

Blooming Prairie Times

VOLUME XXVI

BLOOMING PRAIRIE, STEELE COUNTY, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1917.

STATE BANK

HOME BANK

HAVE A SILO THIS YEAR

Every farmer should have a silo this year. It is almost his duty to have one. The silo is not only a source of increased profits to the farmer, but is also a means of meeting the threatened world food shortage.

Cattle refuse to eat corn stalks, and they are wasted. When made into silage they make succulent feed. Cattle like it.

This Bank offers its assistance to the farmers in this community to increase this year's profits and meet the pending food crisis. We will loan you needed funds to increase your silo capacity or build new silos.

FARMERS & MERCHANTS

STATE BANK

OVER \$3,000 COLLECTED FOR RED CROSS

At Mass Meeting Last Friday Evening Over \$1600 Was Pledged For Red Cross Work

The People of Blooming Prairie Have Given Very Liberally Towards This Great Work

Enthusiastic Red Cross Rally Held At Auditorium Friday Evening; Over \$1,650.00 Subscribed

Our local Red Cross Committee arranged for a rally at the Auditorium Friday evening to arouse enthusiasm for the cause before the various district committees did their house canvassing. They secured speakers for the occasion Mr. J. Nickelson of Austin besides A. L. Perry of Owatonna besides local laymen. The band played several pieces, first in the street and afterwards from the orchestra pit. People in goodly numbers came to the meeting and interest was tense. Dr. ally, chairman of the committee presided and with a few well chosen remarks opened the meeting. He believed that even though we made a generous response to this great call would not hurt us a bit. He then called for Rev. Robert Nelson, who spoke very briefly saying that as yet we had not begun to make any real sacrifices except in the cases of the boys who had volunteered and their parents. Many have had their income increased by high prices of war times. This appeal is so urged as to assume the proportions of a demand. Let us meet it in a way

such that it becomes a sacrifice to us—our initial sacrifice for this great cause.

Mr. Nickelson was then introduced and in his well directed address called attention to the need of every one doing his or her bit to win this war. He emphasized the importance of producing and conserving our food supply so as to feed our people and feed the armies of the allies. He urged the need of intense cultivation of our fields, of the use of much spare time in production and employment of any and all kinds. Put in more working hours when you have extra time. The crops look promising. Be sure to save them. Let people of cities and villages willingly go out and help save them that not a bit be lost. He spoke of the need to use only so much food as required for proper nourishment and the elimination of all waste to conserve the food supply of the nation. This included the elimination of the enormous waste of grain for brewing and distilling liquor which at this time, as a war measure, and for patriotic and humanitarian reason ought to be made to cease.

Some of the people who have become rich under the advantageous conditions offered by "Uncle Sam"

A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT

Emil Wanous Killed By Being Struck by Switch Train

Accident Happened Three Miles North Of Town

One of the most horrible and saddest accidents occurred on the Milwaukee road about three miles north of town Thursday morning, when a switch train running backwards to Owatonna at about 12:30 a. m. struck a car on which Mr. Wanous and three other friends were riding. Mr. Wanous was instantly killed and terribly mangled his head being nearly severed from his body and one limb torn almost off. The other three men escaped without injuries.

Emil Wanous together with Martin Holdt, H. E. Smith and Henry Johnson had taken the gasoline motor car and went to Owatonna after supper, to take in the circus. After the show they were returning home and when they got about three miles from town one of the men saw two red lights on the train and hollered "jump and get to the fence." The train was then about 150 feet from the car. There was a heavy fog at the time and it was impossible to see the lights until the train was upon them. It seems that Mr. Wanous jumped a second or two before the others but when he gained the ground he must have grabbed for the car to get it off the track when the train struck, throwing him inside the tracks, terribly mangle him, tearing his head almost from his body and his limbs were also severed.

Mr. Holdt walked to town and got the undertaker and a three seated wagon from the livery and brought the remains to town.

The remains are still at the undertaking rooms of Wood & Matejcek.

Mr. Wanous leaves a wife and six children to mourn his untimely death.

feel that they owe him nothing. Let us not to ingrate but in this call which comes to us for help let us recognize our privilege and give—and give liberally.

Mr. Nicholson was followed by Rev. M. G. Court who spoke briefly in part as follows: "I am very happy to have the privilege and opportunity to speak on the behalf of the Red Cross. Politically I am not in sympathy with President Wilson yet I am proud of him. I am proud of him for two reasons; first, because he is a Presbyterian, our vice president is a Presbyterian, as is also Secretary Lansing. The Presbyterians have played a most conspicuous part in the history of this country; secondly I am proud of the patience which President Wilson has displayed, in meeting crisis after crisis as they have come in this war. Ever since that epoch making statement, 'Too proud to fight,' I have watched very closely the actions of the President and the administration, and in all they have done the almost in their power to keep us out of war. And it seems to me that the President, must have received information concerning the Germanic Allies, which must have put the question of the participation of America in this great world war beyond the shadow of a doubt.

"America was forced into the war. It was not any action of this country that involved us. The war is not a matter between England and Germany, or France and Germany. It is a fight between autocracy and democracy. And now we are at war, we must do our duty as citizens. We need a large and well trained army, but that is not all by any means; a well equipped Red Cross ambulance is a vital essential to the medical needs of our army. I have been through our campaign—the Boer War—therefore I am in a position to express an opinion of experience about this need. In the rapid advance from Modder River or to Bloemfontein the Hospital Corps got left behind, and the ambulances also. Our hospital equipment was poor at the best. The result was, that owing to the lack of doctors, nurses and hospital facilities, in the epidemic of typhoid fever which swept through the army divisions, hundreds of our boys died which could have been saved with the proper care and attention. Our boys are going to fight the triple headed monster of Europe, and many of them most likely will be horribly torn and mangled by shot and shell; it may be your son, or your brother, will be among this number. They are going to fight for us, and but for these sons and brothers it may be the war would be brought to us here in Blooming Prairie. Let us see to it then that our boys of America do not have to face the conditions that the British boys had to face at Bloemfontein in South Africa.

America has been a veritable paradise to the afflicted and downtrodden

den people of Europe who have come to these shores.

They have been given an opportunity in America which they could never have had in the old countries; they have been permitted to develop their ideas and plans unmolested in this free liberty loving America, and now it is up to you to do your duty, and to give liberally and whole heartedly to this most worthy cause, in the interest of our boys, namely the Red Cross. It may be we shall have to respond many times to this deserving object. It is reported that we have already 15,000 men fighting in Europe, so we do not have to wait until our men get there to give, some of them are already there; let us strive to make the Red Cross of America the most efficient in the world."

Mr. O. L. Sperry then was presented to the audience and with fluent words reminded the people of a fact that was a privilege at this time. The boys must have care. When a man has become wounded in battle he has done all that he can do for his country and has become a non-combatant. He must then be cared for. We must do it. We can do it. We will do it. We have invented all the injurious means of death, which they are using in the war over there, the submarine, the airplane, the 45 centimeter guns. We must also furnish relief. Everything about the war is destruction. The Red Cross is the only constructive agency. We can go and care for our boys the Red Cross does it. We can't repair and conserve their health, the Red Cross does it. So let us not be ingrates—undutiful people who have received everything in this land of opportunity but unwilling to give anything.

Dr. Dalley then called for subscription to the Red Cross Fund and even before he paused and faster than he could write the names, E. Morton, H. Noble and Sam A. Rask each gave \$100. No smaller sums than \$10 were subscribed that evening, but in sums between \$100 and \$10, \$1,650 was raised.

Since the meeting of last Friday evening, the different committee were able to get enough money to make the total over \$2,000.

