch running for Brock Hanson – managed to reach base safely. Aside from Alstead's double, Hanson single to lead-off the inning was the only other Huskies' hit in the sixth inning and third since the two-hit showing in the fourth inning.

Boasting a three-run lead, Abe Havelka came to the mound in relief for Gauthier to record the save.

In game two, the Huskies were hitless until Nate Deason's single in the bottom of the fifth. Owatonna had four hits in the night cap. Owatonna also utilized three arms from the bullpen, with Brady Schuster receiving the start as Owatonna fell 6-1.

Havelka took the loss after coming in for Schuster and was

HUSKIES

Continued on page 3C



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Blossoms drop third straight

Blooming Prairie take slump into sub-section play

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Faribault - After losing to NRHEG earlier in the week, the Awesome Blossom softball team dropped a third game in a row when Bethlehem Academy shut down the Blossoms 5-0 at Faribault on Thursday.

Blooming Prairie finished the regular season 13-7 overall and 8-4 n conference action, good for second place.

The Cardinals took a 1-0 lead in the first inning on a leadoff single, a stolen base, and two fielders choices. The game remained scoreless then until the bottom of the fifth when a no out double and another hit made it 2-0.

Three more runs in the bottom of the sixth finished the scoring for Bethlehem Academy. Two hits, a fielder's choice, and a Blossom error allowed the runs to score.

Elly Strunk took the loss, allowing five hits, and walking one, while striking out three batters.

NRHEG nips Blossoms

The NRHEG girls softball team earned a measure of revenge for an earlier loss, as they defeated the Awesome Blossoms softball team 5-1 on the BP field Monday.

It improved the Panthers' record to 5-6 in the conference and 8-11 overall.

As Panthers Coach Wendy Schultz remarked, "This was a well-played game, and we got some key hits from the middle and bottom of our lineup for big help. Blooming Prairie is a good team, and they hit a lot of hard drives, but fortunately, today was an 'at em' day for us. I'm very proud of the way we played."

NRHEG tallied a single run in the second inning. Alexis Anderson and pitcher Aaseth each drove in a run, including Anderson's game winner in the sixth. Two insurance runs scored in the seventh, one on the Blossoms' second error of the game, and one on Camerer's single.

Muri had two hits in the contest, including a double.

Blooming Prairie's lone run came in the fifth when Bria Baldwin singled, stole second, and scored on Allison Krohnberg's hit.

Aaseth earned the win in the circle, as she gave up just the one run on three hits, and six walks. She struck out one. Strunk took the loss, allowing seven hits and walking four, while striking out five Panther hitters.

Editor's note:



Staff photo by Seth Bedenbaugh

McKenna Hein (10) throws a pitch on Monday during the Blossoms' 15-2 loss to Rochester Lourdes at BPHS. Blooming Prairie has dropped three-straight games.

Blossoms golfers medal at Gopher Conference meet

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Waseca - Although the team finished out of first by just one stroke, and the girls had an incomplete team, BP individual golfers swept medalist honors at the Gopher Conference final match at Waseca on Thursday, May 18.

United South Central won the boys' team division with a 346 total to Blooming Prairie's 347. Maple River claimed third at 348, NRHEG had 397, and FBA trailed at 413.

The overall title for the season went to Maple River while the Blossoms earned a second place finish and USC took third.

For the girls, USC won the day's match and also won the season title.

Individually, Tommy Braaten earned medalist and All-conference honors for the boys with a 75 to edge Khrystjan Peterson, after he had trailed Peterson by

two strokes entering the day's competition.

Lucas Noble and Jake Ressler finished fifth and sixth individually for All-conference choices. Braaten had a 39.0 average for the season, noble a 43.4, and Ressler a 45.6.

Jon Herron, Austin Behne, Colin Jordison, Kollyn Alwes, Tommy Donnelly, and Isaac Smith also golfed for the boys.

Taylor Christianson proved the clear medalist for the girls with an 87 and also earned an All-Conference selection.

Jessica Ressler claimed second behind Christianson.

Atom Oquist led the NRHEG contingent with a 48.6 average, and Oakley Baker shot 50.4. Ross Lenort, Brett Kubiatowcz, Noah Sletten, and Jacob Lerberg averaged 52.6, 53.2, 56.3, and 56.4 respectively.

Kyra Possin and Jill Jongbloedt shot 56 and 57 for the NRHEG girls.

NRHEG softball falls despite 18 hits

Faribault - A slugfest went against NRHEG as Bethlehem Academy out hit the Panthers and piled up 14 runs in a 14-11 win at Faribault on Thursday may 18.

The loss dropped NRHEG to 8-12 overall and 5-7 in conference play.

The Panthers scored five runs in the first inning, but the Cardinals answered with a pair in the bottom half of the first and six in the second to take an 8-5 lead in the third.

The Panthers went ahead 9-8 with two runs in the fourth and fifth, but Bethlehem Academy responded again by counting six runs in the fifth, and holding on for the victory.

"There were a lot of hits in this game," remarked Coach Wendy Schultz. "Everyone on our team had at least one hit, and not too many times can a team pound out 18 hits and still lose the game."

"We gave the conference champs a run for their money and we have made a lot of improvement over the season."

Area sports round up

Paige Knudson, Kayley Camerer, Sheila Lembke, and Gabby Muri all had three hits each, and Grace Johns added two hits.

Knudson and Johns both had doubles, and Knudson and Camerer had two RBIs each. NRHEG had 11 runs and 18 hits, and both teams made four errors. Natalie Aaseth took the loss for the Panthers.

Maple River sweeps Medford in doubleheader

Mapleton - The Tigers recorded five hits and comitted six errors in Game 1 to fall 12-2 in six innings. Kori Dodge and Izzy Reuvers recorded four of the Tigers' five hits. Madison Klein was the other hit for Medford.

Mack Paulson took the loss going five innings.

In Game two, Medford fell 5-1, recording just four hits.

Dodge went 2-for-2 with an RBI to score the lone run. Reuvers received the loss, going seven innings and allowing five runs on six hits.

Medford tops WEM 7-6

Waterville - Registering 12 hits, the Medofrd softball team continues to right the ship prior to the start of section play with a 7-6 win over Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Monday.

The Tigers never trailed in the contest after recording three runs in the first three innings before a big four-run inning in the top of the fourth.

Reuvers led the hit parade, going 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Kiley Nihart, Dodge, and Klein each recorded a pair of hits.

Mack Paulson received the win in the circle, going six innings and allowing eight hits and three earned runs. She would also strike out six.

WEM too much for Tigers

After a pair of monster innings, the Medford baseball team could rebound, falling 10-3 Monday in Medford to Waterville-Elysian-Morristown.

Cole Volkman received the loss, going four innings and allowing five runs on six hits. He would strikeout four.

Six different players recorded a hit for Medford with doubles coming from Jon O' Daffer and

Javis VonRuden.

Javis VonRuden, Volkman and Ben Borash each recorded an RBI in the loss.

Eagles strike late, often, down Tigers

Mapleton - After a two-run first inning, Maple River went scoreless for two innings.

Then the Eagles found a groove.

Scoring five runs in the final three innings, Maple River cruised to a 7-2 win over Medford on Thursday.

The Tigers recorded nine hits but managed to score the lone two runs in the top of the fifth and seventh innings.

Willie VonRuden, Ian Gillis and Ben Borash led the offense for the Tigers as each player recorded a pair of hits in the contest.

Javis VonRuden had the team's lone RBI.

Nathan Meixner took the loss on the mound, going three innings after allowing two runs on two hits and a pair of walks.

Alex Gengler, Willie VonRuden and Cole Volkman each recorded an inning pitched.

Blossoms split conference contests



Staff photo by Seth Bedenbaugh

Dylan Nirk prepares to throw ball back to Blossoms' pitcher Jack Abbe in the Blossoms 8-2 win over Bethlehem Academy Thursday.

Blossoms look to close regular season on high note

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Following a loss to NRHEG earlier in the week, the Awesome Blossom baseball team did a quick turnaround and won the second game in three outings.

The team played a clean game and defeated Bethlehem Academy 8-2 in conference action on the home diamond. A big seven-run second inning added to a 1-0 first inning lead, and that was more than enough to preserved the victory.

The Cardinals counted a pair of runs in the fourth, but that was the extent of the scoring for Bethlehem Academy. Most of the seven runs in the second came on four hits, and a pair of Cardinal errors.

Max Romeo's double drove in two runs, and Connor Getchell stroked a triple for two more runs while Brad Sitaska had two

hits and an RBI, as well.

As Coach Matt Kittelson commented, "We cut down on the walks to the opposition and made just one error, and that made all the difference. I said that if could do that, the wins would come."

Blooming Prairie had eight runs on eight hits and an error; Bethlehem Academy had two runs, eight hits, and four errors.

Jack Abbe got the win on the mound, giving up two earned runs, walked three and struck out three. Seth Peterson got the last out in the seventh inning to preserve the win.

Payton Simon and Staska both had two hits to lead the offense. The Blossoms are 3-13 overall and 2-8 in conference action.

NRHEG walks over BP

New Richland - After clobbering Glenville-Emmons 20-5 on Saturday, May 13, the Awesome

Blossom baseball team fell 7-2 to NRHEG at New Richland on Monday May 15.

The Panthers had just three hits, but they combined them with seven walks off two Blossom pitchers to count the runs.

NRHEG trailed 1-0 heading into the bottom of the fourth, but rallied for all seven runs in the next two innings to take full control.

Cole Staloch had two of the Panthers' three hits, while Brad Staska had three hits and an RBI for the Blossoms. Connor Getchell had one of the other nine hits and the other RBI for the Blossoms.

Jack Schultz pitched all seven innings for the Panthers, allowing nine hits and walking just two. He also had seven strikeouts.

Staska pitched the first four innings, with Seth Peterson working the last 1 1/3.

Huskies win Game 1 of doubleheader thanks to strong pitching performance

HUSKIES: from page 1C

relieved by Hanson in the fifth inning.

Box Score (Game 1)
NHS 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 3 5 4
OHS 0 0 0 4 0 2 x 6 8 1

WP - Gauthier: 6 IP, 3R, 5H, 4K, 5BB. **S** - Havelka: 1 IP, 0R, 0H, K.
Batting: Kiel 2-3, Alstead 1-4 (2 RBI), Budach 2-4 (RBI), Havelka 0-2 (2 BB), Schuster 1-3, Mensink 1-2, Staska 0-1, Hanson 1-2 (RBI), Malo 0-2 (RBI).

