

Blooming Prairie Times.

VOLUME XX.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE, STEELE COUNTY, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1912,

NUMBER, 47.

TITANIC, THE TITON OF THE OCEAN, FINDS WATERY GRAVE ON FIRST TRIP. OVER 1,400 PEOPLE ARE DROWNED

WHITE STAR LINER STRIKES AN ICEBERG, WHILE
GOING AT FULL SPEED AT 1:25 MONDAY
MORNING AND GOES DOWN IN
LESS THAN AN HOUR.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE SAVED

But Many Wealthy and Prominent Men Are Lost, Among Them Col. John Jacob Astor, Maj. Archibald Butt, Isidore Straus, George D. Widener, J. Bruce Ismay, Benjamin Guggenheim, Col. Washington Roebling, J. B. Thayer, the Artist Millet and Many Others.

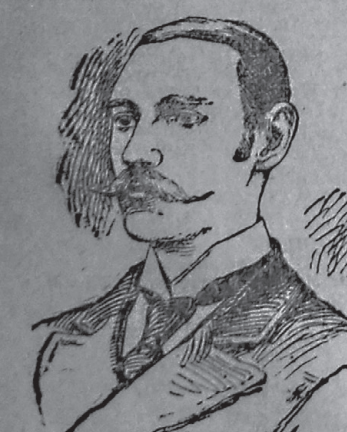
New York, N. Y. — The White Star liner Titanic, the world's greatest steamship has gone down some 500 miles off Cape Race, with 630 of her 1,300 passengers and her full crew of 860 men on board. That the greatest catastrophe in marine history has occurred to a vessel of their line is admitted by the officials of the White Star Steamship company in New York. The liner Carpathia, the first vessel to come within sight of the Titanic, rescued all the Titanic's life boats in which were 670 persons most of them



The Steamship Titanic.

women and children. Many women and children, however, have perished.

When the Carpathia reached the ill-fated vessel no sign of life was to be seen anywhere, the mountainous ocean swells giving much evidence to the stupendous disaster. Early reports stated that all the passengers and the crew of the Titanic had been taken off by the Allen liner's Virginian and the Parisian, and the Carpathia, but wireless message received here discredit these reports in every detail. No hope is held out at the offices of the White Star line that any man on board has survived to tell the story of the final sinking of the leviathan, although some of the women in the boats may have witnessed the sinking. Only by a miracle, it is pointed out, could any person who stood by the ship escape the great vessel's powerful suction as she sank to the bottom. The Titanic carried the most notable list of passengers ever borne across the Atlantic by one vessel. Homecoming American tourist postponed their sail-



John Jacob Astor.

ing weeks ago so as to ride the new wonder of the season on her maiden voyage.

Dispatches state that the Titanic went down at 2:20 o'clock Monday morning. The delay in the transmission of the news is attributed to the fact that all dispatches have been subject to difficult delays.

The collision of the Titanic with an iceberg is now known to have been a head-on crash that occurred while the liner was proceeding little less

MAJOR ARCHIBALD BUTT.



than her best speed. She was a day ahead of her schedule and it is considered probable that an attempt to make a record-breaking voyage was the hope of her crew when she entered the ice field.

Her forward plates were completely wrecked. A gaping wound opening below her water line and letting the water into her forward compartments.

In the meantime the lifeboats were manned and into them were placed as many of the women and children as they could hold. The boats were put off while there was yet some hope of saving the Titanic afloat until wireless could summon help. Later and more conservative estimates tell of great bravery on the part of the men passengers. There was a minimum of disorder. John Jacob Astor, who, with his bride, was returning from their long honeymoon abroad, saw his bride placed in a life boat safely away. Col. Astor was drowned. The work of getting the lifeboats away, the work of allaying the fears of the great crowd of passengers as much as possible, the work of keeping the pumps in operation and the engines throbbing—these tasks and countless others were directed by Captain Smith, the venerable commander of the Titanic, and before her advent the commander of the Olympic who displayed almost superhuman power of mind and body at the world's most horrible sea disaster, crowned his long and honorable service on the high seas.

A wireless message from the Virginian states that the occupants of the small boats which she picked up have been transferred to the Carpathia which is proceeding to New York.

The Titanic struck the iceberg at 1:25 Sunday night and floundered at 2:20 Monday morning.

At daybreak the Carpathia arrived on the scene and her passengers and crew brought the small boats with their precious human cargo into New York.

The boats which rushed to the Titanic's aid found only the scattered life boats and a dismal scene of wreckage.

"Sinking by the head and women are being rushed into the life boats," were the last words that spluttered into the wireless room of the Virginian from the Titanic. All through the night and until her wireless station was silenced over hundreds of miles of seas from the antennae of the giant liner flashed the mystic and magic "S. O. S." the

FACTS ABOUT THE TITANIC.

The largest vessel afloat. On her maiden voyage. Was due in New York Tuesday, April 16. Left Southampton April 10. Forty-six thousand three hundred twenty-eight tons register.

Displacement, 66,000 tons. Total length, 882 feet 6 inches. Breadth, 92 feet 6 inches. One hundred and seventy-five feet from the keel to the top of smoke-stack.

Eleven decks, with accommodations for 4,000 persons, including passengers and crew.

Two regal suites on the Titanic cost \$4,350 per trip, occupants having private promenade deck.

Titanic was nearly four times as large as the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, which, 10 years ago, was one of the largest, finest and fastest boats in service.

Officers of Titanic were: Captain, E. J. Smith; surgeon, W. F. N. O'Loughlin; assistant surgeon, J. E. Simpson; purser, H. W. McElroy; second purser, R. L. Broecker; chief steward, A. Lattimer.

world-wide cry of distress on the ocean.

Every wireless operator within range of the doomed vessel dropped other messages to locate and many relayed the fatal message to the world.

The collision occurred in latitude 41.46 North and longitude 50.14 West, 1150 miles east of New York and 450 miles south of Cape Race, the most westerly point of Newfoundland. Contrary to earlier dispatches there was no storm when the vessel struck. The weather was clear and calm.

Almost as soon as the Virginian picked up the distress signal it was recorded by the operator on the Olympic, the Titanic's sister ship, and next to her the largest vessel afloat. This was at midnight. At that hour the Olympic was 200 miles from New York enroute to Southampton.

The Baltic, famous for her rescue of passengers of the steamer Republic and for her Jack Binns, who sat aloft and braved death to summon help—was the next ship to pick up the brief story of the Titanic's plight.

She was on her way from New York to Liverpool but turned about and put on full speed toward the Titanic's position. The Parisian, according to her messages reached the flotilla of rescue ships shortly after the Baltic.

A wireless message from Captain Haddock confirmed the fears of the White Star Line officials that all but the 670 women and children who escaped in the small boat from the \$10,000,000 steamship had perished. A part of this message was withheld, but



MRS. JOHN JACOB ASTOR.

enough was divulged to make certain an appalling account of the catastrophe. Not until Captain Haddock flashed "Horrible disaster—all but 670 lost," would the White Star officials believe the largest ship ever launched had gone down on her maiden voyage. The scene in the White Star Line offices was pitiful. Brought to a realization of the stupendous wreck—the complete destruction of the fruit of their dreams—gray haired men—many of them veteran seamen, wept.

Alfred G. Vanderbilt Safe.

New York.—Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt received a cablegram from Alfred G. Vanderbilt, her son, saying that he had not sailed on the Titanic and was safe in London.

COL. ASTOR HEADS LIST WITH \$150,000,000.

Benjamin Guggenheim Followed, With \$95,000,000—Interests Many and Varied.

FORTUNES ABOARD THE TITANIC.
Col. John Jacob Astor...\$150,000,000
Isidor Straus 50,000,000
George D. Widener 50,000,000
J. Bruce Ismay 40,000,000
Benjamin Guggenheim 95,000,000
Col. Washington Roebling 25,000,000
J. B. Thayer 10,000,000

Total\$520,000,000

New York, N. Y.—Wealth aggregating something like half a billion dollars is represented by ten of the passengers on the Titanic. If calamity befell only a few of these ten, it would materially affect vast business enterprises in the United States and England.

Foremost among the passengers in point of wealth is Colonel John Jacob Astor, who was returning to New York with his bride, formerly Miss Madeline Force. Colonel Astor's holdings may amount to \$150,000,000 and he is connected with nearly a score of corporations, besides attending to his realty interests.

Next in financial importance, come Benjamin Guggenheim and George D. Widener. Mr. Guggenheim is in the American Smelting securities company, the great mining corporation, which was founded by his father, Meyer Guggenheim. He is connected with the following corporations: Blake and Knowles Steam Pump Works, president and director; the Henry R.

Worthington company, president and director; International Steam Pump company, president and director; the Laidlaw-Dunn-Gordon company, president and director; Power and Mining Machinery company, president and director.

George D. Widener is connected with the Widener-Elkins traction syndicate of Philadelphia. He is one of two sons of P. A. B. Widener. George D. Widener's fortune is estimated at \$50,000,000.

Colonel Washington Roebling, builder of the Brooklyn bridge, is president and director of the John A. Roeblings Sons company. His fortune amounts to about \$25,000,000.

Isidor Straus is one of the best known merchants in the world and is worth about \$50,000,000. Mr. Straus is connected with the following organizations: R. H. Macy & Company, L. Straus & Sons, Abraham & Straus, the Birbeck Investment Savings and Loan company, vice president and trustee; the Educational Alliance, president and director; Hanover National bank, director; Second National bank, director.

J. Bruce Ismay is president of the International Mercantile Marine company and is one of the founders of that big organization. It was Mr. Ismay and J. P. Morgan who consolidated American and British steamship lines. It also was Mr. Ismay who conceived the idea of building the Titanic. He is worth probably \$50,000,000.

John B. Thayer is vice president of the Pennsylvania railroad. His son J. B. Thayer, Jr., who was on the Titanic with his parents, formerly was a noted fullback on the University of Pennsylvania football team. Young Thayer was known as one of the best fullbacks that ever played on a college team.

If the fortunes of all the first class passengers were placed together they would make easily \$1,000,000,000, while the fortunes of the ten richest of them would aggregate \$500,000,000.

Position of Olympic and Carpathia.
New York.—The White Star officers figured from their data that the Olympic was 40 miles from the scene of the Titanic's sinking when she sent the news of it. At that hour the Carpathia was estimated to be 1,080 miles east of Sandy Hook.

OTHER GREAT SEA DISASTERS

NORTH STAR LINER NARONIC MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARS WITH 300 ABOARD.

672 LOST ON ATLANTIS.

Thousands of Lives Claimed by Salt Waters in Last Quarter Century—Republic Was Saved by Wireless.

New York, N. Y.—In the melancholy role of marine tragedies, that which overtook the Titanic stands alone in the fact that it is the first on record wherein a conspicuous vessel has met disaster on her maiden voyage.

There was another star-crossed craft—and, singularly enough, she belonged to this same line—which went to the port of missing ships on her second voyage, this being the Naronic, a fine new steamship which had attracted much attention on her arrival here from the British shipyards where she was built. Carrying about 300 all told, she steamed out of this port on her return voyage. That was nearly twenty years ago, and since then there has been no word as to how she met her fate.

To recall some of the most notable sea disasters, there was the wreck of the Atlantis, off Nova Scotia, in 1873, with the loss of 672; the foundering of the Pacific, two years later, and the drowning of 256 of her passengers and crew; the loss by collision of the Anchor Line Utopia, which was sunk by collision in 1891, with a loss of 574.

Taking only a few of the most important disasters of the past quarter of a century, one finds the Oregon foundering off Fire Island, after collision with a schooner. She was originally one of the Guion fleet, but at the time of the disaster was under charter to the line whose boast it was "that it carried no sinkings, but never lost a life." No lives were lost then.

It was in 1890 that the old human liner City of Paris went staggering to port with a large section of the Atlantic swathing against her bulkheads. There had been an accident to her machinery and a gaping hole had been torn in her sides. She managed to reach port, but it was one of the miracles of the day that she did.

Same Liner Goes on Rocks.
Just nine years later, the old liner whose name had been shortened to Paris, was in the clutch of the Manacle rocks. On a bitter January day of 1905, the Elbe, of the North German-Lloyd line, was in the English channel, when she was run into and sunk by the Grathle. Some of the Elbe's passengers were saved, but the majority, 330, went down with the sinking liner.

The next great disaster came in July, 1898, when the French line steamship Bourgogne was sunk in mid-ocean when she collided with the Cromartyshire, the lost numbering 535. It was only a few years previous that the Bourgogne had sunk the Atlas liner Ailes, by collision in this harbor. Following the sinking of the Bourgogne, came the foundering of the Norge in 1904, and the drowning of 750. The Larchmont, up the sound, added another to the toll of the sea.

In a March hurricane, the French liner Ville de St. Nazaire foundered when two days out from this port, drowning all except two persons, who days later were pulled from beneath the corpses of others who crowded into the only lifeboat which was ever picked up from the wreck.

Thirty lives were lost when the American liner St. Paul rammed and sunk the British cruiser Gladiator. Then there was the tragedy of the General Slocum and her 1,900 and odd lives.

The sinking of the Republic by the Florida in January, 1909, involved the loss of only six lives.

TITANIC COST \$8,000,000.

Estimated \$5,000,000 Worth of Diamonds Are on Board.

New York.—The Titanic was insured at Lloyds for \$5,000,000 according to advices from London and it was said here that the International Mercantile Marine company also carried a surplus fund for insurance purposes which could be applied on the loss. The cost of building the great liner has been estimated at \$10,000,000, although Vice President Franklin of the White Star line insisted that her value was not over \$8,000,000.

The total monetary loss caused by the sinking of the ship, however, is certain to run to many millions more, but the total amount cannot even be conjectured. It is generally understood that the vessel had aboard diamonds of great value

RETIRED

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Cared for Made Wo

Washin Barton, f Cross So Glen Ech death w



which she was stricken about a year ago. Her brother, Stephen Barton, of Boston, was with her when she died.

Miss Barton was born at Oxford, Mass., in 1821.

Clara Barton might properly be called "Florence Nightingale of America." Like her British prototype, her works of mercy were not confined to her native land, but were carried even into the Eastern hemisphere. She will be written down in history as the founder of the Red Cross in America, but her powerful personality also made an indelible impression upon the international organization itself through her active participation in the periodical conferences at Geneva, Karlsruhe, Rome, Vienna and St. Petersburg.

Miss Barton was 40 years of age when she first turned her attention to the great works of humanity which have made her name famous.

Her experience as a school teacher and the organizer of public school systems in New Jersey taught her methodical habits and gave her the experience in executive work which made her a commanding figure in the direction of Red Cross affairs.

That organization was established in America in 1881 and Miss Barton was its president from that date until 1904. Before that time she had made a name for herself by services on battlefields, beginning in the civil war and extending through the Franco-Prussian war. Congress recognized her good offices in the first case by an appropriation of \$15,000 to be disbursed by her in searching for missing men after the various great battles of the war.

Work Becomes Extended.

Miss Barton's work became more extended with the organization of the American Red Cross and covered the new field of catastrophes in time of peace. She distributed relief to the sufferers from the Johnstown flood and went to Russia in 1892 to carry food to the famine sufferers there. In the following year she was ministering to the destitute survivors of the tidal wave which struck South Carolina and Florida. In 1896 she was aiding the Armenian families decimated by the Turks, and when yellow fever appeared among the American troops in Cuba following the battles around Santiago, it was Clara Barton who at the request of President McKinley, organized field hospitals and personally spent her time on the battle lines. Her last work of national importance was in connection with the great Galveston flood relief in 1900.

She resided for the last seven years at her home at Glen Echo, Md., on the banks of the upper Potomac. During her life time she received many decorations from foreign countries in recognition of her services to humanity and her varied experiences have been recorded in various forms in her liberal contributions to literature, mostly relating to the activities of the Red Cross.

SOUTH DAKOTA BISHOP.

Rev. George Bellers, Jr., Selected by the Episcopal House of Bishops.

New York, N. Y.—At the concluding session of the Episcopal house of bishops, held in the synod of Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the Rev. George Bellers, Jr., formerly of New Jersey, was elected bishop of South Dakota, and the Rev. Herman Page of Chicago was elected bishop of New Mexico. The house of bishops has been in session for two days, and was presided over by Bishop Tuttle.



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Opinion

Our view

It takes a village

The old African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child” is a true statement if you want to raise healthy, well-rounded children.

Now that doesn’t mean a free baby-sitting service, but instead, constructive guidance, encouragement and the sharing of knowledge and resources to children in your community.

That process cannot take place until the foundation of the concept is established, and it begins with boundaries and discipline. Discipline first begins in the home, and it has to be incepted early. So many times you hear horror stories of parents that wash their hands of their children as adolescents with the excuse that, “my kids just won’t listen to me.”

At that point, sending them to others to raise and discipline your children because you are “tired of trying” is a breakdown in the parental job description as well as the community responsibility and the “my bad” should fall squarely on the shoulders of parents who had cute children and didn’t have the heart to discipline when the cuteness turned to mischief.

Here in our community you find a great support system and vote of confidence for that old African proverb. Not only do we have volunteers that come into our schools to help share their trades, but we have teachers and coaches going well beyond their job descriptions to speak, share and invest their knowledge.

We see the parental networking that is on Facebook and Twitter as photos and articles and encouraging comments are shared like a strong and healthy grape vine. It is yielding some great vintages and the community takes pride as we pour our children into the world, knowing it is another good year for students. The community cheers when one accomplishes something, whether that accomplishment is band, speech, agriculture, athletics, technology or even something like winning a coloring contest. It also mourns with those who experience a loss or a setback. It is nice to be a part of a community that is tightly knit and where each individual thread is bright and vibrant.

Recently, Blooming Prairie came together for its annual Education Foundation auction and in one night, the community raised over \$75K for the kids of the community. We say, one night, but again, it was a full blown community effort that was months in the making and involved a total community effort.

From the items that were specially crafted for the evening, such as Nathan Piller’s original oil painting to items of great value that included exotic vacations, it was a culmination of a village coming together donating their time, their talents and their hard work to raise the children.

It’s a town where the local attorney can be seen broadcasting sporting events for radio, the Boys and Girls Club is not a just a sign, but a forceful advocate for children, the local baker stuffs backpacks for families in need and the unsung volunteers are as a faithful army.

Blooming Prairie, you are teaching your children well, and with that teaching comes child rearing from the heart. Kudos.

Letter to the editor

Tax time at the Capitol

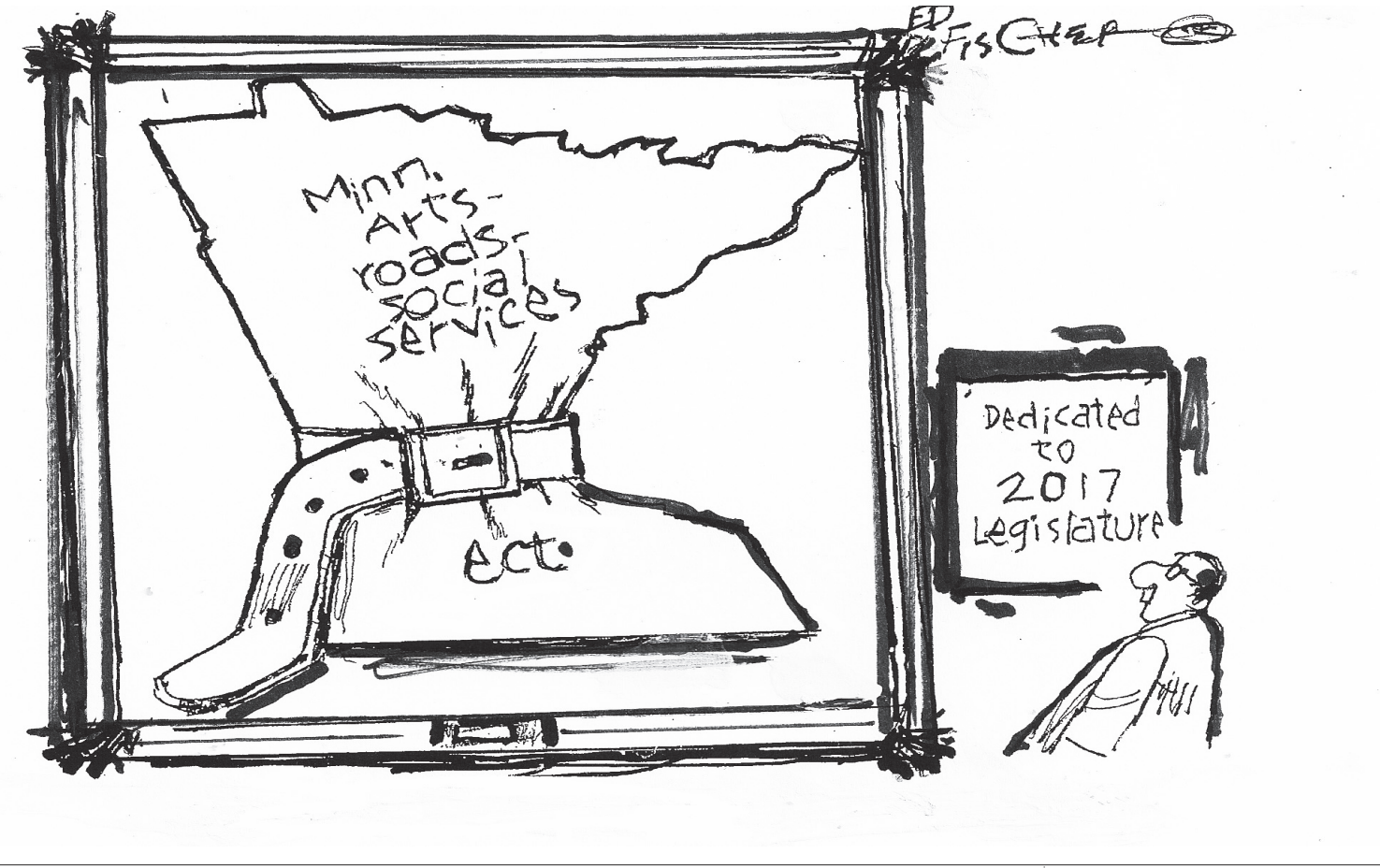
To the Editor,

It’s tax time at the Capitol. No, I’m not referring to the state and federal tax forms we were required to submit mid-April I’m talking about the legislature’s annual tax conference committee, and why it’s important for residents of rural Minnesota to call or email their local legislators on a topic that will have a direct impact on our quality of life.

The tax bill contains many provisions, including tax reductions for senior citizens, farmers, small business owners and college students. But in its current form, the bill doesn’t contain a much-needed formula change for county program aid. These are the critical dollars our counties need to provide public safety, human services, transportation, and other vital programs on the state’s behalf.

Call or email your legislators. (Find your legislators at this link: <http://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/>) Tell them county program aid is critical to preserve our rural way of life, and ask them to support the formula change that will keep our rural counties strong.

Jay Backer
Chair, Big Stone County Board of Commissioners
Graceville, Minn.



HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

For 145 years, the Worthington Daily Globe has been a daily newspaper. But those days will soon come to an end.

Forum Communications, the Fargo-based company that owns the Daily Globe, announced last week that the southwestern Minnesota newspaper will be scaled back to two days a week on Wednesday and Saturday.

In making the announcement, the Daily Globe acknowledged that it has heard complaints about the shrinking size of its daily edition. The paper said “rather than publish six thinner editions Monday through Saturday, our plan is to give our readers two healthy print editions filled with interesting stories and photos.”

I always find it sad and troubling to see things like this happen in our industry. As I have mentioned many times in the past in this space, the daily newspapers around the country have and continue to take it on the chin. It’s never pretty to see any newspaper, no matter what size it is, struggle to remain competitive in a changing world.

Print advertising revenue has declined across the nation. Sales from print advertising have reduced about 5 percent a year. In rural Minnesota, evolving marketplace trends and a challenging farm economy have also had an impact.

Something similar happened a few years back in Steele County, though not as drastic as what will take place with the Daily Globe. The daily newspaper in Owatonna cut its Sunday edition and dropped down to five publishing days.

It seems many “daily” newspapers are not really dailies any longer.

I have been a faithful reader of the Star Tribune for many years. It has even become evident to me with the state’s largest daily that it could possibly trim back one or two editions every week. The Monday paper, for example, is often mighty slim.

The headlines “days numbered for local daily papers” have circulated for several years and have gained momentum in recent months. There are papers across the country that are cutting back their production cycle similar to what will be happening in Worthington. Publishers and editors at the dailies are coming to terms with the idea that they will not be able to sustain a daily newspaper.

Such a trend makes me relieved to be operating a weekly newspaper. There is a niche for a strong source for local news. And it’s quite often the weekly newspapers that are able to fulfill that need.

Unlike many daily operations around the country and even in Minnesota, weekly newspapers have

Guest column

Entrepreneurship Starts With Encouragement

By TIM PENNY

For the second year, Minnesota ranks first of the 25 largest states in the Kauffman Index for Main Street Entrepreneurship. We have the highest rate of business owners (7.75 percent),

What a relief to be a weekly paper

place trends and a challenging farm economy have also had an impact.

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Unlike many daily operations around the country and even in Minnesota, weekly newspapers have

been thriving and will continue to thrive for years to come. Weekly papers are often looked down at by our competitors at the dailies and even young journalists coming out of college. But I have found weekly community newspapers are where it is happening these days.

People have been proclaiming that “print is dying” for many years. A better statement would be that print is changing. I believe we have shown our readers that print is far from hitting the coffin.

It’s important to use this time as a reminder that a local newspaper can only be as good as the businesses and organizations who support it through advertising and readers who subscribe.

This daily gets smaller situation also makes me realize that perhaps becoming bigger isn’t always such a great thing. Agriculture is also fighting that right now with large feedlots taking over family farms at the expense of pollution and water quality.

I feel we have found a sustainable model for local journalism at the Steele County Times. Perhaps the headline for our industry should read: “Days are NOT numbered for local weekly papers.”

We’re in hot pursuit of delivering news like we have for nearly 125 years. Our commitment has never changed. Oh what a relief it’s to be a weekly paper!

established small business density (687.2 small businesses per 1,000 firms) and business survival rate (50.75 percent that made it to at least five years in business).

However, while we’re going great as a state for established businesses, Minnesota is not doing so well when it comes to new entrepreneurs. The Kauffman Index also measures Startup Activity and Growth Entrepreneurship. Of the 25 largest

PENNY
Continued on page 5A

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A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

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

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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.

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STEELE COUNTY TIMES



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Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Prom season kicks off



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Riauna Bishop and Cameron Kubista try out a swing on the Blooming Prairie High School Grand March trail. Forty-five couples participated on Saturday, April 29. Medford and NRHEG's proms will take place this weekend with Owatonna's to follow the next.

Forming of petition approved

Kurt Deter and Steve Penkava have been authorized to prepare a petition for a potential new Hope Public Drainage system per MN statues 103E at the most recent county board meeting.

Commissioners Brady, Glynn, and Gnemi were present at a Hope tile meeting just a few days prior to the decision.

