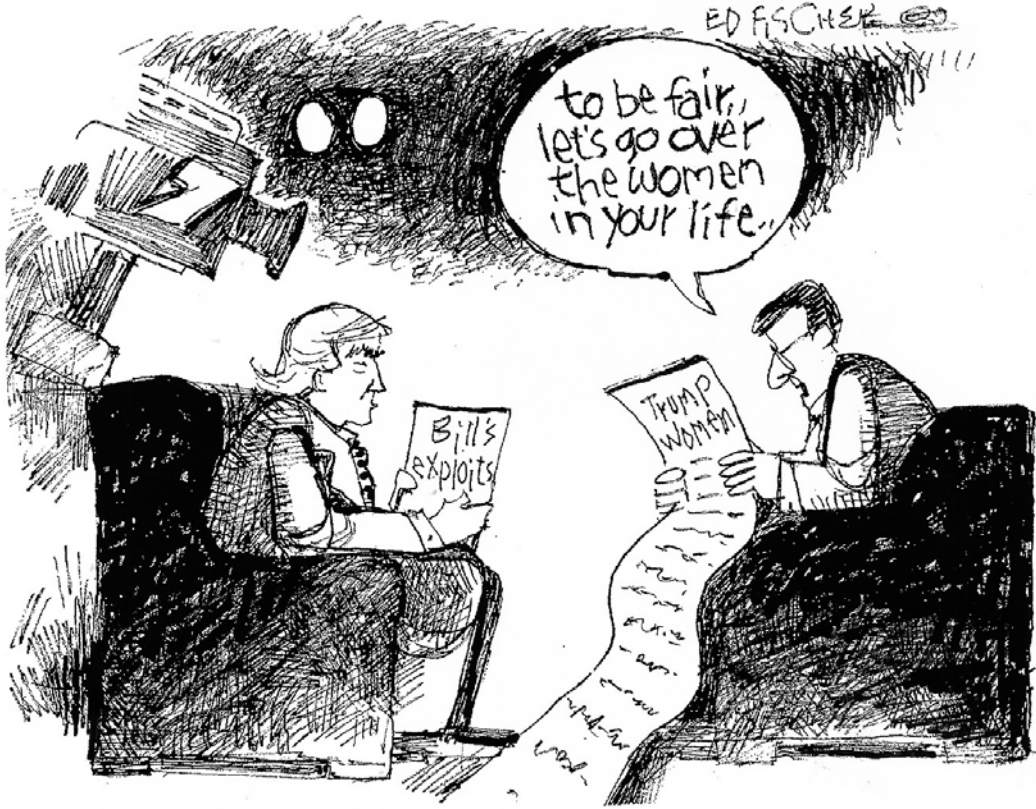
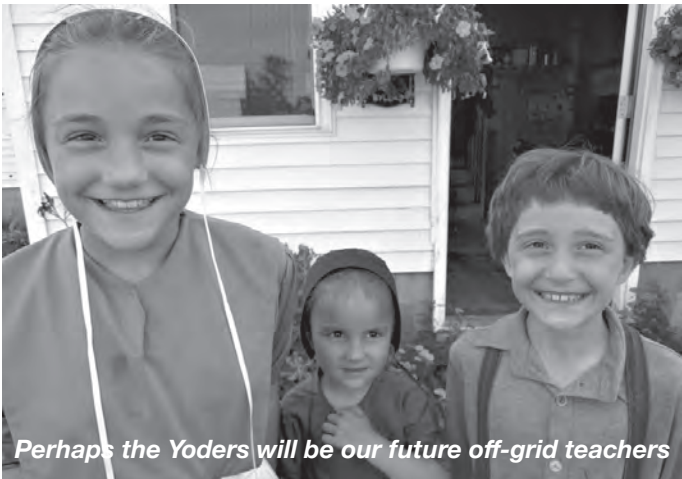


Opinion

Our view

Addicted to the grid

Back in the early 1900s, if the power went off, someone would strike a match, light a candle and go about their business. Today the power goes off and someone strikes a match, lights a cigarette and can't do any business. We have tethered ourselves to technology. It has become the drug of choice for the modern world, and everyone jumped in with both feet until nobody can exist without it. The world is addicted. Everyone is at its mercy. And not only at its mercy, but in danger from those who have invaded an intimacy that this drug promised to protect. And like the early mob activities of the past century, there is an ever increasing need to pay for protection. The government is spending \$12 billion dollars a year on cybersecurity and it's not nearly enough. The cyber attacks have increased and include hacks on everything from President Obama's schedule to staff emails from top security personnel at the Pentagon. And what about those right here in small town America? The average Joe. There are spam attacks every day dropped like dirty bombs into Grandma and Uncle Arthur's spam folders and the new daily viruses and malware are increasing at a rate that cyber cops can't keep up with or that you can't pay enough to stop. The cyber companies are thriving on the addiction of the world and sending forth their strong armed fear based messages through an impenetrable firewall.... to you – as a personal message. "Warning, your computer may be infected." Words that send shudders and cold chills down the spine of an addict that is afraid to lose something he can not live without. People of another generation actually lived and loved and laughed and existed without being tethered to an all consuming technology. Where there was no computer, there was a notebook and a pencil. Where there was no Kindle, there was a hard covered classic novel. Where there was no television, there was nature. Where there were no cars, there were horses. And where there were no Kardashians, people made due with their own lives. Some people know more today about what's going on in Hollywood than what's going on in the room across the hall. The generations before us succeeded because they had back up plans. Simple perhaps, but nevertheless, back up plans. No lights – they refused to be held captive by the technology they created. They had matches and candles. What kind of society is held captive to something that holds them hostage because they had no back door in the master plan? What kind of a people jump into new things without a trouble shooting guide? Everyone was so excited about the new shiny train. The time saving device. The ease of it all. The pleasure it could bring. But it's a runaway. And there are no plans as to how to shut it down or control it without doing away with life as we know it. Perhaps one day everyone will have to go and take classes from the Amish. Perhaps it will be the simple that teach the lessons of how to live again without shackles. And perhaps... it's closer to being a reality than one would think.



Gold Cross unveils new facility

HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

Usually it's people in need calling for the ambulance, but this past weekend paramedics for Gold Cross Ambulance switched things up and put out the call for folks to come see them in their new home. Gold Cross personnel entertained the public on Sunday and showed off their new facility on the same grounds of where the service has been housed for nearly 17 years near the downtown area of Owatonna. The open house also coincided with the start of National EMS Week, a time to recognize the importance of the work done by emergency service workers. This is the 42nd annual week recognizing EMS workers. In 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate EMS practitioners and the important work they do in our nation's communities. Back then, EMS was a new profession, and EMS practitioners had only just started to be recog-

nized as a critical component of emergency medicine and the public health safety net. There have been many changes since then. EMS is now firmly established as an essential public function and a vital component of the medical care continuum. On any given day, EMTs and paramedics help save lives by responding to medical emergencies, including heart attack, difficulty breathing, a fall or accident, drowning, cardiac arrest, stroke, drug overdose and suicide attempts. EMS Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line." In many communities, especially the smaller cities, those EMS workers are volunteers. Citizens throughout Steele County are in good hands when it comes to emergency services. It was just a year ago that Blooming Prairie Ambulance unveiled its new facility. Two of the county's three ambulance services now have first class facilities. During the past nine months, Gold Cross tore down an old dilapidated house and constructed a new facility for living quarters for the crews and administrative offices. Gold Cross kept the old garage portion that houses up to five ambulances. By the time landscaping was completed last week, the project cost about \$700,000, according to Kris Keltgen, supervisor of operations for Gold Cross. "We're proud of the facility and we want to share it with the community," said Keltgen, who has been responsible for the project. "We put a lot of time and effort into the building so that we would have a state-of-the-art facility," he added. Keltgen said there were many reasons for building a new facility, most of which were the "continued investment in the community and the investment into our staff." Previously, the administrative offices worked out of the old house on the grounds. "So much of that house was wasted space," Keltgen pointed out. "It wasn't ideal space to run a business. We needed a facility that is more efficient to operate." He predicts the new facility will be inexpensive to operate. It features low operational costs, including LED lighting throughout the facility. Keltgen hopes the facility will serve the community for at least the next four decades. Gold Cross has operated ambulance service in Owatonna since 1988. There are 18 employees at the Owatonna location with as many as seven on duty at one time. Gold Cross provides 24-hour emergency coverage. Whether it's Gold Cross or any other ambulance service, this week is a great time to honor those who go in hot pursuit of providing lifesaving care in our communities. To our EMTs and paramedics, thank you for making a difference in our lives.

Sharing your families with a droid

Movie night in the average home before the new millennium had a much different face. As did the dinner table, the classroom and the social patterns of the age. Kids don't watch movies anymore, they simply listen to them as they multi-task on social media because they are scared to death to miss a tweet or a chirp or a message that may or may not be life altering. Afraid to tell their friends that they "didn't see it" or "didn't hear it" or worse... were the last to know something. And have you watched families at a sporting event? Mom is in her cyber world, dad is reading the cyber sports pages, the kids are snapchatting, twittering, tweeting and browsing. Couples on a date, each one on their own phone – but seemingly happy together. I applaud us

LITTLE THOUGHTS ON THE PRAIRIE



MARK DELAP

for becoming a people who can multi-task, but at what cost? Part of the romance of the classic movies was to see the expressions on the actor's faces. I can remember my grandmother telling me how wonderful television was because you could actually see the emotion

instead of just hearing it on radio. I guess we are back to the days of the old time Philco. The only video required is on their I-phones. My favorite memories of being together as we raised our children, were the sharing times at the dinner table and the movie nights where I forbid any handheld electronic devices into the room. When we went to a sporting event to cheer on one of the kids, we gave that time to the one on the court and not to our electronic worlds. It was nice to say after a game, "That shot you hit in the third quarter was the turning point." I wasn't sharing my son with the stock market or my emails or my employer. They usually got enough of my time.

LITTLE THOUGHTS
Story on Page 3A

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On stage at the Steele County Fair

The Grandstand schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, August 16th- Bull riding will begin at 7:30.
Wednesday, August 17th- Battle of the bands begins at 5:30, and is a free event. Chris Brooks and the Silver City Boys begins at 8:00.
Thursday, August 18th- Hairball Concert begins at 7:30.
Friday, August 19th- NTPA Tractor Pull begins at 7:30.
Saturday, August 20th- Antique Tractor pull begins at 8:30 a.m. This even will be free with coupon. Enduro Race begins at 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, August 21st- Demolition Derby begins at 4:00.

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A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2016 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 7 State Awards	
2013 2 National Awards 7 State Awards	
2012 2 State Awards	

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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DEADLINE

News: Noon Fridays.
Advertising: 4 p.m. Thursdays.

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

ETHICS

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Steele, Dodge, Freeborn & Mower....\$38
Elsewhere in Minnesota.....\$40
Out of state.....\$42

‘Wascowy Wabbits’ at the Steele County Fairgrounds



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Holly Larson, a junior from Medford High School shows off her award winning rabbit, “Mars” who won the trophy for ‘Best of Breed’ at the Rochester Area Rabbit Club’s Annual Spring All Breed Triple Show held at the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna last Saturday.

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

What’s up doc?
From Fuzzy Lops to Jersey Wooleys to American Dwarfs to New Zealand Whites, the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna was hoppin’ on Saturday as the Rochester Area

LITTLE THOUGHTS
Continued from Page 2A

Family time was not only getting us all in the same room, but was getting all of us on the same page. The attention was not diverted to the individual worlds but to what the family recorded together. Today it is so easy to be in the same room with someone, but at the same time, to be so many miles away.
They say it takes a community to raise a child, but really, we have trained our children to include their communities in everything they do and with everyone they are with. Time is no longer exclusive, but it’s shared. I have to make room in my schedule for their droid.
Silence is not tolerated or appreciated. It is awkward to be one-on-one with someone. In the awkward, we have learned to reach out to the other hundreds of people in the room that you can’t see. And it’s awkward because we are training up a generation to reach for a phone instead of reaching deep down inside to share the precious quality of who they are... face to face.
I am voting for an “off the grid” night. A time when you not only tell someone you love them, but show them by giving them your full attention. It’s not that I don’t like or appreciate the friends my family has, it’s just that... sometimes it gets a little crowded in the family room and although crowded, it can also be lonely.
Take your wife for a car ride in the country and leave the cell phones at home. Go for a walk and leave the I-Pods. Eat a meal in a nice restaurant in a “no TV” zone. Reconnect with those you love and sometimes... care enough to share them with nobody else.

FEED LOT
Continued from Page 1A

County Board but that action had been vacated by Court order on appeal for procedural deficiencies.
They also asserted the Maschings application in late 2014 was submitted with all required supporting documents and the alleged personal and industry bias of members of the Westfield Town Board and the Dodge County Planning Commission were not the sort of direct pecuniary interest that would disqualify them as decision-makers. Also, Reuters and Perry said, those two bodies were only advisory.
They also said that the public hearing before the Plan-

Rabbit Club’s Annual Spring All Breed Triple Show came to town.
With hundreds of rabbit rooters and almost 50 breeds of rabbits present, it was like a giant Easter commercial in the Allan R. Radel Family Livestock Pavilion.
Roy and Barb Semb from Friendly Rabbit Club in Tremeealeau, WI were showing a few rabbits, selling a few rabbits and were considering buying a few rabbits.
“We do about 12 shows per year,” said Roy Semb. “It’s not our livelihood... purely just a hobby.” As Barb was “wessowing with a wascowy wabbit” from his cage, she pulled her hand back suddenly and exposed a love bite from a rabbit that was none too happy

to be woken up from a warm afternoon nap on a very cold spring day.
Local rabbit fancier and cuniculturist Holly Larson from Medford was seated peacefully next to her half dozen New Zealand Whites; a breed of rabbit, which despite the name was developed in the United States.
Larson also had something else sitting there atop the cages. Trophies. Yes... local girl does well with her beautiful white babies. She has won many awards for her rabbits in the past few years both at rabbit shows and at 4-H shows.
“Mars,” named after the Roman God of war was her buck that won ‘Best of Breed’ and got his name from Holly’s sister on a day when he was need-

ing an attitude adjustment. “He had a really bad temper when he was young,” Larson said.
Mars is also a miracle babbit (rabbit baby), raised up for greatness as a testimony in the rabbit community. He was born in a litter of six and his own mother didn’t have enough milk for him. Perhaps the reason for his early childhood temper tantrums. He was put with another nursing mother and after all was said and done, he was the only one out of the six that survived. I am verklemt.
Larson’s other award winner was “Dandelion” also named by her sibling because of her aversion to snorting dandelion fluff. Dandelion was awarded “Best in Opposite Sex Variety” which means, she would have gotten best of breed, but that award was already given to Mars, so, yeah... it was like... “This rabbit is so fine, but we already have an award given out, so... let’s give it best of breed for a doe and call it Best Opposite Sex Variety.”
You may have to read that last paragraph again. Out loud. Several times to find the understanding and the logic. Larson explains it much clearer, and you can see the entire interview on video at the Steele County Times Facebook page. You HAVE to go there. The interview is cute and cuddly and you’ll end up wanting to have a rabbit for a pet.
<https://www.facebook.com/BusslerPublication/?fref=ts>
Larson is a junior at Medford High School and lives on a farm about four miles north-east of the high school. A full dietary menu for her rabbits was described in detail in the interview as well as an excellent teaching on her breed of rabbit.
Abahdeebah... that’s all folks.

‘Pam-cakes’ for Lexi at BPCC



Staff Photo by Howard Lestrud

Breakfast lovers of all ages were treated to a delicious breakfast on Sunday, May 15 at the Blooming Prairie Country Club. Here, Lexi Miner, 3, of Blooming Prairie gets ready to feast on her big breakfast. She is the Daughter of Doug and Kristi Miner. More than 100 were served at the annual breakfast.

ning Commission was held in a proper manner and that time limits placed on presentations were appropriate and allowed those speaking fair and adequate time to state their views.
The Conditional Use Permit satisfied all substantive criteria for issuance of the permit under Dodge County ordinances and approval followed adequate due process, the two attorneys said.
Following the submission of the written motions, a hearing was held in District Court in February with attorneys for the parties presenting their oral arguments on their motions. The hearing was held

before Chase, who is a District Judge in Olmsted County after Judge Jodi Williamson, who sits in Dodge County, removed herself from the proceedings because she had issued the original order vacating the issuance of the permit.
The judge took the motions under advisement and had 90 days to issue his ruling.
In granting the motions of the defendants, Chase said he was not persuaded the supposed “danger signals” raised by the Troms showed that the county failed to give the issues appropriate consideration.
“Despite county staff’s ap-parent continuing opinion that

there was nothing actually wrong with Maschings first application, I find that the second application received the requisite ‘hard look’ from the Dodge County Board,” Chase wrote.
He therefore concluded, he wrote, that the approval of the application was not arbitrary or capricious, that it was based upon substantial evidence; that the procedure the county followed was fair and afforded due process, that the process followed and the result were consistent with the applicable ordinances and the result of reasoned decision-making.



NANCY
VAILLANCOURT

Email your receipt

Are you trying to cut down on your use of paper and save a tree? The SELCO library system has heard those concerns and now offers another option for your check out receipt – the paper we give you when you check out an item from the Blooming Prairie Branch Library. If you would like to have your receipt emailed to you, that can now be easily done. Then when you are wondering what day the items are due, you can just look in your emails. No more searching for that little white piece of paper.

SUMMIT

Continued from Page 1A

Lion Paul is not a stranger to adversity, taking an unexpected ride on a Mayo One helicopter last May due to a heart attack. Dale and Laura call the event his “temper tantrum.”
Without a guide dog the past several months, Dale has been forced to use a white cane and rely more on Laura, other family members and friends. “I got my freedom back,” Dale says proudly, referring to his new man’s best friend Summit.
“She’s not just Paul’s eyes, she’s part of the family,” acknowledges Laura.
Summit is a very lively dog, still called a puppy by the Dales. “She still has some growing up to do,” says Laura. Summit was named after a cruise ship. Summit of course has many other meanings, too, for example, top of the mountain; a meeting of important people and a Minnesota beer.
In dog to human years, Summit is 10, “just a kid,” says Laura. “She’s not even a teenager and leads me around,” laughs Paul. “I don’t even let my grand kids lead me around,” he admits.
After the sudden loss of Shadow, also a Golden Retriever, Dale had to rely on his white cane but he said he didn’t want to be talking to his stick and have people think he is crazy. He contacted Leader Dog soon after Shadow passed and was assured that he could get another guide dog.
The Blooming Prairie Lions Club was instrumental in getting Dale his first Leader Dog more than 10 years ago. Since he had perviously gone through schooling with Maci and Shadow, it was easy to get the approval of Leader Dog for another sight giver.
Considering raising and training costs, a Leader Dog is valued at over \$40,000, says Lion Paul.
Lion Paul left the Twin Cities for Michigan on a Sunday and returned 18 days later. “I was very happy to be home again,” he confides. He trained in Michigan with Maci for 28 days and 17 days with Shadow.
Lion Paul was in a class of 10, five individuals from the United States and five from five other international locations.
Prior to getting Maci 10 years ago, Lion Paul’s choice for a dog was a German Shepherd. None were available, thus he was connected with Maci, a Golden Retriever. “Now, Golden’s are my first choice,” he says.
“This class was phenomenal,” Lion Paul says about his teammates. “I have never laughed as hard as I did during this schooling,” he said. “I picked on the trainers, too,” Lion Paul confessed. “He called me every night,” Laura says, “to check in, but he was very busy being Mr. Social.”

Students are given treats for their dogs when they first begin classes. Lion Paul added a different twist and gave treats to his trainer friends. The people treats

Of course, it is also possible for you to handle your entire account online by logging onto “My Account” at www.owatonna.info. All you need is your library card number and your PIN, which is usually the last four digits of your phone number. On that site you can see what you have checked out, what is requested, and if you have any fines on overdue items. You can also request items, pay those fines with a credit card, and renew items that are almost due. If you would like help with your online account or to receive your check out receipts by email, just let us know the next time you come in or call us at 507-583-7750.
Monkey Mania Family Fun Night with ECFE will be on Thursday, May 19th at 6:30 p.m. Bring your preschooler and the entire family for silly stories, songs, and crafts. Hope to see you at the library!

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/BusslerPublication

were Reese’s peanut butter cups.
The Dales learned more about Summit and his puppy raisers during the first days of his schooling in Rochester. She was born on Dec. 15, 2014 and raised by Mary and Alan Burd of Walled Lake, Michigan. She is one of eight siblings. Her parents are Kaptainn and Emily. Three of her litter mates were also being trained as Leader Dogs during the time Summit and Paul were going to school together.
Paul and Laura are amazed at the dedication shown by puppy raiser Mary Burd. She is a firefighter, a paramedic, a volunteer for ski patrols, a scuba instructor and an employee of TRW.
Being that Lion Paul had been a student twice before, he was not alarmed by the early start time of 6 a.m. for his day and a night ending time of about 8 p.m.
“You are responsible for your own dog and they stay in your room at night,” Lion Paul informed. It took a few days for Summit and Lion Paul to get to know one another. “She bounced all over the place at first,” he said. “I kept giving her water and that helped,” he said.
“She wanted to strut her stuff and wouldn’t pay attention to what I wanted her to do at first. She wanted to play.”
Summit was a quick learner, Lion Paul says, and did extremely well on her jaunts down streets and sidewalks. She even excelled when she and Lion Paul were tested by trainers who drove a silent Hybrid car in her vicinity. “She just froze,” Lion Paul said, explaining she did the right thing.
Lion Paul and Summit would often go on solo walks but on one occasion, they were joined by Donnie and his dog. “We covered about 18 blocks in 25 minutes but both of us got mixed up and we ended up being on separate sides of the street,” Paul relates.
Squirrels also caused a diversion for Lion Paul and Summit. “They antagonize the dogs,” he said.
During his stay in Michigan, Lion Paul took Summit to an outdoor store where she had the chance to meet a 12-foot tall grizzly bear. “She sniffed at the bear, moved on and could care less,” Lion Paul chuckled. He plans to take her to Cabella’s in Medford and introduce her to some other animal friends.
Upon graduation, he received a new leash, a Martingale collar, a Gentle Leader, a new harness and a comb and brushes.
“We had her to Wal-Mart in Austin the other day and she performed super,” Lion Paul said. He said Summit is more deliberate and moves at a slower pace to which he must adjust.
When working with Summit, Lion Paul uses a Gentle Leader put over the nose and behind the ears of his guide dog. “This allows her to heal nicely,” he says. A little flick of the wrist causes her to follow commands.