CANNING DEMONSTRATION FRIDAY AFTERNOON

DEMONSTRATION TO BE GIVEN JUNE 29 TO GIVE HIGH COST OF LIVING A BLACK EYE

What are you going to do with your surplus garden stuff this year, assuming that frost and bugs and hail and wet and drought and other

eventualities leave you a surplus? The way we used to do was to eat all we could, then give away all we could and then let the balance rot. Listen.

When you have been buying canned vegetables in the past you have been paying about two cents for the can. Next winter, with the war in full swing you may expect to pay 8 cents per can. Add to this the cost of the vegetables and the charge for putting them into these high priced cans and present costs will look like a gift by comparison.

But you can beat Mr. H. C. L. in this case, or at least you can make him nurse a beautifully swollen optic.

Just deliver this wallop: Be self supporting by raising your own food.

Can your garden stuff. "But how can I can it?" Listen again.

W. V. Gousseff was here Tuesday organizing for a meeting to be held at Cooley's hall, Friday afternoon, June 29—a canning demonstration. He was showing some samples which he had prepared by the cold pack method, which is the one to be dealt with. By using this method the vegetables retain their flavor. You use glass cans and if you haven't enough on hand it would be well to lay in a stock before the prices go up.

Miss Ball of the Home Economics department of the Agricultural College will have charge of the demonstration and will be assisted by Mr. Gousseff and one or two others, the meeting being under the direction of the Steele County Farm Bureau.

"Ordinarily we would not bother with this matter," said Mr. Gousseff, "but under present war conditions it is very important that everyone learn to raise and preserve their own foodstuffs so far as possible. There is to be a general mobilization of the people of the country to this end. It is a war measure, and an effective one and an effort to conserve the resources of the country which should meet with the approval and have the support of every loyal citizen."

Come to the meeting the 29th and come prepared to ask all the questions you want to. An actual demonstration of the canning will be given with the few utensils that are needed to carry it on, right in the hall, and bulletins will be distributed

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT Of The FIRST NATIONAL BANK Blooming Prairie, Minn.

	Dec. 31, 1914	June 20, 1917
Deposits	\$249,021.78	\$405,865.19
Circulation	25,000.00	25,000.00
Capital	25,000.00	25,000.00
Surplus	5,000.00	5,500.00
Profits	1,692.10	4,020.03
	\$305,713.88	\$465,385.22
Loans and Mortgages	\$148,296.57	\$297,521.36
U. S. and Other Bonds	100,629.80	68,723.16
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	300.00	950.00
Banking House, Furniture and Fixtures	10,000.00	31,400.00
Other Real Estate		4,500.00
Five Per Cent Fund	1,250.00	1,250.00
Overdrafts	1,871.24	299.18
Cash Resources	43,366.27	60,741.52
	\$305,713.88	\$465,385.22

This phenomenal increase in our business the past two years and a half is attributed to the fact that we are a member of the United States Federal Reserve System, the largest banking system in the world.

Thru our membership we are enabled to place at the service of our depositors the superior facilities of our United States Federal Reserve Bank. And the resources of the system being always available to us, our depositors may feel sure that their money kept with us is not only safe, but may be drawn out at any time when wanted.

Drop in and talk it over with us.

Ask for our new booklet, "How Does It Benefit Me?"

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Sam A. Rask, President
B. Betlach, Vice-President
C. A. Peterson, Cashier
L. O'Toole, Asst. Cashier

THE COMMUNITY BANK

setting forth in detail he recipes for canning each vegetable and fruit. The meeting and bulletins are free to everyone. Come and bring your friends.

EIGHT BECOME U. S. CITIZENS

Judge A. B. Childress Grants Naturalization Papers Tuesday—Five From Blooming Prairie

Steele county's American citizenship population was increased eight, Tuesday when Judge A. B. Childress completed his Naturalization hearings.

Blooming Prairie, which has been attracting attention through its liberal support of the American Red Cross War Fund and "Save the Crop League" is the residence of five of the recently naturalized Americans.

The men granted citizens papers are taken from the list furnished by Clerk of Court S. C. Goff, Jr., are: Hans Peterson, Arne Brudwick, Ole K. Wold, Frank Wewerka and Hans Peter Herman Hanson of Blooming Prairie. Joseph Motl, Owatonna township; Olaf Hanson, Ellendale and Joseph R. Pichacek, Meriden.

Yellow Ticket Sale

Our big yellow ticket sale will begin next Saturday, June 30, and will close July 5th. Come in and see the many bargains we will offer on these dates. Below we quote only a few of the real ones.

Men's Chambray Work Shirts, one of the biggest specials in this bargain sale, at 50c
Dress Gingham at, per yard 10c
Unbleached Cotton, per yard 10c
Popular American Alarm Clocks, at, each . . \$1.00
Creepers Sandals for Infants, at 55c
12 inch Fiber Suit Cases 35c
Plain and Fancy Oil Clothes at per yard . . . 19c
Millinery Flowers and Trimmings, each . . . 10c
See our large colored bills for further particulars and prices. Here is the most interesting selection of household necessities we have been able to offer. They are the things you need now in your home and the prices are low. Sale begins Saturday.

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Vol. 125, No. 48

Tuesday, June 27, 2017

Serving Blooming Prairie and Steele County since 1893

507-583-4431

Opinion

Our view

Summer is upon us

The overwhelming sense of summer is upon us. She is a week old, and even in her infancy, in Minnesota, she has Progeria. Aging fast and gone too soon.

This summer is the year. It can be your year to shine with the sun. You can jump on this speeding bullet and ride it all the way to your target. What you can't do is treat it like the same old summer just like you can't treat today like the same old day.

As you run or walk a trail each day, there is always something new. Perhaps it's the same trail, the same day of the week that you walked last week, the same month, but nature changes each day. It may be a new weed that springs forth or a different color flower that blooms or even a new scent that wafts through the moment.

The mundane happens when you fail to see something you've never seen and experience something felt. Building blocks of the mundane create dark souls and a front door to depression. We put forth this challenge for the next 30 days to take a 30-minute walk through your community. Walk the same route each day and bring a notebook with you to journal your findings.

Record at least ONE new thing each day. You will most likely find that the list will be into the double digits. Record things you see, things you hear, things you smell, things you touch and even things you taste.

At the end of 30 days you will look back and see how things are always changing, growing, dying, and the cycle of life surrounds you at every turn. If you can train yourself to look for the new, an excitement can develop as you begin to "anticipate" life instead of just endure it.

Think of how your life could change if you remove "same old/same old" from your vocabulary. If you learn not to dread the day, you can learn how to seize the day. And those days will turn to weeks and those weeks to years until your life is full.

You may even get to the point where you quote George Burns who said, "If I had a chance to live my life over, I wouldn't have time."

So many people have worked so hard all across Minnesota to plan races, fun fests, musical concerts, county fairs and reunions, just to name a few. These are people that have encountered life in all of its splendor and majesty. They live to give. They live to make a difference in their communities and in the lives of those of us in Minnesota.

They have learned to create the new instead of curse the old. They have learned that the act of sowing into the lives of others yields a reaping of joy into their own lives.

We would like to say "thank-you" to those who work so tirelessly to make each day new and exciting and different and positive. To those who have learned to love the anticipation of life, we say, "well done," and "YOU GET IT." Purposes of life lived. Really lived rather than just a mere existence.

You are truly people that will leave footprints when you depart. Not only footprints, but you have inspired others to follow and create their own. You have inspired a generation to make a difference.

The quest. Walk your path. Journal your experience. And make your mark.

Summer is already a week old and daylight is already declining. You have much to do.



HOT PURSUIT



RICK BUSSLER

Cancer is a nasty six-letter word that nobody likes to deal with at all. But for every story detailing someone's battle with cancer comes a story of generosity.

Last weekend a benefit was held in Blooming Prairie for the Scott Easton family. Easton is battling brain cancer.