"This is a step in the process," Anita Benson, the county's highway engineer, explained to the board, "There's no guarantee that the petition will receive enough signatures."

Commissioner Glynn agreed, but responded, "It's the first step in a direction we're going to have to go."

Before authorizing Deter and Penkava to form the petition, the board added the cost of doing so could not exceed \$1,000.

When the board meeting was opened to public comment, Dale Wilferd from Hope addressed the commissioners.

"What happens after we pay the 1,000 dollars?," Wilferd asked, "Who's responsible for the next procedure we have to go through?"

Commissioner Glynn explained the county will cover the cost of the petition. The next step would be bonding to pay an engineer to work on the project, but the petition has to come first.

Once the county engineer and attorney have prepared the petition and identified who is able to sign, it will be publicly shared.

Hog producer fights factory farms



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Hog producer Chris Petersen speaks out against factory farms at a workshop about water quality Saturday at the Izaak Walton League in Austin. Petersen farms near Clear Lake, Iowa and doesn't want to see Minnesota become another Iowa when it comes to hog production.

"It's industrial ag on steroids. It's not even farming or agriculture anymore."

- Chris Petersen
Iowa Hog Farmer

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

A hog farmer from northern Iowa is on a personal crusade to fight factory farms and keep what's happening in his home state from taking place in Minnesota.

Chris Petersen of Clear Lake said Iowa is on course to grow to 30 million hogs within the next three years. Iowa is the top hog producing state in the country. Most of the hogs are being raised on large feedlots.

He delivered his message Saturday at a workshop

focused on water quality sponsored by the Izaak Walton League in Austin.

Petersen said just within the past 10 days he has received notice that two feedlots of 5,000 head each are being proposed in Hancock County, Iowa. "It's industrial ag on steroids," he said. "It's just growing gangbusters. It's not even farming or agriculture anymore."

If anyone needs evidence of the devastation caused by hog feedlots, Petersen points to water quality. Iowa ranks 49th in water quality in the nation, according to Petersen. "Iowa is the worst. I do not want to see Minnesota become another Iowa," he said.

Petersen, 62, is not opposed to livestock. In fact, he has relied on raising hogs for his livelihood for decades. He currently has about 600 hogs

on his farm.

But what Petersen is against is how family farms are being squeezed out of the picture by factory farms. He pointed out that 94 percent of traditional hog farmers are gone and replaced with factory farms. "There has been a hell of a transformation going on," he said. "Everything is being destroyed by outsiders with big money. Rural Iowa is emptying out and being filled up with feedlots," he added.

Within a two year span in the late 1990s, nearly 40,000 hog producers went out of business, Petersen said. "The big players came in and destroyed the market and competitiveness," he said, noting that Chinese now own

IOWA

Continued on page 5A

Local educator finalist for top honor



Scott Noet

The field has been narrowed for finalists for Minnesota Teacher of the Year and it includes a teacher from Steele

EDUCATOR

Continued on page 5A

Purscell and SCHS part ways

Kim Purscell, Executive Director of the Steele County Historical Society, has left her position held for the past nearly two years.

"Kim has brought her

organizational skills in office administration, focusing on best practices, for which we are very grateful," said Jerry Ganfield, president of the Society.

With her departure, the 15-member board of directors will be assessing the Society's leadership needs, and in the interim, redefining position descriptions.



Staff photo by Mark Delap

Kim Purscell, Steele County Historical Society Executive Director left last Friday. Pictured here with a recent exhibit, Purscell was a visionary who had formulated some great plans for Owatonna before her departure. The Times ran a special article on Purscell and the SCHS in the April 25 edition.



Submitted photo

FFA goes to state convention

Blooming Prairie FFA member attended the state convention. Front row: Ethan Ehlers, Alison Krohnberg, Rachel Thompson, Greta Sunde, Sasha Katzung, Haley Ryks. Back Row: Zach Sisler, Boone Carlson, Cole Christianson, Colton Ivers, Tim Wolf, Ethan Grant, Ethan Arett, Kaiden Finley. Full story on 5A.

Second Front

Flower baskets to mark summer season



Spring brings flowers, in beds, planters and beautiful hanging baskets on downtown Owatonna light poles. Flower Baskets are hung the week before Memorial Day and beautify the area through Labor Day with the help from volunteers. The Flower Basket program is run by volunteers and exists because of the good will and donations from individuals and businesses. In fact all income to operate this program comes from donors, as gifts, a tax deductible donations and memorials. Owatonna and its visitors have had the opportunity to

enjoy these beautiful baskets for 14 years. They give a sense of place and welcome that make Owatonna a great place to live and work. There will be 100 baskets in the downtown area this year. It takes approximately \$100.00 per basket each year to purchase the locally grown flower baskets and to provide for the cost of daily watering and maintenance for four months. The program is in need of funds to sustain the watering through the summer and homecoming. Would you please consider making a tax deductible donation today? No amount

is too big or small. If making a memorial, gift or donation by check please makes it payable to the: Owatonna Chamber Foundation- Flower Basket Program. Contributions may be sent to: Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism, 320 Hoffman Drive, Owatonna, MN 55060. Calling early risers, the committee is looking for help for week-end and holiday basket watering. If you are interested you may contact Shirley at the Chamber Office. 451-7970. Thank You for contributing to a beautiful Owatonna!

New bloom in Medford



LOIS M. NELSON

Isn't it wonderful to see all the new growth and flowers coming to life this spring season? Even with the threat of a little snow, people have been enjoying the delights of the new season.

Out to the UltraOutlets of Medford, Mission Pottery is unpacking their items at their new location – the southwest side next to Pendleton and Urban Finds Bistro. Wonderful tempting items for the patio and the garden will be a part of the store's inventory.

Mother's Day weekend, Friday the 12th 4:00pm - 7:00pm and Saturday, May 13, 11:00am – 4:00pm, kids are welcome to come out and paint a clay pot and add an annual flower for a special Mother's Day gift.

The UltraOutlets Center is going through a major facelift now into its twenty-sixth year. The parking lot was all redesigned last year. Now, the landscaping will be finished up with directional signage to all the stores visible throughout. The exterior painting will be finished as soon as Mother Nature cooperates. You will also see remodeling of all the public spaces at the Center very soon. The owners are investing major dollars in technology so that you will have wifi access while visiting at the mall and each store can use up-to-date software and equipment. Through the summer season, we will be seeing many other changes and additions so please come on over and check them out.

June 1, will also be the start of the Medford Farmer's Market at the Christ the King Parking lot on the north end of town. Jennifer Kath, a dietitian at Faribault Allina Hospital and Ben and Sarah Halblieb Hanson, owners of Boundless Roots Farm in Clinton Falls have teamed up to bring fresh produce to our area the whole season long! Good news, too, is that they are approved for SNAP and EBT cards assuring everyone easy access to the produce. . They are looking for a few more fruit, vegetable and craft vendors. Just contact them at medfordMNFarmersmarket@gmail.com for details. The Market will be open on Thursdays 3:00pm-7:00pm from June 1 through October. Another good reason to visit us!

Straight River Days kickoff will be the Miss Medford pageant on Thursday, June 15, 7:00pm at the Holiday Inn. Friday night is the Parade through downtown Medford that starts at 7:00pm. There is a full day of activities Saturday at Straight River Park following the 5K run sponsored by our Fire Department. Residents have been cleaning out garages and basements for the rummage sales that are also a part of the weekend. Check out the website: http://straightriverdays.com/ for details and to register for the many events. Thank you to the sponsors and all the Civic Club members who make this special community event happen!

The spring season is off to a good start so summer can't be far behind. All the school kids will be out biking, playing and walking too these nice days. Please keep and eye out and have a safe, enjoyable season. Mayor Lois

Lois M. Nelson is serving her fifth year as Medford Mayor.

Sons of the American Legion Spring Fling Saturday, May 13

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

The Blooming Prairie Stix of Fury drum corps and color guard will perform during the Sons of the American Legion 4th Annual Spring Fling event on Saturday, May 13 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club, 210 4th St. NE.

The Sons are one of the many organizations that have donated to the Stix during an appeal to help pay for transportation costs.

Jake Peterson, director of the Stix group, is also a member of the Sons of the American Legion.

The May 13 event begins at 5 p.m. and continues until 7 p.m.

Come and enjoy a tasty dinner featuring roast pork sandwiches, cole slaw, pork and beans, chips, dessert, milk and coffee. Sons member Dean Zilm, working with manager Jenny Flaherty, is in charge of preparing the roast pork with a family secret barbecue sauce, juices and herbs.

A free will offering will be accepted.

Door prizes will be given and a silent auction is planned.

As a courtesy of the Sons of

the American Legion, the first 30 households will receive a free chance on a quilt drawing to benefit the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memoria

The "Sons" are committed to giving back to the community and a portion of the funds raised at the Spring Fling will go into a special fund to help remodel the kitchen at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club, said Tom Peterson, Sons adjutant.

"The Sons feel it is essential to the Club, Peterson said, to have a top notch kitchen facility to put them in a position to best serve this community for special events like weddings, family reunions, birthday parties, fund raisers, company meetings, group dinners, etc.

Looking ahead to May, the second annual Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Quilt Raffle drawing will be on Memorial Day, May 29, 2017.

The patriotic quilt was pieced by Marilyn Meshke and quilted by Calico Hutch in Hayward, MN. The quilt is named "Stars of Freedom" and measures 101 x 110 inches.

Raffle tickets will cost \$5 each. There will be three prizes and ticket buyers do not need to be present to win.

First prize is the patriotic quilt, the second prize is \$100, and third prize is \$50. All proceeds from the quilt and monetary prizes will be donated to the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial.

The quilt raffle drawing will follow the Memorial Day activities at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen Club.

Quilt raffle tickets will be sold at the Servicemen Club Foxhole, the Touch of Charm, and by the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee, Corporation members, Servicemen's Club members, the VFW, American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, and Auxiliaries.

Contact the following individuals for tickets, or with questions: Marilyn Meshke, Sandy Jones, Doug Miner, Fred Vokoun, Tom Walters, Kenny Vermilyea, Keith Holman, Kurt Blome, Jaclyn Schlichter, or Tom Peterson.

As an update for the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial, total contributions, to date, are at \$92,791.12, which is 37.1 percent of Veterans Memorial Committee's goal.

Peterson said 144 Wall Pavers have been reserved. "We hope to begin site preparation this summer," Peterson announced.

If anyone has questions about reserving a wall paver for their veteran, or about making a contribution to the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial, please give Peterson a call at 507-456-2017.



BP Ambulance service received LUCAS 3 mechanical CPR device

The Minnesota Department of Health/Office of Rural Health & Primary Care, on behalf of the Leona M. and Harry B Helmsley Charitable Trust, recently provided the Blooming Prairie Ambulance service a LUCAS 3 mechanical CPR device.

Staff members from the ambulance service were given in-depth training this month on using the device to provide critical life-saving treatment during a cardiac arrest.

The Blooming Prairie Ambulance service is very thankful to receive this device on behalf of the grant.

Known as an automated chest compression device, the Physio-Control LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System is a mechanical CPR device that allows medical personnel to perform hands-free consistent and uninterrupted CPR while attending to their patient's other needs.

Additional benefits include the ability to use the device in conjunction with an AED device; allowing for rhythm reestablishment during a cardiac arrest, eliminating rescuer fatigue associated with manual CPR, and decreasing risk of injury to medical personnel during transport.

Although widely used in Minnesota's Metro region, less than 80% of ambulance services and hospitals in Greater Minnesota have access to a LUCAS device.

These rural communities have been identified by the Helmsley Foundation as areas of greatest need when it comes to access to quality, effective health care. By providing a device to all rural ambulance services and hospitals, the Grant will be instrumental in improving this balance.

Minnesota's Commissioner of Health, Dr. Ed Ehlinger sees the Helmsley Grant as "part of our efforts to ensure quality health care for all Minnesotans". "Our goal is to improve cardiac arrest survival rates by installing these devices in every ambulance and hospital in the state."

The EMTs with the Blooming Prairie Ambulance service look forward to serving you in any time of need.

With many new advances in technology we are fortunate to utilize some of the newest and greatest technology in the medical industry today.

Please join us at our open house on May 16th from 4:00-7:00 pm to see the LUCAS device in action along with ambulance tours, food, refreshments, and prizes. We look forward to enjoying a night with the community we serve!

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 18

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BP FFA honored at convention

Last week, April 23-25. The Blooming Prairie FFA chapter sent 14 of its members to the 88th annual Minnesota State FFA Convention. It was held at many of the facilities within the campus at The University of Minnesota St. Paul.

The first night of the convention included the Talent Show and Reflections program. Throughout the session we were awarded to many talented students singing and dancing. The program also included a retiring address from one of the state vice president. Monday, the competitions started. Blooming Prairie was fortunate enough to send two teams to the state competitions. General Livestock judging (Ethan Arett, Colton Ivers, Cole Christianson, and Boone Carlson) 21st team placing and received a gold rating as a team. Colton Ivers placed 5th place individually overall and receiving a gold rating and

Ethan receiving a gold rating as well. The second team, Dairy handling (Greta Sunde and Rachel Thompson) did really well for it being their first trip to state.

The rest of the group attended a session and other events held within the campus. At the first session, the Blooming Prairie chapter received an award recognizing the chapter growth in the past year

Monday night the State FFA convention held its award ceremony. There were two senior members of Blooming Prairie that received their State Degrees (Sasha Katzung and Zach Sisler). The State Degree is the highest honor that a state can give to a member. There have been five State Degree recipients at Blooming Prairie in the ten years.

The next day, Tuesday. Blooming Prairie attended a session where the chapter received an award honoring

our support to Camp Courage through corn drives. This year we raised over \$3700. Thank you to all the farmers who donated this past fall and the all of the years prior.

Tuesday afternoon, the closing ceremonies were held. There we found out the results of the competitions and CDE evens. The ceremony was concluded with the keynote speaker. Gian-Paul Gonzalez, made famous by giving a speech that ultimately led the New York Giants to a Super Bowl victory. At the convention, he gave a speech that was truly motivational. At the end he left us with the motto “All In”.

The Annual BP FFA Awards Banquet will be held at the BPHS Commons on Saturday May 13 at 5:30 in the Blooming Prairie HS commons. We hope to see you there.

**Submitted by Zach Sisler
BP FFA Reporter.**

All but two finalists from Twin Cities

EDUCATOR: from page 1A

County.

Scott Noet of Owatonna Junior High School is one of 11 finalists for the top honor. He originally started as one of 132 candidates for the title in January. Noet is a social

studies teacher.

The selection panel will meet Saturday to conduct individual interviews with each of the finalists and to cast votes for the 2017 Teacher of the Year. The top honoree will be announced Sunday in Bloomington.

Of the 11 finalists, all but two are from Twin Cities metro schools. Noet and Sarah McDonald of Northfield are the only two non-metro teachers in the running for the

title.

The panel consists of 23 leaders in the areas of education, business, government and nonprofits. The honor is sponsored by Education Minnesota, the 86,000 member statewide educators union.

Noet was Owatonna Teacher of the Year in May 2016. He has been teaching in Owatonna since 1997. He teachers several U.S. history courses each day.

Correction:
An article in last week's business section said Paula Trend owned Curly Girlz Candy. The name should have appeared as Paula Trenda.

Petersen fights for sustainable rural farming

IOWA: from page 1A

approximately 50 percent of the hogs in Iowa.

Petersen said his concern is the survivorship of the traditional independent family farm. “Agriculture is my roots. That’s why I’m fighting. I’m rural and I’m damn proud of it,” he said.

In addition to raising

hogs, Petersen is a member of Socially Responsible Agricultural Project. He travels around the country fighting against factory farming. He hopes to spread the word and make people be a part of the solution.

Silence, Petersen said, is often considered acceptance.

And he’s fighting to break the silence when it comes to feedlots. “If you don’t like it, speak up and try and change things,” he said.

He believes there is hope about changing factory farms. Petersen said he hopes agriculture will change back to more sustainability in the

coming years. “People can change things,” he said, “We have the power to organize, educate and vote. We are still in control.”

Petersen would like to see a moratorium placed on feedlots. “We’re going on quite the hell raising campaign,” he said. “Rural is sick of what’s going on in rural.”

Factory farms threaten human health, pollute the environment and degrade the communities in which they are built, Petersen said. He

noted the vertical integration of agriculture and the factory farming model have destroyed once thriving rural communities by systematically dismantling processing and marketing opportunities that were once available to independent family farmers.

“I’m totally embarrassed by the State of Iowa,” he said, referring to all the feedlots popping up across the state. “It’s like a stranglehold where the factories have taken over.”

Gearing up for the fair

FAIR TALK



Todd Hale

It’s only May, but the fair office at the Steele County Free Fair is a busy place each day as early preparations are being made for the 2017 fair. Sponsors for various fair events are being secured, returning vendors confirmed and entertainment bookings for the free stages, grandstand and beer garden have been finalized.

Nomination forms are now available for the 2017 Steele County Citizen Volunteer of the year. The award is sponsored annually by the Steele County Exchange Club in cooperation with the fair. A Steele County male and female senior citizen volunteer aged 65 and over will be selected and honored on Senior Day. Nomination forms are available at SeniorPlace in Owatonna, the SCFF office, from Bruce Kubicek at 451-6616 or on the fair website at www.scff.org.

David (The Bullet) Smith Jr., the Human Cannonball, will be back again this year, sponsored by Owatonna Motor Company, Baymont Inn and Suites and Gold Star Amusements. This has been one of the top attractions for years at the fair. David will appear on the Gold Star Midway daily at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. and then Sunday at 2:30 and 6:30.

Hairball will be coming back to the grandstand at this year’s fair. They will be returning Thursday night in the grandstand, sponsored by HyVee, Noble RV, Godfather’s Pizza and Car Time of Owatonna.

Mega Ride tickets will go on sale Saturday, July 15. The tickets, selling for \$55.00 will be available only at HyVee service desk. The ticket entitles the holder to unlimited rides on the Gold Star Midway all fair week and are available until Tuesday, Aug. 15 at 5 p.m.

Dates of the 2017 SCFF are Aug. 15-20. Check the fair website at www.scff.org.

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Area Church Spotlight

Trinity Lutheran Church, Blooming Prairie, MN

Pastor’s corner: Spring into joy

As a kid, I took delight in making May Day baskets out of recycled strawberry containers or cut up egg cartons. In these precious gifts I placed candy, stickers and beautiful flowers otherwise known as dandelions. It was a thrill to place these May Day baskets on the porch of unsuspecting neighbors. I rang the doorbell and ran away with so much joy and a belly full of giggles. I always hoped that these baskets full of treasures would brighten someone’s day and add a bit of mystery to one’s life.

Throughout this season of Easter, Christians continue to encounter the risen Christ. He sits on the beach cooking fish, meets the travelers on the road

to Emmaus, surprised Mary as she left the tomb and came to the scared disciples locked away in the upper room. Jesus keeps showing up on people’s doorsteps with the good news, he is risen. Where there was once death and despair there is now life and hope.

Within the Christian tradition many believe we are people of the resurrection. While death once had power over us, in Christ, death no longer has the final word. The resurrected Jesus not only promises life after death but breathes hopes into all areas of our lives that need healing. He shows up on our doorstep unexpectedly with a gift of grace, love and forgiveness. Like May

Day baskets these treasured gifts wait to be opened, we don’t always know where they will come from but they are meant to bring joy into one’s life and perhaps a bit of wonder.

The Psalmist sang “The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy” (Psalm 65:8). It is easy for us to allow cynicism and rationalism to dominate our lives and our thoughts. It can be how the world operates and we are one cog within the machine. Yet within faith there is room for us to indulge the child-like wonder we once possessed as we engaged the world.

This spring, may your eyes



be opened to the wonders of God. May you be blessed by awe inspiring, God infused surprises whether left in a basket or among those you encounter. May you sing songs of joy for our God who brings life where there was once death.

Pastor Stephanie Wood
Trinity Lutheran Church
Blooming Prairie

Area Church Schedule

Lutheran

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 38th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
5881 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
Jeff Sandgren, Interim Pastor
Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor
(507) 583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN—LCMS
2500 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna
The Rev. Mark Rosenau,
the Rev. Gregory Schlicker
(507) 451-4125
www.goodshephardowatonna.com
Services: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. &
10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

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

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

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

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH—LCMS
1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Kirk Griebel
(507) 451-2720
www.redeemerowatonna.org
Service: 9 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH —LCMS
4532 S.E. 84th Ave., Claremont
The Rev. Alan Broadwell
(507) 528-2404
sjlcoffice@frontiernet.net
Weekly Church Services:
Saturday Evening at 6 p.m. with Holy
Communion, Sunday Morning at
10:30 a.m. with Holy Communion
offered during the 2nd and 4th Sunday
of each month. Sunday School 9:00
a.m. - 10:15 a.m. (Sept. - June)

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

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
104 First St. S.E., Hayfield
The Rev. Paul Hauschild
(507) 477-2248
www.trinityhayfield.org
Services: 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Catholic

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

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

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

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor
Fr. Jose Morales,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588
www.litomyslwebs.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. Faith
formation for Kindergarten thru
Confirmation: every Wednesday
evening 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays during Lent: 6:15 p.m.
Eucharistic Adoration; 6:45 p.m.
Stations of the cross.

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer
The Rev. Jose Morales,

Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday,
8:30 a.m., & 10 a.m.
Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sunday
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday
Adoration: Thursdays 9 a.m.- 10 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S Elm, Owatonna • (507-451-4845
Fr. Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sat. Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Reconciliation 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday
Daily Mass 8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri
(Communion Service 8 a.m. Thursday)
Adoration Chapel avail Mon-Fri
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. key fob
required after hrs or wknds

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING
205 NW Second Ave., Medford
(507) 451-6353
Fr. Kevin Connolly, Pastor
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
Monday Mass: 9 a.m.

Christian

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

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

Full Gospel

Streetfire Ministries
Blooming Prairie, MN
http://streetfireministries.net/
Pastors Mark & Robin DeLap
616-788-1044
www.streetfireministries.net

Pentecostal

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

Methodist

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Medford
(7 miles west of Medford on CR 23)
Pastor Cindy Kennedy
(507) 835-8726
Service: 10:45 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 Sixth St. N.W., Ellendale
Pastor Randy 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

Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday
Contemporary Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Church School/Adult Classes: 10 a.m.

Non-Denominational

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
130 East Bridge St. Owatonna,
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Sundays 10:00 AM
Coffee Fellowship starts at 9:30 a.m.
Reformers Unanimous Meetings
Fridays at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Mennonite

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

Mormon

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

Presbyterian

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

Seventh-Day Adventist

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

UCC

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

Assembly of God

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

Baptist

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

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CommunityLiving

Obituaries

Arnold F. Wiese, 91 of Blooming Prairie

Arnold Frederick Wiese, age 91 of Blooming Prairie, died Saturday, April 22, 2017, at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie.

Arnold “Arne” was born May 23, 1925, to Frederick and Mildred (Myster) Wiese in Vernon Township, Dodge County near Oslo. On June 4, 1946, Arne was united in marriage to Esther Simonson at the Evanger Lutheran Church near Sargeant, Minnesota.

The couple made their home on a farm for a couple of years before moving to Hayfield, Minnesota. After leaving Hayfield they resided in Blooming Prairie, and later Austin, before returning to Blooming Prairie in 1958.

Arne did many things in his working life. He farmed for a time as a young man, worked for the telephone company in Blooming Prairie, the Blooming Prairie Creamery, and later for Harpo Chevrolet in Blooming Prairie as a mechanic.

For many years, Arne and Esther provided cleaning services for several businesses including Farmers and Merchants State Bank, U.S. Post office, City of Blooming Prairie Library and Police Department. In retirement Arne enjoyed his part-time work at the Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie.

He was a longtime member of First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. Arne and Esther were also longtime members of the Sons of Norway, and were fortunate to have made two trips together to Norway. He loved the outdoors, especially fishing and hunting, and passed that passion on to his children and grandchildren.

Arne was an excellent marksman and earned many awards in shooting competitions. Arne also enjoyed old-time dancing, country music, family camping trips, and time spent with his family. He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Arne is survived by his three

daughters Marilyn Gordon of Blooming Prairie, Sharon (Samuel) Peterson of rural Ellendale, and Karen Wiese of Blooming Prairie; four grandchildren Scott (JoEllen) Gordon, Stephanie Peterson, Matt (Kate) Gordon, Shannon (Troy) Pederson.

He is also survived by great-grandchildren Hannah Gordon, Andre Hill, Collin Pederson, Ella Gordon, Avery Hill, Casey Pederson, Waylen Gordon, Clint Gordon, Brock Rutzen, Noah Rutzen; sisters-in-law Gloria Jacobson and Alice Williams, both of Austin, Ruby Klingfus of Cass Lake; brothers-in-law Jacob “Jake” Simonson of Owatonna, Milward (Donna) Simonson of Hayfield; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife Esther Jan. 17, 2015; sons-in-law Sever Olson and Gene Gordon; sisters Katherine “Kay” Funk, Helen Campbell; brothers-in-law Bob Funk, Maynard Campbell, Stanley Jacobson, Donald Williams, La-



Vern Klingfus; sister-in-law LaVonne Simonson.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 28, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with pastor Jeff Sandgren officiating. Interment followed in the Blooming Prairie Cemetery. Visitation was from 5:00 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 27, at Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home, and continued Friday morning at church. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Albert G. Flor, 96 of New Richland

Albert G. Flor, 96 of New Richland, died April 23. Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, April 29, at 11:30 a.m. at All Saints Church, New Richland, with Fr. Michael J. Cronin officiating.

Visitation was held from 9:00-11 a.m. before the service. Albert was born June 25, 1920, in New Ulm, the son of Albert Daniel Flor and Marie (Inhofer) Flor.

Albert attended Trinity Catholic School in New Ulm and graduated in 1938. He went on to attend the College at St. John’s in Collegeville, Minnesota, and furthered his education in an accelerated program at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry where he graduated with a Doctor of Dental Science degree in 1943.

Albert was asked to serve his country and was commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the Army Dental Corps from 1942-1945.

On Sept. 2, 1943, Albert married his sweetheart, Lois Margaret (Ganske) Flor while completing Dental school and served on many Army bases in the southern United States.

Dr. Albert and his wife Lois moved to New Richland, after WWII where he began his private dental clinic and raised his family. Albert loved his family and his career as a dentist and provided dental care for many people in Southern Minnesota for more than 50 years.

Albert had pride for his community and served in many organizations during his lifetime. He was a member of the Lions Club, New Richland Commercial Club, New Richland Development Corporation, Chairman of the New Richland/Hartland Public School Board for 20 years, Commander and member of Andrew Borgen American Legion Post, New Richland Snowbirds Snowmobile Association, and Southern District Dental Association.

He was also a member of South Central Dental Study Club, Minnesota Dental Association, American Dental Association, Member of All Saints Catholic Church, fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, All Saints

Church finance council, taught youth religious studies, volunteered for the Catholic Youth Organization, Boy Scout Troop 90 committee member. He was nominated WCCO radio good neighbor.