Public Safety

Blotter spotlight: Officers responded to a report of shots in the 800 block of Prospect St. E. They took a subject into custody.

RAGE

Continued from Page 1A

Wolf said he was pulling away from the curb when a drive began honking at him out of “no where”. Wolf said he “flicked off” the driver. A few minutes later, Wolf said the driver pulled in front of him, parked, and began yelling at him. Next, Wolf said he took a wrong turn and ended up in front of the drivers house; where the man came out to the road and said “You got something to say to me?” When asked by police about the knife, Wolf said he knew of no weapons in the vehicle, but since the vehicle was his dad’s there was a possibility of one.

At 6:00 p.m., on the same night, police executed a search warrant on the grey Ford Mustang. A set of brass knuckles was found with a blade that extended when the knuckles were not on the hands. Based on discrepancies in Wolf’s story and the discovery of the weapon charges have been pressed against him. Minnesota Court Records show Wolf was convicted of going 100 MPH in a 55 MPH zone. Wolf’s court date is scheduled for May 19th.

POLICE BLOTTER

Steele County

Owatonna Police
May 6
Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to a crash with injuries at Cedar Ave. N. and Nature Valley Place NW at 7:44 a.m.
Juvenile. Police received a juvenile complaint from the 100 block of Vine St. E. at 9:55 a.m.
Weapon. At 2:43 p.m., officers responded to a report of shots in the 800 block of Prospect St. E. They took a subject into custody.
Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 1200 block of 21st Ave. NW at 4:05 p.m.
May 7
Burglary. Police began a burglary investigation in the 1500 block of Greenleaf Rd. SE at 8:13 a.m.
Theft. Deputy took a theft report in the 1200 block of 12th St. SE at 10:44 a.m.
Hit and Run. A hit and run crash resulting in property damage occurred in the 1100 block of Rice Lake St. E. at 9:06 a.m.
Restraining Order. At 12:57 p.m., officers responded to a restraining order violation in the 2300 block of 43rd St. NW.
Vandalism. Property damage was reported at 18th St. SE and Austin Rd. SE at 6:54 p.m.
Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to a personal injury crash at 26th St. NW and Frontage Rd. W. at 7:31 p.m.
May 8
Restraining Order. Police arrested a subject for violating a restraining order in the 300 block of State Ave. NW at 3:33 a.m.
Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 200 block of Larch Ave. NE at 8:52 a.m. and in the 200 block of 15th St. NE at 3:42 p.m.
Suspicion. At 9:19 a.m., police responded to a suspicious activity report at Florence Ave. NW and State Ave. NW.
Domestic. Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 700 block of Vine St. E. at 10:09 a.m. They took a subject into custody.
Traffic. Officer arrested a motorist following a traffic stop in the 400 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 12:44 p.m.
May 9
Welfare. Officer completed a welfare check in the 600 block

of 15th St. NE at 9:17 a.m.
Threats. At 9:21 a.m., a threats incident occurred in the 500 block of 15th St. NE.
Theft. A theft report was received from the 1100 block of Hawthorne Ave. SW at 12:24 p.m.
Domestic. Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 2600 block of 3rd Ave. NE at 12:15 p.m. They arrested a juvenile subject.
Property Damage. Vandalism was reported in the 300 block of Broadway St. E. at 1:06 p.m.
Fight. Police responded to a fight at the detention center at 2:03 p.m.
Disturbance. Police received a noise complaint from the 300 block of Glendale Place NW at 8:22 p.m.
Domestic. Officers took a subject into custody following a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 11:20 p.m.
May 10
Burglary. At 7:40 a.m., police responded to a burglary in the 300 block of Glendale Place NW.
Hit and Run. A hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W. at 3:13 p.m.
Shoplifting. Police responded to a shoplifting incident in the 1400 block of 21st Ave. NW at 5:27 p.m.
DWI. Officers arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at Bridge St. W. and Oak Ave. S. at 8:40 p.m.
May 11
Drugs. Drug activity was reported in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 11:15 a.m.
Restraining Order. At 2:31 p.m., police responded to a restraining order violation in the 300 block of Plainview St. SW.
May 12
Drugs. Police responded to drug activity in the 200 block of Chestnut Ave. NE at 4:45 a.m.
Fight. A fight occurred in the 500 block of 15th St. NE at 3:16 p.m.
Fraud. At 7:25 p.m., a citizen reported being the victim of a fraud incident in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.
Warrant. Officers arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 500 block of 13th St. NE at 11:57 p.m.

Steele County Sheriff
May 6
Road Hazard. Deputy issued a citation for a road hazard at 84th Ave. NE and 86th St. NE at 3:21 a.m.
Warrant. Deputies arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant at the detention center at 4:27 p.m.
May 7
Theft. Deputy took a theft report in the 9300 block of 37th Ave. SW at 12:37 p.m.
Traffic. At 5:28 p.m., deputy issued a citation for a traffic violation in the 4000 block of Hwy. 218.
May 9
Child Protection. Deputies took a child protection report in the 300 block of 4th St. SE at 6:56 p.m.
May 10
Crash. Deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 1st Ave. NE and 1st St. NE at 6:28 a.m.
Weapons. Shots were heard fired in the 700 block of 2nd Ave. NE at 9:16 a.m.
Fire. Deputies advised on a fire call in the 11800 block of County Rd. 45 S. at 3:47 p.m.
Driving. Deputies received a driving complaint from 26th St. NW and Interstate 35 northbound at 9:13 p.m.
May 11

Warrants. Deputies made two warrants in the 100 block of Main St. E. at 2:38 p.m. and at 2:40 p.m.
May 12
Arrest. Deputy arrested a subject as part of a follow-up in the 1900 block of 48th St. SW at 3:45 p.m.
Drunken Driving. At 4:43 p.m., deputies made a DWI arrest in the 400 block of Havana Rd.

STEELE ARRESTS

Owatonna Police
Drake Wolf, 23, arrested at 3:46 p.m. May 6, felony assault, held for court.
Juan Manuel Sandoval, 33, arrested at 2:17 a.m. May 8, domestic assault, held for court.
Travis Wayne Jackson, 36, arrested at 3:54 a.m. May 8, order for protection violation, held for court.
Joseph Jacob Wallin, 19, arrested at 12:51 p.m. May 8, felony possession, held for court.
Darrien Duane Walker, 47, arrested at 8:50 p.m. May 10, DWI-test refusal, held for court.
Trace Michael Stanley, 18, arrested at 1:10 p.m. May 11, felony possession of stolen property and possession, held for court.
Abaas Nuur Said, 21, arrested at 1:15 p.m. May 11, felony possession of firearm and sale of stolen property, held for court.
Adam Joseph Starman, 28, arrested at 10:50 a.m. May 12, felony possession, held for court.
Geoffrey Allemond Koloc, 52, arrested at 4:25 a.m. May 13, cancelled license, held for court.
Steele County Sheriff
Ryan Joseph Wilson, 26, arrested at 10:56 a.m. May 6, probation apprehension and detention, held for court.
Matthew Dwayne Deloach, 22, arrested at 2:01 p.m. May 6, probation warrant arrest, held for court.
Dustin David Craft, 24, arrested at 6 p.m. May 6, warrant arrest, held for court.
Franklin Dywane Powell, 41, arrested at 8:18 p.m. May 7, violation of conditions of release, held for court.
Shawn Douglas Plotnik, 31, arrested at 5:30 p.m. May 9, warrant arrest, \$50,000 bail.
Martin Vazquez, 35, arrested at 3:50 p.m. May 12, felony domestic assault, held for court.
Rebecca Lee Stuber, 43, arrested at 5:05 p.m. May 12, felony DWI-test refusal and cancelled license, held for court.

COURT NEWS

Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 2 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:
Jerry L. Castilleja, 46, Austin, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance crime. He was sentenced to \$131, 234 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain employment and 5 years of supervised probation.
Matthew J. Peters, 28, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of Marijuana. Peters was sentenced to \$131, 1 year in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, mental health evaluation and 5 years of supervised probation.

Dak L. Ret, 20, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of a pistol. The defendant was sentenced to 60 months in St. Cloud State Prison.
Alexander J. Brown, 21, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony controlled substance crime and misdemeanor domestic assault. Brown was sentenced to \$131, 60 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training and 3 years of supervised probation.
The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of May 2 – 6:
Blooming Prairie Police Department
Dillon D. Easton, 18, Blooming Prairie, possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia, \$181.

MN State Patrol Rochester
Carlo G. Acevedo, 27, Iowa City, IA, speeding, \$121; Emilio R. Ale, 32, Omaha, NE, fictitious name, \$281 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; James A. Batten, 60, Claremont, seat belt, \$106; Donald B. Bodenweiser, 49, Waldorf, suspended license, \$281; Jennifer J. Bramstedt, 40, Wells, speeding, \$131; Lanie A. Buretta, 26, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Reynaldo H. Casarez, 40, Minneapolis, speeding, \$121; Steve A. Cole, 33, Twin Lakes, invalid license, \$181; Arnoldo E. Cruz, 48, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Thalia A. Elvidge, 43, Faribault, revoked license, \$281; Keith D. Grunklee, 29, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Adam M. Hegberg, 32, Lakefield, speeding, \$121; Lance R. Hornaday, 48, Minneapolis, move over law violation, \$131; Brady L. Klierew, 24, Morristown, texting while driving, \$131; Tad M. Merkley, 28, Waseca, no MN license, \$181; Johan A. Podlewski, 20, Minneapolis, \$221; Alfred H. Prochniak, 68, Bird Island, speeding, \$121; Kayla S. Rankin, 24, Eagle, NE, speeding, \$121; Kevin J. Robertson, 40, Owatonna, failure to obey traffic control device, \$131; Alicia P. Rodriguez, 27, Austin, revoked license, \$281; Colton P. Rupprecht, 29, West Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$121; Carlos I. Vazquez Balderas, 35, Hector, revoked license, \$281; Alicia M. Villarreal, 26, Albert Lea, revoked license, \$281; Brandon D. Wencil, 21, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106.

Owatonna Police Department
Casey A. Adams, 36, Owatonna, interference with 911 call, \$381, 4 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, and 1 year of supervised probation; David Alvarez, 47, Waseca, theft, \$231; Nicholas T. Beatty, 28, Winona, shoplifting, \$381, 1 day in county jail and 6 months of supervised probation; Patrick J. Brady, 38, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Charles Q. Bridgeman, 36, Owatonna, assault and DWI, \$312, 36 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, mental health evaluation, 216 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation; Alvin L. Chamber Jr., 28, Claremont, possession of Marijuana, \$131; Juan A. Cordero, 37, Faribault, no insurance, \$281, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of supervised

probation; Jonah M. Deml, 19, possession of Marijuana, \$131; Lauren M. Deml, 27, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Abigail I. Fennell, 18, Owatonna, prohibited passing, \$131; Christopher C. Gerbensky, 42, Owatonna, failure to yield, no MN license and no insurance, \$431; Wrik G. Grunwald, 23, Owatonna, interference with 911 call, \$381, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, domestic abuse evaluation, no possession of firearms and 2 years of supervised probation; Macario R. Guzman, 19, Owatonna, possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia, \$281; Trevor R. Harber, 33, Owatonna, shoplifting, \$231 and community service; Mohamed I. Hassan Ibrahim, 29, Owatonna, permit violation, \$131; Ashley A. Hernandez, 37, Owatonna, stalking, and assault \$131, 1 day in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training and 2 years of supervised probation; Ryan A. Hollerich, 39, Owatonna, no insurance, \$131 and 30 days in county jail; Bryan G. Hughes, 41, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Syria Z. Johnson, 32, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Dyllon D. Jorgenson, 24, Owatonna, cancelled license and no insurance, \$481; Jacob A. Lamb, 18, St. Peter, failure to obey traffic control device, \$131; John E. Mumm, 69, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$331; Maung Ngae, 30, St. Paul, permit violation and no insurance, \$331; Samuel T. Salisbury, 70, Jacksonville, FL, use of wireless communication device, \$131; Travis A. Schleusner, 24, Dodge Center, DWI, \$381, 3 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Dillin R. Schultz, 23, Owatonna, assault, \$381, 1 day in county jail, domestic abuse evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Jace D. Shaske, 21, Owatonna, possession of Paraphernalia, \$131; Natalie A. Wilson, 32, Austin, damage to property, \$381 and 1 year of supervised probation.

Steele County Sheriff's Office
Joseph A. Arnold, 21, La Vista, NE, speeding, \$141; Tolessa T. Ayana, 29, Austin, speeding, \$141; Thomas P. Bartczak, 33, Wrenshall, speeding, \$131; Lynn A. Biever, 55, Brainerd, speeding, \$121; Warren K. Brashear, 45, Pemberton, speeding, \$121; Ashley N. Buker, 28, Waseca, speeding, \$221; Matthew D. Burmeister, 45, Rosemount, speeding, \$121; April R. Byrd, 37, North Mankato, no MN license and speeding, \$241; Kristi M. Cambas, 42, Morristown, speeding, \$121; Bryan R. Duncan, 38, Medford, speeding, \$221; Kari R. Elias, 39, Plymouth, speeding, \$121; Bridget C. Fischer, 27, Waseca, speeding, \$221; Molly M. Foley, 24, Chatfield, speeding, \$121; Derek N. Garner, 29, Brookings, SD, speeding, \$221; Amy Jo S. Goor, 45, Anoka, speeding, \$141; Margie Grubish, 41, Owatonna, damage to property, \$1381, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Casey G. Guibbert, 20, Waseca, speeding and no insurance, \$421; Trent T. Gunsolus, 35, Waldorf, parking violation, \$32; Jennifer A. Hage, 34, St. Paul, domestic assault, \$81, diversion program, domestic abuse counseling and 2 years of supervised probation; Steven A. Hamson,

55, failure to stop for traffic control signal, \$131; Casey J. Headline, 28, Rochester, DWI, \$381, 4 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Jerome D. Hofer, 23, Dexter, speeding, \$221; Colt K. Houg, 28, Waseca, speeding, \$131; Jody J. Jandt, 47, Owatonna, speeding, \$281; Arne D. Johnson, 21, Austin, minor consumption, and open bottle \$281; Dyllon D. Jorgenson, 24, Owatonna, cancelled license and speeding, \$321; Travis J. Kent, 77, St. Cloud, speeding, \$121; Erin E. King, 33, Cottage Grove, WI, speeding, \$221; Benjamin M. Klapperich, 32, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Justin R. Kremmin, 28, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Jordan D. Lindeman, 18, Owatonna, no MN license and failure to obey traffic control device, \$231; Cody L. Luchi, 19, Owatonna, possession of Marijuana and Paraphernalia, \$181; Daniel K. McConnell, 21, Cambridge, speeding, \$131; Kenneth M. Miller, 39, Waseca, speeding, \$121; David G. O’Neil, 68, Faribault, speeding, \$141; Pearl Prendez, 33, Byron, speeding, \$141; Daniel Quinonez Jr., 30, Mesa, AZ, speeding, \$121; Issam Y. Sahawneh, 53, Phoenix, AZ, speeding, \$121; Leann E. Stevermer, 37, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jacob M. Tonkin, 22, Ellendale, headlamps violation, \$121; Mariah J. Walentowski, 21, Madison, WI, speeding, \$121; Todd A. Wenner, 40, Faribault, revoked license and speeding, \$331; Aaron W. Whipple, 42, Elkton, speeding, \$221; Matthew D. Wiese, 39, Austin, speeding, \$141; Leighton T. Wradislavsky, 19, Blooming Prairie, prohibited lights, \$121; Travis J. Zenda, 26, St. Paul, speeding, \$100; Jesus H. Zuniga, 52, Monticello, speeding, \$121.

POLICE BLOTTER

Dodge County

May 4
Disturbance. Deputies responded to an out-of-control student in the 800 block of Hwy. St. W. in Dodge Center at 8:14 a.m.
Suspicion. A Mantorville citizen reported that her neighbor came home and said her home smells like cigarette smoke in the 500 block of Walnut St. at 3:21 p.m.
May 5
Fraud. A Dodge Center resident reported that her ID had been stolen in the 17400 block of 670th St. at 3:25 p.m.
Civil. Deputy assisted with a civil matter in the 100 block of Front St. E. in Claremont at 5:16 p.m.
Fire. Deputies responded to a fire in the 60300 block of 210th Ave. in Dodge Center at 9:17 p.m.
May 6
Fraud. At 12:22 p.m., a fraud incident occurred in the 17600 block of 530th St. in West Concord.
Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Front St. W. in Claremont at 10:31 p.m.
Narcotics. Deputy made a traffic stop on U.S. Hwy 14 in Dodge Center and found narcotics at 11:14 p.m.
May 7
Disturbance. At 11:53 a.m., a woman called deputies when she got in a fight with her roommate n the 54200 block of State Hwy. 56 in West Concord. She told him to get out of the house and then he kicked in the door.

The following individuals as they have active warrants in Steele County.
The sheriff makes this information available as a public service.

Anthony Lake – revoked license - \$500 bail	Jesus Leal – domestic assault - \$1,000 bail
Vu Lam-Truong – open bottle - \$2,000 bail	Michael Lee – DWI - \$1,000 bail
Trevor Lambkins – assault - \$1,000 bail	Sylvia Lee – taxes - \$110,000 bail
Kenneth Lane – false name - \$1,000 bail	Roney Lemaster – log book - \$500 bail
Shatoria Lane – assault - \$300 bail	Jordan Levine – DWI - \$500 bail
Jonathan Lantry – burglary – no bail	Travis Lewis – revoked license – no bail
Amanda Larscheid – aid & abet theft - \$10,000 bail	Elliot Lightbourne – forgery - \$10,000 bail
Chad Larson – theft – no bail	Juan Limon – theft - \$10,000 bail
Michael Laursen – theft - \$10,000 bail	Bruce Lindberger – DWI - \$1,400 bail
Miguela Lazú Martínez – invalid license - \$500 bail	Herasmo Lino-Crisanto – false name – no bail

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

ACTIVE WARRANTS

How to Pick a Medicare Advantage Plan

Dear Savvy Senior,
I'm approaching 65 and am interested in a Medicare Advantage plan to cover my health care and medications. What tips can you provide to help me pick a plan?
Medicare Shopper

Dear Shopper,
Medicare Advantage plans have become increasingly popular among retirees over the past 10 years, as more than 30 percent of Medicare participants are now enrolled in an Advantage plan. Here are some tips and tools to help

you pick a plan that fits your needs.
First, let's start with a quick review. Medicare Advantage plans (also known as Medicare Part C) are government approved health plans sold by private insurance companies that you can choose in place of original Medicare. The vast majority of Advantage plans are managed-care policies such as HMOs or PPOs that require you to get your care within a network of doctors.
If you join an Advantage plan, the plan will provide all of your Part A (hospital insur-

ance) and Part B (medical insurance) coverage. Some plans even offer extra benefits like vision, dental and hearing, and most plans include Part D prescription drug coverage too.
You also need to know that the monthly premiums for many Advantage plans are cheaper than if you got original Medicare, plus a separate Part D drug plan and a Medigap policy, but their deductibles and co-pays are usually higher. That makes these plans better suited for healthier retirees.
How to Pick

To help you pick a plan, a good first step is to call the office managers of the doctors you use and find out which Advantage plans they accept, and which ones they recommend. Then go to the Medicare Plan Finder tool at Medicare.gov/find-a-plan and type in your ZIP code or your personal information to compare health plans with drug coverage in your area.
This tool also provides a five-star rating system that evaluates each plan based on past customer satisfaction and quality of care the plan deliv-



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ers. When comparing, here are some key points to consider:
Total costs: Look at the plan's entire pricing package, not just the premiums and deductibles. Compare the maximum out-of-pocket costs plus the copays and coinsurance charged for doctor office visits, hospital stays, visits to specialists, prescription drugs and other medical services.

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Tuesday, May 23, 2006
Dan Evans, Publisher
Blooming Prairie High School will have 54 seniors saying "farewell" at the 104th annual commencement to be held Sunday afternoon, May 28. Samuel Tashima has been named the Class of 2006 Valedictorian and Ashley Mashing will be the Salutatorian. The class motto for this year is "the only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them, to the impossible," by Athur C. Clarke.
Doris Rasmussen retires from BP Elementary after 18 years of service as a paraprofessional. Rasmussen could

be considered an individual who was dedicated and sincere throughout her career of teaching students, improving their reading and math skills.
\$203,000 in scholarships and grant money was presented to the 2006 class at the annual Blooming Prairie Senior Awards Banquet. According to BP Counselor Mary Worke, of the 54 seniors graduating this year, 13-percent will enter the work force; 4-percent will enter the military; 19-percent plan on attending a vocational or technical college; 15-percent plan attending a two-year community college and transferring to a four-year school afterwards; and 50-percent

plan attending a four-year college.
20 Years Ago
Tuesday, May 21, 1996
Elsie Slinger, Editor
The Blooming Prairie area was not left unscathed as several rural residents felt the brunt of strong winds in the early morning hours on May 18. Hardest hit were places owned by Ron Thompson and Stan Elwood, five miles north-east of BP. With 200 finishin hogs inside, Thompson's hog barn was blown apart. All but half a dozen pigs were rescued. Two of Elwood's three sheds were ripped up from the storm. Some pieces of the buildings

were found a mile away from the farm.
This week is the 23rd annual National Emergency Medical Services Week, recognized for those men and women and their accomplishments while they dedicate their lives to saving the lives of others. The local emergency medical squad, the Blooming Prairie Ambulance, has currently 30 members on its crew roster.
50 Years Ago
Thursday, May 19, 1966
Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors
LeMar Nelson, a member of the Faculty here since 1957, was appointed principal of the

Blooming Prairie High School at the regular monthly meeting of the board of education. Mr. Nelson will fill the position vacated by the resignation of John D. Kalton. Previously serving as the English instructor, speech director, and assistant football land basketball coach, Mr. Nelson looks forward to serving in his new position.
A fire at the Ephriam Magnuson farm destroyed a brooder house, storage house, and 500 baby chicks. The BP Fire department and Austin fireme were able to extinguish the flame, but the cause of the fir is yet to be determined.

75 Years Ago
Thursday, May 22, 1941
Frank Krejci, Publisher
Fishing at Mille Las the first of the week was poor, according to a party of Blooming Prairie fishermen from here who were at the lake over the weekend. Fishing as a whole throughout the entire state this week was very poor with few limits being caught anywhere in the southern half of Minnesota.
The Civic League has voted to contribute \$60 to \$75 toward playground equipment in the city park.