Box Score (Game 2)
NHS 0 0 0 5 1 0 0 6 8 1
OHS 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 4 1

LP - Schuster: 3 2/3 IP, 3R, 2H, K, 3 BB.

Huskies snap losing streak in

7-4 win over Falcons

Faribault - Despite spending a good amount of energy to assist Faribault with getting the field to playable conditions, the Huskies had just enough left in the tank.

Holding a slim 5-4 lead in the top of the seventh inning, a pair of sacrifice flies by Zach Mensink and Brady Schuster allowed the Huskies to build a 7-4 lead that would hold up to break a four-game losing streak.

Owatonna trailed only once in the contest - a 2-1 deficit after the first inning - as they managed to record a trio of runs in the second inning to hold a slim 4-3 lead.

Despite surrendering seven walks, senior Kodey Kiel managed to allow just two earned runs on three hits.

Kiel would throw 107 pitches

in 5 2/3 innings of work and was 1-for-3 at the plate with an RBI.

Nolan Malo led the Huskies at the plate with a 2-for-3 outing and a RBI double.

Mayo routs Huskies

On Monday, Owatonna played host to Rochester Mayo in Darrts Park in a Big Nine Conference tilt.

The Huskies seemed lost from the start.

Registering just four hits, Owatonna suffered a 12-0 loss to the Spartans in five innings. Matt Bothun received the loss for the Huskies, going 4 1/3 innings and allowed seven runs on nine hits.

Kiel, Alstead, Spencer Glynn and Malo were the lone Huskies to record a hit in the contest.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna’s Jacob Gauthier throws a pitch during Game 1 of a doubleheader at Darrts Park against Northfield on Thursday. Gauthier had a no-hit bid midway through the fourth inning and picked up the win as Owatonna rallied for a 6-3 win.

Maple River dominates track

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Medford - It proved to be a banner day for the Maple River track teams, as the Eagles swept the Gopher conference track meet at Medford on Tuesday, May16. NRHEG finished second to the champions in the men’s division, while WEM and the Panthers both trailed in the women’s division. Blooming Prairie placed sixth in the men and seventh in the women’s divisions.

NRHEG earned six firsts for the men, with one second and

three thirds. The Panther girls had two firsts and four third place finishes.

Brady Agrimson pulled down three first place finishes in the meet, with wins in both hurdles races and the triple jump. He won the 110-meter hurdles in 16.73 and the 300-meter hurdles in 43.26, and triple jump 40’4”.

The 4x800- meter relay team of Jacob Schuller, Teddy Gushwa, Agro Gushwa, and Lonnie Wilson ran that race in 5:51.58, and the 4x200-meter relay team of Journey Utpadel, Schuller, Cody Cory, and Agro Gushwa came in second place

with a time of 1:41.93.

Agro Gushwa, Brenden McMann, and Lonnie Wilson, plus the 4x800 relay team, all finished third.

The NRHEG girls 4x100-meter relay team of Marnie Wagner, Maddie Wagner, Caitlin Goette, and Elsa Gushwa won in 1:54.43, and Maddie Wagner took the high jump with a leap of 5’4”.

Olivia Christopherson ran third in the 300-meter hurdles and the high jump, and Lauren Herman placed third in the shot put.

The 4x400 relay team had the third place for the Panthers.

The Blooming Prairie boys earned a first from Alec Ille in the 1600-meter race, with a time of 4:34.91, and he placed third in the 800-meter run as well.

The other third for the Blossom boys came from the 4x100-meter relay team. The only first for the girls came from Sam Wurst who won the 400-meter dash in 1:06.18.

Leah Schiefert placed third in the pole vault, as did Rachel Oswald in the long jump, and the 4x100-meter relay team rounded out the Blooming Prairie scoring with a third in that event.

Huskies drop season finale doubleheader

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

Despite countless attempts from Mother Nature to postpone senior night for the Owatonna softball team, there was a window of clear skies and adequate temperatures for the Huskies.

Playing host to No.2 (Class AAA) Faribault, Owatonna simply couldn’t get anything going.

Makayla Armbruster registered seven strikeouts and allowed four hits as the Falcons topped the Huskies 5-0 Tuesday evening at Manthey Park.

Faribault jumped out to a 4-0 after scoring a pair of runs in the top of the second and third innings before adding an insurance

run in the top of the seventh.

Owatonna was led offensively by Tiana Blazek’s two hits in three appearances at the plate. Jenna VonRuden and Jamie Davison recorded the other two hits for the Huskies.

Alexa Sommers recorded the loss, allowing five runs (four earned) on eight hits in seven innings of work. She would also registered three strikeouts and three walks.

**Editor’s note: In Thursday doubleheader, the Huskies dropped both games 9-1 and 13-3. Final statistics were not reported prior to press.*

Faribault Triangular
(Ted Nelson track, Faribault)

Team scores: Owatonna 95, Faribault 64.5, Red Wing 26.5

Individual results

100-meter dash: 1. Jason Williamson 11.67, 2. Alex Raichle 11.68, 6. Taylor Hall 12.37. 200-meter dash: 2. Brandon Schmidt 24.43, 5. Dalton Kubista 24.72, 6. Jaden Dowhaniuk 24.93. 400-meter dash: 1. Dowhaniuk 53.95, 3. Owen Koslosky 55.70. 800-meter dash: 3. Bretton Ruiter 2:18.29, 8. David Crawford 2:31.13. 1600-meter run: 2. Braydon Kubat 4:37.85, 6. Jacob Pfeifer 4:53.11. 3200-meter run: 2. Bryce Knuston 11:02.12, 3. Evan Steiger 11:17.00, 5. Steven St. Martin 11:30.29. *110-meter hurdles: 1. Andrew Jackson 16.2, 3. Schmidt 18.1, 6. Keenon Young 18.4. 300-meter hurdles: 1. Jackson 43.73, 2. Young 43.79, 3. Zach Barrett 45.05. 4x100-meter relay: 1. Owatonna 45.88. 4x200-meter relay: 1. Owatonna 1:35.15. 4x400-meter relay: 1. Owatonna 3:34.68. 4x800-meter relay: 1. Owatonna 8:50.42. High Jump: 1. Jayden Gunderson 5-08, 2. Scott Kingland 5-08. Pole Vault: 2. Colton Kamholz 11-07, 4. Carlos Beasoche 10-01. Triple Jump: 1. Kubista 43-00.25, 7. Kingland 35-08. Shot Put: 2. Darik Elstad 49-03.5, 3. Ethan DeKam 46-08.75, 4. Andy Jensen 45-00.75. Discus: 2. Elstad 131-02, 3. Chandler Buckhalter 122-00, 4. Jensen 109-01. *Denotes hand-timed event

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STEELE COUNTY TIMES

Chateau Raceway

These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of May 19

No results due to being rained out

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Playoffs near for area sports teams

LINES: from page 1C

selections, the groups did a great job in entertaining the audience in attendance.

With the chorus concert still to come this spring, it has been easy to see during this school year that the music department continues to illustrate and establish a fine sense of performance and accomplishment. A tip of the hat this week to the band students and Director Ross Reishus.

A fitting tribute

Although it kept relatively quiet until a feature in the People’s press gave it well-deserved notice last week, BPHS senior Richy Feeney fulfilled a long-time baseball dream two weeks ago when he stroked a single against Maple River. One might not think too much of that, but to Feeney, a special needs student and a first-year player on the team, it was monumental. The entire team applauded his feat, and Richy’s father also especially enjoyed the moment.

According to the Feeney family a great deal of credit for that thrilling occasion goes to his teammates, his fellow students in school and coach Matt Kittelson. In fact, the entire Blooming Prairie community deserves some credit for the support of this boy, who has overcome many medical obstacles to reach this point in his life. It is one of those stories that makes ev-

ery individual with whom he has come in contact proud, yet humbled to have been a part of this experience. It is a once-in-a lifetime moment.

down nm the calendar and make plans to attend raffle tickets for the event right now.

And how much fun is it to

follow the Minnesota Twins’ baseball team this season after the debacle of the last two years. To find them in first place halfway through May is just a pleasant surprise. Let’s hope they can stay competitive the rest of the season, and think they can, as long as the starting pitching

stays strong.

With all of the spring sports teams at BPHS in playoffs, it will be either an exciting time or one of disappointment. Let’s hope that is the latter. Which-ever it is, we will talk again.

Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Blossoms pitcher Jack Abbe throws a pitch during the Blossoms 20-5 win over Glenville on May 13 at the baseball field at BPHS. Blooming Prairie will play Southland thursday to start Sub-Section play.

GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS

WEEK 2 - May 15

1	Braaten, PirkI, Resler	15.5
2	Pfiefer, Wanous, Hardecopf	14
3	Behnken, Peterson, Peterson	12.5
4	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	12
5	Grunklee, Evans, Possehl	11.5
5	Morgon, Olson, Olson	11.5
5	Carlson, Scheifer Jones, Kittelson	11.5
8	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	11
8	D. Glynn, C. Glynn, Esplan	11
8	Strunk, Farr, Koster	11
11	Clark, Blome, Skala	10.5
11	Stangle, Stangle, Flemming	10.5
13	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	9
14	Larock, Iacovino, Schwartz	8
14	MotI, Myer, Lembke	8
16	White, Lysne, Johnson	7.5
17	Glynn, Gorman, Malo	7
17	Bartsch, Lewer, Kartes	7
19	Johnson, Kvaltson, Bolver	6.5
20	Doerhoefer, Olson, Worke	6
20	R. Skala, J. Skala, Theile	6
22	Haberman, Henefield, Nahlovsky	5.5
23	Hinzmann, Wurst, Hueman	5
24	Lea, Hansen, D. Johnson	3.5
25	Klemmensen, J. Klemmensen, R. Anderson	2

TOP SCORES

A	Braaten, PirkI, Resler	30
B	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	32
B	Strunk, Farr, Koster	32
C	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	32
C	Stangle, Stangle, Flemming	38

TRIPLE THREAT



Owatonna’s Mitch Wiese is helping set the standard of what it means to be a three-sport athlete, excelling at football, hockey and lacrosse for the Huskies. The junior has earned the honor of captains for each of the three sports.

Owatonna’s Mitch Wiese helping set the standard for multi-sport athletes

For Owatonna junior Mitch Wiese, playing sports has been a way of life.

At four years old, he put on a pair of ice skates for the first time.

By the third grade, he was playing youth football.