Albert was preceded in death by Lois, the love of his life of almost 60 years; his parents; and his first-born son, Baby George; and granddaughter, Angela Anderson.

He is survived by children, Dr. A. David Flor, Dr. John M. Flor (Jackie), Judy Anderson (Roger), Brad Flor, Dr. Timothy Flor (Margaret), Elizabeth Phillips, Jennifer Dunnette (David); 19 grandchildren; and 29 great grandchildren; as well as sisters Arlene Ros-Crum, Phyllis Cooper and Ordelle Schmid.

Albert pretended to retire and thrived on being busy. He enjoyed summer nights at his cabin on St. Olaf Lake. He enjoyed building utility trailers and picnic tables for his family. He loved fishing and he couldn’t wait to have a fish fry.

He made note pads from recycled paper that he gave away



as gifts. He continuously volunteered in the community. Albert had a strong faith in God and his Country. He cherished, loved and surrounded himself with his Family and Friends. He savored his dark chocolate candy.

Albert celebrated each day to its fullest. We are all going to miss his smile.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to the New Richland Area Foundation in care of the State Bank of New Richland.

Mary Kathleen Oswald, 93 of Blooming Prairie

Mary Kathleen Oswald, age 93 of Blooming Prairie, died Sunday morning, Dec. 11, 2016, at her home in Blooming Prairie. Mary Kathleen Allen was born Feb. 10, 1923, in Cresbard, South Dakota, the daughter of Loren and Rose (Harrison) Allen.

She attended school in South Dakota and graduated from high school in Kasson, Minnesota. On June 29, 1941, she was united in marriage to Harrison Oswald, Jr. at the First Baptist Church in Blooming Prairie, Minnesota. In the early years of their marriage, Mary followed

Harrison with his many stops with his military service, before returning to Minnesota.

After returning to Minnesota, she was a saleswoman for Shaklee Products for many years. Harrison died on Sept. 16, 2004.

Survivors include, three sons, Gregory (Cindy) Oswald of Big Sky, Montana, Jeffrey Oswald of Ft. Collins, Colorado, and Randall (Sarah) Oswald of Rochester; one daughter, Mary Leta Oswald of Mill Valley, California; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandson; a sister, Jeanette Clark of Blooming

Prairie; as well as many other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 6, 2017, at the Blooming Prairie Cemetery with pastor Matthew Fennell, officiating. All are welcome for the committal service and a luncheon following at First Baptist Church in Blooming Prairie. Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.



John William Glynn, 73 of Ellendale

John William Glynn, age 73, died at his home near Ellendale, April 25, 2017, after a one year battle with pancreatic cancer.

John was born to Wesley and Eleanor (Christensen) Glynn Aug. 22, 1943, in Austin. At the age of 10, he spent a summer fighting polio at the Simer Kenny Institute in Minneapolis.

He graduated from Austin High School and went on to Hamline University where he played football and earned a B.A. degree in English. After college, he accepted a teaching position at Ellendale-Geneva High School and also coached B-squad football. In 1966 John was drafted into the U.S. Army and served two years in Vietnam. He returned to teaching and coaching after being honorably discharged.

John retired from teaching after spending 35 years at Ellendale-Geneva High School. On April 1, 1978, John married Kathleen Hudson Vangen at First Lutheran Church in Ellendale.

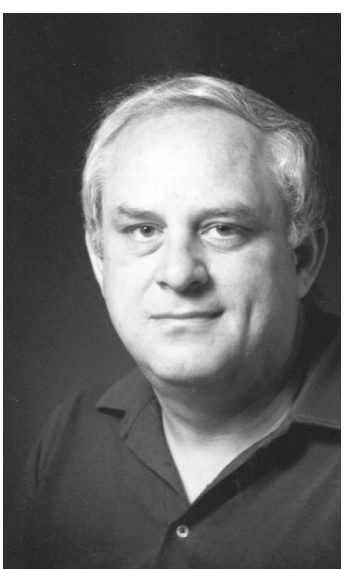
John loved music, especially Bruce Springsteen, Pearl Jam and all kinds of jazz. John also loved doing The New York Times crossword every day. He split hundreds and hundreds of cords of wood with a maul and wedges. He especially enjoyed his Friday Club Friends. He had many dogs and cats over the years, especially his beloved dog ‘Pepper.’

John was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; stepchildren, Chip Vangen (Vikki), Kara Vangen, Mitchell Vangen (Lori) and Michelle Vangen; and grandchildren, Mari Van-

gen, Brady Vangen, Zac Vangen (Lindsey), Carly Radke, Kayla Vangen (Cody). He was known as “Papa John” by great grandson, Grant Stuart Vangen. He is also survived by his brother, Greg Glynn; nephew, Brendan (Judy) and great nephew, Aiden; sister-in-law, Isabella Wilken; as well as many special cousins.

He was much loved by his dogs, cats, family members, and all who knew his kind and gentle ways.

John was steadfast in not wishing to have a formal funeral service. There will be a time for friends, family, and the community to gather in celebration of John’s life from 3:00-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at the Ellendale Community Center with a time for memory sharing at 5 p.m. Military honors will be accorded by the Ellendale Veter-



ans Organization.

Memorials preferred to the Homestead Hospice House of Owatonna and the Steele County Humane Society.

Milestones

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| Birthdays
May 2
Brian Hoveland
Virgene Doocy
Tyler Kruckeberg
Trevor Kruckeberg
Mason Doyle
Donald Bakke Jr
Matthew Farr
May 3
Kelsey Voeltz
Aubryana Alwes
Haley Tollefson
May 4
Rodney Krell
Robert Ingvalson
May 5
McKenzie Jensen
Dennis Sauke
Brian Anderson
Becky Noble
Maverick Miner
May 6
Nathan Piller
Adam Bishop
Sara Hoveland
Irene Sheppard
Laura Peterson
Allison Bruggeman
Ella Farr
May 7
Lyndon Johnson | May 8
Erik Vigeland
Charlie Heimerman
Logan Underwood
Meghan Butler
Gemini Johnson
Danielle Hein
May 9
Scott Swenson
Vi Iversen
Gary Dallman
Norma Amundson
Mandy Doocy
May 9
Levi Skillestad
Jeff Erickson
Rebecca Ingvalson
Vivian Ulrich |
| Anniversaries
May 2
Joshua & Jenny Winn
May 6
Brian & Sara Hoveland
May 7
Mr & Mrs Roger Manges
May 9
Alan & Judy Schaefer | |

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Brussel Sprouts
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Green Beans
Flavored Ice Cream |
| 4th
Beef Pot Roast with vegetables
Waldorf gelatin Salad
Dinner roll
Fresh Fruit | 8th
Taco Casserole
Mexican Corn
Peach Half
Chocolate Chip Cake |
| 5th
Ham
ALT: Ground beef patty | 9th
Swedish meatballs
Mashed potatoes
Broccoli
3-bean Salad
Mixed Fruit Cup |



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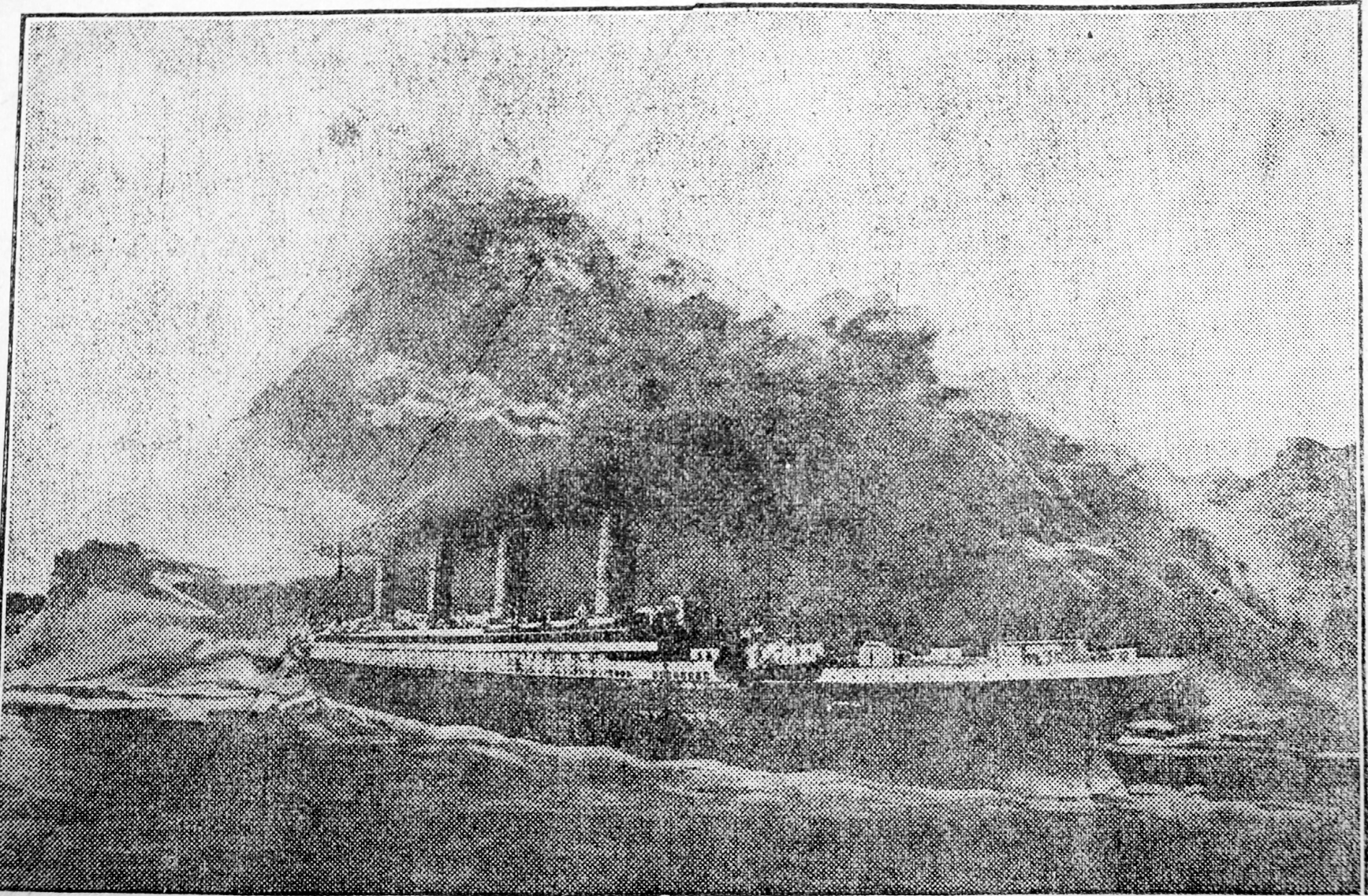
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ACCIDENT SHOWN BY COMBINING PHOTOGRAPH OF THE TITANIC WITH ONE OF AN ICEBERG

CABLE STEAMER RECOVERS BODIES

NUMBER OF VICTIMS WITHOUT
IDENTIFICATION MARKS ARE
BURIED AT SEA.

64 CAN BE IDENTIFIED

Ship Detailed to Cruise in the Vicinity—Search to Be Continued Until the Hope of Recoveries Is Passed.

St. Johns, N. F., April 22.—Sixty-four bodies have been recovered by the cable steamer Mackay-Bennett, which has been searching the vicinity of the Titanic disaster. It is said a number of other bodies which were recovered were sunk again as they were without identification marks. The names of those identified could not be obtained through the Cape Race wireless station.

The 64 bodies recovered are regarded as identifiable, according to the report. Those that were sunk were presumably in a condition making their preservation impossible.

Reports of Finding Bodies Confirmed.

Halifax, N. S.—Confirmation of report that numerous bodies of victims of the Titanic were afloat in the vicinity of the disaster was received in a wireless dispatch from the steamship Bremen, via the Sable Island and Camperdown wireless stations.

The message reads:

"The steamer Bremen, bound for New York, and the steamer Rhein, passed on Saturday afternoon in 42:0 north latitude, and 49:20 west longitude, in the neighborhood of three large icebergs. Sighted numerous pieces of wreckage and a great number of human bodies with life preservers on, floating in the sea. Sighted and spoke the cable steamer Mackay-Bennett on the way to recover the floating bodies."

(Signed) "CAPT. PREAGER."

The cable steamer probably is unable to communicate with Cape Race, which is about 360 miles away, because its wireless range is only about 200 miles.

Ship Was Detailed to Patrol Scene.

New York.—Two wireless messages, addressed to J. Bruce Ismay, president of the International Mercantile Marine company, were received at the offices of the White Star Line, from which the cable-ship Mackay-Bennett, via Cape Race, one of which reported that the steamship Rhein had sighted bodies near the scene of the Titanic wreck. The other message, which was dated April 20, reads:

"Steamer Rhein reports passing wreckage and bodies 42:1 north, 49:13 west; eight miles west of three big icebergs. Now making for that position. Expect to arrive 8 o'clock tonight."

(Signed) "Mackay-Bennett." Before his departure for Washington, Mr. Ismay, after reading the two messages, said:

"The cable ship Mackay-Bennett has been chartered by the White Star line and ordered to proceed to the scene of the disaster and to do all she can to recover bodies and glean all information possible."

"Effort will be made to identify bodies recovered and any news will be sent through immediately by wireless."

"In addition to any such messages as these from Mackay-Bennett will be made of its activities each morning by the White Star line at the offices of the cable ship."

"The cable ship will remain on the scene as long as it is necessary to recover bodies, but at least a week, if the wreck for number of bodies should be a large that time she will be recovered before with them. The search to Halifax not be abandoned until bodies will of hope remains for any vestiges."

"The Mackay-Bennett will make any soundings, as they will make serve any useful purpose, but not depth where the Titanic sank to the than 2,000 fathoms."

Bring Slain Americans Home.

Panama, April 22.—Caskets containing the remains of Leonard Gross and Leroy Cannon, the two Americans executed by ex-President Zelaya of Nicaragua in November, 1909, on the charge of being implicated in the revolution, were shipped by Senor Valasquez, the Nicaraguan consul here, to New Orleans, enroute to New York. From New York the caskets will be sent to the respective homes of the men, in Texas and Pennsylvania.

Arrested for Infanticide. Green Bay, Wis., April 22.—William Belling of West Green Bay was arrested charged with the murder of his infant child.

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In honor of Blooming Prairie's 150th anniversary, the Times is looking for reader submissions detailing life in the community.

Help us celebrate
Blooming's rich heritage!

One winner will be chosen every month and awarded a pair of tickets to the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre!

- No more than 300 words
- Signed with contact info
- Submit to the Times
- E-Mail: bptimes@frontiernet.net
- Mail: P.O. Box 247, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
- In Person: 411 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie

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INDUSTRY

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Left: John and Patty Kark of Owatonna were the overall winners Saturday night, April 29 in the Dancing with Our Steele County Stars competition. Nine couples were entered in the competition, a benefit for the Healthy Seniors of Steele County. Right: Kara Kubista and Nate Chesney won two categories in competition for Dancing with Our Steele County Stars, Judges Award and Audience Choice. The event, the seventh annual, was held at Medford High School.



Staff photos by Howard Lestrud

Keeping skin safe



Erin Cahoon

The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) has proclaimed May as Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month. Because one person dies from melanoma each hour in this country, Steele County Public Health would like to offer some informative facts about finding and avoiding skin cancers.

Skin cancers can affect anyone, regardless of age, race or gender. Knowledge and beliefs are key to skin cancer prevention. The AAD reports that 56 percent of men know that skin cancer can occur on areas of the skin not typically exposed to the sun, compared to 65 percent of women. Vigilance regarding the monitoring of skin cancer is very important and all areas of the body including hard-to-see areas are important to regularly examine. Men over the age of 50 have a higher risk of developing melanoma and it's especially important for them to keep a watchful eye out for changes.

It's important to examine your front and back in a mirror (don't forget your legs too!). Ensure you bend the elbows and look carefully at forearms, back of upper arms, and palms. Look at feet, spaces between toes and soles. Use a hand mirror to examine back of the neck, scalp, back, and buttocks. Using a hair dryer may be helpful to move long hair out of the way, if necessary.

For prevention, it's imperative to wear a broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher (even on cloudy days). Additionally, seeking shade during the height of the day and donning protective clothing is imperative.

Making a habit out of using sun protection and performing regular skin self-exams is an important practice to get into and could save your life. More tips and information can be found at www.spotscinkancer.org or www.aad.org.

Cahoon is a reistered nurse with Steele County Public Health.

BP woman part of winning dance duo

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

A Blooming Prairie young woman was part of a winning dance duo in the Seventh Annual Dancing with Our Steele County Stars competition held in the Medford High School Auditorium on Saturday night, April 29.

Kara Kubista, a 2013 graduate of Blooming Prairie High School, and a friend, Nate Chesney of Owatonna teamed to win two of the four awards given at the contest.

Kara grew up dancing at Jill Haggard Academy of Dance for 18 years and also became a teaching assistant there. Kara says she has always had a passion for theater and dance.

The Steele County Dancing show is patterned after the popular national television series that has aired for 12 years. Edna Ringhofer is the chief organizer of the local event, representing the sponsor, Healthy Seniors of Steele County. Brian and Lynette Dawley were choreographers for the show. Ringhofer reported

fundraising totaled at just under \$40,000 by the nine couples in the competition. That includes sale of tickets and money donated by those participating in public voting by placing money in a vase which also collected audience vote totals.

Four different awards were presented at the conclusion of the dance event.

Kubista and Chesney won the Judges' Award based on performance. They also placed first in the Audience Choice Award category. Amanda and John Simon placed third and

Patti and John Kark were second.

Patty and John Kark were the overall winners determined by a total of cumulative points earned from three areas: judges score, audience choice ranking and fundraising ranking. Second place was earned by Holly Larson and Brad Kubat of Owatonna. Amanda and John Simon of Owatonna, placed third.

The top award for fund raising was earned by Holly Larson and Brad Kubat, the couple raising over \$9,000. Patty and John were second

in this category and Tracy and Mike Graham were third in fund raising.

Savoring their awards following the evening's program, John and Patty said they could not find words to describe their emotions. "It seemed like we were just floating out there," she said. The Karks have been married for 25 years and were the show's eldest contestants.

Other competitors in the Dancing with the Stars contest

DANCING

Continued on page 2C

Pleschourt places at state speech tournament

BY EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Senior Jacob Pleschourt of Medford represented his speech team at the State tournament this year. He made it all the way to the championship round and placed seventh out of 24 contestants.

Pleschourt competes in extemporaneous reading. At the start of each round, he is given the choice of three passages from a selected book. He is then given 30 minutes to prepare an introduction to go with the piece and recite all of it together once time is up. This is the only speech event in which he competes, and he's been doing it for five years now.

"My coaches say I have a decent reading voice. That's what drew me to it," said Pleschourt when talking about his start with speech. Kim

Goblirsch, Medford's head coach, originally worked with him, but two years ago he started working with Rebecca Mohr.

The switch came when the competition book changed to The Book Thief by Markus Zusak. Mohr's familiarity with the book made her an excellent coach for Pleschourt.

Pleschourt was wary of The Book Thief when he first started reading it, but said he was crying by the end of it. In competition, he enjoys reading from the passage entitled The Whistler and the Shoes. It's one of the serious book's more comedic moments and has fewer characters that Pleschourt has to do voices for.

Pleschourt fought hard through subsections to make it to state. After taking first place in half the tournaments in the regular season, Pleschourt and

his team were feeling good about his chances of going to state. A mistake in the second round almost cost him his chance, but he pulled high enough scores in subsequent rounds to end up in fourth place and well within the top six that are selected for state.

"By skin of my teeth," Pleschourt described his rollercoaster performance in subsections.

Going to state, he was touched by the support his teammates and school gave him. He received a formal state sendoff from the school and several of his teammates came to watch him compete.

After a great showing in his senior year, Pleschourt plans to attend Winona State University next fall. If they have a speech team for him to join, he plans to be on it.



Submitted photo

Medford's Jacob Pleschourt accepts his seventh place medal for making it to the championship round. He was one of 24 competitors in his extemporaneous reading category.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

BP high school honors its brightest

Last week, nine Blooming Prairie students were inducted into the National Honor Society, swelling its ranks to over 25 students. They were selected for their academic excellence and commitment to serving their community.

Erin Johnson-Larsguard, a 2010 BP graduate, spoke at the event encouraging students to take up "a life of service."

Senior members of the society received NHS pins, while new members were formally sworn in.

Reaching out in hard times



Submitted photo

While attending the funeral of Jimmy Lanza, a hero of 9.11 who pulled out multiple bodies out of the north tower, managing editor, Mark DeLap presented a Blooming Prairie patch and T-shirt donated by the BP fire department. The T-shirt and patch will be displayed at Engine 53/Ladder 43 firehouse in Spanish Harlem.

Blooming Prairie Living

Girls invited to join Lighthouse group



By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

Girls from kindergarten age on up are invited to join a new ministry group called Lighthouse.

The group’s first public event will be on Thursday, May 11 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Blooming Prairie City Center.

Purpose of the group is to provide a safe place for girls to learn about God’s love for them, says Krysta Harshbarger, group organizer.

The church behind this effort is the Prairie Mennonite Church. Chief organizers include a group of young women from Prairie Mennonite Church and its mission board.

Harshbarger says there is a need for a group like this because a child has spiritual needs as well as physical

and emotional. “I would love to see this become a place where we can build long-term relationships while teaching the girls Biblical truths,” she explained.

“God planted this dream in my heart a long time ago. I love children, so when I saw this need I wanted to do something.

“Yes, there are other children’s clubs that people have started, so I was able to get ideas from them as well. One of those groups is called Community Children’s Club and it is based in Ladysmith WI.”

Harshbarger says participants will be able to share fun songs and will be able to learn from Bible stories and by working on crafts and by playing games.

The Lighthouse group will meet from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

every other Thursday in the city council room across from the BP Library. During the summer months, the times will change to 4-6 p.m.

Girls from kindergarten and up are welcome to come and take part in the fun! They will need to bring with them the parental consent form filled out by their guardian. These are available online at our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/thelighthouse628

Forms are also available at the library and at the Boys and Girls Club.

If anyone has further questions, they may contact Krysta Harshbarger by messaging her on the Lighthouse Facebook page or by e-mailing her at krystaharshbarger@gmail.com, or else call or text her at 507-440-8078.

A new way to find your book



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Almost weekly a visitor to the Blooming Prairie Branch Library will ask, “Where is the card catalog?” Most of them already know that the days of index cards in small drawers are long past, but they are still in need of a catalog as they look for a specific book or subject.

When visiting the library itself, the library catalog is the first screen shown when you go online. From your own device you can find the library catalog at the websites: www.selco.info or www.owatonna.info.

However, it is now possible to search for library materials using popular search engines like Google, Bing, and Yahoo. All you need to do is type in the title or subject you need and include the phrase “Blooming Prairie Branch Library”. The search results will show what books we have here at the library.

At that point you can choose the item you want, click on it, and be automatically sent to the SELCO page allowing you to request that item by using your library card. Pretty slick!

If you want to search for items at all the SELCO libraries, instead of a specific one, type in the title or subject and the word “SELCO”. This will bring up results of items available through the member libraries. Give us a search – we look forward to giving you results!

DANCING: from page 1B

were Tracy and Mike Graham of Owatonna, Becky and Dave Hoffman of Blooming Prairie, Gabrielle and Jeff Howard of Owatonna, Michelle Carroll and Marcus Padilla of Owatonna and Ana and Alex Pirkel of rural Ellendale.

Former Dancing with the Stars competitors Karen and Dave Legault served as the emcees for the evening.

Judges were Jennifer Wignall, Beth Svenby and Brooke Thiele. Jennifer was one of the first contestants for DWS of Steele County five years ago. Beth and her husband Brent danced the cha-cha in the 2014 Dancing with the Stars. Brooke has been involved with Dancing with Steele County Stars since 2013 when she and her husband danced a salsa routine.

Choreographers Brian and Lynette Dawley actually met

on the dance floor 20-plus years ago. They have been doing the choreography for the Steele County’s seven shows.

The evening’s festivities began with Dale Gandrud, president of the Healthy Seniors of Steele County and director Edna Ringhofer offering a welcome. Board member Eric Thronson led the singing of the National Anthem.

Prior to the dance competition, six dance couples, former Dancing with Our Steele County Stars competitors, performed “Mambo #5” by Lu Bega. Dancers were: Beth and Brent Svenby, Brooke and Lon Thiele, JoAnn and Steve Caron, Bessie Peterson and Chad Reckard, Kelly Kittleson and Tom Boecker and Lynette and Brian Dawley.

Amanda and John Simon of Owatonna opened the program with a Jive dance entitled

“Dance with Me Tonight” by Olly Murs. Both are Owatonna natives and have two girls. Their score was 27.

Next up were Becky and Dave Hoffman who did a waltz to “Skyfall” by Adele. The Hoffmans were both born and raised in Owatonna but currently reside in Blooming Prairie. They have five children: Lydia, 15; Josie, 13; Ethan, 13; Avry, 7 and Brinley, 4. They scored 28.

Third on the docket doing a samba, “Straight to Memphis” by Club Des Belugas, were Michelle Carroll and Marcus Padilla. “It’s been a lot of fun meeting everybody,” said Marcus after they scored a 28.

Holly Larson and Brad Kubat did a night club two-step to “Don’t You Want to Stay” by Kelly Clarkson and Jason Aldean. Their score was a 29. The couple plans to get married

in July of this year.

Kara Kubista and Nate Chesney performed a foxtrot, “Miss Kiss Kiss Bang” by Oscar Loya. They met at Little Theatre in Owatonna. Kara will graduate with an RN nursing degree from the University of Minnesota on May 12. She will then be working in the medical surgical area at the Owatonna Hospital. Their dance score was a 30. They dedicated their dance to John Burke of the Little Theatre.

Asked by the judges as to who leads in their Salsa dance, Ana and Alex Pirkel of Ellendale said it was she. They performed “La Pantera Mambo” by Orquesta La 33. Their point total was 29.

Scoring a 27 were dancers Tracy and Mike Graham as they danced a tango, “Santa Maria” by Gotan Project.

Patty and John Kark danced a Viennese Waltz, “Kiss from a Rose” by Seal. They scored a perfect 30.

The final dance featured Gabrielle and Jeff Howard doing a Cha Cha, “Sweet Like

Cola” by Lou Bega. They scored a 29.

Spectators had an opportunity after the nine dances to cast their votes and also to pick up some cupcake treats during intermission.

Another group number by former contestants was featured when the program resumed.

During a time for Healthy Seniors highlights, Becky Dawley saluted her father Lloyd who will be 99. A World War II veteran, Lloyd was in attendance.

A special leadership award was also presented by Eric Thronson to Dale Gandrud. A video about Healthy Seniors was also shown to those in attendance.

Healthy Seniors of Steele County helps seniors in need who are 65 and older live healthy, safe and independent in their own homes and to prolong the length of spending down into Medical Assistance and to divert nursing home placements.