Steele County Times Professional Directory

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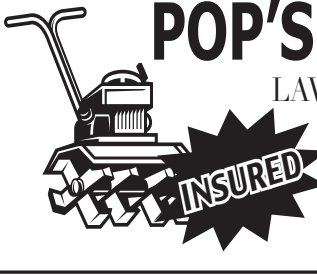

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Community

Music of the night at NRHEG

By JESSICA NAFE
Staff Intern

Music filled the air at New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva high school Monday May 9, as the final band and choir concert of the year took place. The annual Pops Concert kept audience members entertained with music from the varsity choir, senior choir members, concert band, and jazz band, and numerous awards were presented to members of the senior class.

The Varsity choir, under the direction of Mrs. Jennifer Fredrickson and accompanied by Mr. Jacob Bender, kicked off the night of music with Kokomo, The Road Less Traveled, Pompeii, and Under Pressure. The

vocal talents of senior Bayli Possin were featured during a solo in Road Less Traveled.

Choir Awards were presented to two seniors. Nicole Edon was given the National School Choral Award, the highest honor a choir director can bestow on a student. Abby Christopherson was named the 2016 Choral Outstanding Senior, given for her leadership abilities and work as secretary for the NRHEG choir.

Seniors have the option to perform a vocal showcase piece at the Pops Concert, and eight chose to take advantage of this opportunity. Abby Christopherson and Abby Wacholz performed I Hope You Dance in honor of Carol Reese, their old dance teacher. Sophia Fischer sang You're Still the One, and

Jessica Tonkin gave a rendition of Hands. Whitney McCamish sang Laughter Lines, and Aaron Seath performed Heart of Gold. Nicole Edon and Jessica Nafe sang Without You to earn a standing ovation, and all of the choral seniors gathered to close the vocal portion of the evening with a rendition of We're All in This Together.

The NRHEG jazz band began the instrumental half of the evening with Feeling Good, featuring a strong vocal performance from Nicole Wallin. Emergency Stopping Only brought a lively, Latin feel to the concert and included solos from Katharine and Ben Lewer.

Under the direction of Mr. Jacob Bender, the NRHEG concert band performed Illumination and Salvation is Created.

The ensemble performed where there is no trail, a special piece that was commissioned for the band in honor of the class of 2016 and featured each of the senior band members with solos. It was the world premiere of where there is no trail, a special treat for band and audience members alike. The last piece of the night was Pixar Movie Magic, a lighthearted mash up of songs from animated Pixar films.

Two senior band members were recognized for their outstanding musical talents and leadership within the band during the concert. Nicole Edon was given the Louie Armstrong Jazz Award and Katharine Lewer was given the John Philip Sousa Band Award.



Submitted Photos

Above: Jennifer Fredrickson conducting the Varsity Choir
Below: Aaron Seath singing his senior song "Heart of Gold"



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There will be no cost for VBS but children will be required to register before May 22nd. Registration forms can be picked up (and returned) to the church office or by going to firstlutheranbp.com/vbs

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Nicholas Hanson
Thomas Shawback
May 18
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Cade Christianson
David Farr
Chris Staloch
Cody Christianson
May 19
Ashley Cochlin
Skylar Valek
Nancy Clark
Dean Zilm
May 20
Donald Yentsh
Frank Vorlicek
Patty Ingvalson
Martin Krampitz, Sr.
Terry Trotman
May 21
Jessica Kruckeberg
Pam Carlson
Dawn Ingvalson
Riley Young
May 22
Roger Hein
Isabella Schiller
Howard Lestrud
May 23
Alicia (Nelson) Levon
Nelda Haberman
May 24
Jacob Peterson

Margaret Swenson
Sawyer Emanuel
Leah Thompson
Bella Hernandez
May 25
John Welch
Porter Francis DeYoung
Maddie Broten Anderson

ANNIVERSARIES
May 17
Jason & Kaylene Jensen
May 18
Matt & Ranell Kittelson
Brian & Sue Bowman
May 19
Darrell & Cindi Hansen
Missy & Justin Korman
Lou & Irene Sheppard
Ken & Judy Esplan
May 20
Rich & Jean Schwartz
Pat & Jessica Skinner
May 21
Fran & Cheryl Coughlin
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SEMCAC senior menu

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Bean, Melon Wedge
May 18:
Meatballs, Sweet
Potatoes, Mixed
Vegetables, Pears &
Grape Cup
May 19:
Onion Smothered
Beef Steak, ALT: Liver
& Onions, Mashed
Potatoes & Gravy,
Corn with Pimentos,
7-Layer Salad, Fresh
Fruit

May 20:
❖ CLOSED ❖
May 23:
Swiss Steak, Mashed
Potatoes, Broccoli/
Cauliflower, Molasses
Cookie
May 24:
Roast Beef, Mashed
Potatoes & Gravy,
Stewed Tomatoes,
Orange Wedges
May 25:
Crab Salad on Lettuce,
Sweet & Sour Cukes,
Peach Half with
Cottage Cheese,
Batter Bun, Rhubarb
Rosie

NEVER FORGET. ALWAYS HONOR

This Memorial Day, let us pause and reflect.
In the May 24 edition of The Times, there will be a special tribute to relatives and friends that have passed away. You can place an "In Memoriam" ad in this special section for only \$10.
Choose from one of the following styles:

In loving memory of
John Smith
who passed away
March 3, 2004
Sadly missed by
Sally Smith

In Memoriam
John Smith
who passed away
eight years ago.
Sadly missed by
Sally Smith

Gone but not forgotten
John Smith
who passed away
March 3, 2004
Dearly missed by
your family

Include one of the symbols below.

In Memoriam
John Smith
who passed away
eight years ago.
Sadly missed by
Sally Smith

Actual Ad Size

Name of deceased _____
Date of death _____
Name of person(s) dedicating _____

Mail to P.O. Box 247 • Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 or drop off by Thursday, May 19

Area Church Spotlight



Sacred Heart Church Owatonna.

Pastor's corner

Happy birthday to the Church!

On Pentecost we celebrate the birth of the Church. In Luke's Gospel and his companion volume, The Acts of the Apostles we find two accounts of the Ascension of the Lord. Although they relate the same event the one found in Luke's Gospel feels like a closing. The very similar account at the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles feels much more like a starting point for the next chapter of the story. Beyond relating the event of the Ascension both accounts remind us that we are called to be witnesses of Jesus to the world.

Luke plays with two meanings of the word, "witness." In the Gospel he speaks of the facts that the disciples are witnesses of what He has said and done.

They have seen and heard. In the Acts he tells the disciples that they will be His witnesses in the world. They will not only share what they have seen and heard but what those events mean in the history of salvation. Their status as witness is not longer static but becomes a driving force in their life and preaching.

The Greek word used is the same that we also translate "martyr." In late April, the Trevi Fountain in Rome was bathed in red light as a way of raising awareness of the reality of martyrdom in today's world. Christians of all denominations are facing suffering and death because of their faith. A few years ago when I was in Rome I came upon an exhibit that told the story of Fr. Ra-

gheed Ganni, an Iraqi priest who was killed in Mosul in 2007. His heroic stance for his parishioners and in the face of great pressure, death threats and the bombing of his church were a stark reminder of the reality faced by Christians throughout the world. In Fr. Ganni's city of Mosul which had one of the most ancient Christian communities in the Middle East the Christian presence is all but gone. Of the two million Christians in Iraq only 200,000 remain.

As the Christian community celebrates the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost we receive the gift and presence that will sustain us in our mission as witnesses to Christ. With the Holy Spirit come the gifts of the Spirit.

When I visit with our Confirmation students before they receive the sacrament I ask them which of the gifts of the Spirit they feel will be most helpful in their lives. It gives me a focus for my prayer for them and I hope that it helps them realize that these gifts are given to them to be used. What about in your life? Which gift of the Holy Spirit do you find most helpful in your life right now? Knowledge? Understanding? Wisdom? Courage? Right Judgment? Piety? Fear of the Lord? If you ask for an outpouring of these gifts the Lord will certainly respond so that we can become true witnesses.

Father John Sauer - Sacred Heart Church Owatonna.

Area Church Schedule

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9:15 a.m. Sunday School

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
588 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie
Charles Leonard, Senior 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.goodshepherdowatonna.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 Sunday
School: 9:45 a.m.

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

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

sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net
www.peaceclaremont.otschool.org

Weekly Church Service
Saturday Evening (Starts September

19th) 6 p.m. Sunday Morning
Services held at 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion Offered each
Saturday Evening Service and
2nd & 4th Sunday Service of each
month. Sunday School - starts
Sept. 20th at 9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
28959 630th Ave., Sergeant
The Rev. Ronald Prigge
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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

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

TRINITY LUTHERAN—LCMS
57403 300th St., Waltham
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
(507) 567-2272

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

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN—LCMS
202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
(507) 567-2272

Service: 8:00 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
106 Third St. S.E., Geneva
Pastor Kristen Venne
(507) 256-4288

Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165

Worship 8:30 AM
Sunday School 9:30 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
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165

Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship 10:30 AM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor
Dean Smith, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4520

www.tlcowatonna.org

9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Sunday School

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, AFLC
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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

Catholic

ST. AIDAN CATHOLIC PARISH
Hwy 30 Ellendale
507-465-8217

The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar

Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH
Rural Geneva

The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar

(507) 465-8217
Sunday Mass: 11:00 a.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St. Hayfield
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 477-2256

Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: Before Mass

Adoration: Tuesdays 9 to noon

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC PARISH
114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 583-2784

stcolumbanuschurch.com

Reconciliation: 4:30 p.m. Saturday
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5:15 p.m. Saturday
and 8:30 a.m. Sunday.

Adoration: Mondays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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
Sunday Mass: 9:15 a.m.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. Brian Sauer, Pastor
The Rev. John Sutton,
Parochial Vicar

(507) 451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com

Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
with Children's Church

Reconciliation: after Mass 1st Sunday
Family Faith Formation and Adult

Bible Study after Mass with noon
potluck: 2nd Sunday of month
Confirmation class: 2nd Sunday and
Wednesday evening

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

www.sacredheartowatonna.org

Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday,
7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., & 10:30 a.m.
Spanish Mass: 1 p.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
512 S Elm, Owatonna
507-451-4845

Rev. Edward F. McGrath, Pastor
Deacon Patrick Fagan

Sunday Mass: Vigil Sat. 4 p.m.
8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Reconciliation 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday
Daily Mass Tues.-Sat. 8 a.m.

Adoration in Chapel - 24 hours each day

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

The Rev. Edward McGrath,
Parochial Administrator

Sunday Mass: Vigil Saturday 5 p.m.,
10 a.m. Sunday

Monday Mass: 8 a.m.

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The Rev. Edward McGrath,
Parochial Administrator

Sunday Mass 8:30 a.m.
Easter thru Christmas

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Christian

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

Methodist

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Medford
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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 Cirksema
(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

Worship: Sunday 9 a.m. & 10:45
a.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Non-Denominational

BRIDGES OF HOPE-LANSING
26875 539th Ave., Lansing
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249

Additions program-
Fridays at 7 p.m.

Worship service-
Saturdays at 5 p.m.

NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
332 14th St. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Scott Peterson
(507) 213-9194

Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
Bible: 7 p.m. Wednesday

DESTINY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Owatonna Campus
422 W. North Street, Owatonna
Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
507-254-8514

www.destinycc.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

SIMPLE CHURCH
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661

Sundays 9:30
Meeting in the Country Goods
building across the
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PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH
13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie
Dennis Martin
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Services: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday
and 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Mormon

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

Service: 9 a.m.-10:10 a.m.

Presbyterian

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
109 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Vanessa Syvertsen
(507) 477-2631

Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

Seventh-Day Adventist

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
2373 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Robert Brauer
(507) 340-7143

Service: 11 a.m. Saturday
Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Saturday

UCC

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 Main St. 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 p.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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Successful entrepreneur diversifies into liquor biz

Story and photos by Rick Bussler

By day, he's calling the shots with a multi-million dollar truck fender company. But, by night the stress level goes down when he's serving up shots and brews at a dive bar in Minneapolis.

Craig Kruckeberg, owner and CEO of Blooming Prairie-based Minimizer, has found a unique way to relax from the pressures of handling a growing and thriving company started by his father more than 30 years ago. Last July he took over Lee's Liquor Lounge just a few blocks away from Target Field.

"We're the last standing honky-tonk," Kruckeberg said, noting bars of this nature are more common in the southern states.

Lee's allows Kruckeberg, the Twin Cities Business Entrepreneur of the Year for 2013, to unwind. "I can control what goes on in the bar," he said. And there is perhaps something even more important. "I can shut my brain off (at the bar)," he added.

He admits his mind is racing non-stop throughout the week

at Minimizer. But he has also found that as the company gets larger, he has less control of what takes place. "Minimizer is fun, but it's growing at a fast pace. I don't know it all any more," he said.

Lee's Liquor is helping fill that void for Kruckeberg, who's not afraid to hop behind the bar and serve drinks to patrons. In fact, it's the kind of atmosphere that makes him feel right at home. Lee's, he says, reminds him of homey small-town bars, and it's an atmosphere he plans to keep going.

"I enjoy serving people and giving them a happy smile," Kruckeberg said of his new night gig. "I like the social connection," he said, adding he also enjoys the opportunity to make some money.

Marketing on Tap

Not surprisingly, Lee's is headed for some serious marketing efforts in a pitch to lure in some new clientele. After all, marketing is one of Kruckeberg's strongest strengths. Marketing is largely credited for the continued success of Minimizer, where Kruckeberg spends several million dollars each year just to market the company.

Since taking over Lee's last year, Kruckeberg has begun marketing the dive bar heavily in the Twin Cities on billboards, BOB-FM and City Pages, an adult entertainment newspaper. He has also splashed Lee's on various forms of social media, including Facebook and a first ever website.

Through the extensive marketing, Kruckeberg makes it a point to advertise the genres of music performing at the bar. Featured during the week are competition music, traveling bands, swing dance, classic rock and country music.

"We advertise so people can come and listen to the music," he says. "The bands are getting name recognition because of us. The marketing is the fun part of it for me."

When asked about the value of marketing, Kruckeberg didn't hesitate in saying, "Survival." He said marketing is the key component to operating a successful business.

And, he added, many businesses often make the mistake of trimming their marketing when times get tough. "Marketing is the last thing you want to cut," Kruckeberg said.

Along with marketing, Kruckeberg also knows the value of good customer service. "Marketing gets them in there and customer service keeps them coming back," he said.

Kruckeberg is committed to growing the bar business, but he also knows it takes time. "Success doesn't come overnight," he said. "And if it does, someone is going to jail."

The Path to Lee's

After graduating from high school in Blooming Prairie, Kruckeberg attended culinary school. He said at that time he wanted to own a bar and grill. "That's what my fascination was," he added.

He took a few jobs around southern Minnesota before ending up back home to help with the family business that was just getting off the ground. The idea of owning a bar gave way to building truck fenders.

Kruckeberg stumbled across Lee's a few years ago when he had a second home in downtown Minneapolis. It's viewed as the anchor of Glenwood Avenue and the only bar within a three block area.

He had asked around for a bar that played classic rock and someone directed him to Lee's. "I love live music," Kruckeberg said.

It was love at first sight for Kruckeberg with Lee's. "I found



(Liquors) and the Servicemen's Club," he said referring to a pair of Blooming Prairie bars. "I loved the atmosphere."

But Kruckeberg is quick to point out he didn't jump right into buying the bar.

He approached his CFO at Minimizer to see if it would be feasible to add a bar to the company holdings. "He thought it was a good idea," Kruckeberg said of his CFO. He then purchased the bar from Louis Sirian, who was approaching 80 and ready to sell the business.

Lee's hopes to expand in the future by offering an outdoor patio.. "We have one of the best views of the skyline in Minneapolis," he said.

He looks at the bar business as a neat challenge. "This is

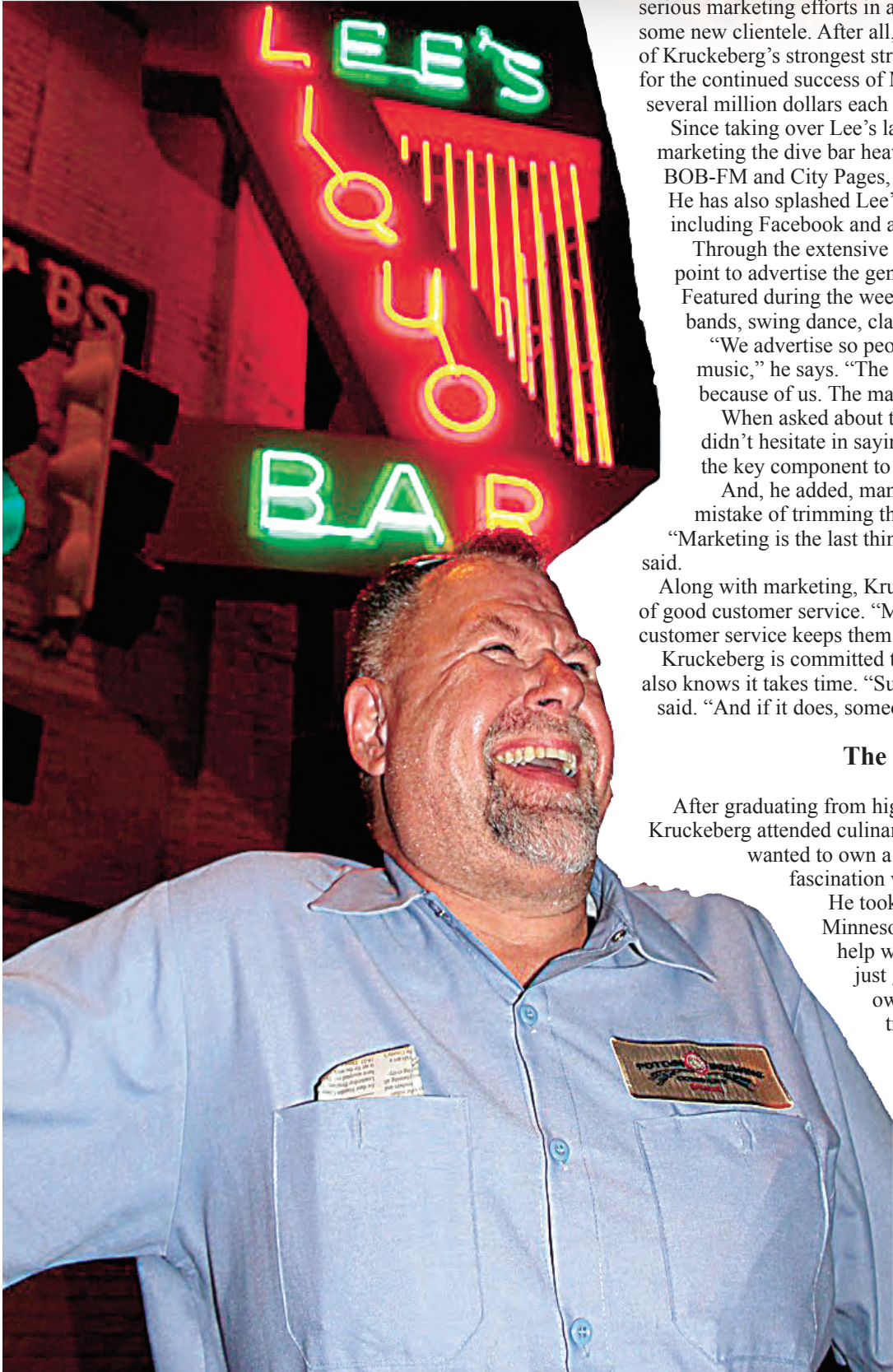
Success doesn't come overnight. And if it does, someone is going to jail.

~ Craig Kruckeberg
Owner of Lee's Liquor

a small town bar in the big city," Kruckeberg said, noting he doesn't fit into most of the clubs in the Twin Cities.

But don't look for him to pull up his roots any time soon and head for the big city.

"I'm a small town guy," Kruckeberg says. "At the end of the day, I need to be in a small town. Living in a small town is easy. It's easy living."



TISCH DISH



JOE TISCHLER

Twins center fielder

For most years from 1984-2007, the Minnesota Twins were blessed with stellar play from their center fielders. Kirby Puckett and Torii Hunter are well-remembered for their diving catches on the hard artificial surface of the Metrodome and home run-robbing grabs over and against the baggie over the 408 ft. sign in center field.

From 1984-93, Puckett was the elite center fielder in the game. The first ballot hall of famer was a 10-time all-star selection who batted .318 in his career and collected six gold gloves before transitioning to right field for his final two years in 1994 and 1995.

After an interim of mostly Rich Becker manning center field, Hunter took the reins of the main outfield spot in 1999. In his nine seasons in center, Hunter was a two-time all-star who snagged seven gold gloves.

Since Hunter departed via free agency following the 2007 season, the Twins center field position has seen a steady rotation of promise and disappointment.

As the main prize in the Johan Santana trade to the New York Mets prior to the 2008 season, Carlos Gomez was expected to be the next great center fielder in the twin cities. He started 229 games in center over two seasons, but didn't come through enough at the plate to keep his job. In 2009, Gomez batted only .229 while Denard Span proved himself at the plate hitting .311 and excelling in the field. Gomez was dealt to Milwaukee following the season as Span took over center field for 2010.

Span, the 20th overall pick in the 2002 draft, was the opening day starter and lead-off man for Minnesota from 2010-12. He battled through injuries his last two years and was dealt to Washington for pitcher Alex Meyer following the 2012 season.