Since Easton has shared his story, an outpouring of generosity has come from all corners of the community. It always amazes me how small communities pull together to help others in great need.

The benefit, spearheaded by Easton's half brother Rod Koster and his wife Tess, brought in around \$17,000. A taco and nacho bar was held at the Pizza Cellar, along with a silent auction. Countless local

An outpouring of generosity

businesses donated gifts to be auctioned off.

Last week we featured Easton in our newspaper with a touching and heart-wrenching account of what he has battled over the past six months.

When I opened the mail Monday morning, I came across a generous note and check from one of our subscribers in Owatonna. The couple was so moved and touched by reading about Easton's battle that they felt compelled to help out with a \$500 donation. They have never met Easton or any of his relatives.

This generous outpouring of support for a total stranger stopped me in my tracks for a moment. I couldn't help but think how people truly do care for others, especially in their times of hardship.

I know acts of kindness like this are played out day after day across our region. Good Samaritans come from all corners of society.

I promptly turned the

check over to Tess Koster, who was still busy compiling the totals from the benefit.

I have never personally met Easton. But I was intrigued about the positive attitude he is keeping through all of this as well as his relationship with God. Easton says he "talks to God" all the time. "He's always there and He will listen. Prayer has helped me big time. It doesn't matter where I am, if I get flustered, He will listen."

Through my own personal struggles, nothing though like Easton is facing, I have learned that prayer and a relationship with God are important to pull through whatever you're facing.

A special thank you to the Kosters for showing their love by putting together the benefit. It's acts like these that make our world a better place to live.

Going in hot pursuit of helping others is really what life is all about any way.

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Letter to the editor

Minnesota Initiative Foundation leaders discuss 'the rural impact'

By **TIM PENNY**

When people try to find Minnesota's secret sauce to our high quality of life and seemingly common sense (comparatively speaking) approach to government, there's sometimes mention of the Itasca Group. This is a group of top Minnesota business leaders who get together every Friday morning to discuss ways to collaborate and advocate for a stronger Minnesota. Itasca Group exemplifies how Minnesotans come together to find win-win, common sense solutions, and then back those solutions with capital.

In early June, I got together with a lesser-known version of the Itasca Group: the Minnesota Initiative Foundations (MIFs). Every other year, the six presidents of the Minnesota Initiative Foundations, along with their foundation board

members and select guests, gather at Grandview Lodge in Nisswa. While the MIF presidents communicate often around shared initiatives, this retreat is a special gathering that allows our board members to join us harnessing the power of the unique-to-Minnesota MIF model.

This year, nearly 90 participants attended the MIF Retreat. The topic at hand was "The Rural Impact." Collectively, the six MIFs serve the 80 non-metro counties of Greater Minnesota. As became clear in the last election, there is a sense around the country that the rural voice has not been heard, or valued. Part of the discussion was how to better make the case that rural Minnesota institutions and businesses bolster our state as a whole.

Tony Sertich of Northland Foundation discussed how two of

Minnesota's largest private foundations – Bush Foundation and The McKnight Foundation – both grew out of the success of Iron Range mining giant 3M. Nancy Vyskocil of Northwest Minnesota Foundation underscored that Blandin Foundation, one of Greater Minnesota's best philanthropic partners, has its roots in the forestry and paper industry. She cited that more than 24,000 people are currently employed in the forestry and paper industry and that Blandin has distributed more than \$380 million in Greater Minnesota.

Initiative Foundation's new president Matt Varilek spoke about Greater Minnesota's natural assets, from state parks to bike trails to lakes. He stressed that rural Minnesota's strong tourism generates \$14.4 billion in annual economic activity for the state. Diana Anderson, president at

Southwest Initiative Foundation, let us know that agriculture is still a vital part of our state's economy: ag adds \$75 billion to the state's economy annually and is our second largest employer.

My colleague Anna Wasescha at West Central Initiative spoke about Greater Minnesota's higher education institutions. Anna, a former college president, stated that combined, Greater Minnesota enrolls nearly 375,000 students and that 80% of Minnesota State graduates stay in Minnesota.

When my turn came, I took the opportunity to discuss the impact of Mayo Clinic, which has 68 clinic locations and 34,000 employees in Minnesota. Clearly, Mayo is a growing economic driver in our state.

There is no doubt that Greater Minnesota is rich in assets. Beyond the wealth generated by the

sectors listed above, the Minnesota Initiative Foundations (seeded by The McKnight Foundation) have collectively invested over \$455 million since 1986 to support economic and community development initiatives.

One of the highlights of the retreat was keynote speaker Christopher Ingraham, a Washington Post reporter now residing in Red Lake County. He moved to Red Lake Falls with his growing family after once having pinpointed it as the ugliest place in America. He cited a statistic that 54% of people would like to live in a rural area or small town. In Minnesota, 73% of residents live in an urban area. His presentation raised the question: How do we get more people to "take the plunge?"

When people think "Minnesota," the Twins and Vikings may be the first thing that comes to mind.

However, images of northern woods and glistening lakes are not far behind, followed by names like General Mills, Polaris, Arctic Cat, Mayo, Hormel, Schell's Beer, Red Wing Shoes and Faribault Woolen Mills – all brands that are known nationally and around the world.

The Minnesota Initiative Foundations invest with the understanding that the people who call Greater Minnesota home do so with pride. We understand we have a good thing going, and our doors are open to those who want to follow in Ingraham's footsteps. I invite you to join us in the conversation.

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

Tim Penny is the President & CEO of The Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation.

STEELE COUNTY TIMES
Always local, all the time.

Bussler Publishing Inc.
USPS 058-340

Published weekly on Tuesdays
Postmaster: Send address changes to: Steele County Times
P.O. Box 247
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
Phone: (507) 583-4431
Fax: (507) 583-4445
bptimes@frontiernet.net

A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2017
2 State Awards
2016
6 National Awards
8 State Awards
2015
4 National Awards
7 State Awards
2014
3 National Awards
3 State Awards
2013
2 National Awards
7 State Awards

2012
2 State Awards
2011
4 National Awards
(Awards presented by Minnesota Newspaper Association and National Newspaper Association)
MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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



Happy Birthday Blooming Prairie!



Community to celebrate sesquicentennial in grand style

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

After months of preparation, the big weekend is upon us.

Blooming Prairie will celebrate its sesquicentennial beginning Sunday with a big 150th birthday party in the park. In case of rain, the festivities will move to the Servicemen's Club.

Besides marking the 150th, the city will also celebrate the Old-Fashioned Fourth of July that has become a trademark in the community for decades. Officials decided to combine the two celebrations into one big one over the Fourth. They are touting the extravaganza as "four days of fun."

Over the past week, chamber officials have been busy sprucing up Main Street by adding different color benches in front of various businesses. Flower pots were also displayed earlier this spring.

The four-day festivities will kick off on Saturday with a Blooming Prairie Cemetery Walk from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the BP Cemetery. The walk had been rescheduled from May because of weather.

From 2:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Boys & Girls Club of Blooming Prairie will host its annual Ribfest at the Servicemen's Club.

Sunday's big 150th party kicks off at 12 p.m. with a kiddie parade. At 12:30 p.m., there will be a blessing in the park and picnic followed by a group photo at 1:15 p.m. A balloon release, cake and ice cream will be at 1:30 p.m.

Walter's Wheelhouse Band will perform from 3 to 6 p.m. The star of Walter's is Janelle Kendall, a graduate of Blooming Prairie and now the Stearns County attorney in St. Cloud. The band also features her two adult sons.

"I'm jazzed to be performing in my hometown," Kendall said.

Various businesses, groups and organizations will have displays in the park Sunday afternoon. Local businesses have come up with some creative ways to celebrate the community's 150th anniversary.

Among the excitement, residents will get the opportunity to spin a Wheel O' Cash as a chance to win some extra bucks. Farmers and Merchants Bank of Blooming Prairie will be sponsoring the wheel.