And by the time he was in the seventh grade, after years of playing baseball, he was playing lacrosse.

Despite the often-hectic schedule that comes with being a high school junior, he still plays all three sports. And, all because of the spirit of competition and the comradery that goes with it.

“I like playing three sports because I hang out with a lot of different people,” commented the Owatonna junior at Wednesday’s lacrosse practice. “When I’m in a sport, I usually hang out with different guys and that’s pretty fun.”

In today’s high school athletic culture, it’s a rarity to have an athlete play multiple sports, often dialing it back to try and specialize at one specific sport. Owatonna head football coach Jeff Williams noted that some players may opt to cut back the amount of sports they play due to having a hard time meeting the expectations.

“It’s getting increasingly difficult I think to meet the expectations of three programs and three coaches and people wanting you to do things year-round,” he added.

Despite, a workload that could compare to most college athletes, Wiese has remained on the path that was established as a child.

He would be the first person to admit that he certainly won’t be one of the biggest players on the field, or even on the ice for that matter. So, understanding that disadvantage he was going to face in each sport, the 5-foot-9-inch, 185-pound junior made lifting weights a top priority when he reached high school.

Since most of his sports practice in the afternoon and some without a sanctioned time to work out, Wiese shows

up to OHS at 6:30 in the morning three to four days a week to make sure that he is getting a lift. He noted that he enjoys working out in the morning because it often wakes him up for the day.

Two years later, all three of his coaches have seen the dedication pay off.

“He’s in the weight room more than any other athlete that I remember at Owatonna,” commented head hockey coach Josh Storm. “He lives in it.”

Williams added to Storm’s statement by adding that despite being grossly undersized at fullback and outside linebacker, that he shows a ton of heart and plays without fear.

“You can play without fear if you know you invested time in the weight room, know you’re as strong as the guys across from you and you paid your dues.”

He went on to add that Wiese is a model in that regard, mentioning that a lot of people could look at it and say, “I too could be like Mitch if I play with a big heart and get into the weight room.”

While all three coaches raved about his dedication to the weight room, and how it has help him see on-field success, they were even more enamored with his character.

A nose to the grindstone type of kid, Wiese has worn the title of captain for two sports and was recently named a captain for the upcoming football season. Storm noted that what makes him so special is that he is just a good person.

“I think that with him, the one thing that makes him a tremendous captain is his character,” he added. He’s such a good human being. He treats people very well.”

Owatonna head lacrosse coach Scott Seykora added that he always wants to win and that his attitude is contagious. He explained that at a recent practice, they had a ground ball challenge and Wiese was livid because his team took second. Seykora noted that despite nothing on the line, he was saying that they should have found the way to win.

Seykora’s story was strengthened by Wiese when asked about his mindset heading into practice.

“My goal for each day is to be the hardest worker,” Wiese added. “That’s pretty much it. Don’t let anyone out-work me.”

The attention to detail and dedication for success hasn’t just caught the eyes of his coaches, but his peers as well.

Fellow junior Nate Smith, who is Wiese’s teammate in lacrosse and hockey, has grown up competing with Mitch since they started playing sports.

Smith, who also plays soccer in the fall, understands the wear and tear feeling that often hits during the summer when transitioning from one work out to the next, but said that Wiese’s attitude captivates the others joining the workout.

“He’s always in a good mood,” Smith added. “It just makes you feel better and makes you want to work harder. It’s fun to be around.”

After playing sports all school year long, athletes often can’t wait for summer vacation to start, often taking vacations with their families and being a typical high school student.

For Wiese, after months of hockey, football and lacrosse, the schedule doesn’t stop.

It doesn’t pause.

It just simply resets.

“My summer is probably busier than my school year because of lifting, hockey camp, all the stuff we do for football and lacrosse stuff” Wiese said.

Whether it’s his character, his work ethic or just simply showing heart, Owatonna High School will have one more year of Wiese helping set the standard of what it means to be not just a three-sport athlete, but a first class person.

Story and photos by: Josh Zimmer, Sports Editor



Should all ‘baby boomers’ get tested for Hepatitis C?

Should All Baby Boomers Get Tested for Hepatitis C?
Dear Savvy Senior,
I’ve recently read that all baby boomers should get tested for hepatitis C. Is this really necessary, and if so, what are the testing and treatment procedures?
Healthy Boomer

Dear Healthy,
It’s true. Both the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that all baby boomers – people born from 1945 through 1965 – get a hepatitis C test.
The reason is because baby boomers account for 75 percent of the 3 million or so hepatitis C cases in the U.S. Those that are infected are at very high risk of eventually developing liver cancer, cir-

rhosis or other fatal liver diseases.
Most hepatitis C infections occurred in the 1970s and 1980s, before there were tests to detect them and before the nation’s blood supply was routinely screened for the virus.
Hepatitis C is transmitted only through blood, so anyone who received either a blood transfusion or an organ transplant prior to 1992 is at increased risk too. So are health-care workers exposed to blood, and people who injected drugs through shared needles. The virus can also be spread through microscopic amounts of infected blood that could occur during sex, from sharing a razor or toothbrush, or getting a tattoo or body piercing at an unsterile shop.
Most people that have hepatitis C don’t know they’re infected because there are no

symptoms until their liver becomes severely damaged. It can actually take 30 years for people to show any signs of the virus, but by then, it may be too late to treat. But if it’s detected in time, new treatments are now available that can cure it.

Testing and Treatment

If you’re between ages 52 to 72, or fall into one of the previously listed high risk categories, you should see your primary care doctor for a basic blood test to determine whether you have ever been infected with hepatitis C. This is a relatively inexpensive test and typically covered by health insurance under routine medical care.
If the test is negative, no further tests are needed. But, if the test is positive, you’ll

need another test called HCV RNA, which will show whether the virus is still active.
If you test positive, you have chronic hepatitis C and will need to talk to your doctor about treatment options. If you’re infected, but have no liver damage, your doctor should monitor your liver at your annual physical.
The main treatments for chronic hepatitis C today are several new FDA approved antiviral medications that have a 95 percent cure rate. Compared to older treatments, these new medications have minimal side effects. Unfortunately, all the new drugs are very expensive – a 12-week treatment course can cost anywhere from \$50,000 to \$90,000.
Not all health insurance plans, including Medicare Part D plans, cover all prescribed



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medications for hepatitis C. And due to the expensive nature of these medications, most insurance plans require that you meet several requirements in order to get coverage.
If your insurance provider doesn’t cover the antiviral therapy your doctor recommends, there are financial assistance options available. To look for help, visit HEPC.liverfoundation.org and put your cursor on “Resources” and click on “What if I need Financial Assistance to Pay for Treatment?”
And for more hepatitis C information, along with a quick online quiz you can take to determine your risks, see CDC.gov/knowmorehepatitis. You can also get information over the phone by calling the national toll-free HELP-4-HEP helpline at 877-435-7443.
Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Elise Slinger, Editor
May 29th, 2007
This past week the members of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America group made and sold Cookies for Cancer at the high school and raised 185 dollars. In November this same group collected 883 pounds of food for the Steele County food shelf. Jennifer Gaines, a second year teacher at BPHS, is the advisor of the local chapter. Gaines is a Minnesota State graduate.
The Bloomington Prairie High School Class of 2007 received a grand total of \$452,669 in scholarships and grant money at the Senior Awards Banquet on Wednesday, May 23rd. This amount of money is the most given to a graduating class since the year 2000, seven years ago. Of the 62 graduating seniors, six percent will enter the workforce, one percent will join the military, and 50 percent will go to a 4 year college.
20 Years Ago
Elsie Slinger, Publisher
May 27th, 1997
At this time of the year all graduates have big smiles on their faces as they await the official ceremony culminating their high school career.

Bloomington Prairie High School graduates will be leaving with good memories of their academic experience- especially Liz Rather and Christopher Knutson. Both seniors are ready for the challenges that are waiting for them in the coming years.
It’s the new business in town and if you don’t know what you want- just ask! David and Cheryl Bruggeman opened up as managers of the Just Ask Renal business April 14, located behind Krampitz Farm and Home. It’s the type of business that allows anyone to rent tools, machinery, and many miscellaneous items that they don’t have or don’t have the money to purchase.
50 Years Ago
Victor, Vernon, & Vyrle Krejci, Editors
May 25th, 1967
Kenneth Stiles of Rockford, Illinois has been elected new manager-operator of Creamery Association, Lloyd Kruger, President of the firm, announced this week. Mr. Stiles will replace Ellsworth Hall, who resigned recently as manager-operator after serving in that capacity for the past 18 years. Mr. Hall’s resignation was effective July 1st.
Announcement was made today that the Pine Springs

Swimming Pool, located on the Thorson property in Bloomington Prairie, will officially open for the 1967 season on Tuesday, June 6, weather permitting. The pool will be operated similar to last year, on a membership basis, under rules and regulations established by the Pine Springs Recreation Association.
75 Years Ago
Walter K. Mickelson, Editor and Publisher
May 28th, 1942
Joseph Hanzlichek, about 50, prominent Summit township farmer, died suddenly today shortly before noon following a heart attack as he driving his car into Bloomington Prairie. Mr. Hanzlichek stopped his car near the Paulson service station on Highway 218 north of town as he felt the attack approaching. Ed Paulson brought him to Dr. Carlson’s office where he died within a few minutes.
Poppy Day sales here exceeded all previous records, officials of the V. F. W. Have announced. Receipts from the little red poppies made by disabled war veterans were over \$120.00, indicating that over 1200 poppies were sold during the day. This money goes into a fund for the aid of men who have served their country in time of war.

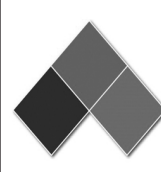
Fun at EMT Week



Photo by Howard Lestrud

It was EMT Week in Minnesota last week and the Bloomington Prairie Ambulance Service thanked the public for its support. Here, Esplan sisters Payton, 5 and Sophia, 7 get ready to have a hot dog and chips.