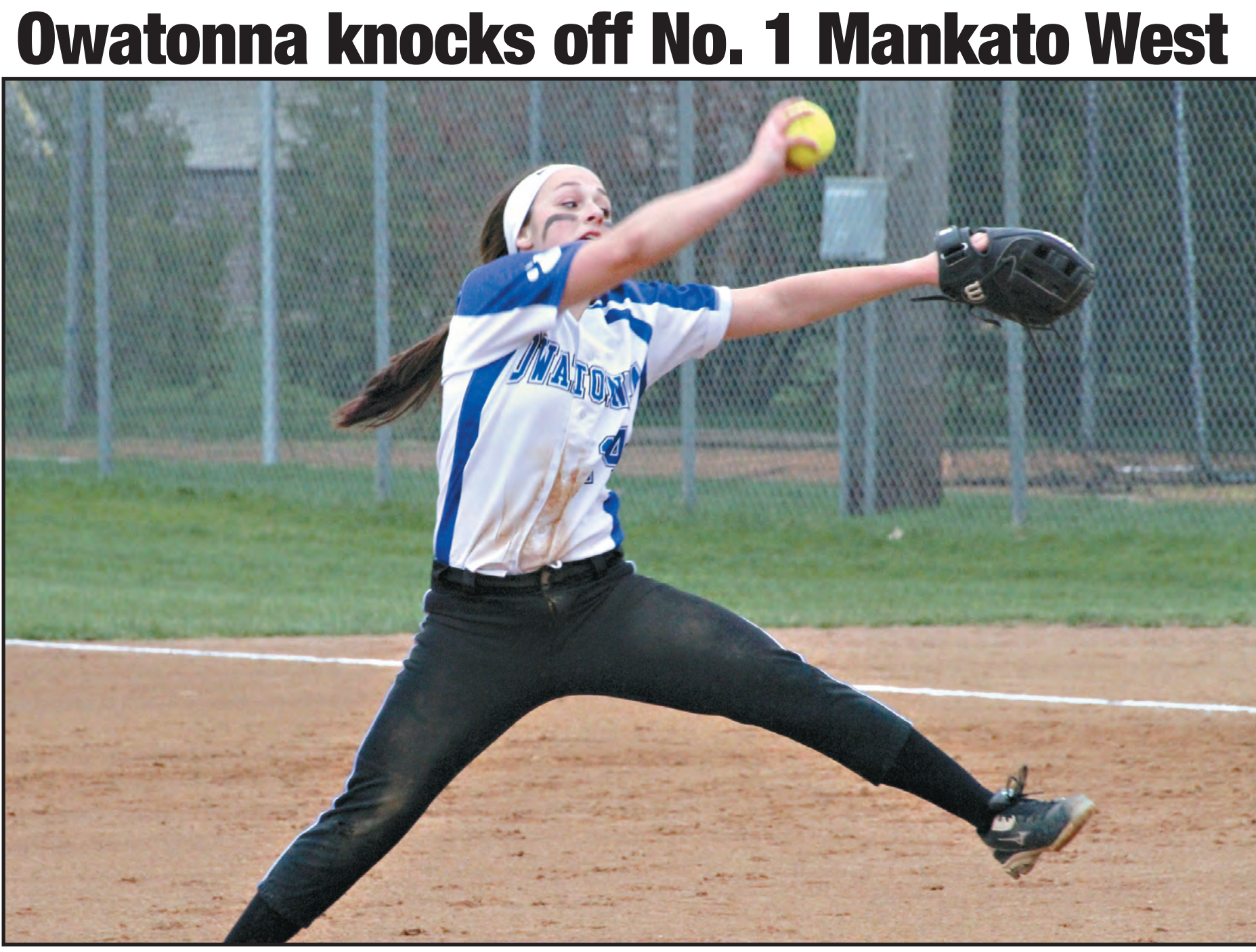
During Span's injury-plagued 2011-12 seasons, Ben Revere filled in quite well in center. His speed and athleticism took away many hits and made spectacular web gems almost weekly. Revere, the 28th overall pick in the 2007 draft, batted .294 in 2012. A week after Span was traded, Revere was dealt to Philadelphia for pitchers Trevor May and Vance Worley.

Taking over for Span and Revere in center field at the start of the 2013 season was the 14th overall pick of the 2008 draft, Aaron Hicks. He could make the plays in the outfield, but he was nowhere near ready to face major league pitching as he batted only .192 through 81 games in 2013 and then .215 in 2014 as he spent time between the majors and minors. Through those two seasons, center field was also manned by the less-than-household names of Clete Thomas, Alex Presley, Danny Santana, and Sam Fuld.

Hicks showed signs of promise in 2015 where he played in both center and right field and batted .256 in 97 games. Following the season, he was traded to the Yankees for catcher John Ryan Murphy.

The trade paved the way for the 2nd overall selection of the

TWINS
Continued on Page 4B



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Owatonna sophomore pitcher Tiana Blazek held Mankato West to one run on five hits and delivered the game-winning RBI to help give the Scarlets their first defeat.

Blazek helps hand West first loss of season

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Despite having seven losses, the Owatonna Huskies softball team could very easily be undefeated. Six of their seven defeats have been by only one or two runs and have been outscored by only 13 runs in those contests.

When undefeated and No. 1 ranked Mankato West came to Morehouse Park on Thursday for a doubleheader, few thought this would be a cakewalk for the Scarlets. Owatonna gave West all they could handle and more.

Tiana Blazek held West to

five hits and delivered the game-winning RBI as Owatonna handed the Scarlets their first setback 2-1 in the second game of the twin bill.

"I'm so excited," said Blazek following the game. "Our team needed this win. It feels so good to see this happen."

West senior Lexi Schoper pitched all seven innings of the first game, a 7-4 West win, and the first six innings of the nightcap before being pulled for Briggs Carlson.

The Huskies pounced on the new pitcher.

Riley Sheehy led off the sev-

enth with a single to center and Ellie Rohman followed with a bunt single. Millie Wanous launched a shot to right that left a mix-up on the base paths. Sheehy was on her way home, but put on the brakes midway between third and home. Rohman was on her way to third while Wanous went to second. This left both Sheehy and Rohman on third base. In that instance, Rohman is declared out while Rohman remains on third. Jamie Davison walked to load the bases for Blazek. She hit a

grounder to Schoper at shortstop who threw home in an attempt to get Sheehy, but it was late and the Huskies had their win.

"They're really excited," said head coach Brian Pilcher. "You always have that respect for West. They are ranked No. 1 and at top of the Big 9. This is a big win for our program."

Wanous was a monster at the plate in both games as she was retired only once going a combined 6-for-7, including 4-for-4 in the second game. Davison and Blazek also had two hits in the nightcap.

A win like this late in the sea-

son against a top-notch team like West should give the Huskies plenty of confidence down the stretch and into the postseason.

"West is one of those teams, talent-wise, is what we'll see in our section," said Pilcher. "I feel strong about our section, but if we come and continue to hit the ball and cut down on our errors, we're going to be right in the thick of it."

"This gives us so much confidence the rest of the way," remarked Blazek. "Our team is ready to take down some big teams."



Medford high jumper Danielle Stewart clears her attempt in a meet Thursday at Medford. The Tigers were one of the local teams to compete in True Team meets last Tuesday.

Local teams compete in True Team meets

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

Last Tuesday, May 10 was track and field True Team sections day across the state as teams competed for the right to represent their respective sections at the True Team State Meet this Friday and Saturday at Stillwater High School.

While the Minnesota State High School League at the end of the season determines the best

in individual events, True Team is meant to determine the top overall team. In Classes A and AA, each team is allowed to enter two individuals in each event and a squad for each relay with each competitor scoring at least one point for their team, barring a disqualification.

Section 1A was held in Rushford at the Ben Niggle Sports Complex and consisted of 17 teams including Blooming Prairie and Medford. The Blossom girls finished in 12th place

overall while Medford came in 15th. For the boys, the Tigers came in 12th and was followed by Blooming Prairie in 13th. The Lake City girls and the Pine Island boys won their respective sections.

Receiving the highest individual place for the Blossom girls was Leah Schiefert who came in fifth place in the pole vault with a height of 8-feet. Other top ten finishes included Samantha Wurst in the high jump (7th, 4-8) and Alison Pryor in the

3200 meters (9th, 12:44.6).

For Medford, the bulk of their points came in the field events led by Ashley Gilbertson who gave a second place performance in the shot put at 33-feet, 3.25-inches and an eighth place showing in the discus at 92-feet, 8-inches. Rachael Luebbe was another high placer as she took third in the high jump (5-0) and 6th in the 200 meters (28.2). The pole vaulting combo of Jenna McCarthy (7-6) and Callie Nagel (7-6) came in 6th and 8th

place, respectively.

On the boys' side, Blooming Prairie's Alec Ille was a second place runner in both the 1600 (4:39.78) and 3200 meters (10:01.66) with Wyatt Grundmeier taking a sixth place finish in the 400 meters (54.00).

Preston Hanson had the highest placing for Medford as his 47-feet, 11.5-inch heave in the

TRACK
Continued on Page 4B

Prep Report

BASEBALL
- Monday, May 9
Lyle-Pacelli at Blooming Prairie ppd.
Medford at Randolph cld.
Owatonna at Rochester JM ppd to 5/23
- Tuesday, May 10
USC 10, Blooming Prairie 6
Maple River 4, NRHEG 1
Owatonna 1, Albert Lea 0
- Thursday, May 12
WEM 9, Blooming Prairie 0
Medford 1, NRHEG 0
Owatonna 5, Mankato West 2
Mankato West 16, Owatonna 8
- Friday, May 13
Blooming Prairie 8, Goodhue 1
- Saturday, May 14
NRHEG 3, PACT Charter 2
Medford 10, Schaeffer Academy 2
Medford 13, Bethany Academy 3

- Monday, May 16
NRHEG at Blooming Prairie
Medford at WEM
Eden Prairie at Owatonna
- Tuesday, May 17
NRHEG at Faribault BA
Medford at Triton
Owatonna at Austin
- Wednesday, May 18
Blooming Prairie at Lyle-Pacelli
- Thursday, May 19
Blooming Prairie at Faribault BA
Maple River at Medford
Winona at Owatonna
- Friday, May 20
Alden-Conger at Blooming Prairie
NRHEG at JWP
New Prague at Owatonna
- Saturday, May 21
USC at Medford

GOPHER CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 15 according to Minnesota-scores.net)
WEM 7-1 9-5
Maple River 7-2 10-4
USC 6-3 9-4
Faribault BA 6-3 7-6
Medford 4-5 8-7
NRHEG 2-8 5-10
Blooming Prairie 0-10 1-15

BIG 9 CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 15 according to Minnesota-scores.net)
Mankato West 7-2 11-4
Owatonna 6-2 9-5
Northfield 5-2 11-4
Red Wing 6-3 11-6
Austin 5-3 7-7
Rochester Mayo 4-4 10-7
Albert Lea 4-4 9-7
Winona 3-4 7-8
Rochester JM 3-5 10-6
Mankato East 3-5 6-9
Rochester Century 2-5 4-10
Faribault 0-9 2-16

SOFTBALL
- Monday, May 9
Blooming Prairie at JWP ppd. to 5/19
Medford at Randolph cld.
Owatonna 3, Rochester Mayo 2
- Tuesday, May 10
Blooming Prairie 12, USC 1
Maple River 5, NRHEG 2
Medford 11, Glenville-Emmons 3
Owatonna 9, Albert Lea 0
- Thursday, May 12
Randolph 10, Blooming Prairie 7
NRHEG 11, Medford 1
Mankato West 7, Owatonna 4
Owatonna 2, Mankato West 1
- Friday, May 13
Blooming Prairie at Triton ppd. to 5/20
NRHEG 13, JWP 0
Owatonna at Farmington ppd. to 5/20
- Saturday, May 14
NRHEG 9, GFW 0
NRHEG 9, Hayfield 6
New York Mills 9, NRHEG 1
Pine Island 28, Medford 1
Plainview-Elgin-Millville 12, Medford 5

- Monday, May 16
NRHEG at Blooming Prairie
WEM at Medford
Owatonna at Rochester JM
- Tuesday, May 17
NRHEG at Faribault BA
Austin at Owatonna
- Thursday, May 19
Blooming Prairie at JWP
Maple River at NRHEG
Faribault BA at Medford
Owatonna at Winona
- Friday, May 20
Blooming Prairie at Triton
Owatonna at Farmington

GOPHER CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 15 according to Minnesota-scores.net)
Faribault BA 6-1 12-3
Maple River 4-1 4-8
WEM 5-2 12-4
NRHEG 5-3 12-5
Blooming Prairie 2-4 6-8
USC 1-5 3-14
Medford 0-7 5-11

BIG 9 CONF. STANDINGS
(As of Sunday, May 15 according to Minnesota-scores.net)
Mankato West 8-0 16-1
Mankato East 6-2 10-5
Rochester Century 5-2 9-6
Winona 6-3 14-4
Owatonna 5-3 9-7
Rochester JM 5-3 9-8
Faribault 4-5 12-6
Northfield 4-5 7-8
Austin 2-5 4-11
Rochester Mayo 2-6 10-7
Red Wing 2-7 6-11
Albert Lea 0-8 1-9

Blossoms get in the win column for first tim

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

After 15 games always finding a way to lose, the BP baseball team won its first game of the season with an 8-1 victory at Goodhue. The non-conference contest game on Friday in cold, miserable weather proved to not be unlucky for the Blossoms. “The boys were very happy”, remarked Coach Matt Kittelson. “We have been talking about not being too far away from a win and we kept preaching that to the boys. Today was the first day we put a complete game together and did everything we needed to do.”

The lone senior on the team, Riley Olson, earned the win on the mound pitching all seven innings and allowing just two hits. He struck out seven and walked just three batters. BP scored seven runs in the first two innings and Olson shut down the Wildcats after the home team had scored a single run in the first. Ben Smith led the offense with a 3-for-4 game, Olson drove in two runs with a base hit, and Seth Peterson added two base hits for the winners. The team is 1-15 now for the season.

BP gets blanked

WEM scored six runs in the first inning, as seven walks contributed, and the Blossoms never threatened, getting only two hits for the game. It marked the 15th loss in a row for the locals.

Connor Getchell took the loss, giving up five hits, seven earned runs, and seven walks in



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

Blooming's Connor Getchell lays down a perfect bunt for a hit in last Tuesday's game against United South Central.

his five innings of work. Ethan Arett pitched in relief. Peterson and Smith had the lone hits for the Blossoms.

USC wins late

After trailing 5-0 in the fourth, the Blossom baseball team exploded for five runs to tie the game at 5. However, the Rebels regained the lead with a run in each of the fifth and sixth innings and then tallied three insurance runs in the seventh for

the win. The conference game on the Blossom field Tuesday, May 10, kept the locals winless, despite playing one of their better games of the season.

“Our pitchers gave us a chance in this game”, remarked Coach Matt Kittelson, “but we just couldn’t get a hit at the right time. I think this is the closest we have been in a game after the fourth inning, but we just couldn’t hold an advantage.” USC took an early lead with

a three-run first inning. Two walks, a stolen base, and three singles plated the three runs. They added a run in the second and another in the fourth for the 5-0 lead. Then the Blossoms struck back. Two Rebel errors, two walks, and base hits by Camden Heimerman, Riley Olson, and Brad Staska chased the five runs home for the tie.

USC took the lead back in the fifth on a single, stolen base, and another base hit; scored a single

run in the sixth from a double and a single; and then scored the two insurance runs in the seventh with a BP error, a hit batter, two walks, and a groundout.

BP got one run back in the bottom of the seventh, but it was not enough. A walk, an error, and Connor Getchell’s single brought home the run. Seth Peterson pitched the first four innings with Riley Olson finishing up on the mound.

Medford outlasts NRHEG in extra innings

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

It was an old-fashioned pitcher’s duel for sure, but the home standing Medford Tigers used two doubles in the ninth inning to edge NRHEG 1-0 in a conference tilt at Medford on Thursday. Nick Meixner and Dempsey Tucker toiled through eight innings, pitching themselves out of jams and blanking the opposition inning after

inning. Finally Meixner helped his own cause with a double in the ninth inning to drive in Javis Von Ruden, who had doubled to start the rally. Meixner went the distance giving up just two hits, walking two batters, and striking out seven. The senior hurler threw 122 pitches in the nine-inning game. Tucker took the hard luck loss, after taking a no-hitter into the seventh inning. He allowed just four hits in the game and struck

out 13 Tiger batters. Von Ruden led the Medford attack with two hits, including that ninth inning double. Cole Staloch had both of the Panther hits.

“This was one of the best high school games I have seen,” remarked both coaches. “That was as good a pitching performance of which I have been a part,” said Coach Drew Paukert. “It was a shame that either pitcher had to lose that one.”

NRHEG edges PACT

Two days later for NRHEG, it proved very appropriate that on the day the Panther baseball diamond was dedicated to long-time coach Jeff Reese, the team would win a game with a walk-off base hit as NRHEG edged PACT Charter 3-2 Saturday. Eli Lutgens singled home John Hubly, after he had doubled in the bottom of the seventh.

The Panthers took a 1-0 lead in the second inning, but the visiting Panthers took the lead with two runs in the fourth. Pitcher

Jack Schultz and PACT hurler Zach Hagen kept the game scoreless then, until that deciding seventh inning rally.

“I thought Schultz pitched a great game,” commented Coach Drew Paukert. “He walked a few more batters than we would like, but he kept pretty good control of the game. He has pitched well lately.”

Hagen struck out 11 batters. Staloch and Hubly had two hits each to lead the offense.



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

NRHEG shortstop Cole Staloch throws out Medford's Javis VonRuden at first in Thursday's game at Medford. The Tigers won the extra inning affair 1-0 in nine innings

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BP, Strunk, get easy win at USC



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie's Bria Baldwin heads to first base in action against Randolph a Victory Field in Blooming Prairie on Thursday.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

A four-run first inning gave the Blossom softball team a little comfort zone, but by the time the see-saw contest ended, Randolph had fought back to steal a 10-7 victory in nine innings. The home game Thursday left the locals searching again for that elusive win to draw them even for the season. The team finished the week with a 6-8 overall record. Pitcher Elly Strunk took the loss, giving up 15 hits, but just vie earned runs. BP made five errors in the game, one crucial one in the ninth inning when the Rockets used the miscue and three singles to take the lead for good. As centerfielder Bria Baldwin commented, “I have to

give them credit. They got some big hits and their centerfielder made two great catches, one I hit to the fence.” After the four runs in the first inning, Randolph kept pecking away at the lead and tied the score in the fourth. BP retook the lead with three more runs in the fifth on Sunde’s bunt single, Emma Christianson’s double, Baldwin’s two run base hit, and a sacrifice fly. Randolph tied the score again with single runs in the fifth and sixth to set up the ninth inning heroics. “We made too many errors again today, although we are improving by inches.” remarked Coach Ali Mach. “I thought that Maya Lembke played a good game today and she is emerging as a leader, despite being just

an 8th grader. I give Randolph some credit in this game also, as their fielders made several fine catches to halt rallies.” Sunde, Christianson, Baldwin, Strunk, and Lembke all had two hits each and Baldwin and Lembke each drove in two runs. **A 10-run win for BP** Scoring nine runs in the first inning made a 12-1 victory for the BP softball team easy at Wells on Tuesday, May 10. The conference win over United South Central edged the Blossoms closer to that .500 mark at 6-7 for the season. Linnea Sunde singled and Emma Christianson doubled to start the game and five singles and another double later gave the locals had a nine-run cushion. The Blossoms added two

runs in the third and a single run in the fourth to finish the scoring. The Rebels plated their single run in the second inning on two of their four hits in the game and a groundout. Sunde, Christianson, and Elly Strunk all had two hits in the game, with Sunde, Christianson, McKenna Hein, and Strunk all getting two RBIs. Strunk had the other double for the Blossoms. Strunk picked up the win in the circle, as she allowed just the four hits, walked just one batter, and struck out five. The locals pounded out ten hits in the game and they made no errors. “When we play well in the field, we usually do pretty good overall. This was a nice win on the road for us.” commented Coach Mach.

Golfers compete in Faribault

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Maple River won its first conference meet of the season when they finished five strokes ahead of Blooming Prairie at a conference meet at Faribault Thursday. USC won the girls’ title in a three-school meet. Maple River shot a 170 to beat the Blossoms by five strokes. USC finished third at 185, and

B.A. and NRHEG trailed at 211 and 251. USC’s Ryan Pederson claimed medalist honors with a fine 37 and Brandon Sohre (Maple River) carded a 38 for runner-up. Tommty Braaten (BP) fired a 41 for third. Lucas Noble (BP) and Andrew Hoppe(Maple River) tied for fourth with 42’s. For the Blossoms, Ethan Strunk and Jake Ressler both had 46, Brody

Carlson a 47, and Jon Hatch a 54. Leading the way for the Panthers, Atom Oquist shot a 54, and Nick Schultz had a 59. Rob Jewett, Ethan Thompson, and Chris Stenzel followed with 64, 74, and 76. USC, one of only three full teams for the girls, won the division with a 232 total. Maple River had a 246 for second, and NRHEG finished third

at 255. Although one of only two Blossom golfers, Taylor Christianson took medalist honors by four strokes over Katelyn Loegering (USC) 46-50. Jessica Ressler had a 55 for BP. NRHEG had Kyra Possin leading the way with a 55, and Bailey Possin shot a 60. Tali Wayne and Ryley Koziolek both had 69, and Grace Logan finished with a 70.

OUTSIDE



THE LINES
LeMar Nelson

Boys stop streak

The biggest news on the local sports scene last week had to be the baseball team ending its 15-game losing streak with a win over Goodhue last Friday. It has been a long season for the boys, but the victory eases a lot of the hardship they have been suffering. It probably was poetic justice that the win came on Friday the 13th, and the only senior on the team, Riley Olson, getting the win. Besides Olson, the pitching staff has featured all young arms that have gone through a long process of learning to pitch.

Walks have been a bugaboo all season, and it is optimistic that a little luck has finally gone the team’s way. A tip of the hat goes to them for the win. The boys have never been discouraged or have given up and that counts for a lot in high school sports. The softball team is having one of those seasons in which that .500 mark always seems elusive and just out of reach. The loss to Randolph last week hurt, because they took a lead two different times in the game and just couldn’t hold on to the advantage. Errors at crucial times hurt in this game also. I will say that the team is improving and some warmer weather and continuing improvement may still translate into a successful season. We hope so, anyway.

Taylor Christianson and the golf boys continue to play well. The boys, especially, display a lot of balance and good play with Tommy Braaten consistently at or near the top in scoring. The conference tournament is coming up this week and we will look for a conference title. Christianson should score well individually for the girls. The track teams had just a true-team meet last week, and Alec Ille ran second in both the 1600 and 3200 races. He seems to be chopping a few seconds off his times pretty regularly and he should do well the rest of the season. The 4x800 relay team for the boys also shone at the meet last week.