The Times will be offering \$15 subscription specials for new and renewals as a tribute to vintage pricing.

The annual old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration will take place Monday and Tuesday with the bulk of the activities on Tuesday.

Beginning at 7 a.m. on the Fourth, sign-up will take place for folks who want to get in a great morning workout for the annual Awesome Blossom Run/Walk. This year the Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a variety of events that allow everyone to get involved.

SESQUICENTENNIAL
Continued on page 4A

Top prosecutor to dazzle BP at city's 150th birthday party

"The band and music are my fun and stress relief. When you have a high stress job, you need to turn it off for a little bit and decompress."

- Janelle Kendall
Stearns County Attorney

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

A top prosecutor who led the case against Jacob Wetterling's killer is set to charm area residents with music, and not courtroom theatrics, this coming weekend during Blooming Prairie's 150th celebration.

By day, Janelle Kendall serves as the Stearns County Attorney managing a group of 28 attorneys and prosecuting criminals in the St. Cloud area. But come nights and weekends, it's a whole different atmosphere for the Blooming Prairie native. She is the lead singer of Walter's Wheelhouse, a band she started

with her sons in 2012.

She will be performing in the city park from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Walter's Wheelhouse features a mix of music with a groove. The band performs Santana, Bonnie Raitt, Sheryl Crow, but also some country like Carrie Underwood and Martina McBride. There is also some more current music, Train and Megan Trainor.

The band typically plays up to three times a week. Besides being the lead singer, Kendall also plays rhythm guitar. Joining Kendall are her sons, Andrew on vocals and keyboard and Alex on drums; Dan Witte on vocals and lead guitar; John Kirchner on bass and Makcario Johnson as auxiliary



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Stearns County Attorney Janelle Kendall charmed fairgoers on the opening night of the Steele County Fair last year as the lead singer and rhythm guitarist with Walter's Wheelhouse.

percussion.

Both of Kendall's sons are graduates of the boys' choir at St. John's College. Andrew currently serves as high school choir director in Holdingford.

"The band and music are my fun and stress relief," Kendall said, "When you have a high

KENDALL
Continued on page 4A

Board chair accused of improper county business

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

The chairman of the Steele County Board has been accused of improprieties involving his personal business and a county road project.

James Allen Brady, 55, of Waseca, faces a gross misdemeanor charge of officials not to be interested in contracts. He made his first court appearance in Waseca County District Court Tuesday morning. Attorney Jim Ryan

of Rochester is representing Brady in the case, which was charged out by the Olmsted County Attorney's Office to avoid a conflict of interest with Steele County.

If convicted of the charge, Brady would face a maximum sentence of 1 year in jail and a \$3,000 fine.

The charge states that in his official capacity as a county official, Brady wrongfully and unlawfully was directly or indirectly interested in any contract, work, labor or

business to which the county is a party.

Reached by phone Monday morning, Brady did not want to answer any questions regarding the case. "It's a bump in the road," Brady said, noting it has been a distraction for him in taking up his time. "It will work its way out."

Brady assured county residents that the case would not have an impact on what the county board is doing at this time. "It shouldn't change anything," he said.

As District 1 commissioner, Brady represents the cities of Ellendale and Medford, along with several rural townships. He was elected to the board in 2014 and became board chair in January.

Court records show an investigation into Brady's actions with a county road project began a year ago with the Olmsted County Sheriff's Office. The contract involved Steele County road contract #160720. The general allegation was that Brady

was the co-owner of a gravel pit, which was supplying aggregate for the road project.

Steele County entered into the contract for the road contracts on March 22, 2016. During a special session on that date, Brady seconded the motion to award the contract to Ulland Brothers, Inc., which was the main contractor. Four commissioners voted in favor with one abstaining.

BOARD CHAIR
Continued on page 4A



Commissioner James Brady



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Second Front Courthouse layout shifts

BY EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

The courtrooms in Steele are getting a facelift.

The Steele County Courthouse remains under renovation after a broken pipe flooded the building earlier this spring.

The county board has elected to renovate the courthouse while it's closed for repairs, and the new layout has been finalized.

The major changes were made in the placement of the county's courtrooms. Courtroom C, formally a small room on the third floor, is now being placed across from Courtroom A, where Court Administration was prior. The old Courtroom C will now be used for drug court, while Court Administration has been moved to the lower level previously occupied by Probation Services. Probation Services has been moved to a new building.

Courtroom B had its judge's bench on the right side redone to expand the area for court staff to better communicate during trial.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

The new courthouse layout will place courtroom C across from courtroom A and move administration to the lower level, where probation services were formally.

Courtroom A for the time being will remain largely untouched, unless the state offers funds to upgrade the sound system.

Lynn Holthus, the director of Buildings and Grounds for Steele County, predicts the courthouse will probably be open by the first of the year. The delay is because of Courtroom C. The new space

requires custom made furniture that will take 14 weeks to arrive and a couple more weeks to install.

City officials in Owatonna at present will not allow any part of the courthouse to be opened until renovations on all floors are complete for safety reasons.

Blooming Prairie hosts 5K SESQUICENTENNIAL: from page 3A

Beginning at 8:15 a.m., there will be a two-mile walk. At 8:30 a.m., all 5K runners will get to their marks and the gun will sound. Following these will be a ¼-mile Kids Fun Run for ages 11 and under at 9 a.m. on the track field.

The walk costs \$15 while the run is \$25. The kids run is free. The registration covers a t-shirt and the proceeds will go back to the chamber.

Following the 5K is an awards session where runners that place in their age divisions will be recognized.

Organizers say “walk or run for a good cause this Independence Day.” When approached two years ago, Pat Trotman of Blooming Prairie gladly stepped up to over the event.

“I wanted to try something new and challenging,” he said. “Most importantly, I wanted to keep it going rather than letting it die out.”

Last year there were about 120 runners and Trotman

is expecting another great turnout this year.

The parade will kick off at 2:30 p.m. on the Fourth. As of Monday afternoon, there were 100 units committed to the parade. Organizer Karen Fouarge plans to finalize the parade schedule by Thursday so groups still have time to be a part of the parade. Anyone interested in the parade should contact Fouarge at 612-360-9939.

Fouarge said she is pleased with the cross section of units that have already committed to the parade. There will be drum lines, Shrine units, politicians and much more making there way through the parade route.

The festivities will culminate with a fireworks show at Victory Field at 10 p.m. Tuesday.

“Hopefully we get good weather and Mother Nature is kind to us,” Fouarge said. “We look forward to seeing everyone come to Blooming Prairie.”

Eating Fish Safely



MATT JOHNSON

Summertime in Minnesota for many, means spending time on one of our state's many lakes or rivers. And as anglers young and old bring back their catch of the day, an interesting question is raised. How much fish should we be consuming?

To start, let's discuss why health experts set guidelines involving fish consumption in the first place. Although fish is an excellent source of lean protein and contains many vitamins and minerals that are beneficial to our health, eating too much can be problematic.

The main concern posed from eating too much fish, is that fish contain something called methylmercury. Methylmercury is a result of the naturally occurring element mercury interacting with bacteria found in or near water. Over time, as fish grow and consume other organisms, this contaminant gradually builds up in the fish's system as they cannot rid themselves of it, unlike humans.

So, when we consume fish, we also consume their methylmercury. And although our bodies can naturally remove this contaminant, it is a slow process. This means eating too much fish in a short amount of time, can significantly raise methylmercury levels in the body.

High levels of methylmercury have been linked to several serious health complications. Studies have also shown that overexposure can harm brain development in the unborn and young children, while also potentially affecting the nervous system.