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400 Arnold St. West Concord. Thur-Sun 9-7pm. Huge moving, yard sale- Too much to mention! This will be the 1st of 3 sales-antiques & collectibles. Example: tea cart w/ tea set, sm. RW water cooler. House for sale also. 23p

802 6th St NW Kasson. Thurs 3-7, Fri 8-5, Sat 8-12. Massive Garage/Moving Sale- Furniture, clothing, appliances, sofas, dressers, king sz mattress w/ box springs, tables, bbq pit, snowblower, tools, dining room set. 23p

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- 9:00 pm Awards
- 4:30 pm Brother Sun Sister Moon in Park Square Free
- 5:00 pm Pro BBQ Teams Greetings and Instructions
- 5:15 pm Kids Q Kick Off
- 5:30 pm Shaun Murphy Band in Beer Garden
- 7:00 pm Special Olympics Chef's Tour
- 7:30 pm Jeremiah Johnson Band in the Beer Garden
- 9:30 pm Reverend Raven & The Chainsmokin' Altarboys in Beer Garden

June 3

- 7:00 am Backyard Amateur BBQ Competition
- 7:00 am Registration for 5K Walk/Run
- 9:00 am Start of 5K Walk/ Run
- 9:00 am Family fun and games
- 9:30 am-2pm Antique Tractor & Big Rig display Free
- 9:30 am Start Family Bike Cruise
- 11:00 am Food Vendors/Antique Tractor Parade
- 11:30 am Harrison Street in Park Square Free
- 12:30 pm Mark Cameron in Park Square Free
- 1:30 pm Blues 4 Kids Harmonica lessons Park Square Free
- 2:00 pm Renee' Austin Band in the Beer Garden

June 4

- 2:30 pm Music - Park Square Free
- 4:00 pm Awards Ceremony Park Square Free
- 4:00 pm Brother Sun Sister Moon in the Beer Garden
- 4:30 pm Dee Miller Band in Park Square Free
- 4:30 pm Hot Rod Car Show Free
- 5:30 pm The Norman Jackson Band in the Beer Garden
- 7:30 pm Southern Avenue in the Beer Garden
- 9:30 pm Mississippi Bigfoot in the Beer Garden

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‘Real, live data’

Statewide program shows water-monitoring results on Kasson

By **RICHARD JOHNSON**
DCI Managing Editor
richarddci@kmtel.com

Rows of young corn sprouts decorated Brian Herbst’s farm this past week as he spoke to about 40 trainees with the Environmental Protection Agency’s Pesticide Regulatory Program regarding his farming practices and water quality program.

Herbst, who farms corn, soybeans and contract finishing hogs east of Kasson, also answered questions about tile drainage, manure, monitoring nutrient levels, pesticide use – and where his corn is sold (about half goes to the Al-Corn Clean Fuel ethanol plant at Claremont, and much of it goes to local mills to feed livestock).



Staff Photos: Richard Johnson

Scott Matteson (far right) addresses the crowd. He is a hydrologist with the Department of Agriculture, working primarily with the Discovery Farms program. Matteson is standing near a solar-operated water sampler, which collects water sample, measures water flow and logs data.

state. “The information that we’re trying to give to these people is real, live data,” Herbst said. “And they can take that back to their homeland area and say that ‘Minnesota’s doing this kind of work out there.’ And it’s not guessing. It’s real information from real, live situations in a real, live environment.”

Equipment on Discovery Farms is designed to collect accurate measurements of water, sediment, nitrogen and phosphorus movement over the soil surface and through subsurface drainage tiles, according to discoveryfarmsmn.org.

Beginning in 2013, one of the Herbst Farms fields was instrumented with a water quality monitoring station, which measures and records flow, weather and soil conditions. The station has two solar-operated water samplers which collect water samples that are shipped to Minnesota Valley Testing Lab in New Ulm.

Data taken from Minnesota’s 12 Discovery Farm sites proves farmers care about the land and

water, said Jerome Lensing, nutrient management specialist with the Minnesota Agricultural Water Resource Center office in Rochester.

a group of people out there, they just don’t think that way. And I think the biggest thing is, ‘Come out to farm with me, and drive around the countryside.’



Josh Stamper, director of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s Pesticides and Fertilizer Management Division, fields a question on the Herbst farm.

“They want to do the best thing possible, because this is their life, this is their future, this is the future for their grandkids and whatever. They’re not going to destroy it,” he said. “But there’s

“Agriculture’s getting to be such a small part of the population. And the more we can get people out, the more we can tell our story,” Lensing said. “This is just a small part of the big pic-

ture. But I think it’s a very important picture, to let us know, as well as the urbanites, that water quality is very important. If we don’t take care of the water, that’s going to create a lot of issues.”

Herbst said scientific information such as that provided by Discovery Farms is necessary in the face of potential government overregulation.

The information shows trends and correlations having to do with runoff, infiltration of nutrients and such.

“So I think it’s extremely important,” he said. “Otherwise, we as farmers won’t be able to have anything that will not tell us what to do, when to do it, how to do it, things like that.”

Minnesota is far ahead of the curve in assessing water quality, said Carol Black, a pesticide education specialist with Washington State University who coordinated the professional development event.

Trainees from across the nation visited Herbst’s farm.

“We’ve learned a lot from Minnesota, from our partners here. It was a very good visit,” Black said. “We have totally different cropping systems, but we



Brian Herbst speaks to trainees with the Environmental Protection Agency’s Pesticide Regulatory Program at his farm near Kasson. The farm is part of Discovery Farms Minnesota, a farmer-led effort to gather field-scale water quality information from different types of farming systems in the state.

have similar problems with frozen soil and water that’s moving off the frozen ground and under the ground. Sediment loads and fertilizer issues are very similar.”

Herbst soils similar to those in area

Soil samples from Herbst Farms were first collected in November 2013.

Topsoil was analyzed for organic matter, pH, nitrate-nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium, according to discoveryfarmsmn.org.

The analysis showed values

representative of similar soils in southeast Minnesota where swine manure has been routinely applied.

A high phosphorous value in the monitored field is likely the consequence of repeated manure application, according to the website.

About Discovery Farms:

Discovery Farms Minnesota provides baseline data on the environmental performance of farms around the state, and provides farmers with information on adopting best management practices and an educational environment where farmers can learn from each other, according to discoveryfarmsmn.org.

Herbst Farms is among 10 “core farms” which represent a farming system or setting which needs to be better understood.

Discovery Farms partners with the Minnesota Agricultural Water Resources Center and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Local partners include the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District.



Bill Van Ruswyk speaks to the crowd of about 40 trainees. He is superintendent of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s water-monitoring unit.

Herbst Farm is a member of Discovery Farms Minnesota, a farmer-led effort to gather field-scale water quality information from different types of farming systems in landscapes across the

Zach Sisler wins memorial scholarship



Photos courtesy of Blooming Prairie FFA

Pictured above are Dennis and Teresa Sisler, Zach Sisler and Bill Rinkenberger.

Winner of the Bud Rinkenberger Memorial Scholarship for the 2017 school year at the Blooming Prairie High School was Zach Sisler. Zach has been involved in the Blooming Prairie FFA since 8th grade and will be enrolling at Riverland Community College in Austin for the Electrician Program. Zach has also been involved in Trap Shooting and Football during his high school career. Zach is the son of Dennis and Teresa Sisler of Blooming Prairie.

The Bud Rinkenberger Memorial Scholarship is given in memory of Bud Rinkenberger, a lifelong farmer from Fosston MN, by his wife, Thelma and 4 children; Arlen, Steven, Amy and Bill. Bill Rinkenberger is the Agricultural Instructor/FFA Advisor for the Blooming Prairie School District. The \$500 scholarship is to be awarded to a graduating senior from BPHS, been a member of the BP FFA Chapter, grew up on a farm and has plans of enrolling in a college program for Agriculture or an Industrial Technical Program.



Minnesota Crop Report

Cool temperatures and precipitation across Minnesota limited farmers to only 2.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 21, 2017 according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Thirty-nine percent of the total spring wheat, barley and corn acreage emerged during the week despite field conditions. When conditions allowed, field activities involved planting and spraying.

The week’s rains increased topsoil moisture supplies to 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 27 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 20 percent surplus.

Minnesota’s farmers were nearly finished with spring wheat planting with 99 percent complete. Spring wheat emergence advanced 8 days ahead of the 5-year average to 75 percent emerged. Five percent of the spring wheat was at or beyond the jointing stage. Spring wheat conditions were rated 0 percent very poor, 0 percent poor, 7 percent fair, 70 percent good and 23 percent excellent. The oat planting progress advanced to 94 percent planted. Seventy-four percent of the oats have emerged, 12 days behind last year. Twenty-four percent of the oat crop was at or beyond the jointing stage, one day ahead of last year. Oat conditions were 0 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 66 percent good and 15 percent excellent. Barley planting progress almost complete at 96 percent planted. Sixty-eight percent of the acreage emerged, with 6 percent at or beyond the jointing stage. Barley conditions were 0 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 63 percent good and 27 percent excellent.

Corn planting advanced 10 percentage points to 94 percent completed. Fifty-nine percent of the corn has emerged, surpassing the average of 53 percent. Corn conditions were 0 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 75 percent good and 7 percent excellent. Soybeans were 72 percent planted, 4 days behind last year yet remaining ahead of average. Sixteen percent of soybeans have emerged. Dry edible bean planting was 26 percent completed with scattered reports of emergence. Sunflowers planting advanced 42 percentage points to 70 percent planted.

Potato planting was 88 percent complete. Hay conditions were 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Pasture conditions were 0 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

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Public Safety



CRIME BRIEF

‘Too much alcohol’ driver tells officer in hit and run crash

A suspected drunk driver admitted to having “too much alcohol” in a hit and run crash in Owatonna May 14.

Tammy Fitch, 43, has been charged with gross misdemeanor or third-degree DWI and failing to stop for a property damage crash in connection with the incident.

Police responded to the crash at Kwik Trip off 26th Street where a witness reported seeing a Nissan Pathfinder blow through a stop sign at 26th Street and St. Paul Road. While pulling into Kwik Trip, the vehicle hit a parked vehicle. The vehicle then left the scene.

Fitch showed many signs of intoxication, including blood-shot watery eyes, slurred speech and poor balance, according to



Tammy Fitch

police. During field sobriety tests, she lost her balance and had to be assisted to maintain a standing position.

She consented to a breath test, which showed her alcohol level at .22, nearly three times the legal limit. Fitch admitted to police that she had “too much alcohol.”

Summer priorities begin with buckling up

Motorists face Click It or Ticket campaign on area roads

Buckling up needs to be added to the bucket list of priorities for the upcoming summer months. So say area safety experts attempting to push toward zero deaths on Minnesota roadways.

A typical day for Minnesota drivers includes encounters with distracted drivers, farm machinery, road rage, deer and other unplanned situations. The danger is that being a safe, confident driver won’t make a difference if a crash happens and the person isn’t buckled up. With the arrival of Memorial Day weekend and the anticipation of warmer weather, road trips, barbecues and fun at the lake, seat belt safety should be a part of every Minnesotan’s plans.