Harvey a hoot I mentioned in this column a few weeks ago that I would be going to see “Harvey” at the Guthrie Theater soon. Having played Elwood P Dowd in a community theater production

here in Blooming Prairie and having directed Doug Olson in the title role in the play when Doug was a senior at BPHS, I was eagerly looking forward to seeing the play again. It didn’t disappoint! The humor remained intact, and the message provided seemed just as important and valuable as ever. To say that the play has a laugh a minute is almost an understatement. There is something about a grown man thinking that he has a big white imaginary rabbit as a friend that makes us all chuckle, if not laugh out loud. I would recommend it to anyone for its humor and its lesson about life and human nature. It remains one of my favorites. **Around and about** It could have been worse, but the annual citywide garage sale at least had occasional sunshine on a cold and windy day. From all indications people did their usual bargain hunting, with some enjoying finding some real treasures (at least according to them). Since this is the only such sale this year, it was important that everyone found the items for which they were looking. I noticed over 50 sites this year, which almost had to be a record number of places for the annual event. That boded well for the sale’s success. A.J. Lysne, a local construction company, recently received the 2015 Spirit of Excellence award from Hormel Industry. This is the 14th straight year Lysne has been awarded that honor and the company gets a big tip of the hat for that accomplishment. I think Tim Walz is a pretty good congressman and he also must be a good cook. His entry in the annual hot dish competition for area legislators took first place for the third year in a row. The competition, sponsored each year by Senator Al Franken, found Walz’s turkey taco tater tot hot dish to be the best in show. He won the event in 2014 and 2015 also. A tip of the hat goes to Walz in this friendly competition. A couple of reminders for coming events continue in order. The B to Z Hardware open house, again on Saturday, will offer great gardening bargains with snacks provided by members of the local Boys and Girls club. The local store is donating day’s proceeds to the BP club and we thank Greg and the employees for their volunteerism. And again, SAVE THE DATE. June 25 is rapidly approaching and the fourth annual ribfest is taking shape. One of the highlights of the event will be music by the Potluck String Band and they have promised to play as long as people listen. How about that for a good deal! Details for the ribfest will be available on posters and in the local paper soon. Let’s close with one of those truisms we like: One nice thing about telling a clean joke is there’s a good chance that no one’s ever heard it before. Sounds like pretty true to me, and we’ll talk again.



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

No results due to being rained out

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By MATTHEW GRAGE
Guest Writer

Mother Nature got the better of Friday the 13th as racing action had to be cancelled at Chateau Raceway Friday night. After a week of light rain already had things pretty wet at the track another round of rain was forecast for Friday afternoon and it showed up just as expected wiping out any chance of getting any action in. Racing action is scheduled to resume next Friday night.

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GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS		
WEEK 2 - MAY 9, 2016		
Place	Team	Points
1	Ingvalson, Klemmensen, Bishop	17
1	Morgan, R. Olson, R. Olson	17
3	Drexler, Zwiener, Klemmensen	16
4	Braaten, Pirkil, Resler	15.5
5	Larock, Iacovino, Schwartz	15
5	Doerhoefer, Olson, Worke	15
7	Gruncklee, Evans, Possehl	13.5
8	Carlson, P. Jones, M. Jones	13
9	Hillberg, Wanous, Priefe	12.5
10	Peterson, Behnken, Bishop	12
10	Haberman, Hegal, Henefeld Hanso	12
10	R. Skala, J. Skala, Thiele	12
13	Jenson, Glynn, Ebeling	11
14	Lea, Hansen, D. Johnson	10.5
15	Hareid, Bartsch, Lewer	9.5
15	Koster, Long, White	9.5
17	Clark, Blome, Skala	9
17	Glynn, Glynn, Esplan	9
19	Strunk, Farr, Ingvaldson	8.5
20	Myer, Motl, Tollefson	8
20	Kormann, Kormann, Kormann	8
20	Zwiener, Hinzmen, Wurst	8
23	Johnson, Caldwell, Bulver	7.5
24	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	6
24	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	6
26	White, Lysne, Johnson	5
27	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	3.5
28	Klemmensen, J. Klemmensen, R. Anderson	2
28	Stangel, Maset, Schammel	2
28	Minimizer, Minimizer, Minimizer	2
Division	Team	Score
A	Doerhoefer, Olson, Worke	31
B	Morgan, R. Olson, R. Olson	34
B	Strunk, Farr, Ingvaldson	34
C	Hillberg, Wanous, Priefe	36
C	Drexler, Zwiener, Klemmensen	36
D	Ingvalson, Klemmensen, Bishop	34



Staff photo by Joe Tischler

NRHEG pitcher Anna Lundberg tossed two consecutive one-hitters in back-to-back days last week including an 11-1 win at Medford on Thursday.

Lundberg masterful in busy week for NRHEG

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Paige Knudson and Grace Johns led the offense, and Anna Lundberg tossed her second straight one-hitter, as the Panthers routed Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 13-0 in five innings Friday at Janesville. NRHEG scored three times in the first inning, added one in the second and three in the fourth. They ended their scoring with six runs in the top of the fifth. Paige Knudson went 3-for-4 at the plate, including a double, and Grace Johns added three singles. Both scored two runs in

the win. Lundberg walked just three and struck out four in her sparkling performance

NRHEG tops Tigers

Six runs in the first three innings gave the NRHEG girls a great start, and the Panthers went on to an 11-1 five-inning victory at Medford Thursday. Pitcher Anna Lundberg limited the Tigers to just one hit and the offense pounded out 12 hits in the barrage. The team added two runs in the fourth and three in the fifth for their 11–run total. Medford scored an unearned run in the first inning. “This was a pretty good game for us,” com-

mented Coach Wendy Schultz. “Lundberg pitched a great game and we played pretty well behind her. Knudson had an awesome game on offense with four hits, including a double and a triple.” Lundberg struck out five batters and walked just one to earn the win in the circle. The Panthers had one error in the game. Paige Knudson had the four hits and two RBIs, and Grace Johns and Rachel Collins both had two hits each. Kayley Camerer added a double to the hitting attack, and Johns and Collins each scored two runs. girls a great start to the game,

and the Panthers went on to a n 11-1 five inning win

Panthers lose to Maple River

NRHEG lost a softball game for the second straight time, as Maple River scored two runs in the fifth inning to break a 2-2 tie and defeat the Panthers 5-2 at Mapleton Tuesday, May 10. WEM had edged the locals last Thursday 7-6. Eagle pitcher Payton Berkner gave up just five singles to get the win for Maple River, while Anna Lundberg took the loss for the Panthers, giving up seven

hits, walking four batters, and striking out three. The home team had two errors, which made one of NRHEG’s runs unearned. The home team scored twice in the third, but NRHEG tied the game with two runs in the fourth. Maple River took the lead for good with two runs in the fifth and added an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth. As Coach Schultz remarked, “It was not our best-played game. Defensively, we played okay, but we made a couple of costly base running mistakes, and we didn’t hit as well as we have been lately.”

Huskies back on track after a pair of wins

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

After two losses wrapped up the previous week of action, the Owatonna baseball team got back on the winning track with a 2-1 effort against Albert Lea and Mankato West. Last Tuesday, May 10, the Huskies needed only one run to get by Albert Lea at Dartts Park as Jacob Gauthier was masterful on the mound as his complete game two-hit shutout gave Owa-

tonna a 1-0 win over the Tigers. Owatonna’s lone run came in the second. Brett Solie singled with one out and later stole second. After a strikeout, Eli Havelka’s RBI single brought home Solie for the game-winning hit. Gauthier walked two and struck out three in the win. Blake Westphal went 2-for-3 at the plate.

OHS splits with West

In the first game of the dou-

bleheader Thursday at Mankato West, Clay Leidall did something he hadn’t done all season. . give up an earned run. He came into the contest with 23 straight innings without allowing an earned run to the start season. The Scarlets got an unearned run in the second before Leidall gave up his first earned run of the season in the fifth inning on an RBI double from Luke Kolars ending his streak at 27 innings. That run put the Huskies behind at 2-1, but would tie it back up in the sixth. Eric Benson

led off the inning with a single. A walk and a fielder’s choice moved him to third with one out and would score on an RBI groundout. The score would remain tied at 2 as the clubs headed to extra innings. The Huskies would use some clutch two-out hitting to take the lead in the eighth. Westphal delivered, what would become, the game-winning RBI on a single to left to plate Nathan Deason. Kodey Kiel would plate two more on a double to left to give Owatonna a 5-2 lead.

Leidall retired the Scarlets in order in the eighth to get the complete game, 8-inning win. The senior allowed nine hits and struck out four to move his record to 4-0 on the season. Runs came early and often in the nightcap as West scored eight times in the fifth to earn a split in the twinbill with a 16-8 win. Owatonna is currently in a stretch of four games in five games which continues today in Austin.

Medford pushes win streak to four

By JOE TISCHLER
Sports Editor

After a pair of Gopher Conference victories, including a 1-0 win over New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva on Thursday, the Medford baseball team was back on the diamond for a pair of non-conference home contests on Saturday. The wins over Shaeffer Academy and Bethany Academy moved Medford above .500 for the first time this season and

pushed their winning streak to four. Medford put their opener against Shaeffer out of reach early putting up crooked numbers in both the first and second innings. Triples by both Javis VonRuden and Nicholas Meixner led to three first inning runs and another triple from Nathan Meixner led to five more in the second as the Tigers led 8-2 after two. Nathan Meixner was also contributing on the mound as he struck out five while allowing

six hits over five innings to get the win in the 10-2 victory. It was more of the same in the second game of the day as Medford scored early and often to defeat Bethany Academy from Bloomington 13-3. The Tigers belted out 20 hits with Cole Volkmann, Nicholas Meixner, and Cael Kavitz each delivering three hits a piece as Medford plated runs in six of the seven innings. Volkmann got the win on the bump tossing all seven innings striking out six on nine hits.

Four games are tap for this week including home games with Maple River on Thursday and United South Central on Saturday.

Tigers softball

Medford picked up their fifth win of the season last Tuesday in a non-conference road tilt at Glenville-Emmons 11-3. Emma Kniefel, Kori Dodge, and Jordyn Stadler all collected three hits and drove in two runs a piece.

Kiley Nihart, Mackenzie Paulson, and Isabel Reuvers all saw time on the mound as the trio struck out five on five hits. “We had a great defensive game today with no fielding errors,” said head coach Alyssa Strunk. “All of our pitchers got in the game and did a nice job.” The week wrapped up with losses to NRHEG, Pine Island, and Plainview-Elgin-Millville. After hosting Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Monday, Medford entertains Faribault BA Thursday.

TRACK

Continued from Page 1B

shot put was good for third place. Brett Johnson’s height of 10-feet in the pole vault gave him sixth place and Alex Goetze’s time of 10:34.16 in the 3200 meters was good for eighth. New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva was one of 14 teams to compete in the Section 2A meet at United South Central High School in Wells. The Panther girls came in seventh place while the boys took eighth. Sophia Fisher had the top individual place on the girls’ side with a third place showing in the shot put with a heave of 33-feet, 10-inches. She also claimed seventh place in the discus with a throw of 92-feet, 8-inches. Hailley Schuller had a fourth place running in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 17.76 and teamed with Linnea Stromolsen, Marnie Wagner, and Maddie Wagner to clock a second place time of 1:55.23 in the 4x200-meter relay. Maddie Wagner also finished fifth in the high jump (4-8) and 6th in the long jump (14-4.50). For the boys’ the lone first place running came from the quarter of Tyler Schlaak, Nathan Krause, Josh Flemming, and John Cole in the 4x800-meter relay with a time of 8:31.99. Zeke Erickson came in third place in the shot put at 41-feet, 8.5-inches and Brenden McMann’s height of 10-feet, 6-inches in the pole vault was good for fourth place.

Owatonna was able to enter three athletes in each individual event as they were one of ten teams to compete at the Section 1AAA meet at Lakeville North. The Huskies came in five place for the girls while the boys took fourth.

The girls proved their depth in the sprints as all three of their entrants finished in the top seven in the 200-meter dash and two more were in the top six in the 100-meter dash. Karissa Gregory ran a third place time of 26.57 in the 200 with Sydney Schultz coming in fifth (26.82) and Margo Achterkirch placing seventh (26.87). Schultz also placed fifth in the 100 (13.18) with Steph Kretlow right behind in sixth (13.22). The foursome also joined for a first place running in the 4x100-meter relay in a time of 50.46. Carli Langeland (long and triple jump), Mary Biegert, and Jessica VonRuden (both shot put and discus) were top ten finishers in their respective field events. Jacob Johnson was a three-time winner for the boys. He had first place times in the 110-meter hurdles (14.69) and 300-meter hurdles (39.80) and teamed with Ryan Guenther, Nick Raichley, and Jayden Dowhaniuk for a winning time in the 4x400-meter relay in 3:29.48. Raichley was also a winner in the 400-meter dash in a time of 51.06; Guenther came in fourth in the race at 52.96 seconds. The next highest finisher was Darik Elstad who claimed third in the shot put at 47-feet, 10.25-inches.

Section 1A - Girls: 1-Lake City 935, 12-Bloomington Prairie 438.5, 15-Medford 390.
Section 1A - Boys: 1-Pine Island 938, 12-Medford 439.5, 13-Bloomington Prairie 436.5.
Section 2A - Girls: 1-Blue Earth Area 777, 7-NRHEG 499.5.
Section 2A - Boys: 1-Minnesota Valley Lutheran 703, 8-NRHEG 467.5.
Section 1AAA - Girls: 1-Lakeville South 1111, 5-Owatonna 782.5.
Section 1AAA - Boys: 1-Lakeville South 1118.5, 4-Owatonna 805.5

TWINS

Continued from Page 1B

2012 draft, Byron Buxton, to take firm hold of the center field position. He began the season with the big league club, but struggled mightily at the plate batting only .156 in 17 games before being demoted to the minors. The Twins have used a number of high draft picks in hopes of finding the next Puckett or Hunter. Instead of grooming these products, they have traded them all away in need of pitching prospects that didn’t, or have yet, to pan out. Through 36 games this sea-

son, the Twins have already used five different starters in center field (Buxton, Santana, Eddie Rosario, Max Kepler, and Darin Mastroianni). With the playoffs already out of reach this season, the Twins need to bring Buxton up right now, keep him here, no matter how much he struggles. He needs to get the experience of playing full time in the big leagues with no worries of being sent down. Instead of becoming the next Puckett or the next Hunter, he needs to worry about becoming the first Buxton.



Minnesota
Twins
Schedule

9 - H	10 - H	11 - H		13 - A	14 - A	15 - A
BAL	BAL	BAL		CLE	CLE	CLE
PPD.	Loss 3-5	Loss 2-9		Loss 6-7	Win 6-3	Win 5-1
16 - A	17 - A	18 - A	19 - H	20 - H	21 - H	22 - H
DET	DET	DET	TOR	TOR	TOR	TOR
6:10pm	6:10pm	12:10pm	7:10pm	7:10pm	1:10pm	1:10pm

HometownLiving Community Calendar



**Wednesday
May 18th
CHAMBER
MEETING**
at City Center
12:00 NOON
Sub Sandwiches &
Wraps being catered
by Casey's
... also Chips & Drinks



****Note:**
Next week's
Business After Hours
at First Lutheran Church
has been moved from
Thursday, May 26th to
Wednesday, May 25th!
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• Braxton Thomas Prondzinski, Parent: Angela, Oct. 2
• Alex Antonio Marquez, Parent: Fabiola, Oct. 3
• Lake Maybelle Lamotte, Parents: Kelly and Derrick, Oct. 5
• Willa Rose Klinger, Parents: Jeanne and Kristopher, Oct. 6
• Teresa Grace Schueller, Parents: Brianna and Timothy, Oct. 6
• Rafe Theodore Arndt, Parents: Jenny and Timothy, Oct. 7
• Addilyn Joy Hendrickson, Parents: Katelyn and Cody, Oct. 9
• Rowyn Callaway Hoban, Parents: Laurel and Jared, Oct. 9
• Eva Jubilee Masopust, Parents: Felicia and Sean, Oct. 10
• Indira Catherine Hughes, Parents: Abby and Matthew, Oct. 11
• Addison Rose Hovde, Parents: Amanda and Joseph, Oct. 12
• Henry Daniel Toft, Parents: Alyssa and Bryan, Oct. 12
• Jesus Abelardo Salinas Jr., Parents: Diana and Jesus, Oct. 14
• Aubrey Nicole Dittrich, Parents: Katie Moore & Codi Dittrich, Oct. 15
• Hattie Amelia Powell, Parents: Tanya and Chad, Oct. 15
• Kaylee Marie Moody, Parents: Lauren and Kevin Jr., Oct. 15
• Roger Rene Sutter, Parents: Andrea Rosales & Brent Sutter, Oct. 15
• William Edward Kasper, Parents: Elizabeth and Abraham, Oct. 16
• Amos Robert Merlin Knutson, Parents: Christina and Nels, Oct. 19
• Parker Kenneth Schlichter, Parents: Sheana and Corey, Oct. 19
• Alana Raine Kukacka, Parent: Lisette Alanis, Oct. 19
• Reid Thomas Blasing, Parents: Nicole and Jess, Oct. 20
• Waseem Shueeb Abdi, Parents: Fathia Ali & Shueeb Egal, Oct. 23
• Clara Lee Osmundson, Parents: Ashley and Jesse, Oct. 23
• Eliza Michelle Williams, Parents: Michelle and Ryan, Oct. 24
• Alaina Elizabeth Anhorn, Parents: Rachel and Joshua, Oct. 24
• Layla Elizabeth Phillips, Parents: Gisela and Matthew, Oct. 25
• Ashton Rafael Reyes Sanchez, Parents: Antonieta Mendez and Bryant O'Connor, Oct. 25
• Jace River Madsen, Parent: Leslie, Oct. 26
• Jacob Allen Dobberstein, Parents: Linda and Joshua, Oct. 26
• Kamryn Rae Field, Parents: Alisha and Robert, Oct. 28
• Jayna Kathleen Moore, Parents: Rebecca and Willie Jr., Oct. 28
• Jada Janna Herron, Parents: Jessica and Mark, Oct. 29
• Angel Levi Perez, Parents: Yesica and Daniel, Oct. 29
• Boston Joseph Bahe, Parents: Amber and Chad, Oct. 30
• Kaelin Alexander Wimer, Parents: Dawn and Sean, Oct. 30
• Mahdi Osman Noor, Parents: Saadiyo Abdir & Osman Aden, Oct. 31



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OWATONNA

May 17:
9:30 a.m. Owatonna Public Library It's TALE TIME!
10 a.m. Owatonna Public Library, So Many Books... So Little Time Book Club
4:30 p.m. Owatonna Public Library Board Meeting, Gainey Rm, Owatonna
7 p.m. Owatonna City Council, Council Chambers, City Hall, Owatonna
May 18:
4 p.m. Owatonna EDA, Council Chambers, City Hall, Owatonna
May 19:
2 p.m. Owatonna Public Library Independent & World Films, Owatonna
6:30 p.m. Owatonna Public Library Family Story Time, Owatonna
May 21:
11 a.m. Party In The Park, Manthey Park, Godfather's Pizza and Kona Ice, Owatonna
May 23:
4 p.m. Owatonna Housing & Redevelopment Authority, 2nd Floor Conference Rm, City Hall, Owatonna
May 24:
9:30 a.m. Owatonna Public Library It's TALE TIME!
4 p.m. Owatonna Public Utilities Commission, Utilities Plant Office
5:30 p.m. Owatonna Planning Commission, Council Chambers, City Hall, Owatonna
6 p.m. Autism Spectrum Disorder Parent Support Group, Associated Church, Owatonna

OTHER COUNTIES

Freeborn County
May 17:
5:30 p.m. Parks and Recreation Board Meeting, City of Albert Lea, Albert Lea
5:30 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting, City of Albert Lea, Albert Lea
6 p.m. Nonfiction Book Club, Albert Lea Public Library, Albert Lea
6 p.m. Rock Gym, Community Ed, 211 Richway Dr, Albert Lea
May 18:
6 p.m. Scholarship and Senior Awards Night, Albert Lea High School
May 19:
10:30 Albert Lea Public Library, Story Time, Albert Lea
4 p.m. Friends Book Sale – Members Only Night, Albert Lea Public Library
5:30 p.m. Council Workshop, Albert Lea City Center, Albert Lea
6 p.m. Orchestra Concert, Albert Lea High School Auditorium, Albert Lea
May 20:
12 Noon: Friends Book Sale, City Center Garage, Albert Lea

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Public Welcome
B.O.B RIDE "Toys for Tots" JULY 23RD
REG: 9-10:15 AM AT J&H
LEAVES: 10:30 SHARP • FEE: \$10 PER RIDER
MEAL: 5 P.M. AT J & H LIQUOR

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

May 17:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
2:30 p.m. Utility Comm Meeting
4 p.m. – 7 p.m. Ambulance Open House
4:30 p.m. Fire Comm Meeting
4:45 p.m. BP Boys and Girls Club Board Meeting
May 18:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
Noon Chamber Meeting, City Center, Bloomington
May 24:
BP Card Club & Luncheon
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
5:30 p.m. Ambulance Comm. Meeting
6 p.m. BPBL Book Club
May 25:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime

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May 17:
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7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North, Ellendale
May 18:
Hope Curbside Recycling N of 42nd Ave
May 19:
5:30 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm
May 23:
6:20 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center, Ellendale
May 24:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North El-



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MEDFORD

May 17:
6:30 p.m. Court St Anne Catholic Daughters Meeting, Medford
May 18:
7 p.m. Ft Robert Carlin Knights of Columbus Council, Medford
May 19:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner, Medford
May 23:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner, Medford

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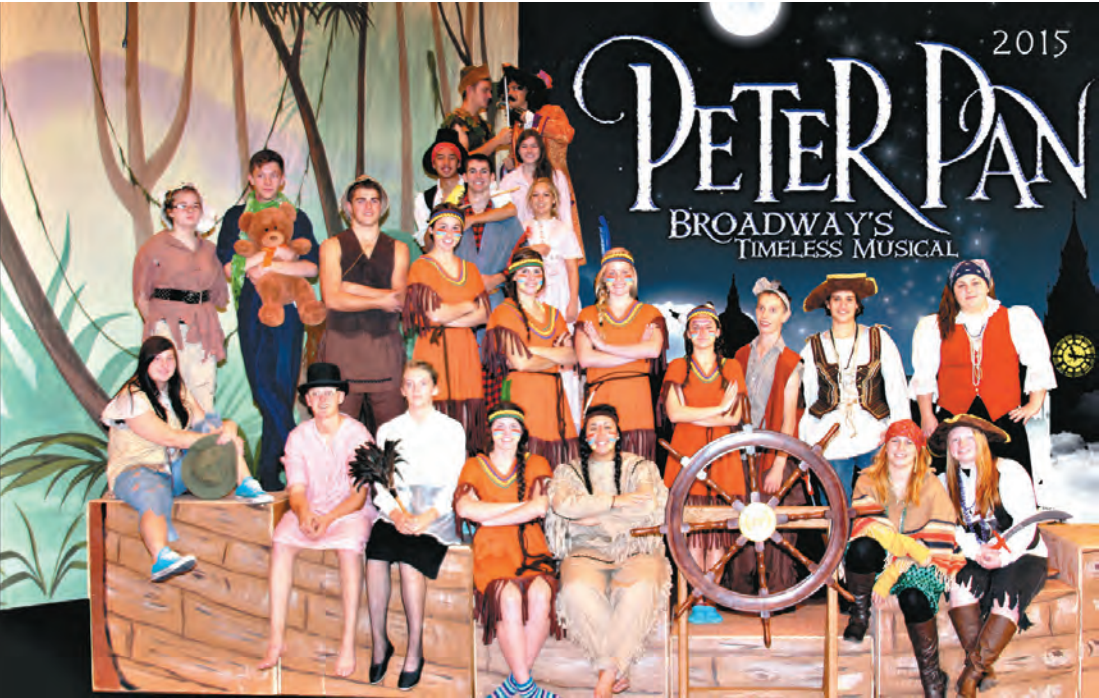
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Jazz Band



Front Row: Shyane Jorgenson, Allison Krohnberg, DJ Stender, William Cardenas. Second Row: Jake Hyland, Austin Christians, Karson Vigeland, Jon Herron. Third Row: Michael Pape, Camden Heimerman, Carter Milliam

Senior Choir



Front Row: Ethan Arett, Ryan Pena, Jon Hansen, Rose Johnson, Brianna Green, Irasema Zamarripa, Alyssa Northway, Jackie Hyland, RaeAnn Grundmeier, Jada Trom Padilla, Rachel Oswald. Second Row: Bria Baldwin, Emily Trihus, Rachel PirkI, Asia Thostenson, Alexander Richard, Taylor Peterson, Hailey Naatz, Leah Inwards, Kylie Forystek, Courtney Wobschall, Kari Bottin. Third Row: Caleb Kubista, Timothy Wolf, Jeremy Hocking, Ian Wayne, Brett Motl, Laura Grant, Cassandra Green, Nathaniel Erickson, Dakota Hanson, Payton Simon. Fourth Row: Brett Miller, Bryan Fristedt, Evan Doerhoefer, Marten Morem, Ausin Behne, Jake Ressler, Nick Thompson, Josh Hein, Theodore Decker, Seth Peterson, Riley Millam

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It's cool to see behind the scenes of Blooming Prairie businesses

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

It was a field trip that 42 Blooming Prairie High School sophomores will long remember. With the cooperative efforts of BPHS, the Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce and four local businesses, high school sophomores on Wednesday, May 11 were afforded the opportunity to learn more about small business and industry in Blooming Prairie.