Because of this, it is important to know how much methylmercury is in the fish we eat and how often we should be eating them. Considering fish come in many different sizes, have different diets, and come from bodies of water all around the world, it makes sense that fish contain varying levels of methylmercury.

In general, the rule is the smaller the fish, the lesser the risk. Locally caught panfish and store-bought fish such as salmon, herring, sardines, and tilapia are some popular low-mercury options.

Contrastingly, many large predatory fish such as shark, swordfish, and even northern pike caught locally, likely contain high levels and are to be eaten rarely, if at all. Certain bodies of water also contain higher than average levels of mercury. Fish taken from lakes in northern Minnesota generally have higher levels, than those in the southern and central parts of the state.

To reduce your chances of consuming too much methylmercury, consult the Minnesota Department of Health Safe-Eating Guidelines. This will tell you how much and what kinds of fish you can safely eat, including special considerations that should be made for women who are pregnant or may become pregnant and children under the age of 15.

You can also look up water-specific guidelines provided by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, to learn more about lakes and rivers you frequent.

By following these guidelines and consuming fish in moderation, you will be able to get all the health benefits of eating fish, while limiting any potential risks.

Matt Johnson is currently serving as an intern at Steele County Public Health.

Blooming Prairie native to rock town's 150th

KENDALL: from page 3A

stress job, you need to turn it off for a little bit and decompress.”

Kendall got her singing and acting career started in Blooming Prairie where she participated in the school choir, jazz band and high school musicals. She

graduated from BP in 1983.

“I'm jazzed to be performing in my hometown,” Kendall said, noting this is the first time she will be performing with the band in BP. She played last summer at the opening night of the Steele

County Free Fair in Owatonna. She will return to the fair again this year.

She is also excited to be back in BP for the Fourth of July festivities for the first time in many years. In recent years, she

has been committed to being in the community celebration in St. Joseph, a city in her jurisdiction as a prosecutor. “When you're elected you need to be at those community events,” Kendall said.

While Kendall hasn't performed in BP since her high school days, she is excited to be part of the community's sesquicentennial celebration next week. “I'm really looking forward to it,” she said.

Roughly half of the materials came from Brady's pit

BOARD CHAIR: from page 3A

Investigators found that the material being used for the project was coming from Brady's gravel pit. Sourcing the backfill from another gravel pit owned by Ulland eventually solved the material issue, but not until after a substantial amount of material had already come from Brady's pit.

Hanson Hauling and Excavating, which was a sub-contractor for the project, knew of the pit being co-owned by Brady and that they purchased materials to use for the road project. A witness told police he spoke directly to Brady about purchasing the material. Hanson paid Brady

a royalty paying him so much per yard. Just under half of the material needed came from Brady's pit.

After the material was hauled out of the pit for a couple of days, Steele County rejected it due to oversized rock.

Hanson provided a copy of a check dated Dec. 5, 2016 used to

pay for the material to Brady's co-owner for \$1,955.

Brady has owned the gravel pit for 11 years with his brother-in-law.

In a police interview, Brady told investigators he had no idea at the time that he shouldn't have been selling materials from his

pit to the projects. “It is not worth the hassle,” Brady said in his statement.

Brady told the investigator that the property taxes on the gravel put are about \$2,000 a year and he “just wanted to make enough money to pay it.”

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HometownLiving Community Calendar

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

June 26th:
2pm - 2:30pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Medford Manor
4pm - 5pm Owatonna Housing & Redevelopment Authority, 2nd Flr Conference Rm, City Hall
June 27th:
9:30am - 10:30am OPL It's TALE TIME!
June 29th:
2pm - 3pm OPL Independent & World Films
2pm - 2:30pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Medford Manor
6:30pm - 7:30pm OPL Family Story Time
July 3rd:
1pm - 2pm Owatonna, Womanâs Club bridge group, SeniorPlace
2pm - 2:30pm The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Medford Manor
July 4th:
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
10pm Fireworks at dusk, Steele County Fairgrounds

Event Spotlight:
Steele County Historical Society
31st Annual Extravaganza

Join SCHS for our 31st Annual Extravaganza being held July 16th in the Village of Yesteryear. Admission is FREE. Flag raising by the VFW Honor Guard and singing of the National Anthem by Ryan Gillespie will take place at 11:30 in the Village circle.

The day will feature old time hand crafts, demonstrations, stage performances, an antique tractor show, old time games such as potato sack races and musical milk cans and more. A feature this year will be a Mini Barn Raising, sponsored by Mohs Homes. This event will offer children (and adults) a chance to raise a barn and is sure to be a favorite for years to come. Mini Barn Raising will take place next to Gus' Station.

Throughout the day buy your fill of Sloppy Joes, locally-made brats, pork burgers, ice cream, pie and old fashioned soda floats. Don't miss out on the freshly baked bucht, available in the General Store.

Antique farm equipment enthusiasts will have the opportunity to display their vintage iron as part of the 14th Annual Antique Tractor Show. In addition there will be a parade of tractors, "slow races", and contests of driving skill. Attendees will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite tractor. (If you are interested in entering your tractor, please contact the Steele County Historical Society at 507/451-1420). The Tractor Parade will be featured at 2:30 PM.

This Extravaganza of activities take place in the SCHS Village of Yesteryear, 1448 Austin Road, located on the southeast corner of the Steele County fairgrounds. The event runs from 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Exhibits include a 19-structure pioneer village featuring the 1868-69 Dunnell House, Carriage House, Print Shop, Schoolhouse, General Store, Saco Church, Firehall, two cabins, a train depot and caboose, Gus' Station, Blacksmith Shop, the original Owatonna Town Hall, and a Museum of Professions. There will also be FREE admission to the History Center located at 1700 Austin Road. The History Center is currently featuring two exhibits: Over Here, Over There: The Great War, and Autos and Roads: Constructing the Crossroads.

Make the Steele County Historical Society's Extravaganza your destination Sunday, July 16th for some old fashioned family fun!

Extravaganza is graciously supported by Premier Event Sponsor Randall's License Bureau, with additional sponsors Ag Power Implement, Central Farm Services, Larry's Liquor, Legacy Signs, Owatonna Park and Rec, and Tri M Graphics.



ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

June 27th:
7pm - 8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl
June 29th:
5:30pm - 6:40pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7pm - 8pm NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7pm - 8pm NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm
July 3rd:
6:20pm - 7:40pm NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellndl
July 4th:
7pm - 8pm Hope City Council Mtg, Hope City Hall, Council Chambers
7pm - 8:20pm NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

HAPPENING NOW



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

New benches have been placed on Main Street in Blooming Prairie. Raylee Miner, 7, shows off one of the benches.

LAST YEAR



Archived staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Darrell Cowden from Blooming Prairie and Patti Chiarini from Claremont rode last year to raise awareness for Riding Over Domestic Violence (RODV). Chiarini is the co-founder and marketing agent for RODV. The ride developed from the plan of starting a ride geared toward women riders. After some brain storming and nation-wide searching for womens causes through motorcycle riding, there were only 2 rides specifically dedicated to women riders. The group collected \$220 that day and split the proceeds between Mower and Steele counties.



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June 27th:
10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Storytime
6pm - 7pm BPBL Book Club
June 28th:
10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Storytime
July 4th:
10:30am - 11:30am BPBL Storytime

Event Spotlight:
CRWD offers weekly photo contest for summer

As part of its 10th anniversary, Cedar River Watershed District is launching a weekly photo contest throughout the summer to encourage the public to help showcase the local waterways.

CRWD, formed in 2007, is offering weekly prizes for the best submitted photo from the previous week as part of its new "Cedar Scenes" contest. The 16-week photo initiative (June 12 to Oct. 1) aims to get people to take and submit photos showing the Cedar River or one of its tributaries in the watershed district's boundaries.