Cancer Corner

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

BP Cancer Group founder, the late Eunice Coughlin is honored with 5K

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

More than 50 supporters of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group turned out at Central Park in Blooming Prairie Saturday morning, April 29 to honor its founder, the late Eunice Coughlin.

Saturday was the 96th anniversary of Eunice’s birth.

Little kids to the elderly participated in a 5K walk, run, bicycle ride and one participant guided his motorized health care vehicle on the route around BP.

The 5K run was the first and hopefully it will become

an annual event benefiting the BP Cancer Group, said Eunice’s daughters Sue Helgeson and Colleen Spurbeck. The Eunice Day event raised \$1200.

“She was quite the lady,” remarked nephew Tom Peterson who was at the park to cheer on his wife Nancy in the 5K event.

The 5K memorial event started at Central Park and headed south on First Avenue, passing by each one of the six homes Eunice and Mark Coughlin personally built in Blooming Prairie. The 5K ended at Central Park.

The late Eunice Coughlin, a cancer survivor herself, lost her eldest daughter to lung cancer.

A year later at age 80, while watching the Eagles Cancer Telethon on television, she noticed many area small town fundraising groups appearing to present money they had raised for cancer research.

At the time there was no such group in Blooming Prairie, thus Eunice decided it was time to take matters into her own hands and the BP Cancer Group was born. Family and friends were quickly recruited to help and the first Cancer Benefit in BP was held in 2001.

“Eunice started something great here in BP,” remarks Cheri Krejci, BP Cancer Group volunteer and its treasurer.



On a coolish Saturday morning (April 29), supporters of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group met at Central Park to participate in the Eunice Day 5K, a tribute to BP Cancer Group founder, the late Eunice Coughlin. Runners, walkers and bicyclists are shown at the park before they started their 5K challenge.

Sponsored by **Krejci** 

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

BP Legion, VFW auxiliaries salute businesses

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

Businesses of the Blooming Prairie area were saluted at a special business luncheon Wednesday, April 26 at the BP Servicemen’s Club.

The luncheon was sponsored by VFW Auxiliary Post 878 and by the American Legion Auxiliary Post 52.

Joyce Johns, lead organizer for the event, said more than 180 were served a delicious lunch featuring a Philly sandwich, spring macaroni salad, frozen fruit cup and a chocolate dessert.

Business people had the opportunity to dine between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. “This time frame gave the business people adequate time to eat, visit and get back to work,” said Johns.

The meal was prepared by Servicemen’s Club staff and served by 18 women volunteers. The Liberty Room was decorated in pastel colors for the occasion. Johns and



More than 180 business people from the Blooming Prairie area on Wednesday, April 26 enjoyed a luncheon sponsored by VFW Post 878 and American Legion Post 52 auxiliaries. Here, volunteer Carol Prokopec serves business people Eaton Miller and Marcy Sundine.

Doreen Blome spearheaded the decorations crew.

The luncheon started last year was a revival of a tradition carried on by the Order of the Eastern Star of

Blooming Prairie.

Proceeds from the luncheon will be used to help veterans causes and also to help the Servicemen’s Club with its needs, Johns said.

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HometownLiving Community Calendar

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

May 2nd:

9:30am - 10:30am OPL It's TALE TIME!
5pm - 6pm Owatonna Human Rights Commission, 2nd Flr Conference Rm, City Hall
7pm - 8pm Owatonna City Council, Council Chambers, City Hall
May 4th:
1pm - 1:35pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Medford Manor
2pm - 3pm OPL Independent & World Films
6:30pm - 7:30pm OPL Family Story Time

May 8th:

All Day Owatonna Business Partnership's Spring Shop and Stroll throughout downtown stores
1pm - 1:35pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Medford Manor
4:30pm - 5:30pm Owatonna Park & Rec Brd, Council Chambers, Brooktree Golf Course or City Park
5pm - 6pm Medford EDA
May 9th:
9:30am - 10:30am OPL It's TALE TIME!
7pm - 8pm Steele Co: Co Brd Mtg, Admin Center, BR
7pm - 8pm Veterans Open Roundtable, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
May 10th:
4pm - 5pm Medford Veterans Committee Mtg

Event Spotlight:

2017 Visit Owatonna Tourism Awards Luncheon

The Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism will be holding the 2017 Visit Owatonna Tourism Awards Luncheon on May 11 at the Steele County History Center. Six local individuals who have provided outstanding service in the Owatonna tourism industry will be recognized.

When visitors come to Owatonna they spend time at our attractions, restaurants, lodging, retail and events. Whether through direct customer service or behind-the-scenes organizing and management, there are countless tourism partners who work hard to ensure visitors have a positive experience in Owatonna.

The following outstanding individuals will be presented with awards for their dedication to Owatonna tourism:

Attraction: Jerry Ganfield, Steele County Historical Society
Customer Service: Vicki Lysne, Comfort Inn
Events: James "Corky" Ebeling, Owatonna Parks and Recreation
Lodging: Jack Spitzack, Baymont Inn & Suites - Owatonna
Restaurant: Nancy Morness, The Kernel Restaurant
Retail: Tom Brick, Owatonna Shoe

The luncheon will be held on Thursday May 11 from 11:30 to 1:00 at the Steele County Historical Center. To attend this event, please RSVP to Katie Godfrey at kgodfrey@owatonna.org or 507-451-7970 by May 2. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

May 2nd:

10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Storytime

May 3rd:

10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Story time

May 8th:

4:30pm Police Commission Meeting, City Center

May 9th:

10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Storytime

May 10th:

10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Story time

HAPPENING NOW

Spencer Versteeg: Fashion Design Reception



Opening Reception: May 7 from 1—5PM

As you enter the Arnesen Atrium at the Owatonna Art Center you will be entering the creative mind of Spencer Versteeg. Fabric swatches, sketches, patterns and gowns are all a part of the curriculum of the University of Minnesota where Spencer has had the opportunity to learn the craft of fashion design and development. He has had the opportunity to present his work in many runway shows, recently debuting a full line at Orchestra Hall. Color and graphic shape are some of the things he notes influence his design process.

LAST YEAR

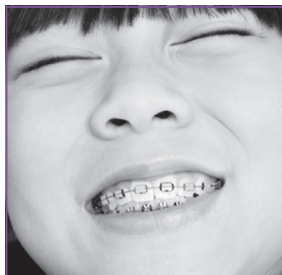


Archived photo

Connie Habermann of Blooming Prairie is pictured with WCCO-TV meteorologists Chris Shaffer and Mike Augustinak during a visit she made to the weather studios in Minneapolis. Connie is one of 1700 official weather watchers from around the state who are members of the WCCO-TV Weather Watcher Network.



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ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

May 2nd:

All day Hope Curbside Recycling S of 42nd Av
7pm - 8pm Hope City Council Mtg, Hope City Hall, Council Chambers

7pm - 8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellnd

May 3rd:

All day Hope Curbside Recycling N of 42nd Av

May 4th:

5:30pm - 6:40pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm

7pm - 8pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm

7pm - 8pm NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm

May 8th:

6:20pm - 7:40pm NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellnd

May 9th:

7pm - 8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellnd

Event Spotlight:

Cancer benefit for Owatonna teacher

The benefit for Terri Grose will be held on May 13 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Owatonna. There will be a spaghetti feed from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. as well as a silent auction.

Grose has been fighting ovarian cancer since last August. She underwent extensive surgery to remove as much cancer as possible. After surgery she went through 18 weeks of chemotherapy, including a week stay in the hospital.

For 37 years she has taught physical education at St. Mary's School in Owatonna. She does not have disability insurance and has been without pay since her sick days ran out.

Organizers hope people will support Grose to pay her medical bills and living expenses after she has given so much to the community.

Tickets are available at KC Hall, St. Mary's School, Kottke Jewelers and committee members. They will also be available at the door. Tickets are \$8.

Folks interested in making donations for the silent auction should contact Jodi Callister at 507-456-6833 or Donna Nelson at 507-456-3826.

Event Spotlight:

Bikeable Community Workshop

On May 16, SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Partnership) of Steele County Public Health, the City of Owatonna and the City of Medford will host a Bikeable Community Workshop in Owatonna in May about the tangible benefits of a well-designed "bikeable community."

The workshop will highlight ways in which local land use and transportation decisions affect neighborhoods, economic activity, biking habits, personal health and overall physical activity. The workshop is designed for local elected officials, public administrators, health officials, transportation planners and other local stakeholders.

During the six-hour workshop, local participants identify opportunities to reduce barriers and enhance opportunities for biking in their community – and build consensus on improving conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The workshop is designed to provide local planners with technical assistance that may help create a more bikeable community. The workshop will identify real-world problems and hands-on solutions.

For more information, contact Jane Nyquist at 507-444-7661 or jane.nyquist@co.steele.mn.us.

Frank & Tom's Garden Plants

Opening May 1

Open House May 13 & 14

Door prizes each day!

Geraniums • Many New Varieties
Potting of Cemetery Urns and Planters
Assorted Bedding Plants • Tomatoes • Peppers
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Annuals & Perennials • Hanging Baskets and More
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Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday Noon - 6:00 p.m.

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POTLUCK BLOCK PARTY

May 4 at 6 p.m.

Central Park- Blooming Prairie

(In case of rain, event held at St. Columbanus Catholic Church)

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MAY 9: WINE TASTING "GALA"
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7-9 P.M. @ J&H

TICKETS : \$12.00 ADVANCE/ \$18.00 DOOR
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JUNE 24: CRUISE FOR CANCER RIDE.

JULY 1: PARKING LOT DANCE
8 P.M. - MIDNIGHT NO COVER CHARGE
DJ MUSIC... JOE OLIVO

(21&OVER) ID REQUIRED

JULY 3: STREET DANCE

8 P.M. - MIDNIGHT

\$5 COVER CHARGE (21&OVER) ID REQUIRED

CLASSIC ROCK & ROLL/ COUNTRY

JULY 4TH : OPEN BAR / OFF-SALE

9 AM- CLOSE

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

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Blooming Prairie third quarter honor roll



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie Senior High School Third Quarter A Honor Roll
Front Row: Rose Johnson, Baylee Sorensen, Leah Schiefert, Alison Pryor, Elijah Baker, Tommy Braaten, Ethan Arett, Payton Simon Middle Row: Camden Heimerman, Jake Hyland, Rachel Kubicek, Alicia Ptacek, Seth Peterson, Rachael Oswald Back Row: Carter Millam, Riley Millam, Mitchell Oswald, Jeremy Hocking

A honor roll

BOBBIE	BRUNS	7	MEGAN	OSWALD	8
ASHA	LIGHTHIZER	7	RACHAEL	RILEY	8
JOSIE	LORENZ	7	BAYLEE	SORENSEN	9
MARQUETTE	MILLAM	7	RILEY	MILLAM	10
LAUREN	SCHAMMEL	7	RACHAEL	OSWALD	10
BRADLEY	SIMON	7	SETH	PETERSON	10
MELANIE	WINZENBURG	7	PAYTON	SIMON	10
ASHLEIGH	ALWES	8	ETHAN	ARETT	11
MAGGIE	BRUNS	8	JEREMY	HOCKING	11
EMILY	KUBICEK	8	MITCHELL	OSWALD	11
REESE	MILLAM	8	ELIJAH	BAKER	12
MEGAN	OSWALD	8	THOMAS	BRAATEN	12
RACHAEL	RILEY	8	CAMDEN	HEIMERMAN	12
BAYLEE	SORENSEN	9	JAKE	HYLAND	12
RILEY	MILLAM	10	ROSE	JOHNSON	12
RACHAEL	OSWALD	10	RACHEL	KUBICEK	12
SETH	PETERSON	10	CARTER	MILLAM	12
PAYTON	SIMON	10	ALISON	PRYOR	12
ETHAN	ARETT	11	ALICIA	PTACEK	12
JEREMY	HOCKING	11	LEAH	SCHIEFERT	12

A- honor roll

Ethan	Ehlers	7	GABRIEL	HAGEN	9
Isabella	Heiber	7	GEMINI	JOHNSON	9
Colin	Jordison	7	Adam	Larson	9
DAVID	KARTES	7	MAYA	LEMBKE	9
PARKER	KUBICEK	7	Hazel	Michaud	9
EMILY	MILLER	7	MATTHEW	PRYOR	9
GUSTAOF	OGREN	7	MARTI	SNIDER	9
Xavier	Rennie	7	VIRIDIANA	VILLARREAL	9
SAMUEL	SKILLESTAD	7	JAYDE	WACEK	9
ISABELLE	SUNDE	7	JULIA	WORKE	9
CARSON	WACEK	7	WILLIAM	CARDENAS	10
MAREN	FORYSTEK	8	COLTON	IVERS	10
CHARLIE	HEIMERMAN	8	Micah	White	10
LUKE	LARKOSKI	8	TIMOTHY	WOLF	10
MACKENZIE	MADSEN	8	KATHRYN	BORCHERT	11
Rose	Michaud	8	McKENNA	HEIN	11
JOSEPH	PIRKL	8	JERRIN	JAX	11
GRETCHEN	SUNDE	8	MAXWELL	ROMEO	11
KIYA	THOMPSON	8	SAMANTHA	WURST	11
RACHEL	THOMPSON	8	LAURA	GRANT	12
WYATT	VOSS	8	LEAH	INWARDS	12
Isabella	White	8	SASHA	KATZUNG	12
Kisha	Aquino	9	HAILEY	NAATZ	12
RIAUNA	BISHOP	9	TAYLOR	PETERSON	12



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie Junior High School Third Quarter A Honor Roll
Front Row: Rachael Riley, Emily Kubicek, Bradley Simon, Reese Millam, Lauren Schammel, Asha Lighthizer Back Row: Melanie Winzenburg, Maggie Bruns, Ashleigh Alwes, Megan Oswald, Marquette Millam, Josie Lorenz, Bobbie Bruns

B+ honor roll

TYLER	ARCHER	7	JESSICA	GWILT	10
Tyler	Iverson	7	HANNAH	KINNY	10
ADRIANNA	BERMEA	8	CALEB	KUBISTA	10
COLE	GRAVES	8	COLIN	LERUM	10
SHYANE	JORGENSEN	8	Jeannette	Lozano	10
ALLISON	KROHNBERG	8	TRENTON	Swenson	10
JESSICA	RESSLER	8	LINNEA	BYERS-SUNDE	11
CHRISTOPHER	SHEPARD	8	JONATHAN	HERRON	11
MICALYN	TRIHUS	8	AYREN	INGVALSON	11
TAYLOR	WURST	8	RACHEL	PIRKL	11
JESSICA	GWILT	10	ASIA	THOSTENSON	11
HANNAH	KINNY	10	Alexander	Dessner	12
CALEB	KUBISTA	10	KYLIE	FORYSTEK	12
COLIN	LERUM	10	WYATT	GRUNDMEIER	12
Jeannette	Lozano	10	COLIN	NELSON	12
TRENTON	Swenson	10	RACHEL	PETERSON	12
LINNEA	BYERS-SUNDE	11	ZACHARY	PILLER	12
JONATHAN	HERRON	11	MARNIE	REESE	12
AYREN	INGVALSON	11	ELLY	STRUNK	12
RACHEL	PIRKL	11	COURTNEY	WOBSCHALL	12

B honor roll

ABIGAIL	ALDRICH	7	Samuel	Fennell	9
Lindsey	Baltazar	7	CHASE	PETERSON	9
CARSON	BRENNECKE	7	KADEN	THOMAS	9
Jaydon	Brown	7	KARSON	VIGELAND	9
GARRET	FARR	7	Jillian	Wigham	9
PAYTON	FRISTEDT	7	MCKENZIE	JENSEN	10
PIPER	LUND	7	JACK	ABBE	11
ALIVIA	SCHNEIDER	7	KYLE	BRAMSTEDT	11
BRENNAN	TAPP	7	EMMA	CHRISTIANSON	11
ADAM	WALSH	7	KYLER	CHRISTIANSON	11
ABBY	BRAATEN	8	THOMAS	ERICKSON	11
Thomas	Donnelly	8	JACOB	GWILT	11
MITCHELL	FIEBIGER	8	JAKE	RESSLER	11
ETHAN	GRANT	8	BRADLEY	STASKA	11
BRIANNA	HENSRUD	8	JASMINE	ANDERSON	12
Brian	Jimenez	8	BRIA	BALDWIN	12
DYLAN	JOHNSON	8	THOMAS	BURKE	12
Grace	Magnuson	8	LUKE	DE LA CRUZ	12
ALEXANDER	MILLER	8	KAYLEIGH	DOUGLASS	12
Maggy	Motl	8	NATHANIEL	ERICKSON	12
CHRISTOPHER	NAATZ	8	Richard	Feeney	12
JACOB	NAATZ	8	ZACHARY	SISLER	12
HALLE	STRUNK	8	BENJAMIN	SMITH	12

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3rd Quarter High Honor Roll

7th Grade

Jacob	Andrews
Jake	Barten
Carter	Blome
Logan	Buecksler
Jessica	Campos
Jordan	Capello
Payton	Caron
Emma	Corbin
Reed	Cumberland
Isabel	DeLeon
Henry	Grayson
Nicole	Harfmann
Jackson	Hemann
Piper	Hill
Noah	Honsey
MacKenzie	Kellen
Megan	Klein
Clara	Kniefel
Jacob	Kucera
Julia	Niles
Jack	Paulson
Elizabeth	Peterson
Lainie	Rahn
Justin	Ristau
Scott	Scholljegerdes
Nicole	Schrot
Hannah	Schull
Anna	Sobrak
Malachi	Sutcliffe
Amelia	Thompson
Rosie	Tobar
Ava Jae	Westbrock
Jeancarlo	Zuniga

8th Grade

Braden	Barbeau
Jenna	Berg
Emily	Chadwick
Kinsey	Cronin
Isaac	Enzenauer
Garrett	Fitzgerald
Giovanni	Gonzales
Johanna	Grant
Lizbeth	Gutierrez
Madison	Jaster
Ernesto	Lazaro
Brock	Merritt
Mason	Nagel
Luz	Peralta
Brooke	Purrier
Peyton	Seiler
Isabella	Steffen
Tyler	Stursa
Alex	Vandereide
Haley	VonRuden
Hanna	VonRuden
Miya	Weber
Gunner	White

9th Grade

Sviatlana	Danilyuk
Jordan	Edel
Zachary	Finholdt
Kaylin	Hanson
Hailee	Homeier
Madison	Klein
Emma	Kniefel
Morgan	Langeslag
Kiley	Nihart
Payton	Powers
Brendan	Rahn
Jordyn	Stadler
William	VonRuden
Zachary	Wetmore

10th Grade

Andria	Archibald
Jacob	Gasner
Meredith	Gillis
Brett	Johnson
Anthony	Manderfeld
Noah	PirkI
Sophie	Proehl

11th Grade

Isabel	Brady
Morgan	Cammock
McKenzie	Disher
Ian	Gillis
Amanda	Honsey
Kelsey	Kern
Nathan	Meixner
Dakota	Panos
Logan	Rogotzke
Benjamyn	Sutcliffe
Cole	Volkmann

12th Grade

Rachel	Bluhm
Brooke	Crosby
Kori	Dodge
Rebecca	Edel
Alicia	Esch
Ashley	Gilbertson
Matea	Hobbs
Danielle	Morgan
Callie	Nagel
Jacob	Pleschourt
Alison	Ryan
Joshua	Schauer
Mikayla	Spinler
William	Stransky

3rd Quarter Regular Honor Roll

7th Grade

Tyler	Buck
Caydon	Budde
Jonae	Carlson
Paige	Davis
Jacob	Ernst
Cheyenne	Fedder
Evan	Finley
Dawson	Gasner
Isabelle	Huizel
Nathan	Johnson
Jordan	Kleck
Lynn	Larson
Hunter	Laue
Desiray	Limon
George	McCarthy
Samantha	Miller
Andrew	Murphy
Logen	Rink-Bermea
Nicholas	Roberts
Jason	Silva
Brielle	Smith
Jayme	Stransky
Anthony	Wright
Jared	Zuniga

8th Grade

Brayden	Beede
Kaden	Dolney
Cole	Dusek
Krista	Esch
Hannah	Fessel
Kaelan	Hermanstorfer
Gavin	Hermes
Brennon	Hoffman
Mikayla	Janke
Malia	Kircher
Matthew	Knutson
Shea	Lambert
Blake	Lawson
Jarrett	Lisowski
Sierra	Lustig
Antonio	Ortiz
Leah	Prusha
Lily	Roehrick
Keondric	Spitzack
Chloe	Van Ryn
Layla	Wenker
Jeffrey	Westergaard
Halli	Zumbrunnen

9th Grade

Natily	Buck
William	Chester
Boden	Devoe
Taylor	Fette
Veronica	Gonzalez

Shawn	Johnson
Joshua	O'Daffer
Mackenzie	Paulson
Isabel	Reuvers
Kevin	Robles
Lillian	Smith
Jeremiah	Sutcliffe
Alorah	Weise
Michael	Winslett

10th Grade

Zackariah	Andrews
Tanner	Barbeau
Mary	Braasch-Turi
Camisha	Chavis
Connor	Davis
Jason	Domstrand
Bailey	DuChene
Warren	Garza
Taylor	Keppers
Cody	Kosel
Rachael	Luebbe
Maria	Mas
Pia	Mosenthin
Jade	Pekarek
Bailey	Purrier
Madison	Schletty
Joseph	Schull
Austin	VonRuden

11th Grade

Courtney	Aldrich
Madison	DeMars
Jason	Gedicke
Alex	Gengler
Brynn	Hable
Beth Ann	Hanson
Colton	Havelka
Cael	Kavitz
Brandon	Kern
Kaylee	Kern
Tristen	Kern
David	Klapperich
Madison	Krenske
Gregory	Larson
Nathan	McCarty
Alexcia	Mechura
Jonathon	Meyer
Skylar	Meyer
Katla	Michaelson
Kristina	Niner
Bo	Noble
Ailee	Romnes
Ellie	Romnes
Javis	VonRuden

12th Grade

Haileigh	Benton
Marcus	DeLeon
Tye	Devoe
Benjamin	Ficht-Babcock
Andrew	Hunt
Michael	Kanne
Brittany	Larson
Cassandra	Larson
Holly	Larson
Jonathon	O'Daffer
Spencer	Peck
Asberry	Thoreson
Christopher	Zuniga



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Crash victim walks Grand March at BPHS Prom

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Nothing was going to deter Blooming Prairie High School junior Megan Grunklee from participating in the 2017 BPHS Prom Grand March on Saturday afternoon, April 29.

Let's go back to Feb. 19, 2017. On that date, Megan was involved in a severe one-vehicle accident near Waseca. Megan suffered a spinal cord injury and a shattered pelvis. She has been out of school since that date.

Her parents are Scott and Lana Grunklee of rural Blooming Prairie.

Fellow BPHS student Haley Ryks brought Megan to Blooming Prairie High School on Saturday afternoon to signal the beginning of the 2017 Prom Weekend. Haley walked the Grand March with Megan.

Megan was using a walker to navigate but that did not dim her enthusiasm for the special day. Many of her fellow students encouraged her to come to Prom.

Megan was part of the photo craziness in the commons area before the Grand March which occurred in the school gymnasium. Prom goers posed for selfies and also accommodated mom and dad for photos.

Megan wasn't the only Prom goer who needed help traveling the march. Ben Smith, accompanying

Leah Schiefert, walked the Grand March with the help of crutches. He suffered a broken leg about three weeks ago.

Masters of Ceremony for the Grand March were Payton Hatch and Jeremy Hocking. They introduced Prom attendees. Prom couples entered below a decorative arch, walked a path over a wooden bridge and then traversed to a swing at a conclusion of the Grand March.

Colorful decorations for the event were the creations of the junior class.

Here's a roster of the Prom couples participating in the Grand March:

Taylor Peterson and Tommy Braaten, Haley Naatz and Camden Heimerman, Marnie Reese and Colton Krell, Elly Strunk and Zac Olson, Rose Joohnson and Clint Peterson, Laura Grant and Wyatt Grundmeier, Marti Snider and Quentin Kubista, Courtney Wobschall and Elijah Baker, Leah Inwards and Jack Schultz, Kylie Forystek and Oakley Baker;

Leah Schiefert and Ben Smith, Alison Pryor and Evan Doerhoefer, Bria Baldwin and Bryan Fristedt, Marissa Larson and Seth Bedenbaugh, Alicia Ptacek and Bradley Staska, Rachel Kubicek and Trai Wicks, Kayleigh Douglass and Luis Gomez, Sasha Katzung and Jessica Ferguson, Rachel Peterson

and Carter Millam, Taylor Christianson and Derek Larson;

Kaley Camerer and Zach Sisler, Brianna Arthaud and Maxwell Romeo, Jeannette Lozano and Connor Getchell, Diasia Young and Alex Dessner, Kiaya Wallin and Thomas Burke, Elizabeth Brandstedt and Austin Christians, Danielle Hatten and Colin Nelson, Jasmine Anderson and Rachel Peterson, Brittany Boyd and Kara Drees, Haley Ryks and Megan Grunklee.

Bianco Angell and Jacob Gwilt, Haley Bridges and Nick Thompson, Asia Thostenson and Jon Herron, Elizabeth Bordeaux and Xavier Campos, Kylee Fawver and Kristian Hammersma, Jerrin Jax and Alec Ille, Riauna Bishop and Cameron Kubista, Hope Benike and Jack Abbe, Rachel Pirkel and Kory Rafdal, Linnea Sunde and Martin Morem;

McKenna Hein and Maxwell Romeo, Ayren Ingvalson and Austin Behne, Emma Christianson and Jake Ressler and Samantha Wurst and Gabe Hagen.

Following the Grand March, Prom goers boarded two buses to head to Stillwater where they planned to board a river boat. After the boat excursion, students went to the Grand Slam, a recreational center in the Twin Cities.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Emma Christianson and Megan Grunklee smile for the camera prior to the Grand March of the Blooming Prairie High School Prom on Saturday night, April 29.



Staff photos by Mark DeLap



Above: The homes of prom-goers were filled all over Blooming Prairie last Saturday night as pre-prom pictures began to flash at BP students in their formal gowns and tuxes. By the end of the photo-ops, one of the students said that their pupils were "fully dilated."

Left: Prom-goers hurry onto the bus in their formal wear for a ride to the cities.

Right: Max Romeo and McKenna Hein boarded the bus for Stillwater where they boarded the riverboat for a dancin' cruise on the Mississippi.



Staff photos by Mark DeLap

Above: The 2017 Blooming Prairie Prom's Grand March took place in front of a packed gymnasium of parents, family and friends from the community. Pictured here are Evan Doerhoefer and Alison Pryor coming through one of the decorated arches.

Right: Prom-goers gathered at various places for group pictures. Here is one group of BP students posing at the home of Seth Bedenbaugh before heading to the school for the Grand March.



Best prom around

By MARISSA LARSON
Staff intern

Blooming Prairie High School held prom this past Saturday, with yet another great turn out. Our juniors did an outstanding job decorating the gym to accompany the theme, "Where Flowers Blossom, and So Do We."