Just over a year ago, Chamber President Luke Swenson helped spearhead a movement to create a Chamber student ambassadors group. Purpose of the program is to build a stronger relationship between the school, students and business community.

The student ambassadors have been very active in following Chamber ribbon cuttings and participating in other chamber events. Five ambassadors have served the past year. They include: Anthony Nelson, Lauren Larkoski, Anika Nowlan, Camden Heimerman and Alison Pryor. All but Nowlan were on the business tours with the sophomore class.

One of the ambassadors' main goals during the past year was to organize a tour of Blooming Prairie businesses by school sophomores.

Sophomore students at BPHS started out their school day at 8:15 a.m. by boarding a bus to tour Minimizer operations, Minimizer corporate, Touch of Charm, Sportstitch and Johnson, Doerhoefer and Miner. Students then returned to school where

they were part of a debriefing of the day's business tours.

"For the first time doing something like this, I was very pleased as to how it went," said John Worke, high school principal. "The sophomores are at the right age to begin planning their future and they still will have two years in school to continue planning," Worke said.

Prior to sending the students on the bus, Worke told them this field trip would give them a good chance to learn what job opportunities were available.

President Swenson agreed with Worke's summation of the day and complimented the businesses for taking some time out of their busy schedules "to help show our young people just a little bit of what our little community has to offer. I learned something new about each one of their businesses."

Swenson said he was impressed with how the students listened to the business presentations. He quizzed the students at the day's end and asked questions pertaining to each business visit.

"There are many employment opportunities in Blooming Prairie," Swenson said. "I don't want to tell the kids what to do but I want them to have enough information to make the best life decisions possible for themselves," Swenson added.

Swenson said he left Blooming Prairie at age 18 and said he would not ever come back. He did and now works as a materials manager for Minimizer.

The tours started at the Minimizer manufacturing plant located on the south end of Bloom-



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Forty-two Blooming Prairie High School sophomores participated in a full day of business tours on Wednesday, May 11. The Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce arranged the tours as a connection with the student ambassadors program. Principal John Worke and Chamber President Luke Swenson helped coordinate the day's activities.

ing Prairie. Swenson and Gordon Edy, technical manager from engineering, led the tour through the manufacturing plant.

Swenson provided the high school sophomores with a brief history of Minimizer, saying trucker Dick Kruckeberg was the founder of the business that specializes in making truck fenders and floor mats. The business has grown under the direction of son Craig Kruckeberg and now has 800 distributors in North America.

"It's really cool seeing everything go to play; people put in a lot of time on these products," said ambassador Pryor. Swenson said Minimizer makes over 100,000 fenders annually.

Ambassador Heimermann said one never thinks of the largeness of the Minimizer business nestled off Highway 218 "when

you drive by Subway and Dairy Queen."

Swenson and Eby showed students a 3-D printer that is used to make prototypes of products. "It's the largest 3-D printer in the world," Swenson said. He said the \$500,000 investment in the 3-D printer serves as a "great" product development and sales tool.

Minimizer also manufactures oil pans, tool boxes and a new product called Fast Flaps. Eby said after three days on Facebook, Fast Flaps drew 540 hits.

Eby said Minimizer takes pride in quality, marketing and on-time delivery of its products.

Enroute to the corporate office on the north side of town, ambassador Nelson said the business tours show students the opportunities in Blooming Prairie to get jobs. "Blooming Prairie is not just a farm community, it also features industry and service opportunities," Nelson said.

As students entered the corporate office, owner/chief visionary Craig Kruckeberg offered a greeting: "Welcome to Minimizer."

Following the visit to corporate, students were bused to a lot near Joe's Repair and had a chance to see a new mobile wash unit Minimizer acquired and will market in the future. Students also viewed a Minimizer truck entered in races last summer. Drivers were Brad Klemmensen and Trevor Kruckeberg.

The tour took a brief detour back to the high school for fourth hour and for lunch.

Following lunch, the business tours continued in downtown BP. Sportstitch, owned and operated by Linda Klemmensen, was next on the docket. She and employee Holly Naatz explained the processes involved with embroidery, screen printing and vinyl cut printing.

Klemmensen said her business is active in contract work and much of the embroidery is done by a \$58,000 machine made by

Tajima.

Naatz said she can mix up to six colors on one shirt. "I can make any color shirt and chemistry definitely comes into play," she said.

Chamber President Swenson complimented Klemmensen for her community involvement. "She does many things behind the scenes and she is very supportive of her community," Swenson said.

Final stop on the business tour was at Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner public accountants.

President Tamzen Johnson said the accounting firm of 23 employees serves the locations of Blooming Prairie, New Richland and Owatonna.

"We serve small business, emphasizing bookkeeping and taxes," Johnson explained. "Our clients trust us," Johnson said proudly.

The accounting business is a seasonal business that sees accountants put in average days from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. "I get over 85 business e-mails each day," Johnson related. "You have to love people to be in this business," Johnson said.

"Accounting is the base of our business and I get a kick out of explaining something with a tax perspective," Miner volunteered. He said the firm handles 4000 individual tax forms during the year.

"We also try to become involved in our communities," Johnson and Miner said. Tamzen directs high school musicals every year.

Johnson & Doerhoefer also offers certified financial planning with with expert advice given by certified financial planner Eaton Miller. "I enjoy helping people make major decisions in life and being able to have a higher life," Miller commented.

Johnson & Doerhoefer associate Doug Johnson said investments are important in life. He said three factors must be considered: amount of money to be invested, the interest rate and time.

The tour ended at Johnson & Doerhoefer with students Rylee Fawver, Brianna Arthoudt and Nick Thompson participating in calculator races. CPA Miner showed everyone how it's done by completing a problem on the calculator in 9.1 seconds. "Speed and accuracy are two reasons why people come here," Miner said.

Johnson challenged students to find a vocation and come back to a small town to practice it. She left visitors with a practice to follow by reading from a saying emblazoned on a rock: "Every job is a self portrait of the person who did it. Autograph your work with excellence."

Students then boarded the bus once again and motored back to the high school for a discussion on the day's activities.

Principal Worke handed out survey forms to all students and asked two questions:

1) List three ideas that you feel benefited you from the tour.

2) List three ideas for next year's tour.

Sophomore Rylee Fawver said she learned how much work these businesses do to create their products.



MISSY KOCH

4-H projects have sprung

Spring has sprung and so have 4-H projects! It is the time of year when we dig out our supplies, clean off the mud, and brush away the long winter coats. If you have a dog or horse and are a 4-H'er you know what I am taking about, as Steele County 4-H project trainings are starting this month. The 4-H dog and horse projects are popular across the state of Minnesota and here in Steele County.

Dog project members learn to train their dogs in agility, obedience, rally, showmanship or as ideal pets. Topics include canine behavior, breed characteristics, diseases, ethics, grooming, health, nutrition, responsible breeding, service dogs, therapy dogs, dog-related careers, and a wide array of dog sports.

Steele County 4-H'ers and their dogs meet on Tuesdays from May to August at the Steele County Fair Square. Trainers help youth work with their dogs to learn how to heel, sit, come, and stay to name a few commands. Youth returning to the project for another year may be working on the next level of obedience or agility with a seasoned dog off leash and learning other more intense commands.

Horse project members learn about show, trail, or games; members can even try their hand at roping through western heritage training. A horse training project is also available and designed to help the advanced rider train an untrained horse through a five-step process. Horses may be leased or owned. If you don't have access to a horse, you may enroll in the horseless horse project.

Starting in June, Steele County 4-H horse project members will also meet throughout the summer up until county fair. At their training sessions, members learn basic horsemanship and practice their preferred equine events. Adult volunteers work with youth on learning new training techniques and sharing and troubleshooting various horse behaviors. Guest speakers also take time to share their knowledge with members about the equine profession here in southern Minnesota.

The dog and horse projects are only two examples of project areas within the 4-H livestock program that are well into prepping for the upcoming county fair season. Youth enrolled in 4-H are also selecting and identifying their project animals in beef, dairy, goats, lama, rabbits, poultry, sheep, and swine. Animal Science projects guide youth in learning about raising, feeding, caring for, judging, training and showing animals. You can also explore careers working with animals. Don't have your own animal? You can still do several animal projects or even lease an animal for some projects.

For more information contact us at the Steele County Extension Office at 507-444-7685.



Luke Swenson, Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce president, on Wednesday, May 11 during a tour for Blooming Prairie High School sophomores shows a finished set of floor mat manufactured at the Minimizer plant in Blooming Prairie.

Tuesdays With Minnesota



Photo by Tawni Hammer

The Steele County Times is going to provide a pictorial history to our community each week of what the weather was like on the day the paper comes out. Last Tuesday (May 10) was dreary and cold here in Minnesota. This picture was taken on highway 30 just west of Blooming Prairie. It was 58 degrees and mostly cloudy, winds were at 10 mph.

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Blooming PrairieLiving

BPHS annual awards night

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Among many awards and honors earned by the seniors in the graduating class of 2016, the news that \$119,500 had been distributed to class members stunned and surprised the students and parents and friends in attendance at the annual program. The program was held in the BPHS commons area Wednesday, May 11.

What was somewhat surprising to everyone was the fact that the large amount and number of scholarship money came to one of the smallest classes to graduate from Blooming Prairie High School in many, if not ever since the early 1900's. Eighteen seniors received at least one scholarship, and several received more than a half dozen different monetary awards.

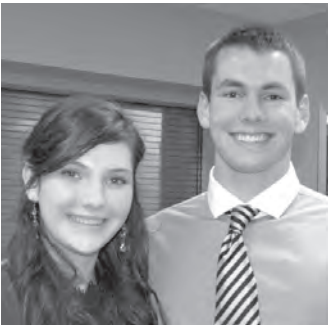
Counselor Mary Worke welcomed the seniors and others to the program and made some introductory comments. After a dessert was served, Principal John Worke announced the 2016 valedictorian and salutatorian. Anthony Nelson earned the Valedictorian honors, with Sally Peterson named salutatorian. Then Mrs. Worke pre-

sented the many scholarships and awards.

Among the highest awards presented, the American Legion Citizenship honors went to Anthony Nelson and Lauren Larkoski. The two also were named the Letter Club Outstanding Senior athletes. A prestigious award went to Kevin Eischens in the form of the Arkema scholarship, and Nelson received the Bethel University Royal Merit scholarship.

Anika Nowlan received the university of Minnesota Emerging Scholar honor, and Nelson and Larkoski were honored after signing Letters of Intent to play sports at Bethel University and RCTC respectively. KalyN Naatz took the honors of earning the most scholarships, as she carried away over 16 different ones.

Nelson and Sally Peterson each earned 10 scholarships, Larkoski garnered seven and five other seniors received at least three scholarship offers. Athletic Director Ali Mach presented several athletic scholarship awards, and the seniors in the class of 2016 concluded a memorable time of honors earned over the course of their high school careers.



Blooming Prairie High School honored its salutatorian, Sally Peterson, and valedictorian, Anthony Nelson at the senior awards program Wednesday.

RECIPE CORNER

Nuclear Powered Chip Dip

2 lbs Hot or Medium Mexican Velveeta

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1 lb Jimmy Dean's Hot Spicy Sausage
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Holmans have indeed paid it forward



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Carol and Keith Holman, former owners of Holman Insurance, toast one another in their new venture toward retirement. The Holmans sold their insurance agency recently to Hometown Insurance of Blooming Prairie.

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Blooming Prairie small business owners Carol and Keith Holman have carved an inspiring reputation over the years as committed volunteers.

The Holmans just recently sold their successful insurance business to Hometown Insurance and have decided to enter retirement. The business ties will end but the volunteering will not end.

The Holmans have sampled the early benefits of retirement, one being sleeping in late. Yeah, right! "Keith has still been setting the alarm clock for an early rising," Carol frowns. "We're trying to learn how to relax and will have to turn off the alarm clock," Keith acknowledges.

It is almost a given that the Holmans will continue to give of themselves to their community which they joined back in 1983. In addition to selling their business, the Holmans have sold their insurance building which also includes two apartments.

The Holmans have purchased an existing home on the southwest part of the city and will make this home "our retirement home," Keith said. "We started with a remodeling project that has now become a rebuilding project," Keith says.

The Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce is very dear to the hearts of Carol and Keith as they both have been very involved in chamber activities. "It's hard to say no to Jean (Peterson) and Becky (Noble)," Carol said. Jean Peterson is a former chamber executive director and Becky Noble is the current director.

Keith is a past chamber president, serving two years. He also has served on various Chamber committees over the years.

Chamber members recently converged on the Holmans at their insurance office and residential quarters. The setting was a flash mob type of gathering with chamber members eating munchies and tasting some fine wine.

Let's take a look at some more Holman community involvement.

At church, Keith is a lector and also an usher, serving Holy Trinity Church at Litomysl. Keith also has served on the St. Columbanus Finance Council. Keith is a past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus and is a past program director. He helped organize the first spaghetti dinner at Holy Trinity with benefits going to the Boys and Girls Club efforts to reconstruct the kitchen.

Keith served six years on the Steele County Board of Adjustments. A charter member, Keith still serves on the Blooming Prairie EDA.

Carol has been active on the St. Columbanus Parish Council and taught release time and was a unit chair.

Carol still serves on the Chamber Beautification Committee with Leanne Hanson and was chair of the July 4th button sales group. "One year, we sold out all 3000 of our buttons, and had to print paper ones," Carol says.

Carol represents Steele County to the Southern Minnesota Tourism Association. She also served six years on the River Trails Girl Scouts Council. Carol logged six years on the board of the Blooming Prairie Center which later became the Boys and Girls Club of Blooming Prairie.

The Holmans both support the BP Cancer Group and the BP Education Foundation.

On the veterans service organization side, the Holmans are extremely active. Keith is a member of VFW Post 878 and of American Legion Post 52. He has been Legion commander for two years and currently serves as finance officer of the Legion. Keith helped with the Legion's July 4th raffle for many years and also served on the board of directors for the Servicemen's Club. He is currently treasurer of the BP Veterans Memorial Corp.

Carol is active with the Legion Auxiliary and VFW Auxiliary. She served four years as Legion Auxiliary Girls State Chair. Carol has also been chair for the VFW Auxiliary Voice of Democracy and Patriotic Art scholarship programs.

Along with Karen Beede, Carol helped organize Murphy's Wake during the spring of 2015 and the melodrama, "Misdeeds at Mistletoe Mine" in the fall of 2015.

"We both enjoy getting people to work together," Carol said.

Both Carol and Keith hope their community involvement will inspire others to become volunteers. They said their son-in-law, a New Yorker, Has credited the Holmans with him becoming a volunteer.

Keith totaled 48 years in the insurance business and Carol worked insurance for 26 years.

The Holman Agency offered all lines of insurance including auto, home, farm, business, crops, life, health and long-term insurance. Their underwriting companies and accounts now belong to Hometown Insurance.

Natives of North Dakota, the Holmans thought it was time to quit the business and enjoy their families. "There's more to life than working 8 to 8," Carol said.

The Holmans have grand kids on both coasts. They plan to visit son Jon, wife Lakota and their children, Vince, 3, and Ronan, two months, in Anchorage, Alaska in early June. Daughter Erin, husband Andy and son Silas, 5, live in Massachusetts.

"Blooming Prairie has been a great town for us for 30 years," Keith remarks. "We've also enjoyed mastering the 22 steps to our living quarters for 23 years," Keith said.



Kevin Eischens, Blooming Prairie High School senior, is presented the Arkema scholarship of \$4000 by high school counselor Mary Worke.



Staff photos by Howard Lestrud

Four Blooming Prairie High School seniors were awarded the Mac McFarlin Harriet Srsen-Ressler Blossom Scholarship. Winning the awards, from left to right, are: Anthony Nelson, Sally Peterson, Abby Wayne and KalyN Naatz.

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Kallie Klemmensen

Years in FFA: 5

FFA activity precipitated in: Toy Show, Farm Safety day, National Convention and CDE.

Officer's position held throughout the years: Historian and Vice President
Favorite FFA Activity: National convention.

Favorite FFA memory: National convention-2013.

Future plans: College to major in nursing and major in Spanish.

Rinks thoughts: Kallie, a five year FFA member and has been a BP FFA officer for the past two years.

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EllendaleLiving

Is Ellendale going to debate a police presence?



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Ellendale council member Dick Lassahn and Ellendale Mayor Mark Skroch take a hard look at financial matters in the May 12th city council meeting.

By **MARK DELAP**
Managing Editor

The Ellendale city council opened their May 12 meeting and immediately heard a proposal from Alan Radel who owns five lots in the Klemmensen addition. He is proposing to move

a home from Owatonna that currently sits on a flood plane, to one of his lots in Ellendale. His proposal was to reside the home and to develop it and make it ready for affordable income housing. Discussion was heard and a motion was made to hold off on making a decision until a profes-

sional architect could look at the project. This is a new protocol for the city council, just recently adopted. If the architect signs off on the project, a certificate will be given to Radel who must present it to Steele County. The next item of business was a request to resurface the alley behind Russ Nelson’s building, but would include the entire alley. Mayor Mark Skroch wanted to check to see what the cost would be and to see if there is enough money in this year’s budget to do that project. Although most council members agreed that it was by far, the worst alley in town, the city is still in dire need of repairing regular streets as a top priority. Kiersten Knudson, Ellendale’s municipal liquor store manager gave the current figures for the Muni and also talked about changing up the menu for the summer. They are preparing for Ellendale days which

occur this year on June 24-26. She has cut the cost of the bands for this year and there is currently one band from Albert Lea scheduled for Friday night and one band from Austin scheduled on Saturday night. A Bean bag tournament is also being scheduled, which will begin at 10 a.m. on June 25. Positive comments were made concerning the refinishing of the floors at both the Muni and the community center. Carpet cleaning is also being considered pending a bid. The question came up from the council secretary as to what to do about chickens in town? Skroch spoke out directly and said, “Our Ordinance says NO farm animals and I believe the council is firm on that.” A motion was made to keep the ordinance as it stands, and the vote was unanimous. Skroch then read a portion of an MnDOT email. The water

line under the main street MnDOT is tearing up is cast and the council agrees that it most likely needs to be replaced. Options for paying for this \$600,000 expense includes looking at low interest loan. It was stressed that the decision did not have to be made at that particular council meeting. There was some healthy banter as to an idea of eliminating the police presence in Ellendale which would free up \$43,000 per year to go toward the water expenditure. Council member Stephanie Lageson Kibler stated, “We can’t do away with police presence,” to which Skroch responded with information as to other counties that could be on call for any local disputes and added that the water bills with a tax increase would be too much of a hardship on the citizens of Ellendale. “I would pay 15 a month more for water than eliminate a police

presence.” Kibler replied. Skroch replied, “I respect that, but I bet if I asked 10 people, they wouldn’t want to pay the extra tax money. Perhaps we should put it out to the people to vote upon.” Kibler responded, “This is a decision that we were elected to make.” There was a third suggestion that would leave the water main as is. But if it breaks, to tear up what MnDOT does would cost a fortune. A reference was made to the problems in Waldorf, MN (a town of 220 residents) where the sewer repairs are estimated at \$12 million and has set that small town community reeling from the news. The council addressed one more item of business before its adjournment which was the changing of a street name from Klemmensen Court to another name to be determined at a future council meeting.



Submitted photos

Hunter O’Rourke and Nicole Edon play Bingo with Whispering Oaks residents.



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Geneva, MN

Senior service day was an opportunity to bridge generation gaps

By **JESSICA NAFE**
Staff Intern

On Tuesday, May 10, the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva class of 2016 visited the elementary school, Whispering Oaks, and the New Richland Care Center for “Senior Service Day,” a valuable opportunity for the high schoolers to give back to the community before their time at NRHEG draws to a close. Senior Service Day was started in 2013, by the graduating class and senior class advisor Deb Bently. The students that

year had extra money left in their school fund, and they decided to give back to the community. The event was a hit and has become a tradition at NRHEG ever since. “Every year during the day, I see meaningful encounters between the high school seniors, the students, and the residents of the facilities,” Mrs. Bently said. Weeks before Senior Service Day, the seniors at NRHEG got into groups and planned an activity for the elementary students. Some of the activities this year were two-hand-touch football, nail and face painting, coloring, acting practice, and kick-

ball. Elementary students signed up for one activity to participate in, and each grade got about one half hour to do their chosen activity, savoring time with the “big kids.” The seniors even got to choose the lunchtime meal at Ellendale, a special treat for the high schoolers. After enjoying their chosen meal of shrimp poppers, macaroni and cheese, and pudding dessert, the seniors headed to Whispering Oaks, the assisted living facility in Ellendale. Nicole Edon, Torrie Stencel, Grace Logan, and Jessica Nafe entertained the residents with their instrumental talents, playing Chester, Be Thou My Vision, and Amazing Grace. Nicole Wallin sang a few Latin pieces acapella, impressing the audience with her vocal range. Jonathan Weller “Proffit,” showed off his rapping skills with an original song, and Edon and Nafe sang Without You acapella.