Motorists who are not buckled increase their odds of being injured by six-times if they are in a crash. To continue educating motorists that seat belts save lives and it’s the law to buckle up, the Steele County Sheriff’s Office and the Owatonna and Blooming Prairie Police Departments along with more than 300 law enforcement agencies across the state, will be participating in the statewide Click It or Ticket campaign, which began Monday and continues through June 4. The extra enforcement and education campaign is coordinated by the Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety.

Fortunately, most Minnesotans are making the life-saving decision to buckle up.

- According to the 2016 Minnesota Seat Belt Survey, 93 percent of front seat occupants are wearing their seat belts.
- Severe injuries are also going down. In 1987, there were 4,176 vehicle occupants who suffered severe injuries in traffic crashes. That number dropped to 745 in 2015.
- For those choosing not to buckle up, the results are tragically hurting families across Minnesota.
- In 2015, 91 unbelted motorists lost their lives on Minnesota roads.
- In 2015, 87 percent of the unbelted deaths occurred in Greater Minnesota (outside the seven-county Metro area).

“We may be good drivers but that’s not always good enough

to keep us safe in a crash if we choose to ignore the seat belt,” said Capt. Eric G. Rethemeier Owatonna Police Department. “A seat belt is like insurance. You hope it never has to save your life but if another driver crosses the center line toward you, is distracted or drunk, that seat belt may be the only thing that keeps you alive if there’s a crash. Please buckle up because you just never know what’ll happen on the road.”

An unbelted motorist can crash into a windshield and get thrown into other passengers. Often times, an unbelted occupant is ejected from the vehicle and killed.

Drivers are in charge of their vehicles and of the safety of their passengers. They can refuse to start the car until every passenger is belted. Passengers also can speak up if the driver is endangering everyone in the vehicle by not buckling up.

Minnesota law states that drivers and passengers in all seating positions must be buckled up or seated in the correct child restraint. Officers will stop and ticket unbelted drivers or passengers. Seat belts must be worn correctly — low and snug across the hips, and shoulder straps should never be tucked under an arm or behind the back.

Minnesota Child Car Seat Law and Steps

- In Minnesota, all children must be in a child restraint until they are 4’9” tall, or at least age 8, whichever comes first.
- Rear-facing child seats - Newborns to at least 1 year and 20 pounds; recommended up to age 2. It is safest to keep a child rear-facing as long as possible.
- Forward-facing seats - Age 2 until around age 4. It’s preferable to keep children in a harnessed restraint until they reach the maximum weight limit.
- Booster seats - Use after outgrowing a forward-facing harnessed restraint; safest to remain in a booster until 4 feet 9 inches tall, or at least age 8, whichever comes first.
- Seat belts - Use when children can sit with their back against the vehicle seat and have their knees bent comfortably over the knee bent comfortably over the knee with their feet touching the floor.

POLICE BLOTTER

Steele County

Owatonna Police May 12

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 600 block of 24th St. NE at 1:06 a.m. and in the 400 block of Willow Creek Drive NE at 5:30 p.m.

Drunken Driving. Police made DWI arrests at Hoffman Dr. NW and Rose St. W. at 2:47 a.m. and in the 300 block of McKinley St. W. 1:11 p.m.

Suspicion. At 2:45 p.m., officers responded to suspicious activity in the 400 block of 20th St. NE. They issued a citation at the scene.

Hit and Run. A hit and run accident resulting in property damage in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 4:46 p.m.

May 13

DWI. Police arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at Main St. E. and Court Ave. SE at 1:08 a.m.

Arrest. At 1:10 a.m., officers arrested a motorist following a traffic stop at 24th Ave. NW and Frontage Rd. W.

Suspicion. Police responded to suspicious activity in the 100 block of Oak Ave. N. at 2:33 a.m. They took a subject into custody.

Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries in the 1600 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 9:46 a.m.

May 14

Juvenile. Officers received a juvenile complaint from the 800 block of Vine St. E. at 1:13 a.m.

Shoplifting. At 10:35 a.m., police issued a shoplifting citation in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.

Dispute. Officers responded to a neighborhood dispute in the 1200 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 11:26 a.m. They issued a citation at the scene.

Accident. Paramedics and officers responded to a personal injury accident at Lincoln Ave. S. and South St. E. at 11:47 a.m.

Drunken Driving. Officer made a DWI arrest in the 100 block of Landmark Dr. NE at 3:30 p.m.

Theft. Officer took a theft report in the 300 block of School St. W. at 8 p.m.

Drugs. At 8:54 p.m., police responded to drug activity in the 200 block of Cedar Ave. N. They arrested a subject at the scene.

May 17

Fireworks. Police issued a citation for fireworks in the 100 block of Hobart St. SE at 12:44 a.m.

Burglary. Officers responded to burglaries in the 700 block of Oak Ave. N. at 9:10 a.m. and in the 700

block of Vine St. E. at 12:20 p.m.

Theft. At 12:55 p.m., police took a report of theft in the 1100 block of School St. E.

Crash. Officers assisted with a motor vehicle accident with injuries at Oak Ave. S. and School St. W. at 3:43 p.m.

Fraud. Police arrested a subject for fraud in the 2400 block of Bridge St. W. at 4:30 p.m.

Child Abuse. At 8:55 p.m., police received a child protection report from the 700 block of 18th St. SE.

Steele County Sheriff’s Office May 12

Animal Bite. At 11:38 a.m., deputies responded to an animal bite at 5th Ave. W. and 3rd St. in Ellendale.

May 14

Suspicion. Deputies responded to suspicious activity in the 7000 block of 18th St. SE in Havana Township at 6:05 a.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Crash. Paramedics and deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 76th St. NW and Frontage Road W. in Medford Township at 5:42 p.m.

Domestic. At 8:27 p.m., deputies arrested a subject following a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of 6th St. S. in Ellendale.

COURT NEWS

Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 8 with Judge Joseph A. Buetel presiding:

Alvin L. Lawrence, 28, Bethlehem, NH, previously appeared and was convicted of felony attempt to use minors in sexual performance/pornographic work. He was sentenced to \$381, 90 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, submit to polygraph examinations as directed, obtain permission to leave the state, no contact with victim, no possession of pornography, maintain employment, remain 250 feet away from areas where minors congregate, no access to Internet without approval, predatory offender registration, chemical dependency evaluation, no contact with minors, attend sex offender program and 5 years of supervised probation.

Luis Perez Jr., 40, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony aid and abet burglary. The defendant was sentenced to \$381, anger management, obtain employment, mental health evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain permission to leave the state, no

possession of firearms, complete Steele Waseca Drug Court and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 8 – 12:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Alejandro Alcantara Avila, 37, Minneapolis, no license and no insurance, \$381; Richard Dominguez, 44, Blooming Prairie, domestic assault, \$2,931, 73 days in county jail, no contact with victim and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Ban Wah, 28, St. Paul, expired tabs, \$111; Candy L. Wunderlich, 55, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281.

MN Dept. of Natural Resources

Jessica L. Bruessel, 23, Owatonna, state park vehicle permit violation, \$131.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Michael L. Anderson, 36, Forest Lake, tridem weight violation, \$181; Kristi M. Cambas, 43, Morristown, speeding, \$141; Michael L. Carlberg, 63, Mankato, speeding, \$121; Clayton R. Constantine, 32, Northfield, seat belt, \$106; Sydney C. Farmer, 21, Winona, speeding, \$121; Deanna M. Gregory, 23, Waconia, speeding, \$141; Ryan M. Hanson, 26, Montgomery, DWI, \$381, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 216 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Jake B. Hernandez, 24, St. James, speeding, \$221;

Patti J. Ivance, 51, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jayoung Kim, 39, Lincoln, NE, speeding, \$131; Ann-Marie P. Kirkhus, 47, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Jesse R. Larson, 36, Clarks Grove, speeding, \$121; Kaw L. Lon, 27, St. Paul, speeding, \$141; Kenneth J. Maclin, 19, Rochester, revoked license, \$281; Jose L. Maya Ramirez, 22, Owatonna, permit violation, \$131; Paul T. Merry, 38, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Mohamed A. Mohamed, 23, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Jacqueline C. Nerison, 19, Austin, speeding, \$141;

Phosana Phetsomphou, 50, Clarks Grove, suspended license, \$281; Cynthia M. Phillips, 60, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Capri Pickett, 27, Waterville, speeding and failure to change information on license, \$241; Leticia C. Rubio, 39, Austin, no license, \$181; Abdiwahid N. Said, 37, Medford, seat belt, \$106; Erickson F. Saye, 25, Brooklyn Park, suspended license, \$281; Donald C. Schick, 50, Jim Falls, WI, speeding, \$221; Alan R. Schwartz, 20, Austin,

speeding, \$131;

Lyle F. Sellers, 35, Waseca, seat belt, \$106; Jeremy E. Simon, 36, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$106; Krishna B. Subba, 38, Roseville, speeding, \$131; Jacob A. Ward, 29, Mankato, seat belt, \$106; Jake D. Williams, 28, Chicago, IL, no license, \$181.

Owatonna Police Department

Nashid A. Abdul-Zahir, 41, Owatonna, assault, 68 days in county jail; Casey A. Adams, 37, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Clayton E. Aldrich, 19, Owatonna, possession of marijuana, \$131; Desiree L. Anderson, 27, Owatonna, damage to property, \$131, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Mariah D. Arabalo, 25, St. Louis Park, invalid license, \$181;

Miguel A. Ayala-Serrano, 33, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Alejandro G. Balderas Garza, 28, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Adam J. Balzer, 37, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Garret M. Busch, 17, Owatonna, speeding, \$121;

Scott S. Christ, 39, Waseca, theft, \$381, 3 days in county jail, no trespassing at Lowe’s and 1 year of supervised probation; Xavier T. Coats, 28, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Angela M. Erickson, 33, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, \$281; Ma A. Eta, 20, Brooklyn Park, speeding and no insurance, \$341; Yves S. Eveillard, 37, Owatonna, domestic assault, \$381, 4 days in county jail, no contact with victim, domestic abuse evaluation, psychological evaluation, no possession of firearms and 1 year of supervised probation; Pedro Gutierrez, 75, Owatonna, speeding and seat belt, \$186;

Breanna M. Haag, 24, Owatonna, speeding, \$201; Branden A. Hendrickson, 18, Owatonna, tampering with motor vehicle, \$581, 20 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Jeremy T. Herron, 27, Chicago, IL, invalid license, \$181; Shantonia D. Jackson, 28, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Carissa M. Lewis, 31, speeding, \$131;

Meghan E. McMahon, 26, Owatonna, shoplifting, \$181; Kevin D. Mullenbach, 25, Owatonna, expired tabs, \$111; Baldemar Villarreal Jr., 24, Owatonna, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$81, 3 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Anjanette S. Wells, 43, Owatonna, theft, \$131 and 30 days in county jail; Paige M. White, 18, Faribault, speeding, \$121.