After group pictures were taken, and Grand March had concluded, we all boarded the coach buses. Upon arriving in Stillwater, we loaded the boat, where we were served an Italian dinner.

The dance, which was on the second floor of the boat, lasted until 11. The fact that the ceiling was shaking is enough to say that there wasn't a dull moment.

After prom took place at Grand Slam in Burnsville. There, we all stayed busy and had a ton of fun with mini golf, laser tag, batting cages, arcade games, bumper cars, and a trampoline arena. The

bus ride back was silent, as everyone was exhausted from a day well spent.

After arriving back at the High School, names were drawn for a huge gallery of great prizes, from a flat screen TV to gift cards and other electronics. By 5:00 am, everyone was heading home.

It was a huge success and great memory for our juniors, seniors, underclassmen and our of town guests that were fortunate enough to attend.

All of this can't go unsaid without thanking our parents that organized everything and chaperoned for us. We are also very grateful for and appreciative of our community members and businesses that helped us out.

I am convinced that we have one of the best proms around, and I think everyone who attended would agree with that, but it wouldn't be possible without all of the help and support from everyone.



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OUTSIDE



THE LINES

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Weather affecting play

Weather and high school prom preparations threw a bit of interruption into the week's sports contests. The big news of the week, however, came from the Blossom softball team that won its fifth and sixth games in a row and in the process earned a tie in the conference standings. The girls even received some consideration in the Class A state rankings. The team has played very well in the last couple of weeks, getting a good combination of good hitting and timely hitting.

The boys' golf team and Taylor Christianson also continue to shine on the links. The boys win or place second in every conference invitational, and Christianson has been the medalist in just about every meet in which she has been involved. The track teams had a light week, and the baseball team lost an early game early in the week, but then shut out Lyle-Pacelli last Saturday. All of the teams and individuals will really get at it next week, if the weather settles down just a little. After some inclement weather yesterday, it will be an interesting rest of the spring, for sure.

Notable events

Too often in our coverage of the local high school the tendency is to give the most notice and plaudits to the athletic achievements of teams and individuals. But that neglects a very important aspect of warranted accomplishments away from the athletic successes. One of those involves the academic prowess of students who master subject matter.

They are honored for it and are rewarded with election to the National Honor Society. Last Wednesday the local chapter of the NHS inducted a number of juniors and seniors into that select society.

At an impressive ceremony, the current members of the local chapter lit candles and explained the four ideals of the society. Tommy Braaten lit the candle of scholarship, Alicia Ptacek lit service, Camden Heimerman leadership and Jake Hyland character. Alison Pryor then led the group in the NHS pledge.

A highlight of the evening came in the form of a speech by Erin Johnson Larsgaard. She is a 2010 graduate of BPHS and is a candidate for Juris Doctor in May from the St. Thomas University School of Law. She gave several important pieces of advice as they graduate from high school and enter the adult world that those in attendance seemed to take to heart.

New members inducted into the local chapter of NHS had 3 seniors and 6 juniors. The seniors included Wyatt Grundmeier, Leah Inwards, and Elly Strunk; Ethan Arett, McKenna Hein, Jerrin Jax, Mitchell

LINES

Continued on page 2C



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna's Mason Oland (17) prepares to take a shot during the Huskies' 12-0 win over Mankato High School on Tuesday at OHS Stadium. The Huskies have won four-straight games while outscoring opponents 32-6.

Huskies win fourth-straight with 9-2 dismantling of Duluth

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

Searching for its fourth-straight win, the Owatonna boys lacrosse team played host to Duluth High School Saturday at OHS Stadium.

It took a while for the offense to get into a rhythm, but when it did, there was no shortage of firepower.

Scoring a game-high four goals, ju-

nior Tyler Wencl led a second half offensive surge as the Huskies dismantled the Wolfpack 9-2 on a frigid Saturday.

"In the second half of the ballgame, we definitely moved the ball a lot better and used our teammates and had some assists," commented head coach Scott Seykora.

Both teams looked to establish a presence in the offensive zone early, often cycling the ball around waiting to fire a

shot. Although, it appeared a tougher task for Owatonna than Duluth.

Rather than looking for the open teammate early on, Huskies attackers were attempting to wiggle through defenders only to be jarred from the ball. Seykora noted that the early flow offensively led to playing a defensive heavy first quarter.

"The first part of the game, we didn't hold possession," he added. "One guy would try to do it and would drop the ball

and we ended up on the defense for most of the quarter."

Midway through the second quarter, Wencl was able to tie the game at 1-1, firing a laser to the top-right corner of the net with roughly six minutes left in the first half. The junior didn't wait long to add his second goal of the game. In fact,

HUSKIES

Continued on page 3C

Blossoms win sixth-straight



Staff photo by Seth Bedenbaugh

Blooming Prairie's Linnea Sunde gets ready for an incoming pitch during the Blossoms' home game against WEM in April. The Blossoms have won six-straight games.

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Make it six.

The Blossom softball team won its sixth game in a row with a non-conference 4-3 victory over the Cobras Tuesday, Apr. 25.

McKenna Hein took a turn in the circle and picked up the complete game win.

A three-run third inning proved the difference as both teams played a first inning run. Blooming Prairie's long run in the first came on a single for Linnea Sunde, a stolen base, and Bria Baldwin's base hit.

In the third, a walk began the inning, followed by a single from Hein. A passed ball moved the runners up, Baldwin's second hit dove in two runs, and Maya Lembke brought the third run home.

Triton made it close with two runs in the fifth. A single, a walk, and two more singles plated the runs. Hein then allowed just one more base runner in the last two innings and ended the game with a strikeout, her sixth of the contest.

The Blossoms had four runs, seven hits and didn't commit an error. Triton had three runs five

hits and committed one error.

Hein struck out six and walked four. Blooming Prairie is now 7-2 overall and continues 4-1 in the conference. Triton dropped to 4-5 for the season.

Blossoms upset Cardinals

Gaining confidence with each game, the Awesome Blossom softball team reeled off its fifth straight win on Monday, Apr. 24, with a 7-4 victory over Bethlehem Academy at BPHS.

After a tie game into the third inning, BP erupted for five runs and then withstood a seventh inning Cardinal rally to preserve the victory.

"We are gaining some confidence and momentum," declared Blossoms head coach Lonnie Lembke. "Last week was a good week, and the girls have started to hit the ball better. We have to remember that we have to finish game; we did that!"

In the first inning Linnea Sunde singled, McKenna Hein singled, and Elly Strunk drove in Sunde.

BLOSSOMS

Continued on page 2C



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Blossoms thump Lyle-Pacelli



Dylan Nirk (14) of Blooming Prairie, takes a lead off from second base during a Blossoms home game against NRHEG on April 20. Blooming Prairie captured its second win of the season with an 8-0 thumping of Lyle-Pacelli.

Staff photo by Seth Bedenbaugh

Blooming Prairie records eight runs on 11 hits in win

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

After four days bemoaning the last inning loss to Bethlehem Academy earlier in the week, the Awesome Blossoms wasted little time in erasing that memory. The team scored four runs in the first inning against Lyle-Pacelli Saturday, Apr. 29, at Austin and scrambled to an 8-0 shutout win over the Athletics. Jack Abbe and Seth Peterson combined to toss the shutout.

“That first inning got us off on the right foot,” remarked coach Matt Kittelson, “and restored a little confidence after the disappointing loss to Bethlehem Academy, we played a good game with just one error, and maybe that can carry over now into our next contests.”

Brad Staska led an 11-hit attack on offense with four hits in and drove in four runs, including two in the first inning with a ringing double. Connor Getchell and Payton Simon also had two hits in four at bats, and Simon had three RBIs. Getchell and Ethan Arett both also had RBI’s in the game.

Junior pitcher Abbe tossed the

first 4 1/3 innings, with sophomore Peterson pitching the final 2 2/3. Abbe allowed four hits and two walks in the contest, and Peterson gave up two hits and walked two in his stint on the mound. Blooming Prairie improved to 2-5 for the season.

Blossoms fall

Leading 6-3 going into the seventh inning, the Blossom baseball team gave up four runs and lost a 7-6 verdict to Bethlehem Academy. The Gopher Conference game at Faribault Monday Apr. 24, kept the Blossoms to a single victory for the season and marked their third loss in the conference.

“This was a very disappointing loss,” remarked Coach Matt Kittelson. “We led the whole game, and losing it at the end like that hurts a lot. We have to be able to close out games better, before we can consider becoming a respectable team.”

Blooming Prairie scored a single run in the first on a lead-off double from Max Romeo and Seth Peterson’s base hit, and they added 3 runs in the second for a 4-0 lead. Ethan Arett

doubled, Romeo reached on a fielder’s choice, Payton Simon plated the first run, Peterson’s second hit drove in another, and Brad Staska’s second straight single scored the third score.

The Blossoms added two more runs in the sixth, but Bethlehem Academy scored two in the bottom of the sixth after a single run in the fifth to make the score 6-3. That set the stage for the Cardinals’ winning rally. The disaster began with a Blossom error and then escalated with two straight walks, a hit batter and a Luke Donkers double. Another walk and one more error finished the scoring and the walk off victory.

Staska pitched six innings, allowing five hits and three earned runs, Connor Getchell and Seth Peterson both pitched in relief, with Peterson getting saddled with the hard luck defeat.

Staska led the offense with three hits, and Peterson went 2-for-4. Arett had a double, and Romeo also had a hit for the Blossoms.

The Cardinals had seven runs on seven hits and committed three errors; Blooming Prairie had six runs, seven hits, and four errors.

Weather taking a toll on spring season

LINES: from page 1C

Oswald, Jesse Schewe, and Samantha Wurst were the juniors. The present group includes 15 members of the chapter.

As I mentioned earlier, this is one segment of high school life that generally gets short shrift, and I think a big tip of the hat is in order for these exemplary students in their scholastic accomplishments. Well done, everyone!

FFA attends state

The FFA chapter is another group that pursues a number of activities in the school schedule and doesn’t harvest a lot of publicity for is program. Just over a week ago 14 of the

chapter members attended the state convention at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul. Needless to say, the days provided plenty of activities and memories to last the local members a long time.

Two judging teams from BPHS had earned trips to the convention. The general livestock team of Ethan Arett, Colton Ivers, Cole Christianson, and Boone Carlson received a gold rating, and Ivers and Arett both were handed individual gold stars. Ivers placed 5th in the entire state. Greta Sunde and Rachel Thompson entered the dairy handling contest and did well for their first time in state competition.

Two senior members of the BP chapter earned state FFA degrees, the highest honors that the state can give to a member, and the local chapter also received an award honoring its support to camp Courage through corn drives. This year the chapter raised over \$3700 through the annual corn drive. That is just one more example of individuals and groups that are very active in school activities, but often don’t get the publicity they probably earn. Again, well done.

Now let’s hope that warmer weather is ahead do that our spring sorts can proceed on schedule. Think spring, and we’ll talk again.



Staff photo by Seth Bedenbaugh

Cole Christianson of Blooming Prairie, takes his attempt at the pole vault in the Blossoms’ home invitational Tuesday, April 25 at BPHS. He would take third in the event.

GMLOS wins Blooming Prairie Invite

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

Athletes from Grand Meadow-Leroy Ostrander-Southland swept the annual Lions-sponsored BP Relay Invitational Tuesday, Apr. 25.

Although no team totals were kept, the Super Larks dominated the meet, taking first in 11 of the 14 events. Blooming Prairie competitors claimed three seconds and two thirds for the day.

The events where GMLOS failed to record the top honor came in the 200 and 4x800 relays, where Loyola-Cleveland won and in the mixed distance relay, which Lyle-Pacelli won in 12: 52. 75.

Blossoms runners took second in the 300 mixed hurdles, with Xavier Rennie, Riley Millam, Asia Thostenson, and Ayren Ingvalson entered.

The 100 hurdles team of Megan Oswald, Riley Mil-

lam, Xavier Rennie, and Ayren Ingvalson placed second; and the mixed triple jump team of Matthew Pryor, Xavier Rennie, Gemini Johnson, and Ashleigh Alwes, did the same.

The mixed 4x400 relay team of Leah Schiefert, Sam Wurst, Zach Weber, and Elijah Baker finished third in 4:13. 97, and the mixed pole vault team of Gemini Johnson, Jesse Schewe, Leah Schiefert, and Cole Christianson also finished third.

Blossoms continue hot streak

BLOSSOMS: from page 1C

Bethlehem Academy had scored on a walk and two singles. In the third Hein stroked her second hit, and Strunk doubled her home. Maya Lembke walked, and Emma Christianson promptly doubled both runners home.

Freshman Julia Worke followed with a home run, the first of her career, and the Blossoms led 6-1.

Blooming Prairie added a

single run in the fifth.

After allowing a first inning run on a single, a walk, and another single, Strunk held the Cardinals scoreless for five straight innings going into the seventh. The Blossoms lone error of the game put a Cardinals’ batter on base, and four straight hits later, the lead had dwindled to 7-4. Strunk coaxed a couple of groundouts to preserve the win.

The Blossoms pounded out 11 hits, including Sunde’s 3-for-4 and Hein, Strunk, and Christianson adding two each. Strunk, Christianson, and Worke all had two RBI’s, Worke’s coming on her home run in the third.

Strunk pitched the distance in the circle, giving up seven hits and striking out four.

Area round up

LCWM outlasts NRHEG in extra innings

Lake Crystal–Welcome memorial tallied two runs in the top of the ninth inning and then held off the Panthers to edge NRHEG 12-11 at New Richland on Monday, Apr. 24.

LCWM scored five runs in the sixth to take a 10-3 lead, but the the Panthers came back with seven runs in the bottom of the sixth to force the tie.

As Coach Wendy Schultz summarized the game, she remarked, “This was an exciting game to watch. Although we lost by one, lots of good things happened.

“We got down by seven runs, but kept plugging away and managed to tie the Knights with that big sixth inning onslaught.”

Gabby Muri hit a long double in that big inning to score three runners, and Rachel Collins used her speed and a 5-for-6 day at the plate and three stolen bases. Alexis Anderson added three hits, and five other Panthers had hits. Seventh grader Sophie Stork pitched the last three innings, striking out six and walking four batters in her pitching debut.

Besides the big day at the plate for Collins, Muri went 3-for-6 with a double and five RBI’s. Sydney Ziegler got the win in the circle and Stork took the loss.

Natalie Aaseth allowed just four hits, but she walked nine and gave up seven earned runs.

Stork gave up three hits and two earned runs in the ninth.

LCWM had 12 runs seven hits, and one error; NRHEG had 11 runs, 16 hits, and three errors.

Medford falls to Tri-City United

In Friday’s Gopher Conference matchup at Medford Public School, the Tigers struggled to get anything going.

Mustering just two hits, Medford fell to the Rebels 4-0.

Head coach Alyssa Strunk said, “Overall I am very happy with our performance,” she stated. “TCU’s pitcher was the best we have seen this year, and it took us a little to long to get our bats going.”

Kori Dodge and Lexi Lacanne were the lone Tigers to records hits.

Mack Paulson took the loss in the circle for Medford, going all seven innings. She allowed four runs, (three earned) on 12 hits while also recording three strikeouts.

Panthers take fifth at Blooming Prairie

The host BP boys took first at its own Gopher conference invitational, and Maple River claimed second just two points behind the Blossoms at the BP course Tuesday, Apr. 25. NRHEG finished fifth in the meet.

Atom Oquist took top honors for the Panthers with a nine-hole 48, Oakley Baker and Ross Lenort both carded a 51, and Jacob Lerberg had

a 53. Noah Sletten and Brad Kubiatowicz trailed with 55 and 56 respectively.

Blossoms win dual

The Blossoms extracted a small measure of revenge over Maple River on Tuesday, Apr. 25, when they edged the Eagles by two strokes at a five-team conference invitational on the BP course the Blossoms carded a 163 total to 165 for Maple River. USC finished third, and NRHEG came in fifth.

Tommy Braaten continued his excellent season with a 37 to claim medalist honors for BP, but teammate Lucas Noble played the last three holes one under par to tie for second individual just one stroke behind with a 38. Mason Sohre also carded a 38 for Maple River.

Behind Braaten and Noble, Jake Ressler played well and shot a 43. Austin Behne had a 45, Kollyn Alwes a 48, and Jon Herron a 49. As Coach Cory Hendrickson commented, “To have all the BP golfers come in under 50 demonstrates the equality on the team, and that is good to see.” At the triton invitational the same day, Taylor Christianson took medalist honors at that meet in the girls’ division with an 84. Jessica Ressler finished 8th individual with a 103.

**Editor’s note: Final scores and statistics for NRHEG baseball were not submitted prior to press.*

Huskies compete in triangular



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna's David Keller recieves the baton from Zach Barrett during the Huskies' Big Nine Triangular at OHS Stadium on Tuesday.

Big Nine Triangular (OHS Stadium)

Team Scores: Owatonna 95, Austin 55, Winona 35

Boys results

100-meter dash: 2. Alex Raichle, 11.69, 3. Jason Williamson, 11.88. **200-meter dash:** 1. Williamson, 23.88, 4. Keenon Young, 24.7. **400-meter dash:** 2. Jaden Dowhaniuk, 54.51, 4. Owen Koslosky, 56.98. **800-meter dash:** 1. Jaden Rosacker, 2:11.31, 3. Bretton Ruiter, 2:12.08. **1600-meter run:** 2. Caedon McCartney, 4:44.51, Ross Stevensen, 4:45.14. **3200-meter run:** 1. Braydon Kubat, 10:23.77, 2. Bryce Knutson, 11:01.23. **100-meter hurdles:** 2. Andrew Jackson, 16.77, 3. Zach Barrett, 17.62. **300-meter hurdles:** 2. Jackson, 43.58, 3. Young, 43.81. **4x100-meter relay:** 1. Owatonna, 45.59. **4x200-meter relay:** 1. Owatonna, 1:34.29. **4x400-meter relay:** 2. Owatonna, 3:51.34. **4x800-meter relay:** 1. Owatonna, 8:48.01. **High Jump:** 1. Jayden Gunderson, 5-06, Dalton Kubista, NH. **Pole Vault:** 2. Will Ruch, 11-00, 5. Cory Ulrich, 9-00. **Long Jump:** 2. Williamson, 18-00.75, 3. Steven Ekard, 16-11. **Triple Jump:** 1. Kubista, 42-04.5, 3. Ekard, 36-06.25. **Shot Put:** 1. Darik Elstad, 48-04, 2. Ethan DeKam, 45-04.5. **Discus:** 2. Elstad, 147-06, 5. Chandler Buckhalter, 113-06.

Big Nine Triangular (Austin)

Team Scores: Owatonna 84, Austin 72, Winona 30

Girls results

100-meter dash: 2. Sydney Schultz, 13.33, 3. Karissa Gregory, 13.88, 4. Josie Sullivan, 14.22. **200-meter dash:** 1. Margo Achterkirch, 27.24, 6. Gregory, 29.74, 7. Janessa Moore, 30.24. **400-meter dash:** 3. Nyakhor Godoar, 1:04.84, 4. Emily Rahrlick, 1:07.69, 7. Kaia Elstad, 1:11.49. **800-meter dash:** 1. Syd Kretlow, 2:21.24, 2. Grace Wolfe, 2:34.01, 7. Chloe Schmidt, 3:00.91. **1600-meter run:** 2. Lindsay Bangs, 5:45.37, 5. Sarah Kingland, 6:03.36, 6. Emma Maher, 6:04.44. **3200-meter run:** 2. Catrina Herr, 13:09.26, 3. Mariah Dant, 13:31.28, 4. Tayah Hoffman, 16:46.57. **110-meter hurdles:** 2. Sullivan, 16.72, 4. Ali Goldberg, 17.92, 6. Alyvia Johnson, 21.64. **300-meter hurdles:** 2. Amelia VandeZande, 51.51, 4. Goldberg, 51.85, 6. Callie McCauley, 55.65. **4x100-meter relay:** 1. Owatonna, 52.39. **4x200-meter relay:** 1. Owatonna, 1:48.97. **4x400-meter relay:** 1. Owatonna, 4:15.14. **4x800-meter relay:** 1. Owatonna, 10:43.39. **High Jump:** 2. Kretlow, 4-10, 4. Caitlyn Anderson, 4-06, t5. Golberg, 4-04. **Pole Vault:** 2. Heidi Lundberg, 8-06, 4. Lydia Weisenburger, 7-06, 6. Asia Buryaska, 6-06. **Long Jump:** 1. Sara Anderson, 15-05, 3. VandeZande, 14-11, 5. Emma Zimmerman, 14-03.5. **Triple Jump:** 3. Zimmerman, 30-04.5, 4. McCauley, 29-08. **Shot Put:** 3. Lexi Langeland, 31-08.5, 4. Mallory Olson, 29-02, 5. Rilee Wickman, 27-10.75. **Discus:** 2. Langeland, 108-05, 4. Wickman, 89-04.5, 6. Skylah Conner, 69-08.5.

Huskies Round up

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

Baseball

Hosting No.1 Minnetonka on Monday, the Owatonna boys baseball team was just two innings away from pulling off the upset, leading 7-5 after four innings. However, the Skippers simply had two much firepower late. Scoring six runs in the final two innings, the Skippers escape Owatonna with a 11-7 win at Dartts Park. Brady Schuster took the loss for the Huskies, allowing six runs on five hits in four innings of work. Reliever Matt Bothun allowed six runs in his three innings of work, although just one was earned. Noah Budach, Tucker Alstead, Kodey Kiel, Zach Mensink and Schuster all recorded an RBI. Kiel lead the Huskies at the plate, going 2-for-4 in the loss.

Girls Lacrosse

Despite a terrible mix of rain and freezing temperatures sweeping much of southern Minnesota, the Owatonna high school girls lacrosse team was looking to keep its scorching offense alive with a Big Nine Conference matchup against Rochester Century. They did just that. Laura Ebeling and Lauren Arthur each registered three goals as the Huskies dominated the Panthers for a 14-0 win Thursday night in Rochester for their fourth-straight win. “Our offense found its rhythm and controlled the pace,” noted head coach Dan Paur. “We had multiple girls on the score sheet, which meant we were spreading the ball around well.” Eight different Huskies were able to net goals Thursday with the duo of Ebeling and Arthur leading the pack. Skyler Eaton and Cassie Broton each managed to register two goals while Taylor Woltman, Kenna West and Jazz Stechmann were each able to register a goal in the contest. Adding to her three goals, Arthur also set up two other Owatonna goals as six different players recorded assists. Sophie Amundson, Maddie Seykora, Beckah Bendorf, Leah Tucker and Eaton all registered an assist. Seykora was also strong in net for the Huskies, stopping all nine shots she faced. **Owatonna 10, Mankato 7** Looking to make it three

wins in a row, the Owatonna girls lacrosse team was on the road to face Big Nine Conference foe Mankato High School. According to head coach Dan Paur, what ensued was one of the best games of lacrosse he’s seen. “This was one of the best, most intense games I have ever been apart of, boys or girls,” he commented. On a rain soaked field, the Huskies managed to generate just enough firepower to break a 7-7 tie in the contest to win 10-7 Monday in Mankato. Lauren Arthur led the scoring surge with four goals as five different Huskies managed to register goals. Jade Huseby scored three goals while Sophie Amundson, Laura Ebeling and Lyric Broton each recorded goals. Amundson also regis-



tered a team-high two assists.

Girls golf

The Owatonna girls golf team was back in action Thursday in Northfield for a Big Nine conference triangular against Northfield and Winona. Shooting an average of 125.33, the Huskies took home a third place finish. Marie Otterson shot 60 and 51 for a score of 111. She managed to shoot for par twice. Ally Lenz shot the team’s lowest score with a 103. Leah Seykora and Maddie Effertz shot a 126 and 133 respectively. Owatonna tallied a final score of 473. Northfield took home the top honors, shooting a team score of 356. Molly Stevens led all competitors with an 81, just three strokes lower than Winona’s Lexi Partington for top honors. **Boys Golf** At Somerby Country Club in Byron, the Owatonna boys golf team competed in the Byron Invitational Monday. Head coach Mark Langlois noted that the team took home a fifth place finish out of 15 teams, finishing with a team score of 353. “I was proud of how the players grinded and didn’t make excuses for poorly executed shots,” commented Langlois.

Andrew Wall and John Swenson both shot an 83, tying for sixth place in a field in which only two players broke 81. Langlois stated that Swenson managed to record an eagle from 50 yards, the second in his last two tournaments. All but one Husky managed to record a score under 100 as Mac Baumgartner (92), Joey Howell (95), and Aiden Ebner (98) all put together a strong performance for Owatonna. Matt Steel was three strokes off from joining his teammates, shooting 102.

Softball

In the opening round of the Shakopee Tournament, the Owatonna girls softball team drew Rosemount. Despite a monster six-run second inning, the two teams were tied 6-6 heading into the top of the fourth. Then Owatonna’s bats woke up. Powered by a three-run fourth inning, the Huskies topped Rosemount 10-7. Tiana Blazek led the hit parade for the Huskies, going 2-for-4 with a triple and a home run on her way to a six RBI performance. Alexa Sommers received the win inside the circle for Owatonna, going the distance despite allowing six run on 10 hits. **Apple Valley 12, Owatonna 1** In the second round, the Huskies faced a tough Apple Valley squad. Blazek managed to lone RBI in the bottom of the sixth inning as Owatonna was limited to five hits in the contest. Hannah Fisher, Jenna VonRuden, Ellie Rohman and Tori Buck all recorded hits. Liv Larson took the loss for Owatonna, going six innings, allowing 12 runs on 15 hits. She also recorded two strikeouts. **Owatonna 10 , Big Lake 8** In the third place game, Owatonna met Big Lake High School. Trailing 7-5 heading into the bottom of the sixth, the Huskies bring five runners across to down Big Lake 10-8. Owatonna managed to crank out 10 runs on 12 hits in the final game of the invitational. Erin Peterson led the charge at the plate with four RBIs while going 2-for-3 at the plate. Kenzie Karsten (3-for-4), Braelyn Johnson (1-for-2) and Jamie Davison (2-for-4) each recorded RBIs. Johnson and Davison would each record two RBIs on the day. Alexa Sommers received the win in her second game of the day, going all seven innings while allowing eight runs on 10 hits.