A lively game of bingo, with rice crispy treats on the line, passed the rest of the time at Whispering Oaks, and the residents and high schoolers enjoyed visiting with one another between games. “It was super fun,” senior Grace Logan stated. “I loved hearing all of their stories.” The high schoolers went to their last stop of the day, the New Richland Care Center, and enjoyed cake and pudding dessert while visiting with the residents. After the coffee and treats were cleared, the band ensemble performed again, Nafe played Colors of the Wind on her flute, and Edon sang Crazy by Patsy Cline. Game faces on once again, the high school seniors took on the care center residents in dominos, pfeffer, and Uno. The residents enjoyed teaching the seniors some of their favorite games, and the high schoolers loved spending quality time.



Hailey Schuller paints an elementary student’s nails.



Abby Wacholz talks to an elementary student while painting her nails.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Solution on Page 4D

CLUES ACROSS

- Annualized percentage rate
- Short term memory
- Outward flow of the tide
- Sob loudly
- Minerals
- Integrated data processing
- Mountain spinach
- Animal flesh
- Grapefruit & tangerine hybrid
- Language of No. India
- Below
- Angry
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Blood-sucking African fly
- Fusses
- Close by
- Blood pumping organ
- W. Samoan monetary unit
- Salmonella aftermath
- Counterbalance to obtain net weight
- About pope
- 45th state
- Slips by
- Be suitable for
- Right angle building extension
- Chicken ___ king
- Azotemia
- 55120 MN
- Cologne
- A thing or unit
- Ointment
- Actress Lupino
- 4,840 sq. yards
- Film spool
- For every
- NYSE for Honeywell
- Point midway between S and SE

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10			11		12		13		14	
15				16	17			18		
19					20			21		
22				23	24			25		26
										27
	28		29			30			31	
			32						33	
	34	35				36	37	38		
39						40				
41					42				43	44
45				46	47		48		49	50
		51			52	53		54	55	
56	57				58			59		
60					61				62	
63										
				64					65	

CLUES DOWN

- Resistance unit
- One rejected from society
- E. Central African nation
- Mexican hat
- Arboreal plant
- Unkind
- XVIII
- Bundle (abbr.)
- Characters in one inch of tape (computers)
- Computer screen material
- Retain a printing correction
- Booed and
- Implements
- To the same extent
- Swat
- Musically vocalized
- Before
- Used for easing the foot into a shoe
- Supporting stalk
- Future destiny
- Relating to an oracle
- Salespersons
- Opaque gem
- 3rd largest Italian city
- Vessel used for washing
- Birds of prey
- One bound in servitude
- 41st state
- Denotes substance is present in the blood
- Administer an oil
- What you scratch
- Relating to aircraft
- Swiss river
- Weight = to 1000 pounds
- Lyric poem

Student of the Week

Jason Mangskau's He is the son April Miller in Ellendale. candy, playing he is always new things. to borrow throughout the always very on positive with his teachers. Jason shows responsibility by bringing his snow pants back and saying thank you. He has great manners, especially for being in first grade. Great job in showing Panther Pride, Jason!



Miller is in Mrs. first grade class. of Justin and and they reside Jason loves on the iPad and eager to learn Jason has had snow pants year, and he's polite and carries conversations friends and

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Submitted photos

Top picture: Top Judge Award Winners L to R: Jessica Nafe, Lacey Nelson, John Hubly, Aubrey Johnson, and Katharine Lewer. Bottom picture: Co Dekalb Leadership Award winners Jessica Nafe and Katharine Lewer and Outstanding FFA Member Jack Skalicky



Size of potential Medford municipal complex still under debate

By AHREN BACKMAN
County Staff Writer

At a special work session of the Medford city council on May 10th involved parties disagreed about how large a new municipal building would be. The goal of the out-of-the-ordinary meeting was to inspect the architect’s first design and be prepared in coming up with a final design.

“We presented a spreadsheet of the square footage to the architect, and when the preliminary design came back we wanted to be prepared with thoughts.” City Manager Andy Welti said of the meetings purpose. Welti also reminded the room that the design, by Corey Brunton of Brunton

Architects, came in a week prior to the meeting; so many parties have not had very much time to “absorb” the design.

Medford Fire Chief Rick Hager said the initial design was a good attempt, and applauded the eight bay design, however Hager reminded the council that the fire department needs more space, especially looking at a potential building in the future. Hager said “ People are taking personal vehicle to meetings..... often we are throwing dirty hoses in personal vehicles..... I don’t see this as being over kill at all.”

City council member Chad Merritt offered many fiscally minded insights, mostly questioning the need for space in the non-fire department part of

the proposed 2.4 million dollar complex. “I like the firehall, everything I have a problem with is the rest of it. You got two people down here.” Mayor Lois Nelson countered the point by reminding the room that the facility will be used by many more people than the two city employers.

The council seemed committed to building a future proof facility. Near the end of the meeting councilmen Keith Maas reminded the room, “This building is a 100-year-building.” Whether the building will stand for 100 years, or even get built, remains to be seen. The next step in the process will be a meeting with Brunton at the Medford City Council meeting on May 16.



Staff Photo by Ahren Backman

The potential building could be located on the corner of Second Avenue and Third Street North East.

Student leadership takes charge of the FFA organization at NRHEG

By JESSICA NAFE
Staff Intern

The New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva FFA’s 86th annual parent-member banquet was held on Saturday, May 14, at the high school commons, celebrating another year of great accomplishments.

“It was a successful year and a year in which I saw our leadership take charge of the organization,” FFA Advisor Dan Sorum said.

After a welcome from FFA President Jessica Nafe and an invocation from Sentinel Kaleb Johnson, a meal catered by Superior Foods out of Ellendale was served.

The officer team conducted the opening ceremonies, and began the awards portion of the banquet by congratulating numerous members from the chapter on earning Discovery, Greenhand, or Chapter Degrees.

The Real Hope for the Hungry organization out of Austin was given honorary chapter membership for their outstanding work regarding world hunger and the importance of agriculture. Earlier in the year, the NRHEG FFA Chapter volunteered at Real Hope for the Hungry in Austin, packing boxes of food to be sent out to communities in need.

Members of Partners in Active Learning Support (PALS), a mentorship program through the FFA, were recognized with pins. Kallie Spooner, Kaliee Enger, Destiny Hill,

Michael Altermatt, Jillian Jongbloedt, Maurya Johnson, Cece Torp, Ben Lewer, Cynthia Quezada, Maci Surat, and Jennifer McKay all served as PAL mentors during the past year.

The top judges in each Career Development Event (CDE) were awarded with trophies and pins. Lacey Nelson was the top judge in Diary Showmanship, placing fifth at the State FFA Convention last month. Jessica Nafe was given the top judge award in Ag Sales due to her first place finish at the Region IIV Contest and third place finish at the State FFA Convention. John Hubly was named the General Livestock Top Judge, and Aubrey Johnson earned the top judge award in Dairy Cattle Evaluation. Katharine Lewer received the Small Animal Top Judge Award for her high placing at the Region IIV Contest.

Ryley Kozirolek, with help from her grandmother, made a quilt out of past NRHEG FFA T-shirts, which was won by FFA and PALS member Destiny Hill at the banquet. A game of trivia on the chapter’s history determined Hill the quilt winner.

Jack Skalicky was given the Diversified Proficiency Award for his work with chickens and goats on J&S Farms. Earning a \$500 scholarship, Jack was also named the Outstanding FFA Member based on his impressive involvement and dedication to the chapter.

Katharine Lewer and Jessica Nafe each earned \$500 in scholarship money in being

named co-Dekalb Leadership Award winners, which was given based on their outstanding leadership within their chapter, school, and community.

The following retiring officers were recognized: Jessica Nafe, President; Katharine Lewer, Vice President; Lacey Nelson, Secretary; Zeke Erickson, Treasurer; Jack Skalicky, Reporter; and Kaleb Johnson, Sentinel.

If Advisor Dan Sorum could sum up past year that the officers created in one word he would chose service. “They upped our service to the community a lot,” he said, citing the chapter’s work with Real Hope for the Hungry and adopted sections of Highway 13.

With excitement, the NRHEG FFA Chapter took their first steps into the future by installing the 2016-2017 officer team at the end of the 86th banquet. The team is as follows: Lacey Nelson, President; Tyler Mithun, Vice President; Hailey Stenzel, Secretary; Kaleb Johnson, Treasurer; Aubrey Johnson, Reporter; and Tyler Jacobson, Sentinel.

“I have big shoes to fill,” said President Lacey Nelson, “but I have a great team with lots of good leaders to work with. It’s going to be a fun year!”

With deep appreciation for their past accomplishments, the NRHEG FFA Chapter is ready to begin another successful year of Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, and Living to Serve.



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Cancer Corner

Support the fighters, Admire the survivors, Honor the taken.

Hormel Foods launches product to meet needs of cancer patients

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

AUSTIN, Minn. – For individuals battling decreased appetite and energy, unintentional weight loss and fatigue while undergoing cancer treatment, Hormel Foods has introduced the HORMEL VITAL CUISINE™ line of packaged Ready to Eat meals, nutrition shakes and whey protein powders.

Designed specifically to support the unique nutritional needs of cancer patients, the product portfolio is power-packed with nutrition, providing a much-needed balance of proteins, fats and carbohydrates.

Developed with support from experts at the Cancer Nutrition Consortium (CNC), an organization comprised of nutritionists, dieticians, oncologists, and physicians from leading cancer research institutions, along with professional chefs, HORMEL VITAL CUISINE™ products are nutrient- and protein-rich, a huge benefit to patients who often battle a drastic loss of energy and muscle mass while going through cancer treatment.

To ensure great taste, product developers also worked alongside some of the country’s top chefs including chefs from the Culinary Institute of America.

“During product development, we brought together researchers in both the health and culinary fields to ensure a thorough understanding of a patient’s needs during various phases of treatment,” said Chet S. Rao, Ph.D., strategy and business manager for the specialty foods group at Hormel Foods. “This product line was thoughtfully crafted, since many product attributes such as flavor, texture, and ingredients are known to

affect patients differently during their cancer journey, during which eating and drinking can be challenging.”

“Most cancer patients are too tired to make a meal, or even shop for it. Yet the importance of good, consistent nutrition can’t be overstated,” said Dr. Bruce Moskowitz, physician and chairman of the CNC.

“We saw an opportunity to address these issues. So in 2014, we embarked on this endeavor with Hormel Health Labs (HHL) to improve cancer patients’ quality of life.”

HORMEL VITAL CUISINE™ Ready to Eat Meals feature three high-protein varieties—chicken and dumpling, vegetarian stew, and beef and mushroom gravy. Because of the company’s efforts to eliminate unnecessary ingredients that are known to affect consumers’ taste and smell sensitivities, they are an ideal, convenient solution for people undergoing cancer treatment.

“While the main goal of these products is to provide balanced nutrition and supply calories to cancer patients, we knew it was critical that the products also offer great flavor and smooth textures,” said Ronald DeSantis, certified master chef and director of culinary excellence and quality assurance for Yale Dining. “The HORMEL VITAL CUISINE™ Ready to Eat meals are hearty, nutrient dense and flavorful options that you can easily prepare for your loved ones, while also feeling confident that they’re getting what they need.”



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OwatonnaLiving

Non-traditional couples shine in enchanted forest

By **AHREN BACKMAN**
County Staff Writer

On May 14, around 160-170 couples descended into an enchanted forest, that daylight as the Four Season’s Arena in Owatonna. Traditionally, prom couples are high school sweethearts, or longtime friends just having a good time. Any Owatonna junior or senior year

can ask a person to prom as long as they are under the age of 21. At Owatonna’s “Enchanted Forest” themed prom, two non-traditional couples redefined what a classic prom couple can be. “I wrote her a note pretending to be Kim Jung Un,” Owatonna senior Brandon Peeters said of asking Rebecca Schafer to prom. Peeters had gotten to know Schafer when the two

18-year-old seniors were seated next to each other in Mr. Waldorf’s sociology class. “I thought it was cute, sweet, and hilarious,” Schafer said of the note. The couple said they are not dating, but were just looking to have a good time at prom. Another couple just trying to have fun in the forest was Matt Lockett and Kimberley Strobel. Strobel is a 17-year-old Junior at Owatonna and said she had

first meet 19-year-old Lockett of Cannon Falls during high school speech events. Strobel said they really got know each other while participating in a Christian choir over the last summer. When prom time rolled around, Strobel asked Lockett if he would like to go with her, and he said yes. Both of the couples said they were looking forward to the dance, which immediately

followed the grand march and lasted until midnight. Matt and Kimberly both agreed the dance was what they were excited for the most. “They better play some mad beats,” Matt said. The DJ show was provided by Northern lights and featured state-of-the-art sound equipment and an extensive lights display. Two large screens even played the music videos of the songs.

The dance immediately followed the Grand March and lasted until midnight. Music was provided by Northern Lights. The disk jockey show featured state-of-the-art sound equipment and an extensive lights display with two large screens playing music videos of the songs. The last step to prom festivities was a western themed after bash which lasted from midnight to 4 a.m.



Staff photos by Ahren Backman



Left: Seniors Brandon Peeters and Rebecca Schafer pose after Owatonna’s 2016 Grand March. Peeters is donning a civil war era uniform. Right: Owatonna seniors Mariam Salinas (pictured from right to left) and Aaron Frandle make last minute preparations for Owatonna prom at a local clothing retailer, along with friends, Matthew Magnuson of Faribault and Ashley Risch of Owatonna.

Prom prep 101 with high school fashionista Mariam Salinas

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Prom prep 2016

For senior Mariam Salinas perpetration for Owatonna’s 2016 prom started long before the grand march, in early October. When asked about the preparation, her date, Aaron Frandle, a senior at Owatonna couldn’t help but laugh with a tone of slight exasperation. “I actually started planning, literally after homecoming in early October.” Salinas said. “I’m not a late spender, so I had to save a bunch of money.” Mariam bought a \$500 dress, and had the big decision of where to get the hair and make-up done. “You can save money doing it yourself, but do you really want to do that?” Mariam settled on having a family friend do her hair and her sister-in-law do her make-up. After all that preparation, Solinas found herself without a date a week before the prom. “I was asked to several different proms, then things happened and I ended up only going to here and Alberta Lea’s prom.”

“You can save money doing it yourself, but do you really want to do that?”

Thankfully, Frandle stepped up just in time, and the couple was off to their final preparation stop before the grand march. The stop was at Solinas’s workplace, a clothing store named Rue21 in the Medford Outlet Mall, for another outfit for the Western-themed after party at a local middle school. “I didn’t need it, but I wanted it,” Solinas said.



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NATIONAL BEEF MONTH

How to barbecue the perfect steak

(MS) -- The steakhouse is a family favourite for its flavourful cuts of beef, so to save money, the grilling experts at Broil King are here to show us how to re-create those same savoury steaks on our own gas barbecues. Here are their tips.

* If it doesn't sizzle, it's not hot enough. Preheat your grill to at least 450* for great sear marks and steakhouse quality results.

* Season the grill: a thin coating of oil on a hot grill both protects the grill surface and keeps your food from sticking. A refillable oil mister is an easy way to do this. Tip: Always turn the burners to low be-

fore spraying oil; never use non-stick sprays with aerosol since they are flammable.

* Marinate your steak for 30 minutes to 2 hours (most cuts) to infuse complementary flavours into the meat.

* Any sweet or sugary barbecue sauce should be applied in the last two minutes on the grill, or after the meat is removed. These sauces burn easily and can ruin a great steak.

* Try a compound butter: first soften the butter to room temperature and then mix in the flavouring of your choice, such as blue cheese, sundried tomato or cheddar & jalapeno. Top the hot steak



with a pat of this butter and watch the flavour melt all over the grilled meat.

* Choose your weapon: don't pierce your steak, use a good set of tongs

to turn them. The more you poke holes, the more flavour and tenderness escapes.

* Let it rest: cutting into a steak right off the grill lets juices escape onto

the plate. Let any steak rest for 5 minutes before serving. The juices will settle evenly throughout the steak, giving a more tender, flavourful and enjoyable dining experience.

Blue Cheese Compound Butter

Ingredients

- 2/3 cup butter, at room temperature
- 1/3 cup Roquefort cheese, crumbled
- 1 tablespoon shallots, finely chopped
- 1 1/2 teaspoon fresh thyme leaves, finely chopped
- Dash hot pepper sauce
- Pinch salt

Directions

In a small bowl, mix all ingredients together lightly with a fork until just evenly combined. Over-mixing will cause it to become too blue in colour. Spoon the mixture onto a sheet of waxed paper, and shape it into a log about 4 centimeters (1 1/2") in diameter. Refrigerate 1 hour. Slice into 1.5-centimeter thick rounds (1/3") and place on hot grilled steaks to melt. Freeze leftovers butter.

Additional grilling recipes and tips are available at www.broilking-bbq.com. TF144129

Food storage and safety tips

Buying in bulk can reduce trips to the supermarket and save you money. When buying in bulk, you can cook perishable foods all at once or store foods for later use. When taking the latter approach, there are certain storage and safety tips home cooks can take to ensure their food stays fresh and safe to eat.

Be prepared

Before buying a large amount of food, ensure that your refrigerator and freezer are in good working order. Use a food appliance thermometer to get an accurate reading of the internal temperature of the freezer and refrigerator. The U.S. Food and

Drug Administration recommends refrigerators be kept at or below 40 F (5 C), and the freezer at or below zero (-18 C). A refrigerator or freezer that is too warm can cause the growth of unhealthy bacteria in stored foods and decrease the shelf life of stored items.

Purchase freezer-safe plastic storage bags or containers to hold divided food. Also have a permanent marker handy to label containers with the date and type of food enclosed.

Wash later

Wash produce and fresh foods prior to eating. If items are washed before they are stored, the moisture trapped

can accelerate spoilage. Lettuce and other leafy vegetables are the exception. Wash these items and drain thoroughly. Afterward, store in a sealed bag with paper towels, which will absorb excess moisture.

Separate meat and poultry

Individual pieces of meat and poultry should be separated before freezing, as this makes it easier to take out the right portions when defrosting for meals.

Small, thin packages will freeze faster and more evenly than other types of containers. They will also defrost quickly for use later on.

Keep hands clean when handling raw foods by placing one hand in a small plastic sandwich bag to grab the pieces of chicken or meat. Then turn the bag inside out on your hand and the piece of food. Place these wrapped pieces into a freezer-safe bag. The double layer of protection will safeguard against the formation of ice crystals and freezer burn, which can affect flavor.

Bulk ground beef or turkey purchases are another popular buy. Place in a large storage bag and flatten the ground meat as much as possible. Use a spatula to indent the meat almost through to the bottom in a grid pattern. This perfora-



tion allows you to access as much of the frozen meat as necessary.

Defrosting

The USDA advises to defrost foods properly to avoid foodborne illnesses. Freezing suspends bacteria trapped in food indefinitely. Improper

defrosting practices can cause that bacteria to grow. If the food is not cooked thoroughly, illness can result.

Plan ahead to defrost foods in the refrigerator. It can take up to a day for this method of thawing, so plan meals well in advance.

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Ag Secretary Vilsack
announces Open Prairie
Rural Opportunities fund

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the launch of a new private investment fund with the potential to inject \$100 million into small food and agriculture businesses across rural America. The fund, known as the Open Prairie Rural Opportunities Fund, will be the fourth Rural Business Investment Company (RBIC) that USDA has helped to create since 2014, and is part of USDA's ongoing efforts to help attract private sector capital to investment opportunities in rural America to help drive more economic growth in rural communities.

"Like their counterparts in urban areas, innovative small businesses throughout rural America need access to capital in order to grow and create jobs," Vilsack said.

"At USDA, we are working hard to reenergize the rural economy, and we are enlisting more and more private sector partners to help achieve that goal. Open Prairie has been a great partner in this effort."

The Open Prairie Rural Opportunities Fund will invest in companies with high-growth potential across the food and agribusiness value chain and rural America, including those in the crop protection, agricultural production and processing, precision agriculture, and information and data management sectors.

"This fund is unique among other licensed RBICs in that it has broad support from the Farm Credit System, commercial banks and strategic limited partners who care deeply about the success of rural communities," said Patrick Morand, partner and president of Open Prairie.

Open Prairie, founded in 1997 by agribusiness entrepreneur Jim Schultz, is a multi-faceted private equity management firm. With roots in rural America and its headquarters in Effingham, Illinois, Open Prairie has managed fund products for clients ranging from technology-based venture capital to farmland portfolios. A unifying theme among all of Open Prairie's private equity fund efforts has been a focus on growing capital availability in the underserved Midwest.

"The RBIC program is a natural extension of our long term vision," said Open Prairie partner and vice president Jason Wrone. "We live, breathe and believe strongly in rural America and are pleased to be work-

ing with USDA, the Farm Credit System and other entities that share our passion for building successful companies that have a meaningful impact on their respective business sectors and the communities in which they do business."

The new fund announced today was formed under the USDA's Rural Business Investment Program (RBIP). USDA is utilizing RBIP to license funds to invest in enterprises that will create growth and job opportunities in rural areas, with an emphasis on smaller enterprises. Last year, Secretary Vilsack announced the conditional approval of two other RBICs – Innova and Meritus Kirchner Capital. In 2014, Advantage Capital was granted a license for their \$150

million Advantage Capital Agri-Business fund.

These efforts are part of the Made in Rural America initiative, which was created by President Obama to help rural businesses and leaders take advantage of new investment opportunities and access new markets abroad. This announcement today comes in conjunction with the third White House Rural Opportunity Investment Conference in Washington, DC, focused on investing for impact in the rural economy.

Al-Corn Clean Fuel recognized by Minnesota FFA
Scholarship Funds Key to Leadership Development

Al-Corn Clean Fuel, a farmer-owned ethanol production cooperative has been recognized as a supporter of the Minnesota FFA Foundation for the cooperative's support of programming throughout southeast and southern Minnesota. The partnership between Al-Corn Clean Fuel and the Minnesota FFA Foundation allows for Scholarship funds to assist 58 FFA chapters in select programs, including service projects.