Alleged violent offender who caused school lockdown arrested in Blooming Prairie

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

A suspected violent offender from northern Minnesota who caused some tense moments at an area school was arrested in Blooming Prairie May 5.

Dodge County sheriff’s deputies locked down the exterior of the Hayfield Public School as a precaution after receiving information that an alleged violent offender may be heading to the school to pick up his child.

Sheriff Scott Rose said his office received information regarding Jason Olson, who had a felony warrant out for assault by strangulation for an incident that took place in Douglas County. Olson also had an active warrant

from the Minnesota Department of Corrections.

The information provided to Dodge County was that Olson is assaultive, has a suicidal history and said he would not be taken alive by law enforcement. The sheriff’s office also received information that Olson may get his child from the Hayfield school.

Deputies responded to the school to post outside in case Olson showed up. During this time, the school was placed on an exterior lockdown. The child was picked up at the school right away at the request of his mother and taken to Mower County where its deputies remained on scene to ensure the child’s safety.

Rose said during the incident, Olson’s cell phone was monitored

in an attempt to locate him. While his cell information never indicated he entered into Dodge County, deputies continued to remain at the school until 3:48 p.m. when they received information that Olson had been located in Blooming Prairie.

Deputies, along with officers from Blooming Prairie Police, arrested Olson at a residence in Blooming Prairie.

“While at no time were there any threats to the school, faculty or any of the students, Dodge County still took a very proactive approach to ensuring the safety of everyone in the building including the child in question,” Rose said, noting that had Olson showed up at the school there would have been no way he could have entered the prop-



Jason Olson

erty.

Rose added the incident was resolved due to great law enforcement work between Blooming Prairie and Douglas, Mower and Dodge counties.

Olson appeared in Douglas County Court on the felony assault charge.

The following individuals as they have active warrants in Steele County.

The sheriff makes this information available as a public service.

- Jaimie Pugh – motor vehicle theft – no bail
- Daniel Ramos – disorderly conduct - \$500 bail
- Po Reh – DWI - \$12,000 bail
- Erasmo Resendez – assault - \$2,000 bail
- Benjamin Restrepro – theft - \$200 bail
- Juan Reyes – criminal sexual conduct - \$50,000 bail
- Marcos Reyes – DWI – no bail
- Margarito Reyes – criminal property damage - \$3,000 bail
- Maria Reyes – false name - \$500 bail
- Antonio Reyes-Guillen – drugs – no bail

- Bartolo Reyna – theft - \$1,000 bail
- Kelly Reynolds – no license - \$1,000 bail
- Nicholas Richards – expired registration - \$500 bail
- Angel Rizo – worthless check - \$5,000 bail
- Jeremiah Roberts – drugs – no bail
- Tommy Robertson Jr. – DWI - \$300 bail
- Cecelia Robinson – check forgery – no bail
- Josue Rocha – disorderly conduct - \$1,000 bail
- Mariano Rocha – theft - \$500 bail
- Raul Rodarte – DWI - \$1,000 bail

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

ACTIVE WARRANTS

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Farhan M. Abdi, 22, Owatonna, permit violation, \$131; Dominique J. Agee, 23, Grandview, MO, speeding, \$121; Cody J. Arizola, 24, Ellendale, speeding, \$131; Aishia R. Bell, 39, Minneapolis, no child passenger restraint system and speeding, \$271; Justin B. Blank, 21, West Concord, suspended license, speeding and failure to stop for traffic control signal, \$471;

Charity A. Braulik, 37, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Victor M. Contreras, 28, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$106; Dustin D. Craft, 25, Owatonna, expired tabs, \$111; Courtney A. Beml, 18, Ellendale, enter road from non-roadway, \$131;

Cyril Doss, 64, Dassel, speeding, \$121; Robert C. Eggers, 39, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Jesus Hernandez, 28, Austin, no insurance, \$281; Christopher J. Johnson, 52, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$141; Matthew J. Jones, 23, Blooming Prairie, expired tabs, \$111; Wanida O. Luhda, 39, Owatonna, no license and no child passenger restraint system, \$231; Juan R. Macias, 25, Owatonna, no license and speeding, \$241; Nathan C. Slowinski, 28, Waseca, stop sign, \$131; Alicia M. Stephens, 29, Morristown, improper information on license, \$101;

Marcos A. Torres, 22, Columbia Heights, revoked license, no insurance and careless driving, \$581; Christopher M. Vento, 44, De Soto, WI, speeding, \$121; Nicholas D. Weber, 22, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Nicholas L. Willis, 21, Owatonna, DWI, \$381, attend MADD impact panel, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Jesus V. Zavala, 24, Medford, revoked license, \$281.

Police Blotter Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office handled 264 complaints during the week of May 10 – 16. Some of them include:

May 10
Suspicion. At 7:54 p.m., deputies received a report of a male sleeping on a bench at the Laundromat in Dodge Center. The male was gone when deputies arrived.
Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of 2nd St. SW in Dodge Center at 9:36 p.m.

May 11
Larceny. Deputy took a theft report in the 800 block of Hwy St. W. in Dodge Center at 8:29 a.m.
Suspicion. Deputies found a male trying to get into a vehicle in the 700 block of 2nd St. NW in Hayfield at 8:30 p.m.

May 12
Trespassing. At 12:08 p.m., deputies responded to a trespassing incident at Hayfield Schools on 6th Ave. SE.

May 13
Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of 2nd St. NE in Dodge Center at 2:49 a.m.
Disturbance. Deputies responded to a verbal domestic disturbance with threats on 5th St. SW in Dodge Center at 8:58 a.m.

Civil. Deputy assisted with a civil matter regarding a property line issue in the 12200 block of 540th St. in West Concord at 9:56 a.m.

Larceny. At 10:34 a.m., a citizen reported the theft of a four-wheeler in the 600 block of 2nd St. NE in Dodge Center.

May 14
Disturbance. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 400 block of Main St. in West Concord at 9:13 a.m.

Suspicion. At 11:35 a.m., deputies responded to suspicious activity in the 400 block of 2nd St. W. in Claremont.

Hit and Run. At 12:05 p.m., a citizen reported a hit and run accident involving a potential intoxicated driver in the 200 block of East St. N. in Claremont.

Weapons. Deputies received a report of a subject shooting a "machine gun" in the 26700 block of 755th St. in Hayfield at 12:30 p.m.

Disturbance. At 3:22 p.m., deputies responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of Olive St. in West Concord.

May 15
Suspicion. At 6:39 a.m., a citizen reported that a subject was sleeping on the side of the road in the 11400 block of U.S. Hwy. 14 in Claremont.

Civil. Deputy assisted with a civil matter involving a 17-year-old home alone on 5th St. SW in Dodge Center at 12:40 p.m.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance at 1st Ave. NE and Hwy. St. in Dodge Center at 6:24 p.m.

Court News Dodge County

The following case was heard in Dodge County District Court the week of May 8 with Judge Jodi L. Williamson presiding:

Justin S. Prondzinski, 34, Kenyon, previously appeared and was convicted of felony burglary. He was sentenced to \$205 and 30 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of May 8 – 15:

Dodge County Sheriff's Office
Renee L. Bell, 34, Hayfield, expired registration and parking violation, \$130; Teresa L. Blazek, 51, Albert Lea, parking violation, \$32; Jacqueline K. Delzer, 48, Mantorville, parking violation, \$32;
Janelle A. Holt, 35, Dundas, parking violation, \$32; Luke E. Hottel, 35, Rochester, revoked license, \$280; Kevin D. Kruger, 49, Owatonna, DWI, \$1,005, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, 90 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Bryan E. Lee, 23, Dodge Center, suspended license, \$280; Billy W. Loveday, 44, Mantorville, registration violation, \$180; Kevin J. Maday, 56, Owatonna, failure to extinguish permit fire, \$130;
Aurelio Perez-Lopez, 43, parking violation, \$32; Kyle R. Tucke, 50, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Marc E. Unnasch, 37, Mantorville, stop sign, \$130; Sherman F. Washington, 27, Minneapolis, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; Mary B. Weedman, 36, Hayfield, parking violation and expired registration, \$130.

Kasson Police Department
Dominick S. Blazing, 18, Byron, disorderly conduct, \$180; Siobhan M. McKee, 24, Dodge Center, revoked license, \$280; Arnold R. Tune, 65, Kasson, DWI, \$480, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Dylan W. Wutschke, 21, Rochester, failure to yield and possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, \$380.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Nicole H. Cortez, 19, Hayfield, speeding, \$120; Aureliano F. Elizondo Rios, 27, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Benjamin W. Haferman, 24, Brookfield, WI, speeding, \$140; Payton J. Koehler, 19, Stewartville, seat belt, \$105; Kongkham La-A-Nonh, 39, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Abdullahi A. Omar, 28, Mankato, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; Giovanni Padilla, 24, Rochester, speeding, \$140; Jessi M. Vanblarcom, 22, La Crosse, WI, speeding, \$140.

West Concord Police Department

Eric R. Baker, 22, West Concord, parking violation, \$32; Jordan T. Seljeseth, 20, Kasson, parking violation, \$32.

Arrest Steele County

Owatonna Police
Carlton Eugene Martin, 62, arrested at 9:54 a.m. May 15, controlled substance crime and warrant arrest, held for court.
Angela Norine Berg, 38, arrested at 9:21 p.m. May 16, felony assault, child endangerment and disorderly conduct, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff
Timothy Odell Williams, 46, arrested at 8:03 a.m. May 15, probation violation warrant arrest, held for court.

Owatonna Fire

May 14
Crash. At 11:48 a.m., fire rescue responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Lincoln Ave. E.

May 15
Oil Spill. Fire personnel handled an oil or other combustible liquid spill in the 2200 block of Condor Place NE at 11:34 a.m.
Burning. Fire fighters responded to an unauthorized burning in the 5800 block of Kenyon Road at 12:10 p.m.