Huskies improve to 2-2

HUSKIES: from page 1C

there was roughly a two minute span in between goals for Owatonna. The junior would add his third and fourth goals of the game in the final two quarters. Taking a 2-1 lead into the half, the Huskies offense appeared to hit another gear in the second half. And it all started from the stick of Walker Nelson. Weaving through the Wolfpack defense, Nelson registered the first of his three goals midway through the third quarter to give the Huskies a 3-1 lead. Nelson would add his just minutes later, whipping a wrist shot

from the slot. In third quarter that featured four goals, three came from the stick of Nelson, his final being with 54 seconds left in the quarter. The scoring didn’t stop there. Just a little over two minutes into the fourth quarter, junior Nate Smith scored the first of his back-to-back goals for the Huskies, extending the lead to 7-1. Smith’s second goal would come just moments after a Duluth player was ejected for conduct. “When you get two teams playing hard, you’re going to get some kids who do things that

aren’t legal,” Seykora added. “One thing we need to do is control ourselves a little bit more.” In the final few minutes, the Duluth offense attempted to generate a late surge scoring midway through the fourth quarter. Despite a late push, the game ended for Owatonna the way it started; from the stick of Wencil, scoring with 44 seconds left in the half. **Editor’s note: To read the recap of Monday’s win over Mankato, go to www.steeledodgenews.com*



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna's Walker Nelson attempts to attack the offensive zone in the Huskies 9-4 win over Rochester Century Thursday at OHS Stadium. Nelson scored a pair of goals in the win.

STARS OF STEELE

Seth Peterson



Tiana Blazek



Pitching the final 2 2/3 of the Blossoms’ 8-0 win over Lyle-Pacelli, Peterson was dailied in, surrendering just two hits and a walk to earn the save.

In Owatonna’s third place finish at the Shakopee Invitational, Blazek hit a triple and a home run while going 2-for-4 with six RBIs.

Stars of Steele is brought to you courtesy of:



Owatonna Clubs to host skills competition

The Owatonna Huskies Bullpen Club and the Huskies Fast-pitch Club will host a free Scotts Major League Baseball Pitch Hit & RunTM competition for area youth.

The event is open to boys and girls, ages 7-14, on Sunday, May 7th from 4-6 at the ballfields at Manthey Park in Owatonna, MN

Pitch Hit & RunTM is the official skills competition of Major League Baseball. This grassroots program is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to compete, free of charge, in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core baseball/softball skills.

Boys and girls are divided into four age divisions: 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, 13/14, and have the chance to advance through four levels of competition, including Team Championships at Major League ballparks and the National Finals during the 2017 MLB All-Star Week.

The individual Pitching, Hitting and Running Champions, along with the All-Around Champion in each division age group at the Local Competition will be awarded and advance to the Sectional Level of the Competition.

All participants will be required to have their parent or guardian complete a registration/waiver form before the competition. Those forms will be available at the event or you can register online at www.pitchhitrun.com. For further information, please go to either www.owatonna-baseball.com or www.pitchhitrun.com.

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Archive staff photo

Brian Seykora rounds third to score a run in Seykora Auto's game during Corky's 37th Annual Early Bird Men's Softball Classic in May of 2016. This year's lineup boasts 22 teams from the country's top open division teams.

How a local tournament became a national hit

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

They say the early bird gets the worm. For more than 38 years, it has taken a literally meaning in Owatonna for a weekend.

If you're team is one of the nearly 180 teams lucky enough to record a roster spot, then consider yourself one of the early birds.

Entering its 38th year, Corky's Early Bird Men's Softball Classic has been a prime attraction for competitive softball teams across the country. James "Corky" Ebeling, the tournament's founder and current head of the Owatonna Park and Recreation office, stated that what once was just a 16-team tournament has taken on a life of its own.

Started in 1979, Ebeling, who was then coaching softball, developed the tournament as a means to help establish funds

for the team he was coaching and for places to play. After retiring from coaching, Ebeling noted that the funds raised now go toward the Owatonna Park and Recreation's youth scholarship fund, making it the organization's biggest fundraiser.

"It's a self-sufficient fund," he said in an interview. "All the proceeds go toward helping kids who can't afford to play sports."

He also noted that aside from the scholarship, proceeds also go toward renovations around the city's softball fields.

One of those renovation projects were the dugouts for the fairgrounds ball fields, which will have a dedication ceremony Friday, May 5.

Although Ebeling noted that he was unsure about the specific timeline of the growth, he mentioned that prior to the 25th anniversary, the tournament jumped for 64 teams to 96 teams. It wasn't until the 25th anniversary of the tournament

that Ebeling knew that they had something big.

"It was an eye opener," he added. "We really pumped it up



James "Corky" Ebeling

and social media was starting to catch on."

Something big may be a humble way of Ebeling putting it. Crews from ESPN and Fox

Sports North picked up the game, making it nationally known and virtually creating the spectacle they have today. Ebeling added, "It just exploded. I mean just bonkers."

Ebeling would be the tournament's director until the 35th anniversary before turning it over to Loren Deitz, who then took it to 176 teams, which was the maximum that it could accommodate for. That led to adding the softball complexes in nearby Faribault.

While there is no official ranking of which tournament is best, Ebeling noted that despite having tournaments across the country that may be bigger, few can match the overall competition. With roughly 26 teams in the country competing in the open division, the longtime softball coach noted that 22 will be competing in this year's tournament.

"They are the elite," he added. "And, everyone comes to watch

them."

Ebeling also stated that with a vast majority of teams that come from the southern part of the United States being in tournament play for nearly a month, this has grown into a huge tournament for teams in the Midwest.

"This tournament can really make or break teams," Ebeling added. "I've seen teams win this tournament and go on to have good seasons and others not so much."

A new wrinkle that has been added to this year's tournament is a 40-team beanbag tournament that will go towards the Mike Como Family Benefit as he fights Hutchinson's disease will take place under the SMC cement tent - also the locations for the various vendors for food and beverages will be located.

The tournament is slated to start Thursday, May 4 and run through May 7.

REFLECTIONS... AND HOW



HOWARD LESTRUD

How high can you jump?

Just imagine soaring into space, propelled only by your own two feet.

How high can you jump? My memories of sometime being a high jump champion were just fantasies I lived when growing up on a dairy farm just seven miles southwest of Blooming Prairie.

I set up my own high jump training area with a bar made of a tree limb and the landing pit being padded with straw. I would then try to clear the bar at very low distances. I did all this out of range for any observers.

Those fantasies were rekindled recently when I worked as a Lions member at a Blooming Prairie invitational track meet involving Blooming Prairie and five other area high schools. My charge was to run the high jump field event. Fellow Lions member Ken Behnken, a former Blooming

Prairie High School coach, helped organize the relay team meet involving boys and girls teams. His responsibility was to find Lions volunteers to help with the various events.

Ken was my trainer for the high jump, giving me some explicit instructions. He gave me two capable assistants, Greta Sunde and Isabelle Sunde.

It was exciting to see the participants start out at as low as 4 ft. and soar to as high as 6 ft. 2 in.

Mankato Loyola-Cleveland junior trackster Hunter Westman won the high jump event with a mark of 5 ft. 8 in. He then instructed us to raise the bar to 6 ft.

Surprising himself, he cleared the bar and looked back to see the bar not even quivering. Pumped by his accomplishment, he did a perfect back flip in the soft crash mat. "Let's go to 6-1," he com-

manded. Again, he cleared the bar with plenty to spare, setting the stage for the bar to be moved to 6-2.

With teammates, coaches and others watching, Westman employed the Fosbury Flop jumping technique perfectly and cleared the bar at 6-2.

"Do you want to go to 6-3?" I asked. Not wavering, Westman gave us a thumbs up. His day of competing in the high jump ended after he tried to clear 6-3 three different times, but his accomplishments previous to those tries continued to lift his spirits.

Westman's heroics and those of other high school athletes competing on this day showed some talented performers.

After turning in the results for the high jump, I began fantasizing again and reflected back to the 1960s when the Olympics peaked my curiosity

in the high jump.

Two world performers who were in my Sports Illustrated magazines often were high jumpers John Thomas from the United States and Valeriy Brumel of the Soviet Union. Both used the straight-legged straddle style (scissors) in approaching the bar.

Brumel was just beginning to find success as a high jumper in the Soviet Union when he read in a Russian sports newspaper that a 17-year-old American (John Thomas) had jumped 6 feet 7 inches — 11 inches higher than Brumel's best leap.

The rivalry between these two jumpers was born. They met twice in the Olympics, in Rome in 1960 and in Tokyo in 1964. Brumel always won these match-ups, taking home the gold medal in 1964.

Brumel and Thomas became lifelong friends. Brumel died

in 2003 and Thomas died at age 71 in 2013.

The high jump has continued to gain my interest, part of it in seeing the evolution of a new jumping technique perfected by Dick Fosbury of Oregon State University. He abandoned the straddle style and made the Fosbury Flop famous. Fosbury won the gold medal in the Olympics in Mexico City in 1968. He also set a new Olympic record of 7 ft. 4 1/4 inches.

Nearly 100 percent of jumpers in high school, college and Olympic competition employ the Fosbury style.

I was curious to see what the world record is in the high jump. I learned that the record jump set at 8 ft. 1/2 in. was set in 1993 by Javier Sotomayor of Cuba. The record still stands.

I thank Lion Behnken for allowing me to relive my fantasies.

CORKY'S 38th Annual EARLY BIRD MEN'S SOFTBALL CLASSIC OWATONNA MINNESOTA MAY 4-7, 2017



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Can I inherit my parent’s debt?

*Dear Savvy Senior,
What happens to a person's debt after they die? My mother has taken on a lot of medical and credit card over the past few years and I'm worried that my brother and I will be responsible for it when she dies. What can you tell me?*
Worried Daughter

Dear Worried,
In most cases when a person with debt dies, it's their estate, not their kids, that is legally responsible. Here's how it works.
When your mom dies, her estate – which consists of the stuff she owns while she's alive (home, car, cash, etc.) – will be responsible for paying her debts. If she doesn't have enough cash to pay her debts, you'll have to sell her

assets and pay off her creditors with the proceeds.
Whatever is left over is passed along to her heirs as dictated by the terms of her will, if she has one. If she doesn't have a will, the intestacy laws of the state she resides in will determine how her estate will be distributed.
If, however, she dies broke, or there isn't enough money left over to pay her "unsecured debts" – credit cards, medical bills, personal loans – then her estate is declared insolvent, and her creditors will have to eat the loss.
"Secured debts" – loans attached to an asset such as a house or a car – are a different story. If she has a mortgage or car loan when she dies, those monthly payments will need to be made by her estate or heirs, or the

lender can seize the property.
There are, however, a couple of exceptions that would make you legally responsible for her debt after she passes away. One is if you are a joint holder on a credit card account that she owes on. And the other is if you co-signed a loan with her.
Note to spouses: These same debt inheritance rules apply to surviving spouses too, unless you live in a community property state – Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington or Wisconsin. In these states, any debts that one spouse acquires after the start of a marriage belongs to the other spouse too. Therefore, spouses in community property states are usually responsible for their deceased

spouses debts.
Protected Assets
If your mom has any IRAs, 401(k)s, brokerage accounts, life insurance policies or employer-based pension plans, these are assets that creditors usually cannot get access to. That's because these accounts typically have designated beneficiaries, and the money goes directly to those people without passing through the estate.
Settling Her Estate
You also need to be aware that if your mom dies with debt, and she has no assets, settling her estate should be fairly simple. Her executor will need to send out letters to her creditors explaining the situation, including a



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copy of her death certificate, and that will probably take care of it. But, you and your brother may still have to deal with aggressive debt collectors who try to guilt you into paying.
If your mom has some assets, but not enough to pay all her debts, her state's probate court has a distinct list of what bills get priority. The details vary by state, but generally estate administering fees, funeral expenses, taxes and last illness medical bills get paid first, followed by secured debts and lastly, credit card debts.
Need Help?
If you have questions regarding your situation, you should consult with a consumer law attorney or probate attorney. Or, if you just need a question or two answered, call your state's legal hotline if available (see LegalHotlines.org), or legal services provider.
Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
May 8, 2007
Elise Slinger, Editor
The Blooming Prairie Times has found out about a family who is honoring their mother with a memorial scholarship in her name.
The Alice Myers Mother/Child Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship awarded as a gift to a current graduate at Blooming Prairie High School to be used as a post-secondary educational purposes and also to honor the life of their mother, the students mother, and all of the mothers of Blooming Prairie, past and present.
Year in and year out, there is a gathering of youngsters in the gym of the Elementary School. For well over a decade, the annual Elementary Spring Carnival has been a huge hit with students and parents alike.
The Car-nival, run by the fifth and sixth grade student council, is both a great time and a great chance at leadership for the elementary students.
20 Years Ago
May 6, 1997
Elsie Slinger, Publisher
The Blooming Prairie Food Shelf closed late in April, after a decision to move into a new, bigger facility in Owatonna. Stormy From, executive direc-

tor of the food shelf, said the board of directors have been discussing relocation for multiple years.
Over the last two years a task force was put together to study the feasibility of keeping a satellite open, whether it was used enough to warrant monies spent to lease the building and an hire employee to man it.
Retelling history as others have lived it has become part of Blooming Prairie High School instructor Roger Sorenson's World Wars class curriculum and it provides a vivid recollection of how battles were fought and how lives were lost for freedom.
It includes the story of Henry Oertelt, a Jewish man who survived concentration camps filled with torture and death.
50 Years Ago
May 4, 1967
Victor, Vernon, & Vyrle Krejci, Editors
Dedication of the beautiful and immaculate new First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie on Sunday, April 30th, was proclaimed a huge success as a capacity throng of persons gathered to witness the memorable ceremonies.
The dedication was a fitting and proper climax to a three-phase building project that

started nearly a decade ago.
The first stop in the gigantic construction program was the Parish Education Unit completed in 1959.
This was followed in 1963 with the erection of the Social Unit and, finally, in December, 1966, the tow-ering and very imposing Sanctuary Unit was completed.
Buildings on the Lloyd Boumeester farm, located 4 miles southeast of Waseca, suffered extensive damage by the tornado which struck in that area last Sunday evening.
All the buildings on the farm were blown apart or heavily damaged by the storm. Fortu-

nately, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jensen who reside on the farm, were not present at the time of the tornado.
75 Years Ago
May 7, 1942
Walter K. Mickelson, Editor and Publisher
Christopher Lunde, 91, Udolpho township pioneer farmer, died at his farm home Sunday, May 3rd.
He was one of the oldest men in this section of country. Mr. Lunde was the son of Peter and Ingrid Lunde and was born in Sogn, Norway, June 26th, 1850.
He passed away at the age



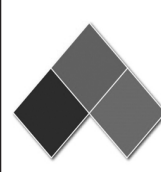
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Have you taken Invokana and suffered any serious side effects? Call 507-573-4551 to speak with a lawyer. You may be entitled to compensation. ttc

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Looking for part-time help milking in a parlor. Call 634-4308. 18, 19c, 20p

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'I'll give her an extra bone'

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

May 6th will be a special day for Blooming Prairie resident Paul Dale and for his extra set of eyes, his Golden Retriever Leader Dog named Summit.

On that date, Dale, Summit and Paul's wife Laura celebrate the one-year anniversary for Summit joining the family. Oh yes, there's another resident at the Dale household, Summit's play mate, Dixie, a small dog Paul and Laura affectionately call a mutt.

Summit came home with Paul from 18 days of training in Rochester, Michigan a year ago.

What are the Dales and Summit going to do on their anniversary? "We'll maybe go out for dinner," Paul reveals.

Are you giving her an anniversary gift? "I'll give her an extra bone," he said. He also said he will maybe give her a special frozen yogurt and peanut butter concoction of Laura's.

Showing his kidding spirit, Dale said he plans to take Summit to the local car wash for a bath. He's right because the local car wash does have a pet spa.

Dale, who loves to be called Lion Paul because of his attachment to the Blooming Prairie Lions Club, said he is one of very few people in the world who has his eyes at knee level.

"I'm very lucky that I have had a seeing eye dog as my partner," Dale says. "Others have tried Leader Dogs and it doesn't work for them," he pointed out.

Summit is actually Lion Paul's third dog. His first dog was also a Golden Retriever, Macy. He got her in 2006. She died suddenly in November of 2014.

The following January, he went to Lions Leader Dog school in Rochester, Michigan and trained with another Golden, Shadow.

Shadow was Paul's extra pair of eyes for several months until she developed cancer. Again, Paul didn't wait long to get a third dog. That's when Summit entered his life.

Lion Paul is hesitant to compare the three dogs but says Summit is improving every day. "There will be only one Macy," he says. He said he could be out on a walk with Macy, tell her to go home and she would take him to his doorstep.

"Macy was special because

she represented his first ability to be free," Laura said. "She knew what to do before I did," Paul interjected.

Dale has retinitis pigments, an inherited, degenerative eye disease that causes severe vision impairment and often blindness. He was first diagnosed with the disease at age 18. His sight became more severely impaired in the early 1990s necessitating help of a Leader Dog.

Summit is 2 1/2 and at times still thinks she is a puppy. "She's actually a teenager in human years and is a pain in the butt," Laura laughs. Summit often goes over to Dixie, grabs her by the collar and takes her for a walk. The Dales call Summit a bully because when she wants to play, she means now.

Walks are part of the Dales' daily routines. "We try to go at least a mile every day," Laura says.

"We have become a seasoned team," Paul says about the three of them. "She knows what she is supposed to do and knows what she can get away with," Dale added.

When working, Summit wears a harness and often has a Gentle Leader put over her

nose and behind her ears. This allows Summit to heal nicely, Lion Paul says.

Lion Paul says people often come up to him and ask if they can pet Summit. "Don't make contact with her because she will then want to say 'hi,'" says Lion Paul.

Summit has made lots of friends at First Lutheran Church on Sundays and other days of church events. "She knows voices," Lion Paul affirmed. "When Betty Behnken joins her husband Ken in the church pew after singing in the choir, Summit crawls toward her to say hello," Paul says.

Summit has also gotten to know workers at Wal-Mart quite well, the Dales said.

Lion Paul is not a stranger to adversity, taking an unexpected ride on a Mayo One helicopter two years ago due to a heart attack. Dale and Laura call the event his "temper tantrum." He said he is grateful for a renewed lease on life.

On this first anniversary of his union together with Summit, Lion Paul reflects on his years with Leader Dog support and looks forward to many more anniversaries.



Blooming Prairie Lions Club member Paul Dale and his Golden Retriever seeing eye dog are best of friends. It will be one year on Saturday since Lion Paul brought Summit home to Blooming Prairie.

Bipartisan legislation to increase access to public lands

U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar has cosponsored the bipartisan Sportsmen's Act to increase access to public lands for outdoor recreation for hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting.

"Hunting and fishing are more than just hobbies in Minnesota—they're a way of life, and they're critically important to our economy," Klobuchar said. "This bipartisan legislation will increase access to public lands, create opportunities to strengthen the outdoor recreation economy, and help ensure that our outdoor traditions can continue to be passed down from one generation to the next."

The Sportsmen's Act would:

- Reauthorize federal land open to hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting
- Reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act
- Exempt commercial filming permits for film crews of three or fewer, or for news gathering purposes
- Authorize the Hunt Unrestricted on National Treasures (HUNT) Act
- Amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to allocate funds for construction and expansion of public target ranges on federal land
- Permanently establish the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council

Advisory Committee to advise the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, hunting, and recreational shooting.

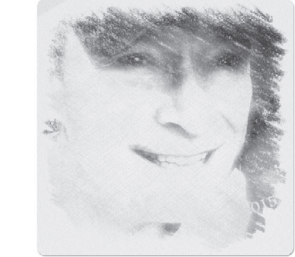
- Allow the transport of bows or crossbows across National Park Service (NPS) land
- Allow use of qualified hunter volunteers to manage wildlife on NPS land.

The legislation was introduced by Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Jim Risch (R-ID), Joe Manchin (D-WV), Deb Fischer (R-NE), and Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND). It passed the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on March 30, 2017.



We flew United... And kept our seats

LITTLE THOUGHTS ON THE PRAIRIE



MARK DELAP

As most of you know, we traveled to New York a few weeks ago for the funeral of retired FDNY firefighter, Jimmy Lanza. I can assure you that this week's column will not be as extensive as that week's. Maybe. At this moment, I still have an hour and a few blank pages and a big hole in section C of Hometown Living. I think I can do some damage.

We were going to fly into the Big Apple. It was much worse than it sounded. Actually, the apple was tasty, but getting to it... was not.

Planes freak me out. I'll start there. Actually, maybe not the planes so much as it is the people who own the planes, fly the planes, fuel the planes and... no, wait. It's the planes that freak me out. I mean, you could have the most conscientious pilot in the world, flying confidently at a safe altitude when the plane decides to eat a flock of geese.

Cue the nosedive. Complete with a feathered boa.

Also, if you think too much about it and consider you are really flying in an oversized aluminum can you would need a Valium. Because, just dropping from roof level would be painful, but dropping FROM SPACE; there's no coming back from that.

Let's go back to being dropped off at the airport by the kids with six large bags and a purse that for all intents and purposes should say, "Redimix" on the outside. Needless to say, my wife always takes the bags that roll. Evidently, she called Dibbs from the foundations of the earth. I think it was actually in our wedding vows where I promised to love, honor, cherish and carry all the groceries and every last heavy bag without rollers.

It was established. It became law. I learned my lessons well.

And. Are you ready for this? We flew United. (OK, I could hear the gasps all the way into next week)

On Sunday, the ninth of April.

In the year of our Lord, 2017.

We flew United.

The day the doctor left skid marks. In the aisle. In the arms. Of the seat police.

Actually, there must have been a full moon out that night because it seemed like every person we ran into had protruding, pointed teeth poking out through their pickle juice scowls. And their little green flying monkeys weren't pleasant either.

Minneapolis terminal. Oh how the excitement turned to giggles and shrieks. The first encounter began with a new United check-in electronic kiosk that you have to navigate before they even allow you to go to talk to a real person. For an impatient and "running behind" traveler, I just want to say, "THAT'S NOT FUNNY."

It cost me an extra \$35 because I found myself

pushing buttons at random and gathering the spewing paper tickets like I had just won at the slots in Vegas. They could make even bigger money if they put a "swear jar" over every machine. I'm just sayin'.

Because of the delays at ticketing, (don't hear that one very often. Yeah, right.), we were afraid that we'd never get on the plane in time, but when we got to the gate, the lines were stretched back as far as Chanhassen with people trying to check their carry-ons. Something about overbooked flights in Chicago.

And of course, when something happens in Chicago, it never stays in Chicago – and paralyses the entire world. I am now so indoctrinated that I wake up here in Minnesota and stumble to the television where I check the weather report... FOR CHICAGO.

So, now we had all the time in the world. It was time to start worrying about catching the connecting flight in Chicago on our way to New York. But first a trip to the gift shop where I was hoping to find some horse liniment for my shoulders from carrying the non-rolled bags. I had serious strap-burn.

Passing the many specialty food shops en route to the gift shop was especially painful on a morning where the rush and panic of getting to the airport afforded me no time in my schedule for a good breakfast. Oh, did I say, "a good breakfast?" I meant to say, NO breakfast.

I don't know why I didn't at least stop for a pretzel to tide me over until I got to the scrumptious meal they were serving on the plane. (Threw that in just to see if you were paying attention. Psyche.)

Oh yeah. Pretzels and a medium pop in an airport will cause you to have to put up your car for collateral and give blood at terminal B, gate 36, which is where all the medical planes are hangered. And, \$12 for a small bag of almonds in the gift shop? Are you KIDDING me? So, as I couldn't find anything for aching and bruised shoulders, I opted for the \$4 fun-sized bag of M&Ms and coincidentally looked up at the television monitor and saw Hershey's stock rising steadily. It must have been a good day for chocolate. At the airport.

I got back to the gate where I immediately found Robin consoling a woman in tears, people storming the ticket counter and the loud squawks coming over the intercom begging. BEGGING people to check all carry-on luggage as, "the plane is full and we are having a hard time trying to accommodate everyone, so please leave your bag with us and we will 'forward' it to its final destination."

Which isn't a bad thing IF your final destination is really where your bag is going. Trust me. It isn't. It will have a better vacation than you're having – make sure you train it to take pictures.

I had nightmares of my last trip where the luggage was lost and when they finally delivered it, it came back to us complete with all kinds of stamps on my suitcase from such exotic places as Morocco, Portugal and of course, Cleveland. I still can't figure out where the parrot came from that popped out of my garment bag. And all my belts were missing. I don't even want to know.

Of course my wife and I couldn't get seats together though I booked the flights at the same time.

Being one of the last couples to board, it was such a treat to finally walk down that gate tunnel to the plane and walk into the warm stench of disdain from all the disgruntled and "running late" passengers. All of them, looking at their watches and then up at me as if sending me a signal that this was all my fault. My mind flashed back to the kiosk incident, but they didn't know that, so my return glare was simply a courtesy.

Oh, and then the fun begins when you come upon someone else sitting in your seat and you try to convince them that you are the rightful owner of that seat. But then again, now we know that there is never a sure thing when you have parked your keister in a seat that you have actually paid for. The money is out of your account and has been for months – and yet, there seems to be a mysterious disclaimer floating around the mysterious "cloud" – which has now gained legendary status with Stonehenge which they can't explain either. Do NOT get me started.

I opened up my personal Hemisphere Travel Magazine which appears on every back seat of every United plane.

Here are a couple of quotes and my injected and inferred comments in a parenthetical form that accompany Mr. Oscar Munoz's kind greeting to every happy passenger.

"Every day I see our people go the extra mile for our customers and for one another. (why just last week we tossed a guy from one of our planes to make room for one of my favorite stewardesses named 'Bunni'). First, our Shared Purpose: 'Connecting people. (ejecting people...) Uniting the world (Enciting the world). We fly right: On the ground and in the air, we hold ourselves to higher standards in safety and reliability. (We have first aid kits available if people accidentally fall on arm rests and are bleeding from the head.) We fly friendly: Warm and welcoming is who we are. (Hostile and welcoming you to come along peaceably or we will use force to drag you off our plane is who we are.)

There is much more in the Munoz dialogue. Pick up a copy – it's a hoot. My sides literally hurt from laughing so hard.

In light of recent "incidents," I think the CEO should add to his greeting, "If you are reading this in MY plane, and make no mistake, this IS MY plane, I would like to remind you that none of these seats are yours. Though you have paid for it with valid currency gained from a job where you put your blood, sweat and tears in exchange for real money to buy a ticket to get home or on a delightful vacation, DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT. I have the power to remove you. I have my speed dial set for "militia" and I am not afraid to push the button. Thank you and have a wonderful trip. To the 'Newest spirit of United.'"

Well, I am now officially out of time and out of paper, so stay tuned for next week's column when I get to actually explain the mood in Chicago on the day that the doctor needed a doctor. I think I shall entitle that piece, "Blood on the armrest."

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Four Minnesota commodity councils elect new leadership

Barley, beef, corn, and soybean councils elect board members

Producers of four Minnesota agricultural commodities have elected new members to serve on the barley, beef, corn, and soybean commodity research and promotion councils. Each new board member will serve a three year term to help guide how each group spends mandatory check-off dollars.

The councils play an important role in developing and promoting Minnesota farm products, including grains and meats.

“Commodity council elections allow producers a say in how their check-off dollars are spent,” said Minnesota Agricultural Commissioner Dave Frederickson. “It’s very important they take advantage of this opportunity and I want to thank all the candidates and producers who took the time to cast a ballot.”