Each submitted photo – a weekly limit of two photos per person – will be an entry into a grand-prize drawing for a free kayak sponsored by the Austin Runnings store. CRWD will do the drawing in October after the contest.

Submitted images must be the submitter's own photo and must show water from a local waterway. Entries also must include the submitter's name and the photo's location and date. All ages are encouraged to participate.

"Selfies, group pictures, nature scenes – whatever the type of photo, we'd love to see how people are enjoying the local waterways," said Tim Ruzek, CRWD outreach coordinator. "We hope this gives everyone another reason to get outside and explore the outdoors locally."

Most weeks of the "Cedar Scenes" contest will offer a prize of \$10 in Chamber Bucks that can be used at numerous local businesses.

Photos can be submitted via CRWD's Facebook page – www.facebook.com/cedarriverwd – by posting on the page or tagging CRWD in a personal post. Images also can be emailed to tim.ruzek@mowerswcd.org or brought to the CRWD office at 1408 21st Ave. N.W. in Austin behind Runnings.

Weekly winners will be announced on CRWD's website and Facebook page; with prizes picked up at the CRWD office.

Aside from the Cedar River State Water Trail – which includes Austin Mill Pond and Ramsey Mill Pond – other creeks within the Cedar River Watershed District's boundaries include Dobbins Creek (nature center and East Side Lake) and Wolf (stream at Todd Park), Roberts, Ramsey, Rose and Orchard creeks, among others. Not included, however, is Turtle Creek, which has its own watershed district.

The grand prize winner of the kayak will need to be age 18 and older or come with a parent or guardian to get the kayak.



Event Spotlight:
All employee reunion planned in Owatonna

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

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

Come join the group for an afternoon of reuniting, tell some stories or lies or just hang out with some old friends.

All employees, spouses or significant others are welcome.



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8 P.M. – Midnight
Joe Olivo – DJ Music
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JULY 3: STREET DANCE
"The High Street Band"
8 P.M. – Midnight
\$5.00 Cover charge
21 & over – ID Required
Classic Rock & Roll/Country

JULY 4TH : OPEN BAR / OFF-SALE
9 AM- CLOSE

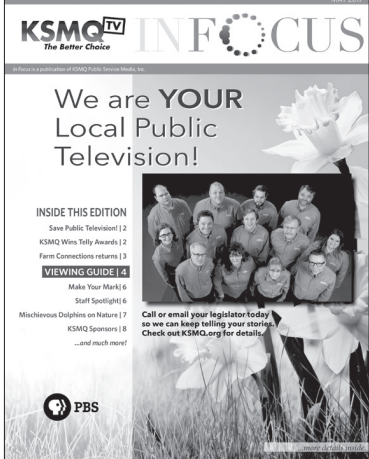
JULY 22: B.O.B. RIDE: "TOYS FOR TOTS"

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Pastor's corner: Believe in the voice of God

Do you raise your eyebrows or roll your eyes or scratch your head when you hear someone say, “God told me...”?

For many of us it is not always easy to know what God wants us to do. We all have different levels of faith and understanding.

In Hebrews 1 it says in the past God spoke to His people through prophets and then He spoke to us through His Son Jesus.

Often we know what God wants us to do because we

know God through His word, our Bible.

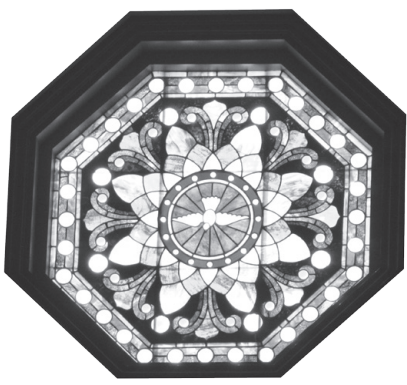
In 1st Samuel 14:6 Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, ‘Come, let’s go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the Lord will act on our behalf. Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few.’

That day Jonathan led an amazing successful battle. But do you notice the word he used? He said, “perhaps”. Other translations

use the word, “maybe”.

Often times in life we are not certain but we give it our best shot and we acknowledge God is in charge and we might say like Jonathan, “Perhaps the Lord will act on our behalf”.

We could think about the little train engine going up the hill saying, “I think I can I think I can I think I can”, and then he did.



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Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696

Trinity Lutheran Church (5881 118th St, Blooming Prairie) Joint summer worship, Sundays at 9:00 am

(Location rotates between Aurora and Trinity, beginning with Trinity on June 4th). Check the website for specific dates: www.auroratrinitylutheran.org

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

5881 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696

Aurora Lutheran Church (6329 SE 38th St, Owatonna) Joint summer worship, Sundays at 9:00 am

(Location rotates between Aurora and Trinity, beginning with Trinity on June 4) Check the website for specific dates: www.auroratrinitylutheran.org

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

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

8953 S.W. 37th Ave., Hope
Pastor Sandy Miller
(507) 451-3854

Services: 9 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN—LCMS

2500 Seventh Ave. N.E., Owatonna
The Rev. Mark Rosenau, the Rev. Gregory Schlicker
(507) 451-4125

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

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

9651 SW 75th Street Ellendale
(507)465-8366

Family Choir 9:00-9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Education 9:15 a.m. Sunday, Worship 10:15 a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN—ELCA

30450 570th Ave., Waltham
Minister Dwight DoBell
(507) 567-2474

Service: 8:30 a.m. Sunday

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.

REDEMER 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 7 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.

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. Indechar
(507) 451-2165

Worship 8:00 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. Indechar
(507) 451-2165

Worship 9:30 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

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Pastor Richard Sliper
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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

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

Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. Reconciliation: Before Mass Adoration: Thursdays 9 to noon

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC PARISH

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

stcolumbanuschurch.com
Sunday Mass: 10 a.m. Sunday. Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS

307 First St. SW, New Richland
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan, Parochial Vicar
(507) 465-8217

Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL

9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor
Fr. Jose Morales, Weekend Presider
(507) 451-1588

www.litomysl.webs.com
Reconciliation: after Mass 1st Sunday Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Litomysl Summer Festival, Sunday July 30

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.

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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)

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Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m. Monday Mass: 9 a.m.

Christian

CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

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

DESTINY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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www.streetfireministries.net

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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. *Starting June 4, there will be one

service at 9 a.m. followed by coffee time.

Non-Denominational

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

130 East Bridge St. Owatonna,
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Sundays 10:00 AM

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

CEDAR CREEK CHURCH

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

ELEVATION NORTH CHURCH

2002 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
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Mennonite

PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH

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Dennis Martin
(507) 583-2081 & (507) 477-3216
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Mormon

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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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.W., 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

Matthew Michael House, 39 of Orlando, FL

Matthew Michael House was born in Robbinsdale, Minnesota on April 22, 1978 to Mike and Kathy House now of Sun City, AZ (previously Maple Plain, MN). He has one older sister, Angela House Burgess, nephew Liam, and nieces Sophia and Sadiera of Minneapolis, MN. He grew up in Maple Plain and graduated from Orono High school in 1996, attended Winona State University for 2 years and was in the Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity. Matthew graduated from the University of North Texas with a major in accounting in December 2005.

He was a good-natured child with a constant grin on his face, enjoyed playing outside with his neighborhood friends, running through the creek and cornfield, playing baseball, night games, and riding bike around the block-- coming home only when the House family dinner bell rang.

He enjoyed many summers picnicking and playing with his parents and sister at Lake Independence beach and family camping trips with grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. Matthew was very close with his House, Hovde, Watson and Krull cousins and enjoyed playing on the Watson family farm, golfing, general horsing around and sometimes getting into trouble.

Matthew thoroughly enjoyed getting to know many of the Italian aunts, uncles and cousins of the Gnemi clan as well as the Irish/English Burke families and the Welgraven family. The Gnemi, Welgraven, Buscho, Piepho, Hagfors, Knutson, Dell, Wead and Ford families will remember Matthew with great tenderness and love and also anticipate that great family reunion with Matthew someday in glory. Matthew is the son-in-love of Rick and Debbie Gnemi of Owatonna, MN, who will cherish and love him always as they look forward to the day they will see him again in Heaven.