"We truly appreciate our partnership with the Minnesota FFA Foundation" said Rod Jorgenson, Chairman of the Board for Al-Corn Clean Fuel. "The lead-

ership skills acquired by the next generation of agricultural leaders through organizations such as FFA will benefit our local communities well into the future."

"The need to build partnerships in support of local and state agricultural education programs continues to grow as budgets are increasingly tight," said Val Aarsvold, executive director of the Minnesota FFA Foundation. "It's a win-win partnership as our programs receive valuable support to pre-



pare future employees for agricultural careers and develop skills to provide leadership for their local communities."

For additional information regarding Al-Corn Clean Fuel, please visit www.al-corn.com.

For additional information regarding the Minnesota FFA Foundation, please visit www.mnffaafoundation.org.

About Al-Corn Clean Fuel

Founded in 1994, Al-Corn Clean Fuel is a farmer-owned ethanol production cooperative located in Claremont, MN.

About the Minnesota FFA Foundation

The Minnesota FFA Foundation partners with individuals and businesses to provide resources that promote and enhance premier leadership, personal growth and career success for Minnesota youth in Agricultural Education.

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Taking measures to protect strawberries from weekend freeze



INDEPENDENT | KAREN JORGENSEN

Keith Mosier and one of the workers who helps out at the farm unroll a 500 foot roll of fabric over the strawberry field.

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

When you have three-and-a-half acres of strawberries that are starting to blossom and a late spring frost is on the horizon there is only one thing to do, cover them with a protective fabric and trust it will do the job. That was the position Barry Mosier of Miracle Strawberry Farm found himself in last week. Beginning his second season of supplying asparagus and strawberries to area residents he was faced with a situation he had not expected. Spring asparagus sales had gone well days when they were picking more than 300 pounds of the vegetable. And the strawberries were looking good as well. He and his wife Mary Beth were looking forward to a good season. There had been some ups and downs related to the weather, Mosier said. They had

removed the straw covers from the plants once before and had to recover them when the temperatures dropped. But that had been earlier in the spring and now they were headed into the middle of May. So when the weather forecasters began warning of a front over the weekend Mosier knew he had to take action. “We have a big crop,” he said, “We don’t want to lose it.” The plants were beginning to bloom, he said, and the first bloom is the “king berry.” That, he said, will be the biggest one of the season. Strawberries are susceptible to the cold at 34 degrees, he said. It was too late to cover the field again with straw so Mosier said he opted for a row cover. A row cover, he said, is really just a large piece of fabric. He and his son Keith, who is a missionary in Africa and was back in Dodge Center with his family to await the birth of the

Mossiers’ newest grandchild, headed to the Twin Cities to purchase the fabric which came in a 50-foot long roll. When opened, it would cover a space 50-feet wide. After collecting a pickup truck full of fence posts and a few old tires to hold down the fabric, Keith and another worker headed down the field unrolling the long roll of fabric. When they reached the end of the field the fabric, which was folded in half on the roll, was opened and the sides weighed down. Then it was off to do another row. When the fabric was finally in place, the Mosiers’ would just wait to see if their work paid off. Mosier said the fabric would save four to five degrees and it would also help if there was a wind of five miles per hour or better which would also help keep the temperature at ground level up.



INDEPENDENT | KAREN JORGENSEN

Barry Mosier, owner of Miracle Strawberry Farm in Center, holds works to hold down the fabric being used to cover his three-and-a-half acres of strawberries last week. Concerned about a forecasted late-season freeze, Mosier, his sons and several workers covered the entire field in fabric Thursday afternoon.



INDEPENDENT | KAREN JORGENSEN

The wind was blowing Thursday afternoon as workers at Miracle Strawberry Farm laid the fabric over the strawberry field. Strawberries are susceptible to cold weather at 34 degrees.

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Minnesota Crop Report:

Below normal temperatures throughout Minnesota slowed crop development and raised concerns about freeze damage in the northern and central parts of the state during the week ending May 15, 2016, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 2.3 days suitable for fieldwork, with the southern parts of the state limited to 1.5 days or less due to continued precipitation. While planting is nearing completion for several crops, farmers are looking for warmer temperatures to support development.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 12 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 9 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus.

Corn was 93 percent planted, 16 days ahead of the 5-year average, but 6 days behind last year. Fifty-three percent of the corn crop had emerged, 9 days ahead of average. Soybean planting was 63 percent complete, 11 days ahead of average, but a week behind last year. Nine percent of the soybean crop had emerged. Planting for small grains is nearing completion. Spring wheat was 78 percent emerged, 17 days ahead of average, but 6 days behind last year. The first spring wheat condition rating of the year was estimated at 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Eighty-four percent of the oat crop had emerged, with 18 percent of the oat acreage at or beyond the jointing stage. Oat condition rated 80 percent good to excellent. The barley crop was 95 percent planted and 73 percent emerged. The first barley condition rating of the year was estimated at 0 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Dry edible beans were 46 percent planted, 12 days ahead of average. Sunflowers were 57 percent planted, two weeks ahead of average. Potatoes reached 91 percent planted, 15 days ahead of average.

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DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed July 19, 2007, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000073525
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 12, except the East 90 feet; Lot 13, except the East 90 feet; and the East 62.1 feet of Lot 14, in Block 1, all lying and being in Elm Heights Addition to the City of Owatonna
REGISTERED PROPERTY
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 239 16th NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-164-0114 COT# 16503
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$179,215.02
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 7, 2016, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on December 7, 2016, or the next business day if December 7, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: April 5, 2016

Nationstar Mortgage LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17

Foreclosure

13-092746

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: August 26, 2010
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$198,200.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Thomas D. Breuer, and JoAnn D. Breuer, as husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Bank of America, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Bank of America, N.A.
SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed September 1, 2010, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000066242
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Federal National Mortgage Association
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 3, Block 1, Brooktree No. 4
REGISTERED PROPERTY
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1738 Greenhaven Ln NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-350-0103 COT# 18305
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$202,893.87
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: May 31, 2016, 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 November 30, 2016, or the next business day if November 30, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: April 8, 2016

Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA)
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

4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17

Foreclosure

14-097891

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 25, 2010
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$158,494.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Adam M. Ramseth and Christina M. Ramseth, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

MIN#: 100749500730077917
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed February 11, 2010, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000065519
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A.; Dated: December 28, 2011 filed: February 21, 2012, recorded as document number T000068278; Thereafter assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association dated June 13, 2013; recorded on November 19, 2013 as document number T000070968.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 11, Block 2, Mathews Addition, Owatonna
REGISTERED PROPERTY
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1805 6th Avenue NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-242-0211 COT# 17436
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$175,140.26
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 17, 2016, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on December 17, 2016, or the next business day if December 17, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: April 22, 2016

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31

Foreclosure

15-100469

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 30, 2014
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$142,500.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Paul A. Schweim and Amalia Schweim, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100397202125037268
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 7, 2014, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000396915
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 1, Block 1, Grace Addition
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 2595 3rd Ave NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-299-0101
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$155,088.23

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: June 24, 2016, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on December 24, 2016, or the next business day if December 24, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: April 28, 2016

Nationstar Mortgage LLC
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 6/7

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

COUNTY OF STEELE

Court File No. 74-PR-16-772

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

Estate of
Lorraine Basich a/k/a Gertrude Lorraine Basich a/k/a Lorraine D. Basich, Decedent

Notice is given that an application for informal probate of the Decedent's Will, dated January 26, 2016, and (“Will”), has been filed with the Registrar. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the registrar has informally appointed Sherman Fjalstad, whose address is 1350 Edinburgh Place, Owatonna, MN 55060, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed with the Court (pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate

of the Will or appointment of the Personal Representative must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after the filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

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.

Dated
2016.04.27

Kris Schmitz
Registrar

Attorney for
Personal Representative
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

5/10, 5/17

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No. 74-PR-16-861

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INSTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re: Estate of
Kathryn G. Parsons, Decedent

It is Ordered and notice is given that on May 31, 2016 at 10:45 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court at Steele County District Court, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of Andrew C. Bohrer, whose address is 1506 10th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN 55904, as personal representative of the decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the decedent's 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 decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT
2016.04.26

Joseph A Bueltel
Judge of District Court

Sonia Kocher
Court Administrator

SMITH, TOLLEFSON, RAHRICK & CASS
Stephen J. Smith (MN# 102799)
108 West Park Sq., Ste. A
P.O. Box 271
Owatonna, MN 55060
Telephone: (507) 451-6540
Facsimile: (507) 451-1846

5/10, 5/17

Foreclosure

16-102793

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 25, 2012
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$108,314.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Eric Mullenmeister and Jennifer Mullenmeister, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 3, 2012, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000384444
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Federal National Mortgage Association
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

All that part of the Southeast Quarter Section 11, Township 108 North, Range 19 West, Steele County, Minnesota, Described by: Beginning at the Northeast corner of said Southeast Quarter; thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes 13 seconds West, assumed bearing 374.00 feet along the East line of said Southeast Quarter; thence South 89 degrees 47 minutes 33 seconds West 574.00 feet along a line parallel with the North line of said Southeast Quarter; thence North 89 degrees 47 minutes 33 seconds East 574.00 feet to beginning Steele County, Minnesota.
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 8339 71st Street NE, West Concord, MN 55985
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 10-011-2102
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$114,353.57
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 28, 2016, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on December 28, 2016, or the next business day if December 28, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: May 6, 2016

Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”) 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

5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 6/7, 6/14

Order for Hearing

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION COURT FILE NO. CX-63-12035

COUNTY OF STEELE

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST CREATED BY PARAGRAPH VIII OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF ROBERT A. PARSONS ALSO KNOWN AS R. A. PARSONS AND ROBERT PARSONS

ORDER FOR HEARING

The Trustee of the above named Trust, Robert Q. Dickie, having filed his Final Account for the above named Trust, and a Petition for Authorization to distribute the remaining and only asset of the Trust;
IT IS ORDERED, that the hearing thereof be held on the 21st day of June, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., before the above named Court at the Courthouse, Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota, and that all persons having an interest in said Trust present objections, if any they have, why said Final Account and Order granting distribution of the final asset to the beneficiary, Robert Adams Parsons, should not be granted. This Order shall be served

served by publishing, at least 20 days before the date of the hearing, a copy of the Order for Hearing one time in a legal newspaper for Steele County; and by mailing at least 15 days before the date of the Hearing, a copy of the Order for Hearing to those current Trustees and qualified beneficiaries of the Trust whose identity is known and whose location is known or reasonably ascertainable to petitioner.

Dated
2016.05.09

Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court

SCHMIDT LAW OFFICE, LTD
Robert E. Schmidt # 97020
Attorney for Petitioner and Trustee
36050 Clear Lake Drive
Post Office Box 503
Waseca, Minnesota, 56093
Telephone 1-507-835-4884
bob@schmidtllaw.net

5/17

Order to Show Cause

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File Number: 74-CV-16-693

In the Matter of the Petition of Bank of America, National Association relating to Certificate of title No. 17635 for a new Certificate of Title after Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

To: NICHOLAS M. WERNER:

Upon receiving and filing the Report of examiner of Titles in the above entitled matter, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that you and all persons interested, appear before this Court on the 10th day of June, 2016 at 11:00 a.m., Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, and then, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be heard, show cause, if any there may be, why this Court should not enter an Order as follows:

That the Registrar of Titles, upon the filing with him of a certified copy of this Order cancel certificate of title no. 17635 and enter a new Certificate of Title for Lot Eight (8) in Block Three (3) in Kuether's Fourth Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota in favor of Bank of America, N.A. free of the memorial of the following documents:

#T000065115; #T000065116;
#T000069227; #T000071944;
#T000072729; and #T000072966;

and free of the memorial of this Order, but subject to all other memorials and recitals, including the Public certificate Note, appearing on certificate of Title No. 17635.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this Order be served:

(a) at least 10 days prior to such hearing upon the above named parties residing in this State in the manner provided by law for the service of Summons in a civil action;

(b) it shall be served at least 14 days prior to such hearing upon any of the above named non-residents by sending a copy of this Order to such non-residents their post office address by registered or certified mail, with a return receipt requested;

(c) it shall be served upon any party who cannot be found by two weeks published notice and by sending a copy of this Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing by first class mail to their address as stated on the Certificate of Title if an address is so stated.

(d) upon a dissolved, withdrawn or revoked business entity governed by Minn. Stat., Chp. 302A, 303, 317A, 322A, 322B, or 323 in the manner provided by Minn. Stat. 5.25. (Note: return date on the Order to Show cause must be at least 30 days after the date of mailing by the Secretary of State.)

YOU NEED NOT APPEAR IF YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED.

BY THE COURT,

Dated
2016.04.28
14:32:02-05'00'

Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court

Attorney for Petitioner:
Adam Soczynski
Usset, Weingarden & Liebo PLLP
4500 Park Glen Road, Suite 300
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

5/17, 5/24

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

ConVault Above Ground Fuel Storage Tanks

Sealed Bids will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Steele County, MN until 11:00 a.m. on Thursday June 9, 2016 at the Office of the County Auditor, Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, P.O. Box 890, Owatonna, MN 55060 at which time all bids will be opened and read publicly for one 6,000 gallon ConVault AST diesel fuel tank and one 4,000 gallon ConVault AST gasoline fuel tank located at 828 Hoffman Drive in Owatonna. The bid proposal document is available at www.co.steele.mn.us or contact the Steele County Highway Department for bid documents at 507.444.7670. Contact the Highway Maintenance Manager, 507.444.7679, with any questions regarding the fuel tanks.

The County Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any technical defects and to award the bid to other than the highest bidder, or more than one bidder if, in their discretion, the interest of the County will be best served thereby.

STEELE COUNTY
EMPLOYMENT

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START NOW
We will train and License.
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GROUNDMASTERS INC
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Line Superintendent/Plant Manager
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perform maintenance

For Information contact
Jerry Mausbach - 507-583-6683

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Stop in with questions or to use our computer to apply!

Apply online: www.ecumen.org/careers

ECUMEN
Brooks & CountrySide
2480 St Paul Rd
Owatonna, MN
507-446-5855
650 El Dorado St SE
Owatonna, MN
507-446-8334

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE STEELE COUNTY (MINNESOTA) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Notice is hereby given that the Steele County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") will hold a public hearing on May 24, 2016, at the Steele County Administration Center in the Board Room located at 630 Florence Avenue in the City of Owatonna beginning at approximately 5:45 p.m., relating to the question of the establishment by the County of an economic development authority (the "EDA") pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.090 through 469.1082. Following the public hearing the Board will consider an enabling resolution (the "Enabling Resolution") which would establish the EDA. The Enabling Resolution, a copy of which is on file and available for inspection in the offices of the Steele County Administrator, would authorize the EDA to exercise all powers granted to such authorities pursuant to the above-mentioned statutes and would designate that the EDA would be governed by a 9-member Authority Board, all of whom would be residents of Steele County and 2 would be members of the Steele County Board of Commissioners. Upon approval of the Enabling Resolution, an organizational meeting of the EDA will be scheduled by the Board.

All interested persons may appear at the May 24, 2016 public hearing and present their views orally or in writing.

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EMPLOYMENT

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Hair stylist/Esthetician/Nail Tech, hourly wage plus commission. Call to set up interview, 507-440-4654 21,22,23c

Milkers needed for moderate size dairy, weekend and holidays required, double 8 parlor, 2 part time openings 20-25 hrs. per pay period, extra hours available. Contact Heather at schwinglehm@gmail.com 21,22,23p

Full time night position **has been re-opened** working with elderly clients at Wellington Adult Care in Dodge Center. The hours are 11p.m. to 6:30 a.m. Sunday through Wednesday. Applicant must be 18 yrs. Old and have a valid drivers license and submit to a background check. For more info and an interview contact Jane or Bill at 507-319-4821 or 507-374-2198. 21tf

Hiring for concrete construction. Hard working, reliable, laborers and finishers needed. Wage based on experience. Call Dobbs Construction now! Luke @507-259-9180 7tf

Carpenters wanted. Experience preferred but will train. Health Insurance/401k/Paid Holidays/PTO. Established company. Great starting wages! (507) 775-7068 17tf

Chiropractic office needs multitasking, energetic front desk person, 30 hours a week, training provided, accuracy, customer service, phone skills a must, call 507-634-6677. 22,23,24c

PT help wanted milking cows evening and some weekends. 22,23c

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Nick's Lawn Mowing Service, weekly or vacation, residential or commercial, yard cleanup, mowing and trimming, satisfaction guaranteed, seven yrs. exp., free estimates. 507-696-3849 leave a message. 21tf

Brianna's Lawn Care Services, mowing, trimming, complete yard cleanup, weekly or on call. Free estimates. Satisfaction guaranteed 507-421-7945. 21tf

College student looking for yard jobs; lawn mowing, gutter cleaning, junk removal, landscaping, and window washing, many years of experience, provide quality workmanship at a fair price! Call/text Ryan at 507-259-2860 References available, FREE estimates. 22tf

FOR SALE

2 storage sheds for sale, older 8X12 \$200 newer 8X10 with loft \$800, must move, 507-993-7148 22p

Beautiful brown leather sofa, like new, paid \$1,800, asking \$750 cash, also many tools for sale. 507-316-4503. 20-22p

REAL ESTATE

House for sale by owner- 107 1st St NE, Kasson, 3-bedroom starter home on large lot, AS-IS. Asking \$92,000, call 507-259-2588 to make appointment to view. 20-22p

Kasson townhome for sale, 1,400 sq. ft., 2 bedrooms, 305 4th St SW, 507-775-6122. 20-22

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Large 3 bdrm apartment on Main Street in Kasson, call Pat 507-319-6762. 21,22,23c

Apartments for rent, 1, 2 & 3 BR, gas & elec. included. 507-273-7386. 50-1p, 2tf

Prime office spaces for rent on Main Street, Kasson. High traffic location. Call 634-4307 for more information. 37tf

Spring Rent Sale- Great Western Apartments, Hayfield, will reduce your rent by \$100 per month with a one-year lease. Newly renovated with large rooms, hardwood floors, and utilities included. We have the 1, 2, or 3 bedroom apartment you want. Call (507) 796-0152 or (701) 330-9706 for sale details 12tf

WANTED

65-year-old mild mannered gentleman wishes to rent a room ASAP in the Kasson/Hayfield/Dodge County area. 507-440-3976-leave message 21,22,23c

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TUTORING. Learning can be fun! All grades - most subjects. Linda L. Greene 507-374-2363. 38tf

You deserve to come home to a clean house! For housecleaning needs/ FREE estimate CALL 507-269-4147. 22,23,24p

Summer piano lessons, flexible schedule, all levels, call Tammy at 993-2709. 22c

Semcac Transportation is hiring for a **Full Time Dispatcher** for the Dispatch Center located in Kasson, MN. M-F, 40 hours per week.
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Applications must be received by May 31, 2016. EOE

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clothing and tools. 22,23c

60826220th Ave, Dodge Center, 1 ½ miles west of Mantorville, Thur. 3-6, Fri. 8-5, Sat. 8-12. Household items, chicken décor, old crocks, vintage wicker furniture set, clothing and much more. 22p

25334 Cty Hwy 34, Kasson, Sat. 9-5 and Sun. 9-1. Tons of girl clothes sizes preemie-2T, boys clothes sizes 3-9 months, Pack 'n Play, walkers, and more baby gear, pumping and milk storage etc., lots of maternity clothes! Also some mens and womens clothes. 22p

902 10th St NW, Kasson, Fri. and Sat. 8-2. Clothes kids-adult, Hot-Wheels, toys, kids electric scooter, Eastern 20" bike, new girls 20" bike, LG sound bar, misc. 22p

1003 Parkview Ave NW Kasson north past LDS Church, Thur. 4-7, Fri. 8-4, Sat.

9-11. Seasonal/holiday décor, kids clothes 12months-4T, lots of misc. 22p

62739 160th Ave, Dodge Center, May 21, 1-7, May 22, 10-6, May 28 & 29, 10-7. Moving Sale. New items added daily, 2014 utility electric Club cart, hand and power tools, household and yard items, kitchen items, 2 DVD players, surround sound, ramps, black leather couch, Lazy Boy recliner, lift chair, clothing 22,23,24c

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INDEPENDENT DODGE COUNTY

Business people pack school busses for insurance company event



Staff photo by Ahren Backman

The attire of the riders on over six Owatonna school busses was different than usual on May 10th. The usual backpacks and jeans of the busses usual ridership was replaced by dress shoes and ties as around 1,300 local Federated employees packed in. The busses were transporting the employees to and from the Four Seasons Center for a company event called the “Billion Moments of Success.” The event took place over the noon hour and that included speakers and lunch. The Times asked Federated Executive Vice President, Pat Cooper, about narrowing down the billion moments, and he highlighted that Federated Insurance had 7,000,000,000 in assets in 2015.

Freak bathtub explosion

Bloomington resident Jen Clements, was just trying to clean the bathtub of her rural home on the evening of May 10th. The explosion was completely unexpected. “It happened really fast, it exploded and I ran out. I didn’t know if there was a fire or not.” Clements said of the explosion that lifted her Worldpool bathtub off the tile floor and blew the bathroom door off. Clements said she had finished cleaning the tub drains with concentrated bleach and hot water based on a cleaning article she saw. “I finished cleaning the tub, put some cold water in there, then went to start the jets, then I saw a huge spark and it blew up.”

The Ellendale Fire Department responded to the call and was assisted by the Steele County Sheriff’s Office. The Ellendale ambulance responded with-

in minutes, but Clements was released from the scene with the minor injuries of scorched hair and burnt clothing.

The mystifying question is what caused the explosion. “We have never seen anything like it... no idea what caused this,” said Ellendale Fire Chief Mark Lee. “The only thing we could think of was static from the tub when she pushed the button.”

Lee said, “If electricity would have done it, a breaker would have been shorted, but there wasn’t... it was one of the first things we checked.” The cause of the explosion is still under investigation.

No matter what ended up causing the explosion, Clements seemed relieved there was not more extensive damage. When asked if she would be buying Worldpool again, Clements responded with “Probably not.”



Gardening Tip of the week:

Planting your containers is a creative project. The different colors and textures of plants in one container will add to the interest and eye appeal for the entire season. For plants that last, make sure to purchase them from a grower/ greenhouse. These plants are grown in that greenhouse and the grower/owner will have much experience to share with you on your choice of plants for a beautiful season of blooms.

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