May 17
Carbon Monoxide. At 8:36 a.m., a carbon monoxide incident occurred in the 1700 block of Mineral Springs Parkway.
Crash. Fire fighters responded to an accident between a motor vehicle and pedestrian on Oak Ave. at 3:45 p.m.

Employee accused of lottery fraud

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

An employee of Owatonna's Hy-Vee Store is facing a pair of felony charges for allegedly defrauding the Minnesota State Lottery.

The Steele County Attorney's Office has charged Tricia Lynn Fenger, 43, of Owatonna, with state lottery fraud and theft. The fraud charge carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$50,000 fine.

According to the criminal charges filed against Fenger, she stole lottery tickets from

Hy-Vee's Gas Mart between October and December. The investigation showed Fenger scratched off the scan bar and scanned the ticket to see if it was a winner. When she found a winner, she cashed it in and pocketed the money, the complaint alleges.

Police found surveillance camera footage of Fenger scratching the tickets and then cashing them in, the complaint said. The store also provided documents of transaction printouts showing the shortages in the cash register. In one time period in mid November to mid December, the store

found a shortage of \$3,172. During an interview with police, Fenger stated she saw that customers were not winning, so she figured she would put her hand in it. She told police if she did not win, she threw the lottery ticket away. She admitted to taking up to 15 lottery tickets each day. She offered no explanation to police for her alleged wrongdoing. The investigation revealed Fenger affected a \$7,340 loss in lottery tickets to Hy-Vee. Of those tickets, she allegedly claimed \$3,801 in winnings.

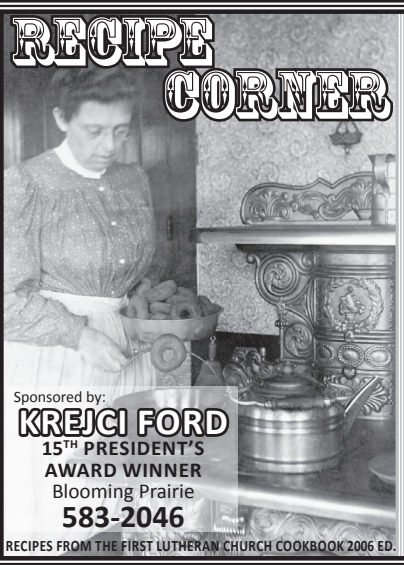
This Memorial Day, let us pause and reflect



In loving memory of
Lester Joseph Imker, Jr.
who passed away
Jan. 10, 2017
Sadly missed by
Brenda Lee Budde



In loving memory of
Paul Budde
who passed away
Sept. 26, 2004
Sadly missed by
Brenda Lee Budde



CHOCOLATE ZUCCHINI BREAD

Ingredients:	1/4 tsp. baking powder
3 eggs	1 c. vegetable oil
2 c. sugar	1 T. vanilla
2 c. zucchini, shredded	2 1/2 c. flour
1/2 c. cocoa	1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. baking soda	1 tsp. cinnamon

Instructions:

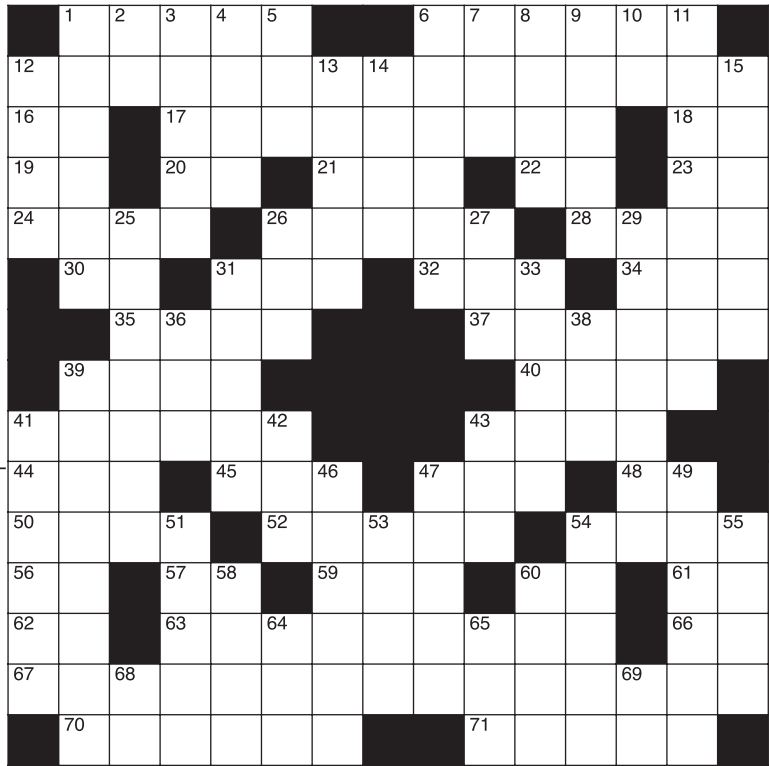
Mix all together and adding zucchini last.
Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.
Yield: 2 loaves

BY BEVERLY SWENSON

CLUES ACROSS

- Member of Jamaican religion
- Explodes
- "Walter White" produced this
- Promo
- In a harmful way
- Aluminium
- Cerium
- Female title
- Singer DiFranco
- Beloved alien
- Free agent
- Tax
- Change
- Heaviness
- Third note of the solfège
- Printing speed measurement
- Pouch
- Brew
- Female of a horse
- Platforms
- Type of hemline
- "Traffic" actor Guzman
- Counts on
- Inhabitant of Media
- Pitcher's statistic
- Beloved dish __ and cheese
- An association of criminals
- Samarium
- Describes an action
- About oviduct
- Holy fire
- Audio frequency
- Stephen King novel

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



- Rocky peak
- South Dakota
- Gallium
- Larry and Curly's buddy
- One-dimensionality
- Soldier
- Act of foretelling future events
- Envisaged

- Establish by law

CLUES DOWN

- Regain possession of
- Indicates position
- Con games
- Checks
- Atomic mass unit
- Large groups

- Utah athlete
- Abnormal sound
- Scandal vocalist Patty
- Atlanta rapper
- Takes without permission
- Apple computers
- Hymn
- Clue
- Makes happy
- Close to
- Mimic
- Cool!
- Simplest
- Preface
- Represents the Tribe of Judah
- Boxing great
- Birth control means
- English cathedral city
- Refurbish
- Test for high schoolers
- "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
- Most adorable
- Large Pakistani tribe
- Enemy to grass
- Along the outer surface of a hull
- Travels on water
- Innermost Greek temple sanctuaries
- Fire and __
- Singer Turner
- "__ the Man" Musial
- __ de plume
- Frozen water
- An alternative
- Intensive care

Crossword solution

	L	O	V	E		L	W	V	E	H	D	
N	O	I	L	V	O	I	S	O	N	G	O	R
I	G		A	L	I	H	V	E	N	I	T	O
V	G		D	S		R	O	L		L	I	F
H	V	L	V		T	V	B	N	L		B	H
	W	S		B	O	W		C	V	W		V
		E	D	E	W			S	E	I	T	E
	S	I	N	T				O	T	I	H	
S	E	S	I	V	D			E	R	V	W	
E	T	V		O	V	S		W	D	P		I
L	J	E	H		R	E	L	T	V		S	S
V	F		L	E		I	N	V		S	W	E
T	V		A	T	E	A	I	S	N	B	V	D
E	N	I	W	V	L	E	H	P	W	V	H	L
	S	L	S	H	N	B			V	L	S	V

Let's get you movin!

KW KELLER WILLIAMS
PREMIER REALTY

Jennifer Walsh
507-438-6676
email: jenwalsh@kw.com
web: jenwalsh.kw.com



Legal Notices

Probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

NOTICE AND ORDER OF
HEARING ON PETITION FOR
PROBATE OF WILL AND
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Court File Number:
74-PR-17-818

Estate of
Richard P. Gasner,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on June 26, 2017, at 10 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Owatonna Fire Hall, 107 W. Main Street, Owatonna, MN, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, March 20, 2017, and ("Will"), and for the appointment of Kristine J. G. Beck, whose address is 2464 Austin Road, Owatonna, MN, 55060 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

BY THE COURT,
Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
5/9/2017

Sonia Kocher
Court Administrator
5/9/2017

Attorney for Petitioner
Eric J. Mattison
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver
& Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 151609
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: mattison@owatonnaattorneys.com

5/16, 5/23

Notice

NOTICE OF EXPIRATION
OF REDEMPTION

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Laura Ihrke
County of Steele
County Auditor

TO: ALL PERSONS WITH
A LEGAL INTEREST IN
THE PARCELS OF REAL
PROPERTY DESCRIBED
IN THE FOLLOWING
NOTICE

You are hereby notified that the parcels of real property described below and located in Steele County, Minnesota, are subject to forfeiture to the State of Minnesota because of the nonpayment of delinquent property taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest and costs levied on those parcels. The time for redemption from forfeiture expires if a redemption is not made within 60 days after service of this notice on all persons having an interest in the parcels.

The following information is listed below: the names of the property owners, taxpayers, and interested parties who have filed their addresses under M.S. 276.041; the addresses of the parties at the election of the county auditor; the legal description and parcel identification number of each parcel; and the amount necessary to redeem a parcel as of the

date listed below

NAMES/ADDRESSES
Donald L Carlson
P.O. Box 637
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

PID AND DESCRIPTION
14-100-1310
East Half of Lot 6, Block 13, in the Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota. EXCEPT: The East 12 inches of South 102 feet thereof.

AMOUNT DUE
\$5,065.85
NAMES/ADDRESSES
Lindsay R Doherty
225 Fremont St E
Owatonna, MN 55060

PID AND DESCRIPTION
17-104-0419
Lot 19, in Block 4 of Pettit's Addition to the Town (now City) of Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota

AMOUNT DUE
\$2,979.63

NAMES/ADDRESSES
Herbert W & Susan Enzenauer
408 Chestnut
Owatonna, MN 55060

PID AND DESCRIPTION
17-123-0102
Lot 2, in Block 1 of Bigelow's Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota.

AMOUNT DUE
\$9,954.31

FAILURE TO REDEEM
THE LANDS PRIOR TO
THE EXPIRATION OF
REDEMPTION WILL
RESULT IN THE LOSS
OF THE LAND AND
FORFEITURE TO THE
STATE OF MINNESOTA.

The amounts listed above must be paid to redeem if paid on or before July 31, 2017. Please contact the Steele County Auditor's Office to verify the amount due if paid after July 31, 2017.