Matthew's cousin, David Krull, introduced him to Miss Mary Gnemi at the Steele County Fair in August, 2001 and it was love at first sight. Matthew proposed to Mary on July 13, 2002 and they were married at Bethel Church on July 19, 2003 in Owatonna, MN. Their union was blessed with three children: Anthony (11), Benjamin (8) and Lilly (6). His favorite pastimes were spending time with the love of his life, Mary, his children, going to their activities, the Minnesota Vikings, country music, a good barbeque and golfing. The highlight of the year was always the Steele County Fair for the entire family. Both Matthew and Mary enjoyed having friends and family into their homes at Phelps St., Jadden Lane, and later on in Texas. There was always a bevy of activity at their place.

He was employed as a CPA at Larson Allen in Owatonna from January 2006 to March 2011 and later worked as a manager of finance with Wenger Corporation in Owatonna from 2011 to 2015. He served as plant finance controller at Watson-Chalin in Texas from 2015 until the onset of his illness. Matthew worked with both the Let's Smile and Beds for Kids organizations in Owatonna.

Matthew was baptized at Central Lutheran Church in 1978 and confirmed at Christ Lutheran Church. He trusted in Jesus Christ as his own personal Lord and Savior as a grade school boy. Matthew and Mary attended Cornerstone Baptist Church in Plano from 2002-2004 where he followed the Lord Jesus in believer's baptism as an adult. Bent Tree Bible Church in Carrollton was attended from 2004-2005. While living in Owatonna from December 2005 to June, 2015, they were both actively involved at Bethel Baptist Church. First Baptist Church of McKinney has been their most recent church home.

Matthew was diagnosed with glioblastoma on October 8, 2016. Throughout his battle with cancer regardless of how ill he felt, he voiced his great and deep appreciation to every person who served in any capacity. His foremost desire was for folks to see the love, mercy, grace, and goodness of God as Mary, their children and he experienced it first hand in the constant and tender care they received from many over the past nine months. The prayer support of believers was constant and abiding and has continued now for Mary and the children since his home going to Jesus on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at the age of 39.

Before his leaving this earth, Matthew and Mary spent considerable time putting together keepsake boxes for each of their children containing mementos, letters and cards written by Matthew specifically to each of their children. Additional cards for their birthdays, graduations and possible future wedding days were also prepared in addition to a video from Matthew to the children and all of the families.

There was a memorial service and celebration of Matthew's life on Saturday, June 24, 2017, at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church of McKinney, 1615 W. Louisiana St., McKinney, Texas. A second memorial service and celebration of his life will also be held at Bethel Church, 1611 Hemlock Ave, Owatonna, MN on Saturday, July 1, 2017, at 11 a.m. Honorary pall bearers are Cousins Eric Watson, Aaron Watson, Jonathan Krull, David Krull, Taylor House, Karl Hovde, Kirk Hovde, Ole Hovde, and brother-in-law, Ronnie Burgess.

A passage of Scripture chosen by Matthew and Mary which had great meaning for them during this trial is James 1:2-4 "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces stead-



fastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

In lieu of flowers, Matthew requested folks choose one of the following organizations as a memorial: www.crowdrise.com/matthew-house (for the three House children's college education) www.inheritanceofhope.org (to send families on an all-expense paid vacation who have a parent in late stage illness and who have children under age 18. This is the organization which sent the House family to Orlando, Florida a few weeks ago. If this organization is chosen, please check "in honor or memory of Matthew House" and send an email message to the House family and Gnemi family.) www.headforthecure.org (brain cancer research to find a cure)

Matthew will be remembered as a patient, loving, kind, good-humored, gracious, gentle, thoughtful, grateful and God-honoring man. He was a born-again Christian, amazing husband, father, son, son-in-love, brother, grandson, nephew, cousin, co-worker, and friend. He is now experiencing true life with his Lord and Savior for all eternity. Matthew---until then.

Charles Edward "Chuck" Wead, 74 of Blooming Prairie

Charles Edward "Chuck" Wead, 74, of Blooming Prairie, died suddenly at his home Monday, June 19, 2017.

Chuck was born May 14, 1943, to Fred and Alice Wead in Adams. He loved his life on the farm until moving to Austin in his early teens. Following graduation from Austin High School in 1961, he attended Mankato State University.

On June, 16, 1963, he married Mary Williams. Upon his graduation with a teaching degree from Mankato State, they

moved to Welcome, Minnesota, for his first years of teaching. In 1967, Chuck and Mary moved to Blooming Prairie, where Chuck taught at BPHS for 33 years.

His great life's joys were learning and teaching. Chuck was an avid hunter, gunsmith, mechanic, electrician and a cherished husband, father and grandparent.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; son, David (Kathy) Wead of Austin; daughter, Debra (Scott) Novak of Rochester

and grandchildren, Aaron, Tyler and Kate Novak. He is also survived by his brother, David W. Wead of Tennessee; sister, Sharon Schumann of Florida; sister-in-law, Kathy Hartman (Doug) of Stillwater; nieces and nephews.

The family will have a private family gathering to celebrate his life at the Woods. Donations are recommended in his honor to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society.



Milestones

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

June 28
Amanda Tocko
Robert Wolf
Mark Symes

June 29
LeAnn Vogt
Lauren Schabert
Jon Krejci

June 30
Jeremy Hocking

July 1
Imogene Symes
Barb Lorenzen
Brittany Schewe
Mia Amberg

July 2
Gina Schafer
Steve Ingvalson

Kaden Thomas
Haley Ann McIntosh
Steve Braaten

Anniversaries
June 28
Amy & Mark Hinzmann

June 29
Doug & Sandra Novak
John & Margaret Whiting
Nathan & Kathryn Piller
Anthony & Natalie Sorensen
Connie & Wayne Williamson

June 30
Mike & Mandy Trom
Roger & Joanne Sorenson

July 2
Nancy & Brad Clark

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SEMCAC senior menu

June 27
Pork Roast
Baked Beans w/ Apples
Peas
Coleslaw
Pudding

June 28
Shredded Turkey on a bun
Potato Salad
Calico Beans
Pickles
Melon Cup

June 29
Meat Lasagna
Mixed Greens Salad
Orange Slices
French Bread
Pudding/Fruit Garnish

June 30
Baked Fish
ALT: Beef Patty
Baked Potato/Sour Cream
Creamed Peas
Craisin Coleslaw
Rhub/Straw Bavarian

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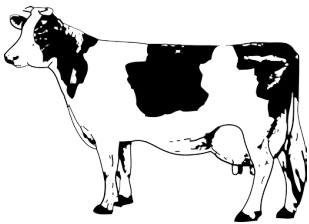
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Blooming Prairie Times

66 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Fourth AS A DAY of SPORT

THE Fourth of July has come to hold in the United States a proud and pre-eminent position as a day of sport and the occasion of an annual carnival of competitive contests in outdoor athletics. This is an eminently fitting use for the joyous anniversary and it is perfectly natural, if not inevitable, considering the great and growing interest of the whole American people in feats of skill that call for mental and muscular agility. Moreover its acceptance as a day of sport is not confined to the small towns on the one hand, nor to the large cities on the



A FEMININE PASTIME OF GROWING POPULARITY



A FOURTH OF JULY REGATTA

ing more exciting than their tournaments when they are hotly contested. In some sections of the country horse racing has taken the place of the firemen's tournaments as a Fourth of July attraction, but of late their drawing power has been surpassed by such novelties as automobile races, motorcycle races and best of all, aeroplane contests. There are yet retained on many Fourth of July programs those homely contests that have been greeted with roars of



A REVOLVER SHOOTING TOURNAMENT

other, but is in actual fact universal. That Americans have come to recognize the Fourth as a day when lovers of athletics of all kinds may enjoy their favorite sports to their fill is a matter of congratulation, for a good many of us take few enough "days off" during the summer. We have not to any great extent adopted, and perhaps may never adopt, the English and European custom of banishing work and business cares every Friday evening during the summer and devoting the interval until Monday morning to recreation.