2017 commodity council elections for barley, beef, corn, and soybean:

Barley Research and Promotion Council
Brian Lacey, Dalton



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Beef Research and Promotion Council

District 1 – Dr. Dan Larson, Clearbrook
District 4 – Davis Wulf, Morris
District 5 – David Glessing, Howard Lake
District 7 – Neil Johnson, Jasper
District 8 – Jeri L. Hanson, Comfrey

Corn Research and Promotion Council

Districts 1, 2 & 4 - Dwight Mork, Bellingham
District 7 – Brandon Fast, Mountain Lake
District 8 – James O’Connor, Blooming Prairie
District 9 – Brennen Toquam, Claremont

Soybean Research and Promotion Council

Districts 1, 2 & 3 – William (Bill) Zurn, Callaway
District 4 - Patrick O’Leary, Benson
Districts 5 & 6 - Patrick Sullivan, Franklin
District 7 – Ron Obermoller, Brewster
District 8 - Rochelle Krusemark, Trimont

Minnesota Farmers Union calls for action on rural issues

The Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) last week issued a report based in 14 listening sessions conducted throughout the state.

Lt. Gov. Tina Smith, Human Services Commissioner Emily Piper, and Deputy Agriculture Commissioner Matt Wohlman joined MFU at the State Capitol to receive the report on behalf of the Dayton Administration.

The sessions involved over 450 people.

The report was released to the media statewide, to legislators, and to others interested in learning what Minnesotans think about important legislative and policy issues.

Minnesota Farmers Union President Gary Wertish stated, “After frequently hearing the question posed about what rural Minnesotans think, Minnesota Farmers Union set out to find out the answer to that question.”

Wertish said the report captures the rural voice and serves up a menu of items the administration and Minnesota Legislature need to address.

“As I travel around Minnesota, I have learned that Minnesota farmers, small business owners, and local leaders often come up with the best ideas to make our state better,” said Lt. Gov. Smith.

“This new report from the Minnesota Farmers Union outlines some of the major challenges we face in securing greater opportunities for everyone in our state, including better healthcare, strong infrastructure, and a growing economy, Smith outlined.



LT. GOV. TINA SMITH

“As we work to build a state that works better for everyone, everywhere in Minnesota, we can learn a lot outside the Capitol, and outside the cities. I hope Minnesota leaders take this report and its findings to heart, and then take action. It’s time to get it done.”

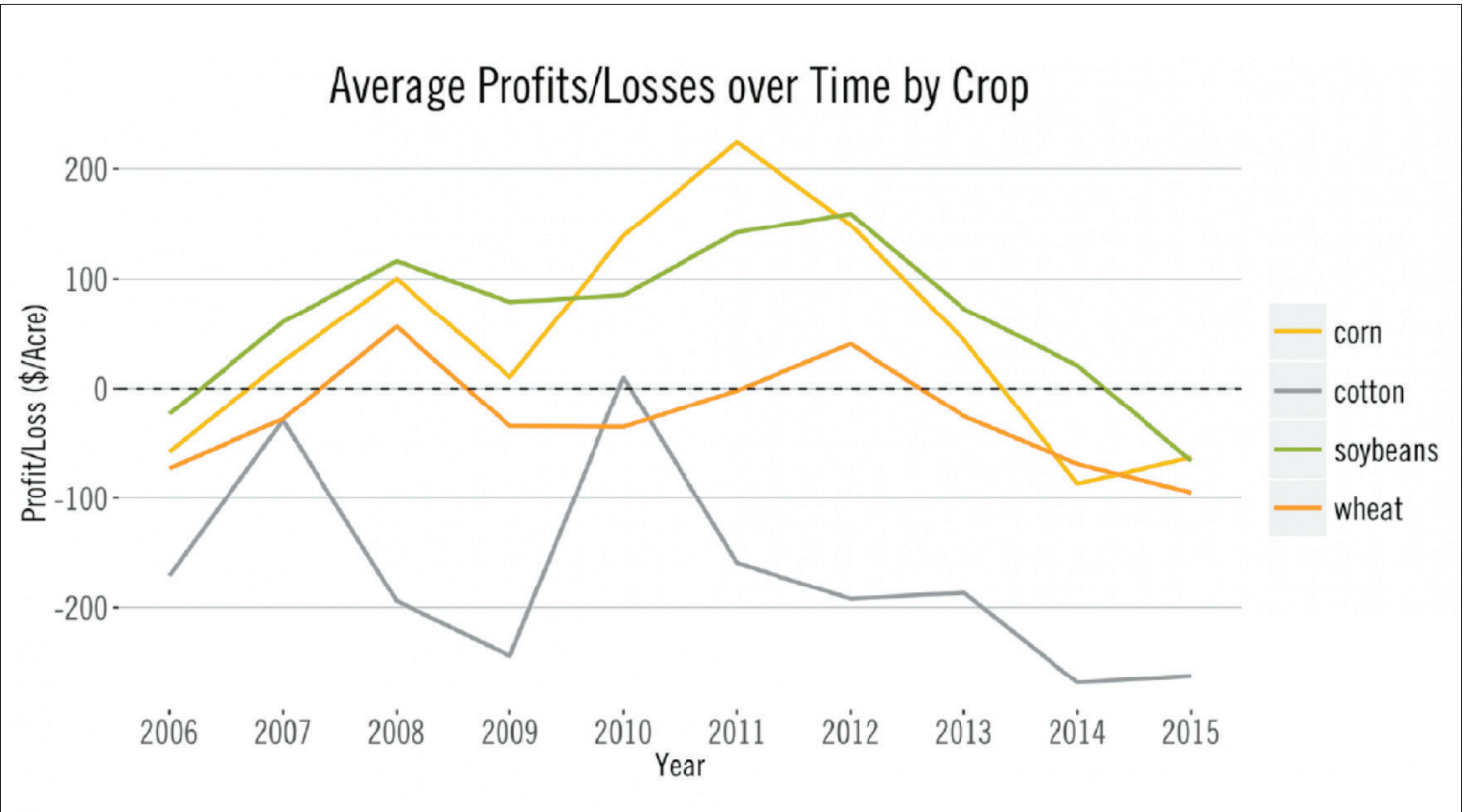
Wertish added, “Issues like health care costs are the most urgent, but we must also get answers on transportation funding for roads and bridges, create the reality of high speed Broadband internet services, adopt property tax relief, solutions to rural hunger, solve agriculture and farm issues for farmers of all sizes, and work on rural and farm labor issues.

“Above all, we heard a call for policymakers to come out to rural Minnesota to hold regular listening sessions where people can speak up.”

A copy of the report is available at: <http://mfu.org/files/2106.pdf>



Consolidation in agriculture FBN data offers insight on industry shrinkage, farm size growth and buying habits.



Consolidation in agriculture doesn’t stop with the current chemical/seed mergers and buy-outs. Farms are consolidating as well. That’s what big data shows, gathered from farmers who participate in the Farmer Business Network.

In a recently released report, the FBN offers a glimpse into their aggregated data, along with sharing the voice of farmers-gleaned from dozens of interviews.

The data shows that chemical, fertilizer and equipment markets are dominated by a small number of companies. If trends continue, this could be a problem because the largest companies tend to have the highest prices, which makes seed and chemical company consolidation a threat to farmers.

Another producer questions seed choices in his farming operation.

“Do I do a full GMO hybrid that they usually want something like \$240/bag for? Or do I do a dual stack or triple stack that doesn’t cover all the traits for cheaper? Or do I go full conventional for about \$170 per bag and change my management practices to decrease my seed cost,” asks an Illinois farmer.

When it comes to buying national seed brands capture more large farms business. National chemical brands, on the other hand, are actually less competitive among big farms.

“Whether it’s fertilizer, fun-

icide, whatever; we ask what’s the best product on the market we could apply, what’s the second best, is there a decision we can make that we can save mon-

cutting costs...I really wanted to look at it more as a return on investment. If I spend a dollar, how many dollars am I gonna get back...I really wanted to

average yields. However, these larger farms also receive significantly lower prices for chemicals and seed as a result of bulk purchasing.

As farm consolidation accelerates and average farm size increases, it puts negative pressure on land productivity as it becomes harder for farmers to get the best yields across every field they plant.

The number of farms have decreased significantly in the past 10 years particularly in the Midwest, the South and in the Pacific Northwest. One thing that is clear is that most farms continue to be family owned. However, the average age of the principal operator is high. The data shows that 66 percent of the farms were over 55 as of 2012. This means that that there will be a major turnover in farm ownership driven by the average age of farmers. Many farmers lack a transition plan or family member ready to take over the farming operation.

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ey,” says an Iowa farmer.

Rising costs and lower profits are on producers minds. Data from the FBN survey shows the bottom line on financial sustainability for farmers. Producers have watched all of the most commonly grown crops lose profits continuously from 2012 to 2015.

Information collected also showed that commodity crop have continued to struggle with prices that have failed to keep up with inflation since 1980. However, input costs, like those associated with crop protection chemicals, and other production expenses continue to rise despite declining crop prices, with extreme price differences existing for identical products.

The rising costs and falling commodity prices have caused margins to narrow to nothing in 2014 and 2015, with some regions experiencing negative per acre incomes in 2016.

“It’s easy to get into the mindset of not spending money or

prioritize those spends,” says a corn and soybeans grower in Illinois.

However, seed companies and chemical companies are not the only part of the industry consolidating. FBN data shows that farms with over 2,000 acres are the fastest growing segment. Large farms have different buying practices and productivity profiles compared to small operations.

When it comes to yields, smaller farms win out. Larger farms tend to achieve lower

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Public Safety



Blotter spotlight: Civil. On April 23, deputy assisted with a civil issue regarding ownership of a ditch in the 12000 block of 720th St. in Blooming Prairie at 7:54 p.m.

CRIME BRIEF

Man accused of trying to take son

An Owatonna man faces several charges, including a felony, for allegedly trying to take a child.

Samuel Christian Bolton has been charged with felony first-degree burglary, fifth-degree assault, child endangerment and fleeing police on foot in connection with an incident April 25 in Owatonna.

Police responded to an assault call when they saw a man holding another man down in the residence. The victim told officers Bolton had attempted to take his grandson. When officers tried to interview Bolton outside, he allegedly ran away. After a short foot chase, officers nabbed him near the post office. Officers ordered Bolton to the



Samuel Christian Bolton

ground several times but he did not comply and attempted to back away from officers. Police then used a taser to get him to comply.

According to police, the victim has full custody of his grandchild and Bolton attempted to take his son from the grandparents' house without consent.

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

Owatonna Police April 21
Assault. Officers responded to an assault in the 100 block of Bridge St. W. at 1:05 a.m. They took a subject into custody.
Juvenile. Police received a juvenile complaint from the 100 block of Vine St. E. at 8:11 a.m.
Assist. At 3:51 p.m., officer assisted another agency with arresting an adult in the 600 block of 11th St. SE.
Theft. Officer took a theft report in the 600 block of Mound St. SW at 8:23 p.m.
Animal Bite. Officers responded to an animal bite in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW at 8:40 p.m.

April 22
Death. Police began a death investigation in the 400 block of Oak Ave. S. at 4:49 p.m.
Burglary. Officers responded to a burglary on Strand Dr. NW at 5:42 p.m.
Vandalism. At 9:44 p.m., property damage was reported in the 400 block of Selby Ave. SW.

April 23
Bar Check. At 12:47 a.m., officer completed a bar check in the 100 block of Bridge St. W. They made an arrest at the scene.
Juvenile. Officer issued a citation after receiving a juvenile complaint from the 600 block of Broadway St. E. at 2:13 a.m.
Shoplifting. At 2:48 p.m., officer arrested a subject following a shoplifting incident in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.
Theft. Officer took a theft report in the 100 block of 24th Place NW at 3:58 p.m.
Animal Bite. An animal bite occurred in the 1700 block of Mosher Ave. SW at 6:16 p.m.
Drunken Driving. Police made a DWI arrest in the 100 block of Valley View Place NW at 8:39 p.m.

April 25
Burglary. Officers responded to a burglary in the 1400 block of Jadden Lane SE at 7:42 a.m.
Theft. A motor vehicle was reported stolen from the 300 block of State Ave. NW at 7:54 a.m.
Shoplifting. Officer arrested a subject for shoplifting in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW at 8:23 p.m.
Assault. At 9:33 p.m., police responded to an assault in the 100 block of North St. E. A subject was taken into custody.

Steele County Sheriff

April 21
Burglary. Deputies began a burglary investigation in the 5900 block of 84th Ave. NE in Merton Township at 7:33 a.m.
Warrants. Deputies made warrant arrests in the 100 block of Main St. E. in Owatonna at 9:34 a.m. and in the 1800 block of 44th Ave. SE in Havana Township at 8:06 p.m.
Restraining Order. At 6:14 p.m., deputy responded to a restraining order violation in the 11300 block of 34th Ave. SE in Summit Township.
Weapons. Deputies received a weapons-related complaint from the 700 block of 5th St. S. in Ellendale at 8:11 p.m.

April 22
DWI. Deputies arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated in the 9200 block of Crane Creek Road in Meriden Township at 8:17 p.m.

April 25
Fraud. Deputy took a report of a fraud incident in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. in Owatonna at 9:17 a.m.

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 17 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

Ryan L. Olson, 40, Eden Prairie, previously appeared and was convicted of felony theft. Olson was sentenced to \$20,006.90, 69 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no gambling, obtain permission to leave the state, no alcohol or controlled substance use, write letter of apology, maintain employment and 5 years of supervised probation.
Scott L. Rasmussen, 40, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony aid and abet theft. He was sentenced to \$1,081, 2 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, maintain employment, chemical dependency evaluation, mental health evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 120 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of April 17 – 21:

By RICK BUSSLER Publisher

A Steele County dairy farmer is cleaning up after a blaze destroyed a large shed Monday morning.
Fire broke out shortly after 8 a.m. on the Reid Stransky dairy farm in the 3200 block of Austin Road south of Owatonna. Huge plumes of thick, gray smoke could be seen for miles in the area of Highways 218 and 14. About 40 firefighters from

Owatonna, Blooming Prairie and Ellendale fought the fire, which was brought under control around noon.
Owatonna Fire Commander Bruce Thomas said firefighters got some help from Mother Nature with Monday morning's rain showers. "The wet conditions helped and saved other structures on the farm," he said, noting there was no damage to any other buildings on the farm. "We had something going in our favor."

Sheriff warns about roadside cleaning

By RICK BUSSLER Publisher

With spring clean-up underway around the region, a top public safety official is warning citizens about roadside cleaning.
Dodge County Sheriff Scott Rose is cautioning people who may be involved in any type of roadside cleaning project. "If you should come across a capped soda or sports drink bottle that has an unusual looking substance inside, please be extremely cautious," Rose warns. He

added pop bottles with straws in the caps are also a sign of potential danger.
Rose said the problem arises from the growing methamphetamine issue across the country. Drug users will often manufacture meth in what is referred to as "shake and bake" method. Once they obtain their meth product, they will often discard the bottles in roadside ditches.
If the discarded bottles are opened and oxygen gets in with the volatile chemicals, the bottle could blow up and cause serious injury or even death, according to Rose.
The sheriff said persons who come

across such an item should not touch it and contact police right away.
Rose initially posted a message on the sheriff's Facebook page about this roadside warning April 23. Since then, the post has been shared thousands of times. He was inspired to post the message after seeing some people picking up bottles in a ditch near his home.
In April, a sheriff's deputy found several needles in a ditch that were properly removed and disposed of.
Rose said being careful with litter around roadside ditches could save someone's life.

Blooming Prairie Police Department
Valita K. Beckett, 36, Athens, WI, no child passenger restraint system, \$131; Adam D. Wacek, 32, Hollandale, controlled substance, 27 days in county jail, \$981, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation and 2 years of supervised probation.

MN State Patrol Rochester
Farhiyo M. Ali, 34, Rochester, speeding, \$131; Leonard A. Armstrong, 55, Austin, speeding, \$131; Christopher T. Baas, 40, Albert Lea, expired registration, \$111; Jennifer R. Cabiro, 33, Apple Valley, speeding, \$141; Bradley A. Cleghorn, 35, Rockford, IA, speeding, \$121;
Michael J. Donahue, 51, Owatonna, expired registration, \$111; Cayden J. Elmore, 22, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Diana P. Escamilla, 38, Faribault, no child passenger restraint system, \$131; Ethan A. Frank-Wallig, 17, Rochester, speeding, \$141; Greta T. Geist, 21, Burnsville, speed-

ing, \$131; Yolanda V. Grimaldo, 47, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Eric M. Hancock, 40, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Owen X. Larson, 20, Edina, speeding, \$141;
Katherine J. Leppert, 54, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Christie G. Onyambu, 34, Hopkins, cancelled license, \$281; Nicholas M. Plowman, 45, Dodge Center, speeding, \$121;
John C. Reiss, 57, Finlayson, seat belt, \$106; Angela M. Robinson, 38, Northfield, speeding, \$141; Keith A. Saunders, 54, Odin, vehicle weight violation, \$281; Travis P. Schultz, 30, Owatonna, illegal u-turn, \$131; Austin P. Schuster, 20, Dover, DE, divided highway cross-over violation, \$131;
Taneesha M. Shaw, 33, Charles City, IA, seat belt, \$106; Ruon Y. Tut, 23, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Pablo F. Villarreal Naula, 44, Minneapolis, no license, \$181; Justin J. Walton, 20, Rosemount, speeding, \$221;
David P. Weller, 52, public nuisance, \$181; Dwayne P. Winfield, 44, League City, TX, speeding, \$121; Luis A. Zepeda Lopez, 35,

Houston, TX, no license and no insurance, \$381.

Owatonna Police Department
Tamara J. Atkinson, 41, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$131; Mandy M. Bachelder, 41, Blooming Prairie, theft, \$81, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Jill P. Bremer, 40, Lane Rock, IA, no insurance, \$2,181;
Harvey R. Dubay, 28, St. Paul, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Nikita M. Finley, 27, St. Paul, no insurance and revoked license, \$181, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Vicente Guzman, 25, Owatonna, no insurance and no license, \$381;
Larry D. Haberman, 45, Blooming Prairie, controlled substance, stay of adjudication, \$81, 38 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation and 2 years of supervised probation; Logan J. Harden, 19, Dodge Center, theft, \$81, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction;

Roger A. Hinchley, 42, Austin, theft, \$81 and 90 days in county jail;
Sherice M. Jackson-Marshall, 29, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, stay of adjudication, \$231 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Sommer L. Jensen, 18, Owatonna, theft, \$81, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Nicole B. Johnson, 25, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281;
Shawn M. Lyons, 23, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$181, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Shyane M. Mensing, 29, Forest City, IA, revoked license, \$281;
Joseph D. Mork, 33, Minneapolis, revoked license, \$281; Payton M. Nelson, 19, Owatonna, violation of restraining order, stay of adjudication, \$181 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction;
Royelio E. Padilla, 30, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Sonny San, 30, Fresno, CA, DWI, \$381, 3 days in county

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

- Troy Meyer – no insurance - \$1,000 bail
- Jerry Millang – cancelled license – no bail
- Gina Miller – worthless check - \$3,000 bail
- Samuel Miller – soliciting without permit - \$131 bail
- Imaan Moloo – criminal sexual conduct - \$10,000 bail
- Dayson Montanto – DWI - \$1,000 bail
- Rafael Montoya – drugs - \$30,000 bail
- Michael Moore – violation of conditions of release – no bail
- Reynaldo Morales – possession of stolen property - \$1,000 bail
- Bryce More – arson - \$500 bail

- Joshua Moreno – domestic assault - \$1,000 bail
- Jose Mota – theft - \$1,000 bail
- Dylan Mott – vehicle registration violation - \$300 bail
- Guadalupe Munoz – false name - \$3,000 bail
- Ricardo Munoz – DWI - \$6,000 bail
- Charlene Murry – DUI – no bail
- Deq Mursal – DWI - \$3,000 bail
- Olvidio Narraez – DWI, no license - \$1,000 bail
- Jennifer Nekolite – disorderly conduct - \$500 bail
- James Neubauer – traffic - \$500 bail

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

ACTIVE WARRANTS

Experts urge parents, doctors to protect children during outbreak

With 20 cases of measles now confirmed among Somali Minnesotan children in Hennepin County, health officials across the state are asking parents and health care providers to watch for potential cases and help make sure as many Minnesota children as possible are protected through vaccination.

Measles is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and even death. It spreads very easily among unvaccinated people. The Minnesota Department of Health stresses the importance of its vaccine recommendations, which protect children and adults during outbreaks:

- All Minnesota children 12 months and older who have not received a measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine should get it now.
- Adults who have never received the MMR vaccine and have never had measles should get the vaccine now.

MDH also recommends that all Somali Minnesotan children statewide who have already received their first dose of MMR vaccine get their second dose now. This special vaccine schedule is commonly recommended during outbreaks instead of waiting until 4 to 6 years old for the second dose. Parents of Somali Minnesotan children should contact their child's health care provider and specifically tell them the child needs the MMR vaccine. This may help avoid a longer wait associated with scheduling a routine appointment.

MMR vaccine is given to children in two doses. The first dose offers good protection, and the second dose provides extra security. Providers seeing children in Hennepin County may suggest an early second dose of the MMR vaccine during routine appointments.

MDH recommends children get their first MMR vaccine at 12 months. Babies younger than 12 months may have some protection from their mothers if their mothers have been vaccinated or have had measles.

Vaccine recommendations may expand if the measles outbreak spreads to more communities. MDH and Hennepin County are working to identify all places where people could have been exposed to measles. They are contacting parents of children who were exposed and are at risk of getting measles to provide them with instructions.

Minnesotans who have received the MMR vaccine are considered protected. MDH encourages people to check their records to confirm that they and their children have received the MMR vaccine. Many Minnesotans can request their vaccination records by visiting Immunization Records Requests.

For parents concerned about the cost of immunizations, the Minnesota Vaccines for Children Program provides free or low-cost vaccines for eligible children through age 18. More information is available at Can My Child Get Free or Low Cost Shots?

"This is about unvaccinated children, not specific communities," Minnesota Health Commissioner Dr. Ed Ehlinger said. "There are people of all backgrounds around the state who have chosen not to protect themselves or their children. Often that decision is based on good intentions and inaccurate information. It's the responsibility of all of us who care about the health of Minnesota children to make sure people have accurate information and take action to protect their families and their communities."

Measles symptoms include a high fever, cough, runny nose and watery eyes followed by a rash that typically spreads from head to the rest of the body. It spreads easily by coughing, sneezing or even being in the same room with someone who has measles. Most people in Minnesota are immune either from having been vaccinated or from having had the disease. However, in recent years vaccine rates have declined in some communities and groups – often due to fears related to misinformation about vaccine risks.

For more information on measles and for updates as the investigation continues, please visit Measles.

jail, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Anthony E. Wadley, 41, Owatonna, domestic assault, \$181, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no possession of firearms, obtain permission to leave the state and 2 years of supervised probation; Carter J. Warner, 16, Owatonna, speeding, \$281;

Nicole G. Weller, 24, Medford, invalid license, \$181; Brandon D. Wencil, 22, Owatonna, possession of marijuana and careless driving, \$381, no alcohol or controlled substance use, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation.

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Samuel J. Auringer, 23, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Leonardo Avalos, 21, Owatonna, possession of marijuana, \$131; Jordan P. Berget, 26, Minneapolis, speeding, \$221; Victor M. Contreras, 28, Blooming Prairie, speeding and no insurance, \$331; Victor J. De Alba, 40, Owatonna, speeding, \$121;

Nicole J. Dut, 35, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Ian R. Gillis, 17, Medford, speeding, \$381; Mallory A. Hennen, 23, Morris-town, speeding, \$121; Douglas G. Johnson, 68, New Richland, speeding, \$121; Grant D. Johnson, 30, Minneapolis, expired tabs, \$111; Nathan L. Larson, 18, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Nicole L. Loberg, 23, Sartell, speeding, \$121;

Tracy C. McGilberry, 57, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; James R. Mimmack, 50, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Luke A. Notermann, 19, Blaine, speeding, \$121; Mark E. Risty, 44, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Kathleen R. Ronningen, 39, Medford, expired license, \$181; Logan R. Saltou, 19, Rochester, speeding, \$141; David A. Scanlan, 49, Parkersburg, IA, speeding, \$121;

Todd J. Searles, 52, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$141; Ricky L. Shelton, 50, Ellendale, assault, \$381, 2 days in county jail, Domestic Abuse Diagnostic Assessment and 1 year of supervised probation; Consuelo Y. Vasquez, 43, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$141; Jerry C. West, 42, Faribault, stop sign, \$131; Margrete L. Willert, 34, Geneva, speeding, \$141.

POLICE BLOTTER Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office handled 208 complaints during the week of April 19 – 25. Some of them include:

April 19

Civil. At 5:16 p.m., a Claremont citizen reported receiving harassing text messages.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to an aggressive juvenile creating a disturbance in the 500 block of Meadow Lark Lane in Dodge Center at 8:15 p.m.

April 20

Suspicion. At 12:46 a.m., a citizen called deputies after he had picked up a male hitchhiker at State Hwy. 30 and County Rd. 13 in Hayfield. During the ride, the male talked about how he and his girlfriend were fighting. He acted paranoid. The driver dropped him off, and deputies were unable to later locate him.

Indecent Exposure. Deputies responded to a report of a teenage male urinating in public in the 400 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield at 7:23 p.m.

April 21

Suspicion. Deputies responded to suspicious activity in the 75500 block of State Hwy. 56 in Hayfield at 1:14 a.m.

Larceny. Deputy took a larceny report in the 800 block of Hwy. St. W. in Dodge Center at 4:27 p.m.

Juvenile. Deputies received a complaint that a juvenile was acting out of control in the 200 block of East St. N. in Claremont at 7:44 p.m.

Disturbance. At 6:19 p.m., deputies responded to a dispute over a parking spot in the 400 block of 2nd St. W. in Claremont.

Domestic. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance on Main St. E. in Dodge Center at 6:34 p.m. They took one male into custody to the Steele County Jail.

April 22

Threats. At 2:14 p.m., a subject made threats in the 100 block of 2nd St. NE in Hayfield.

Harassment. A West Concord citizen reported receiving harassing text messages at 7:02 p.m.

April 23

Dumping. An environmental dumping incident occurred at 220th Ave. and 605th St. in Dodge Center at 1:35 p.m.

Narcotics. Deputies responded to a narcotics incident in the 100 block of 5th St. SW in Dodge Center at 1:36 p.m.

Fire. At 10:20 p.m., deputies responded to a grass fire in the 63000 block of 120th Ave. in Claremont.

April 24

Driving. Deputies received a complaint of two cars driving in a cornfield in the 68700 block of 130th Ave. in Blooming Prairie at 1:02 a.m.

Larceny. At 11:20 a.m., deputy took a larceny report on 6th Ave. SE in Hayfield.

Crash. An accident between a fertilizer spreader and a pick-up truck occurred at County Rd. 3

and County Rd. 10 in Claremont at 1:28 p.m. There were no injuries.