Inquiries about the delinquent tax proceedings described above can be made to the Steele County Auditor at the address listed below.

Witness my hand and official seal this 12th day of May, 2017.

Laura Ihrke

Steele County Auditor
Steele County
Administration Center
630 Florence Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060
Telephone: (507) 444-7410

5/16, 5/23

Foreclosure

15-101690
NOTICE OF MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: November 21, 2005
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$229,050.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Amado Mendez Solis and Lorna E. Mendez, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Town and Country Credit Corp.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Town and Country Credit Corp.
SERVICER: Specialized Loan Servicing LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed December 7, 2005, Steele County Recorder, as Document

Number A000337562 OF ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Ameriquest Mortgage Company; Dated: December 2, 2005 filed: December 26, 2007, recorded as document number A000354323; ; thereafter assigned to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., dated December 2, 2005, recorded December 26, 2007 as Document No. A000354324; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee for Certificateholders of Bear Stearns Asset Backed Securities I LLC, Asset Backed-Certificates, Series 2006-HE2 dated March 19, 2012 recorded April 9, 2012 as document number A000383927; and dated November 1, 2012, recorded November 13, 2012 as Document No. A000387911; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as Trustee for Bear Stearns Asset Backed Securities I Trust 2006-HE2, Asset Backed-Certificates, Series 2006-HE2 by a Corrective Assignment of Mortgage dated December 1, 2016.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 6, Block 3, Radel's Francis Addition
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1283 Bellflower Lane NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-437-0306
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$411,521.23
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 11, 2017, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on January 11, 2018, or the next business day if January 11, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: May 15, 2017

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee for Bear Stearns Asset Backed Securities I Trust 2006-HE2, Asset Backed-Certificates, Series 2006-HE2
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY
Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778

Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION
FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

5/23, 5/30, 6/6
6/13, 6/20, 6/27

BP School

REGULAR SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING
BLOOMING PRAIRIE,
MINNESOTA
April 17, 2017

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 at 7:15 p.m. (Open Forum at 7:00 p.m.).

OPEN FORUM – No comments.

I. CALL TO ORDER –
CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL - CLERK Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister, Michelle Vigeland, Jenny Thurnau, Jon Sunde, Steve Ille, Rodney Krell

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools, Elementary Principal, High School Principal, Associate Principal

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of adding item H. regarding employment. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS
Reports given by Mr. Staloch, Mr. Worke, and Ms. Mach.

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED
Minutes, Bills, Treasurer's Report, Resignations, Reassignments, Donations
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve the minutes, bills, treasurer's report, resignations, reassignments, and donations. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Resolution Relating to the Termination and Non-Renewal of a Teaching Contract
Motion by Rodney Krell and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve a resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of an elementary teacher's teaching contract. Motion carried. (Roll Call Vote: 7 Aye/0 Nay)

Student Insurance Program
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Steve Ille to approve participation in the "Student Assurance Services, Inc." voluntary insurance coverage for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

MSHSL Membership Resolution
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the MSHSL resolution for membership for 2017-18. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Title I Resolution
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Michelle Vigeland to approve the Title I resolution for the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Class Sizes/Sections
Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Steve Ille to approve the hiring of an additional elementary teacher for the 2017-18 school year. This will allow for three sections in all grades at the elementary school. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Operating Levy
Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve providing direction of what is desired in proposed operating levy questions. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Employment
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the reassignment of Erik Vigeland from English teacher/technology coordinator to full-time technology integrationist. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay/1 Abstention by Michelle Vigeland)

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY

Committee Reports
A report update was given on the committees: Education Foundation and ZED.

Enrollment Data
Enrollment for the 2016-17 school year as of April 10, 2017, is 409 at the elementary school and 312 at the high school (307 attending BPHS and 5 attending PSEO). The PSEO number consists of 2 seniors and 3 juniors with attendance being full-time.
Dates to Note
The Board noted dates of importance.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR
BOARD MEMBER ITEMS
Future agendas to remove employment from the consent agenda.
Thank you from the family of Gail Demmer (Amy Ostrander's mother).

IX. ADJOURNMENT
Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Steve Ille to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, May 11, 2017, at 6:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the High School. Tentatively, the next regular meeting of the School Board will be Monday, May 15, 2017, 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,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

5/23

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

5/23

STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT PRIVATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: that on Tuesday, June 6th, 2017 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, Minnesota, the Steele County Board of Adjustment will hold Public Hearings on the following variance applications:

Richard and Dessa Kucera have requested to construct a dwelling on land that has been cropped in the previous five years. This property is located in the NE ¼ of the NW ¼, Section 2, Medford Township.

Beau Lammers has requested to construct a storage building 5 feet from the rear property line on property located in the North ½ of the NW ¼, Section 22, Aurora Township. The property address is 7879 Austin Road.

Ray and Sharon Dietrich have requested to build a new cabin as close as 38 feet from the ordinary high water level of Beaver Lake. This property is described as Block 1, Lot 20, Burnes Shore Acres Subdivision #2. The property address is 72 Beaver Lake Road South.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or contact the planning and zoning office to be heard on this matter.

STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Dale Oolman
Steele County Zoning Director
630 Florence Ave. P.O. Box 890
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 444-7482

5/23

STEELE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That on Monday, June 5th, 2017 starting at 7:00 pm., the Steele County Planning Commission will hold Public Hearings in the Commissioner's Room of the Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, MN, to receive comments on the following permit applications.

Dan Haberman has requested to amend his Conditional Use Permit to allow seasonal outdoor weddings and events on property located in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼, Section 22, Somerset Township. The property address is 7921 South County Road 45.

Crane Creek Asphalt has requested to place a temporary asphalt plant on property located in the SW ¼ of the SW ¼, Section 1, Lemond Township. The property address is 5145 51st St. SW.

Edward Springer has requested to renew Conditional Use Permit #294 allowing the mining of sand and gravel and the processing of recycled aggregate material in the W ½ of the NW ¼ Section 8 Blooming Prairie Township.

Tracy Holland has requested to amend Conditional Use Permit #215 allowing the mining of sand and gravel in Sections 15 and 14 of Berlin Township by expanding into Section 22 of Berlin Township.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearings and be heard on these matters.

Dale Oolman
Steele County Zoning Director
630 Florence Ave. P.O. Box 890
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PRAIRIE PREDICTIONS



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Sunday afternoon on Highway 218 north of Bixby. The rain started late Friday night and didn't let up until early Monday morning.

Tuesday



High: 60°
Low: 43°

Thursday



High: 71°
Low: 54°

Saturday



High: 71°
Low: 53°

Wednesday



High: 63°
Low: 46°

Friday



High: 74°
Low: 52°

Sunday



High: 69°
Low: 52°

Information provided by The Weather Channel

Movie Review: Everything, Everything



BY EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

First love can be wonderful and clumsy, so can movies about it.

Based on YA novel of the same name, Everything, Everything is a boy meets girl story with one little twist. If the girl, Maddy (played by Amandla Stenberg) steps outside, she'll die. Diagnosed with a deadly inefficient immune system, Maddy hasn't left her house since she was a

toddler. She lives a content if unexciting life until the boy, Olly (played by Nick Robinson), moves next door. The sparks fly from their first look. To live happily ever after, the two young lovers must overcome Maddy's illness and all the usual awkwardness that comes with teenage love affairs.

It's a cute movie. The style of the movie is its greatest strength and blunder. Since Maddy and Olly are seldom in the same room, the movie recreates text and email messages like real life conversations, sometimes taking place in diners, sometimes in outer space. When the pair is together, there's heavy subtext, as in literal text appearing on the screen to translate what their innocuous comments to each other really mean.

It makes for interesting individual scenes, but taken all together there isn't a cohesive style. The filmmakers seem more interested in making each scene interesting on its own, than making a story with a

consistent logic in how it's told.

The same goes for the plot itself. The dialogue is funny and realistic, and each scene has its own momentum, but the connection between each event is thin. Events dramatically shift without enough emotional build to justify them.

Its adaptation roots start to show. People who have read the book should have no problem with it. They understand all the characters think and feel because they have pages of their journey in the back of their minds. The uninitiated, however, will wonder if the story has really earned the highs and lows it's aiming for.

Like the A Walk to Remember or The Fault in Our Stars, this movie joins the pantheon of tales about finding love in the face of life's uncertainties. It has its heart, and its humor, in the right place.

Rated: PG-13

Go Panthers!

Finish out the year strong.



Blooming
Prairie Cancer
Group

Cancer Corner

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

Coping with cancer-related fatigue

Fatigue is one of the most common and frustrating side effects of cancer treatments. While fatigue is often a result of the cancer itself, cancer treatments can also increase feelings of fatigue. The American Cancer Society indicates that cancer-related fatigue can be more intense than a healthy person's feelings of tiredness. Therefore, learning how to manage fatigue can improve quality of life for the millions of people battling cancer every day.

Cancer-related fatigue, or CRF, often is described as paralyzing. In many instances, CRF comes on suddenly and without warning and is not diminished by rest or sleep. Many of the therapies associated with cancer treatment are culprits in CRF. These include chemotherapy drugs, radiation therapy, bone marrow transplants, and biologic therapies that include using cytokines to naturally attack cancer cells.

The National Cancer Institute states that CRF

can affect all areas of life by making patients reluctant or unable to partake in daily activities. Those who miss school, work or social occasions may start to experience depression or other mood changes. These occurrences can lessen quality of life and affect self-esteem.

Doctors may help those experiencing CRF find relief. By learning when fatigue occurs, doctors may be able to pinpoint what is causing the fatigue and then treat it accordingly. For example, if the cause is connected to a certain medication, alternative drug therapies may be suggested.

CRF is sometimes linked to anemia. Medications that stimulate bone marrow to produce more red blood cells or blood transfusions may help with fatigue as well, according to The Mayo Clinic.

When CRF is linked to depression, anxiety or lack of sleep, doctors may suggest self-help techniques, talk therapy and medications that can treat the underlying

condition to improve the patient's physical and mental well-being.

In addition, modifications can be made around the home or office to help alleviate fatigue. Ergonomic changes, such as improving chairs, repositioning items so they are within reach or adjusting office furniture to reduce having to bend over or reach overhead, may help.

Fatigue is one of the more common side effects of cancer and cancer treatments. Fatigue can have debilitating results, but patients can work with their physicians to find ways to alleviate fatigue and improve quality of life.



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