Stolen Property. Deputy made a traffic stop and found stolen property at State Hwy. 56 and 690th St. in Hayfield at 8:03 p.m.

Larceny. A citizen reported stolen license plates on Main St. W. in Dodge Center at 8:05 p.m.

April 25

Narcotics. Deputies responded to narcotics incident on Main St. E. in Dodge Center at 3:05 p.m.

Trespassing. At 4:03 p.m., a trespassing incident occurred in the 100 block of 5th St. SW in Dodge Center.

Harassment. A Dodge Center citizen reported at 7:34 p.m. that her juvenile daughter was being harassed online.

Domestic. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of 2nd St. SE in Hayfield at 10:59 p.m.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of April 17 – 24:

Dodge County Sheriff's Office

Maurice Allen, 41, Dodge Center, fleeing a peace officer, \$455; Quade S. Barry, 18, Mantorville, careless driving, \$455; Jeffrey A. Crilly, 54, Mantorville, stop sign, \$130; Jesus Gutierrez, 31, Dodge Center, revoked license, \$280;

Judith K. Hanson, 70, Kasson, stop sign, \$130; David W. Johnson, 60, Hayfield, failure to yield, \$380; Megan A. Johnson, 17, Hayfield, speeding, \$380;

Joshua J. Mitchell, 29, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$64; Kuoviy K. Omot, 20, Austin, suspended license and no insurance, \$480; Hunter O. Smith, 19, Chatfield, no license in possession, speeding, no insurance and careless driving, \$100;

Matthew J. Smith, 42, Mantorville, stop sign, \$130; Randy L. Starkson, 56, Dodge Center, revoked license, \$280; Marcus S. Sternberg, 23, Mankato, speeding, \$130; Lauren A. Stienessen, 20, Byron, suspended license and speeding, \$420.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Justin G. Annis, 28, Kasson, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; Brittany F. Breaker, 26, Rochester, revoked license and seat belt, \$305;

Melinda K. Fields, 41, Mantorville, speeding, \$130; Ebony M. Houghton, 30, Kasson, revoked license, \$280; Robert S. Hoiseth, 41, Austin, seat belt, \$105; Mary E. Lamotte, 25, Dodge Center, window tint violation, \$130;

Sherie R. Roland, 52, Hay-

field, seat belt, \$105; Derek D. Salsbery, 40, Rochester, speeding, \$140; Evan B. Sobek, 31, Rochester, speeding and license violation, \$340; April M. Stasko, 44, Hayfield, suspended license, \$280; Cody T. Weis, 22, Plainview, seat belt, \$105.

West Concord Police Department

Lucas J. Bakken, 21, Kenyon, speeding, \$220; Carla E. Coke, 42, Pine Island, parking violation, \$32.

ARREST Steele County

Owatonna Police

Cody James Parkos, 20, arrested at 4 p.m. April 21, probation violation apprehension and detention arrest, held for court.

Dean Scot Aarsvold, 55, arrested at 1:28 p.m. April 23, theft, possession of meth and paraphernalia, held for court.

Michelle Lynn Hendrickson, 46, arrested at 9:05 p.m. April 23, DWI, held for court.

Joseph Dean Mork, 33, arrested at 6:50 p.m. April 26, possession of controlled substance, held for court.

William Merton Douglas, 47, arrested at 1:54 p.m. April 27, felony possession of controlled substance and interference with 911, held for court.

Richard Dominguez, 44, arrested at 2:42 p.m. April 27, warrant arrest, body only.

Steele County Sheriff

Terry Allen Lester, 43, arrested at 8:40 p.m. April 22, violation of order for protection, held for court.

Stephanie Ann Thompson, 41, arrested at 9:05 p.m. April 22, possession of controlled substance and DWI, held for court.

Alexander Jay Brown, 21, arrested at 12:14 a.m. April 23, DWI and possession of controlled substance and paraphernalia, held for court.

OWATONNA FIRE

April 22

Smoke. Fire personnel responded to an odor of smoke in the 300 block of 13th St. NE at 7:55 p.m.

April 23

Fire. At 2:38 p.m., fire fighters responded to a building fire in the 4300 block of Kenyon Road.

Grass Fire. A grass fire occurred in the 2400 block of School St. at 1:53 p.m.

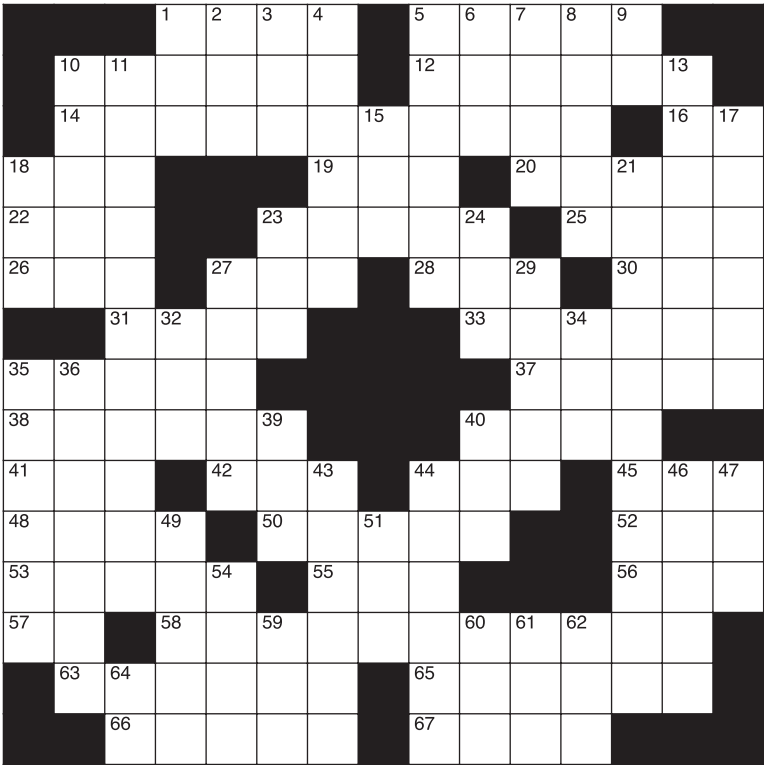
April 24

Crash. Fire rescue responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries in the 4000 block of 8th St. SW at 12:34 p.m.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Hot meal
- Razor clams
- Blood-sucking African fly
- Chauvinists
- Windy City football player
- An alternative
- Federal Housing Administration
- Styles hair
- Arabic female name
- Paddle
- Area once separated from Germany
- Marketplace
- Gode Airport
- Upset
- Where wrestlers sweat
- Garland
- Robert __, poet
- An iPad is one
- Fruit of the oak tree
- Della __, singer
- Women's clothing retailer
- Mailed
- Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- Pouch
- Radioactivity unit
- Month
- Nanosecond
- Domestic
- What a boy becomes



- Breezes (anc. Greek)
- Jogged
- At the stern
- Lawrencium
- Destruitive to both sides
- Arterias
- Removes

- Pretentious people
- Tropical Asian plant

CLUES DOWN

- Type of whale
- Type of medication
- Land of the free
- Formed an opinion of

- Logo
- No (Scottish)
- Leaves tissue
- Sacred state to Muslims
- Thus
- African nation
- Someone who has a stake in
- Parties
- Subsystem producers
- Large, flightless birds
- Compromises visibility
- A ballet enthusiast
- More (Spanish)
- Skeletal muscle
- Hands (Span.)
- Weighed
- Businessman
- Famous clock Big __
- Unkeyed
- Break between words
- Ink (slang)
- Disappointed
- Stroke
- Curdled milk
- Restaurants
- Explosive
- Type of terrier
- Disfigure
- Innermost cell layers
- Bar bill
- Distinct period of history
- Mode of transportation
- Equal (prefix)
- Operating system

Let's get you movin!

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PREMIER REALTY

Jennifer Walsh
507-438-6676
email: jenwalsh@kw.com
web: jenwalsh.kw.com



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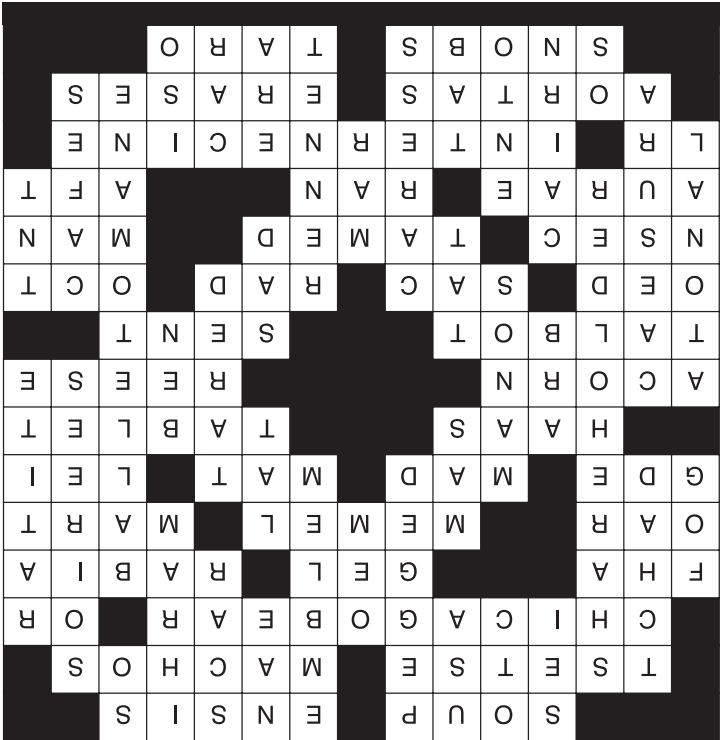
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Crossword solution

Legal Notices

Foreclosure

17-105521

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: June 20, 2003
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$118,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Corey R. Winter and Nicole M. Winter, Husband and Wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

MIN#: 1001625-0005863524-5
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Sterling State Bank
SERVICER: Seterus, Inc.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed June 23, 2003, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A 311960
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association; Thereafter assigned to Federal National Mortgage Association.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 4 in Block 14, In the original town (now city) of Owatonna, Minnesota, subject to easement dated the 1st day of September, 1982, and recorded on the 2nd day of September, 1982, in Book 170, Page 488 as document #184321 covering the West 9 Feet of Lot 4 in Block 14 in the original town (now city) of Owatonna, Minnesota

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 221 Main St E, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-100-1404
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$96,911.10
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 23, 2017, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on November 23, 2017, or the next business day if November 23, 2017 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 FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

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

Dated: March 31, 2017

Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") 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

4/4, 4/11, 4/18
4/25, 5/2, 5/9

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

MORTGAGOR(S): Ronald G. Dagit and Shirley A. Pichner, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., a California corporation n/k/a Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. as successor-in-interest to all permitted successors and assigns of JPMorgan Chase Bank as Trustee for MASTR Alternative Loan Trust 2003-5, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2003-5 by assignment recorded on January 3, 2017 as Document Number A000411299 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$37,350.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: March 25, 2003
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 26, 2003 as Document Number A308726 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$31,390.95
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: N 1/2 of Lot 26, Block 3, E. Abbott's Second Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota, except the East 7 feet of said N 1/2, Steele County, Minnesota
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 327 GROVE AVE N, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota

TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc., a California corporation n/k/a Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-108-0326
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.
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 23, 2017 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on November 27, 2017.
THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on November 27, 2017.

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

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: March 29, 2017

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO ALL PERMITTED SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF JPMORGAN CHASE BANK AS TRUSTEE FOR MASTR ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2003-5, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2003-5

Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/

Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(17-0368-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

4/4, 4/11, 4/18
4/25, 5/2, 5/9

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

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

MORTGAGOR(S): Benjamin T. Flemke and Nicole L. Cunningham a/k/a Nicole L. Flemke, both single people
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$105,650.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: November 16, 2004
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on November 18, 2004 as Document Number A000327386 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$86,860.07
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 18 in Block 1 in O'Briens Addition to the City of Owatonna Minnesota. Except; the North 50 feet of said Lot 18, intending to release the South 8 1/4 feet of vacated alley and North 41 3/4 feet of said Lot 18, Steele County, Minnesota
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 508 MOUND STREET, OWATONNA, MN 55060-2828

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-127-0121

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

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 30, 2017 at 10:00 AM

PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2017.

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

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: April 5, 2017

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/

Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(17-0408-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

4/11, 4/18, 4/25
5/2, 5/9, 5/16

Probate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

AMENDED NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-626

Estate of Shirley I. Wanous, Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on May 15, 2017, at 10:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Owatonna Fire Hall, 107 W. Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, October 14, 2004, and ("Will"), and for the appointment of Marilyn Reistad, whose address is 849 NE 36th Street, Owatonna, MN, 55060 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to

administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

BY THE COURT,

Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court
4/18/2017

Sonia Kocher
Court Administrator
4/18/2017

Attorney for Petitioner
David L. Einhaus
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 26190
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com

4/25, 5/2

Notice

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN COUNTY OF STEELE

IN DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File Number: 74-CV-17-532

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

In the Matter of the Petition of Federal National Mortgage Association for an Order directing entry of a new certificate of title after mortgage foreclosure.

TO: JANET L. EThERTON

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 22nd day of May, 2017 at 9:30 a.m., Steele County Courthouse, 107 West 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. 10399 and enter a new Certificate of Title for Lot 7, Block 2, Brooktree, (an Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota.) in favor of the Federal National Mortgage Association free of the memorial of the following documents:

#T000025494; #T000021515; #T000021516; #T000025027; #T000025498; #T000025499; #T000025773; #T000029005; #T000030781; #T000030782; #T000031922; #T000032178; #T000051393; #T000067065; #T000067096; #T000073604; #T000073884; #T000073886; #T000073887; and T000074008;

and free of the memorial of this Order, but subject to all other memorials and recitals appearing on Certificate of Title No. 10399.

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, /s/ Karen Duncan 4/5/2017
Judge of District Court

Attorney for Petitioner:

The Academy Law Group
Rebecca F. Schiller
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Approved as to form:

By: /s/ David L. Einhaus
David L Einhaus, Examiner of Titles

4/25, 5/2

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

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

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-676

Estate of Phyllis D. Reynolds AKA Phyllis Delores Reynolds Decedent

Notice is given that an application for informal probate of the Decedent's will dated February 25, 2010, and separate writing(s) under Minnesota Statutes section 424.2-513 ("Will"), has been filed with the Registrar. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Registrar has informally appointed Richard Dean Peterson, 6649 Harlan Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55346 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 representatives 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.

A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.

BY THE COURT,

Kris Schmitz
Registrar
4/18/2017

5/2, 5/9

Notice

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court File Number: 74-CV-17-607 Case Type: Harassment

Notice of Issuance of Harassment Order For Relief by Publication

Kimberly Gaalawy O/B/O Minor Children

Petitioner(s)

vs.

Jarrold Stencil

Respondent(s)

To Respondent named above:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Harassment Order For Relief has been issued in the above matter.

A hearing is scheduled for _____at _____m. at _____.

You may request on this matter if you file a Request For Hearing with the Court within 45 days issuance of the Harassment Order For Relief. You may obtain a copy of the Harassment Order For Relief from the court administrator's office at the following address: Steele County Courthouse, 107 West Main Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.

Failure to appear at the schedule hearing or to obtain a copy of the Harassment Order For Relief will not be a defense to prosecution for violation of the Court's order.

Kim Wobschall 4.26.2017
Court Administrator/Deputy

5/2, 5/9

MnDOT commemorates Worker Memorial Day

The Minnesota Department of Transportation in Rochester commemorated Worker Memorial Day on Thursday honoring workers who died on the job on MnDOT construction and maintenance projects.

Since 1960, 34 MnDOT employees and 15 private sector contractors have died while working on Minnesota highways. In MnDOT District 6, the 11-county region in southeast Minnesota, which includes Steele and Dodge counties, six workers have died while working since 1960.

They include:
Eugene Mitchell: He died working for MnDOT while in District 6 on April 23, 1964.

Earl D. Held: He died while on a survey crew. He was on Highway 65 when 3 of the 4 men were struck by an automobile on Oct. 30, 1964.

Roy Carls: He was on his way home from a meeting when his vehicle left the road and hit a bridge abutment. He died March 2, 1968.

Jerry Holter: He was struck and run over by a truck while performing inspection duties on Oct. 16, 1973.

Grayston Cain: He lost his life when he was struck by a truck while he was performing inspection duties on Aug. 28, 1980.

Thomas Schmit: He fell from a falsework deck suspended under a bridge and drowned in the Mississippi River on Oct. 21, 1994.

In recognition of Worker Memorial Day, the Interstate 35W bridge in Minneapolis was lit orange on Friday. In Rochester the event was held a day earlier. Mayor Ardel Brede has proclaimed Thursday, April 27 as Worker Memorial Day in Rochester. A proclamation was read at the Rochester event.

“Each year, we gather for a moment to recognize and remember the men and women who have lost their lives while working on Minnesota’s highways,” said Jeff Vlaminc, district engineer in District 6. “Our

construction season is taking off with many projects started or beginning next week, so this is a timely reminder for everyone to focus on safe driving in work zones. We want all of our workers to safely return to their families at the end of each day.”

Motorists taking the vast majority of work zone deaths and injuries. MnDOT encourages motorists to follow these recommendations in work zones:

- Stay alert
 - Watch for signs, equipment and workers
 - Minimize distractions, such as using cell phones, eating or drinking
 - Avoid tailgating
 - Follow posted speed limits and directional signs
 - Stay in one lane while driving through a work zone
- Visit www.mndot.gov/workermemorial/ to learn more about the permanent worker memorial located at MnDOT’s Central Office in St. Paul.

LTO’s ‘Funny Girl’ cast announced

Little Theatre of Owatonna is pleased to announce the cast for the summer Musical “Funny Girl” opening June 16.

The musical is set in and around New York City just prior to and following World War I. Ziegfeld Follies star Fanny Brice, awaiting the return of her husband, Nicky Arnstein, from prison, reflects on their life together, and their story is told as a flashback. The story is told with comedy, drama, romance and plenty of music including, “People” and “Don’t Rain On My Parade”.

The Cast:
Emma Hellevik (Fanny Brice) Kenneth Griswold (Nicky Arnstein), Isaiah DaMit (Eddie), Heather

Burke (Mrs. Brice), Vidette Ostermeier (Mrs. Strakosh), Gail Zollner (Mrs. Omalley), Diane Suarz (Mrs. Meeker), Christine Johnson (Emma, chorus), Michael Burke (John, ensemble), Ron Hager (Mr. Renaldi, Paul, Heckie), Bill Wood (Mr. Keeney), Jerry Qualley (Florenz Ziegfeld), Don Hettinga (Wedding Tenor, ensemble), Ethan Pick (ensemble, chorus), Dave Phillips (ensemble, chorus), Sherry Khuns, (ensemble), and Heather Speiker (ensemble).

Show Girls and ensemble:
Alyssa Crum, Kara Kubista, Michelle Minton, Kenna DaMit, and Deirdra Jorgensen.
Orchestra:

Herbie Rand violin, Moriah Dant-violin, Lisa Revier-cello, Howard Kittleson-string bass, Marla Holt-flute, Alana Pekuri-clarinet and saxophone, Mark Kuklok-trumpet, Jon Holt-trumpet, Suzette Kuklok-horn, Craig Kautz-trombone, Daniel Nolte-percussion, and Kristi Westgard-keyboard.

Artistic Director is Linda Karnauskas, Musical Director Larry Ostermeier, Technical Director Brenda Hager, Orchestra Leader Ray Lacina, and Choreographer Katie Gillespie.

Performances of ‘Funny Girl’ will be 7:30 p.m. on June 16, 17, 22, 23 and 24. Matinee performances will be 2 p.m. on June 18 and 25.

Lane closures underway on Highway 14 by Owatonna

Lane closures on Highway 14 between Interstate 35 and Steele County Road 45 began May 1 as crews prepare to replace two bridges on this stretch of highway south of Owatonna, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Later this week, the northbound Interstate 35 off-ramp to Highway 14 east at Owatonna will close and traffic will be detoured. Motorists traveling northbound on I-35 to eastbound Hwy 14 will be detoured. The detour route involves three traffic ramp loops: Hwy 14 west ramp to the I-35 south ramp to the Hwy 14 east ramp to connect with eastbound traffic. Traffic on Hwy 14 will travel in single lanes in each direction in the westbound lanes during construction.

The traffic changes are part of an overall project south of Owatonna where 10 bridges will be replaced over two years on I-35 (six bridges) and Hwy 14 (four bridges).

Meanwhile traffic on I-35

south of Owatonna continues to travel in single lanes in each direction in the northbound lanes. Southbound lanes are closed until mid-September while three bridges are replaced. The Straight River Rest Area for southbound traffic is closed during construction. The northbound rest area is under construction and is expected to open later in the summer.

Traffic backups are likely on I-35, especially on weekends. Motorists can decrease traffic backup dangers and move more efficiently through a merge point by using both lanes of traffic while approaching the merge. To learn more, to go MnDOT’s website on the “zipper merge” www.dot.state.mn.us/zippermerge/.

MnDOT has signs posted 10 miles out warning of the potential of I-35 traffic backups and will have flashing signals activated when backups are occurring to alert drivers of slower moving or stopped traffic ahead.

On I-35, bridges over the Straight River, Turtle Creek and the Union Pacific Railroad are being replaced. On Highway 14, bridges over the Straight River and the Union Pacific Railroad are being replaced. Bridges southbound on I-35 and eastbound on Highway 14 are being replaced in 2017. The adjacent northbound and westbound bridges will be replaced in 2018.

Lunda Construction Company is the prime contractor for the \$29.6 million project. Motorists interested in more information about the project, may visit the MnDOT project website at www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/steelecty-bridge/index.html and sign up for email updates on the project.

Motorists should always be attentive, drive with caution, slow down in work zones and never enter a road blocked with barriers or cones. For real-time traffic information in Minnesota, call 511, visit www.511mn.org.

St. Columbanus hosts spring fair



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Some tasty pork sandwiches were served by smiling volunteers at the annual Council of Catholic Women of St. Columbanus Church of Blooming Prairie Spring Fair on Sunday, April 23. Working the food line were Pam Hameister, Sandy Jones and Pam Smith.

How to plant a tree for successful growth

More sunlight and warm temperatures frequently inspire homeowners to spend more time in the great outdoors during spring and summer.

Outdoor projects often top homeowners’ to-do lists in spring and summer, with gardens and landscapes taking center stage. Planting more trees around the yard is one popular project that can improve property value and benefit the environment.

Why plant trees?
There are plenty of reasons to plant trees. Trees provide a natural form of shade, reducing air temperature by blocking the sun’s rays. This can reduce reliance on air conditioning systems and make it more comfortable to spend time outdoors during the summer.

North Carolina State University College of Agriculture & Life Sciences says trees absorb and block noise and reduce glare. They also can trap dust, pollen and smoke. Trees also absorb carbon dioxide and potentially harmful gasses from the air. One large tree can supply a day’s worth of oxygen for as many as four people, while also storing 13 pounds of carbon per year.

Getting started
Visit a garden center or nursery and select a tree that will be hardy in your planting zone. Choosing native trees can increase the likelihood that the new tree will adapt to its surroundings. Also, inspect trees to determine if they’re healthy before taking them home. Look for evidence of root girdling, which occurs when the roots circle around the perimeter of the container and surround the trunk. Trees should not have any dead or dormant branches.

The DIY Network suggests locating the tree where it can thrive. This means selecting a spot that can make it easier for the tree to grow tall and wide. Avoid planting near the house, where roots can crack concrete or asphalt, and always plant away from underground pipes.

Planting the tree
Now it is time to amend the soil. It’s not enough to enrich only the soil in the hole where the tree will be placed. Move out into a circular area beyond where the roots will start so that roots can expand and properly anchor the tree. The next method of success is to ensure that the tree has a large enough hole to contain the existing root ball and allow for roots to grow and expand. Better Homes and Gardens experts say

to prepare a hole that is two to three times as wide as the root ball of the tree. Treat the root ball gently. If the roots are wrapped in burlap, remove the burlap or push it to the bottom of the hole.

Backfill the hole with soil and check that the tree is straight. Stake the tree to help it stay upright and straight until the roots anchor it more effectively. A layer of mulch around the base of the tree can prevent weeds and reduce water loss. Water daily for several weeks until the roots have fanned out.

It’s best to leave trees be for the first growing season, only removing broken or diseased limbs. Resist pruning and shaping until the tree has survived its first growing season.



Senate passes funding for Waseca, Rice County veterans memorials

The Minnesota Senate passed House File 707, the 2017 omnibus Legacy Finance bill. The Legacy bill appropriates funding from the proceeds of the 2008 Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Constitutional Amendment. The bill includes \$200,000 for a new Veterans Memorial Grants program to help complete veterans memorials in Rice County and Waseca County.

These projects were originally introduced as individual bills before being

referred to the Legacy Committee. Senate File 693, authored by Sen. John Jasinski (R-Faribault), provided funding for the Rice County memorial, and Senate File 2146, co-authored by Sen. Jasinski, funded the Waseca County memorial.

“These memorials have been in the works for a long time now,” said Sen. Jasinski. “The volunteers who have been spearheading both the Rice County and Waseca County memorials have done a terrific job of raising private

donations, and I’m glad Minnesota is able to come through and help them get over the finish line.”

Rather than funding these individual projects, the Legacy Committee created a new Veterans Memorial Grants program to handle requests for veterans memorials throughout Minnesota. The program will be managed by the Department of Administration. Currently, Rice County and Waseca County are the only projects that have requested funding.

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Recipe Corner

Layered Nacho Dip

16 oz. can refried beans	1 1/2 c. shredded Monterey Jack cheese
1/4 c. chopped green onions	1 c. finely-shredded lettuce
4 oz. can chopped green chilies	1 tomato, diced
1/2 c. mild or hot taco sauce	1 c. chopped black olives

Spread beans in the bottom of a small serving dish, about 6" around.
Neatly layer ingredients in order listed.
Refrigerate until serving time.
Serve with corn/tortilla chips

by Joyce Johns

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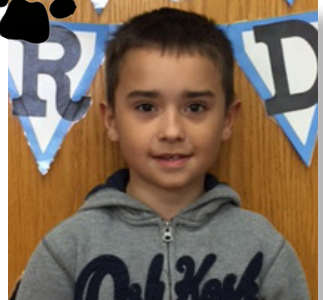


Saturday, May 6, 2017
2:00 – 4:00 PM

Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner PA
314 E Main St, Blooming Prairie

Cookies & Coffee will be served

PANTHER OF THE WEEK



This week's Panther of the Week is Chase Johannsen. He is the son of Dustin and Jill Johannsen and they live in Geneva. He is in Mrs. Ihrke's 2nd grade class.

Chase has a great sense of humor! He is a pleaser and works hard every day at school. Chase is super responsible and is a positive role model in our classroom. He is kind to everyone and has many friends.

Chase wants to be a cop when he grows up. He enjoys football, baseball, and soccer and he loves to collect Pokemon cards. His favorite food is tacos.

Keep up the great work Chase!



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