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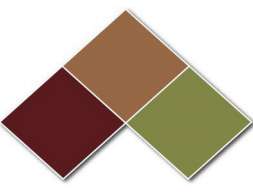
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SCHA awards Wanous for preservation



Staff photo by Seth Bedenbaugh

From Left to right: Marilyn Witzel and Kaye Fransen are present as Otto Wanous is awarded a plaque by Jerry Ganfield for his work in restoring a historic home in Havana Township.

By SETH BEDENBAUGH
Staff Intern

25-year-old, Otto Wanous, was presented the SCHS Preservation Award on June 14 by Marilyn Witzel, Kaye Fransen, and Jerry Ganfield, the president of the Steele County Historical Society.

During the month of May, the Steele County Historical Society, celebrates the month of preservation by giving out an award to a business, or individual, who has put forth an effort to restore and preserve original buildings.

Wanous has spent nearly three years restoring and refurbishing the former Harland and Donna Mussman home, in the Havana Township. The home was originally built in 1855, with a granary addition on the east to expand the house in the early 1900's. Wanous was able to stick with the original floor plan, yet enhance the functionality of the main living area itself.

Wanous has not only managed to refurbish the home, he has also used the land to raise corn and beans. Otto's childhood was spent on a farm, but now he has taken onto himself to begin his own agricultural operation.

Since the age of eighteen, he has been farming his own land. In addition, he has been employed as a crop adjuster.

Transition from winter to summer

LITTLE THOUGHTS
ON THE PRAIRIE



MARK
DELAP

From brutal to brutal with a usually flowery pleasant buffer in between. Not so this year as rain, hail, cold and more rain were on the menu.

And from the gale force winter winds and single-digit subzero temperatures we are now sailing into the high 90's. With gale force winds and triple-digit temperatures.

Here are some helpful hints as to making your transition a little less stressful and a lot more seamless.

First of all, gather up all your winter coats, gloves, scarves, sweaters and snow pants. You know... winter-wear essentials. Take it to the drycleaner or wash it and dry it. Now here's the important part of this. You may want to take notes.

Put them right back in the closet where you found them because first of all, our summers aren't that long, and secondly, you never know when you'll see a frost and freeze warning in July. I wouldn't put it out of the realm of possibility.

We are, after all, in Minnesota.

I hear some people comment, "yeah, well, at least we're not dying of heart attacks shoveling snow." That's true, but burning to death under a scorching apocalyptic sun is not a consolation or a pleasant alternative. It's not a pretty sight to cramp in places you don't have muscles due to the fact that all your internal organs have dried up and turned to dust.

"Honey, is that kidney bean supper I smell cooking? Never mind, it's just me."

Your apparel. You go from multilayers to wearing as little as humanly possible without getting arrested for indecent exposure. And for old guys like me who are still wearing pre-1994 Michigan long shorts, or should I say, girls volleyball pants and pasty-white legs which resemble undercooked fish, it's not a pretty sight. Some things you just cannot "un-see."

Summer is supposed to be the season where we get outside instead of hibernating in our air-conditioned hovels. And when we do get outside, we learn how fast skin tones of white can go to the color "lobster" in a matter of moments.

And have you noticed the humidity levels or the fancier name, "heat index?" It's like we are sucking water into our lungs with every breath. No wonder the "threat of storms" is ever-present in our neck of the woods and "conditions are right for a storm to pop up." Even in your living room.

It was so humid in my garage the other day that it looked like my cars were going through a steam car wash.

Scents. We welcome spring because we can open the house and blow out the stale and bring in the fresh. Out with the months of bacon and Crock-Pot cooking that has lingered, the wet smell of wool from mittens and hats, and the coats which we wore every day, but wash once a year.

SUMMER

Continued on page 2B



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Left: Four-year-old Harper Koster of Rochester had fun with a party favor at the Scott Easton Benefit at the Blooming Prairie Pizza Cellar on Saturday, June 24. Right: Scott and Julie Easton enjoyed the good fortune with family following the announcement of the Florida vacation package donated by Rod and Tess Koster. Easton's mother-in-law Doreen Adams, shown with husband John and Scott, won the week-long vacation.

Julie Easton's mother wins vacation

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Everyone's dream is to take a vacation in the sun at a time when winter has its grip on most Minnesotans.

That dream came true for Doreen Adams of Austin on Saturday night when her name was drawn as the winner of a Florida vacation given as the grand prize at a benefit for Scott Easton.

Easton, 55, is battling brain cancer. Family and friends arranged the benefit held at the Blooming Prairie Pizza Cellar.

It just so happens that the vacation winner is Easton's mother-in-law. "My wife won it but maybe she will take me along," said John Adams.

The one-week vacation to Fort Myers Beach, FL was donated by Rod and Tess Koster who have other rental properties in Florida. The vacation is valued at \$2000.

"It's been a blast," smiled

Scott Easton as he mingled through the large crowd at the Pizza Cellar. "People are so caring," remarked Scott's wife Julie. A taco bar was provided.

Easton's benefit was kind of a doubleheader fight against cancer since a Blooming Prairie Cancer Group fundraising event was being held just down the street at J & H Liquors. That event culminated a 160-mile ride by motorcycle and car. Following the day-long ride into southeastern Minnesota, riders returned to J & H to enjoy a tasty meal.

Many prizes were donated for the Easton benefit. In addition to the vacation package, other large donations included: J & H Liquors, \$500; Farmers & Merchants State Bank, \$250; Broskoff Structures of Geneva, \$200; R & R Insurance, \$200; Robert's Repair, \$100; Dairy Queen, \$100; Central Farm Services, \$100 and Worlein Funeral

Home, \$50.

Benefit committee members thanked the following for their support of the event: Pizza Cellar, venue for benefit; Marion Mast, BP Cancer Group, rides to Rochester for treatment; Tammy Wolf, Tess Koster, gathering donations; Steele County Times, article; Becky Noble, radio announcement and Johnson Doerhoffer, gift card for tax preparation; Connie Trom, meat for meat raffle; Geneva Meats, meat for meat raffle and to everyone who has purchased Florida Vacation Raffle Tickets.

Donations for the silent auction came from: A Touch of Charm, \$50 gift certificate; Koster's Car Korner, basket of wine, shirts, hats; Kathy Anderson, summer swimming basket; Shelly Johnson, basket, Tupperware, cookbook; Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church, 2 quilts; Philip and Jennifer Milton, iTunes \$25 gift card;

Hy-Vee gift certificate for \$20;

Steve's Pizza gift certificate; Super Fresh, gift certificate; Hardy Geranium, gift certificate; Steele County Times, three subscriptions; Confections by Karen, gourmet cupcakes; Women of Today, summer swimming basket; Krejci Ford, basket; BP Cancer Group, basket; B to Z Hardware, bucket of tools; TT Motorcycles, 2 pair sunglasses;

The Bakery, \$50 in \$10 gift cards; Bunkie's, \$75 gift card one-hour golf lesson; New York Life, basket; Blooming Prairie Country Club, round of golf with cart; J & H Liquor, bottle basket; Rachel's Hair & Nails, product basket; Frank & Tom's, plant; Vicki Olivo, basket; Geneva Liquor, sweatshirt, gift card; Darrick's, gift card, free oil change; NAPA, basket; Miner's Outdoors, sweatshirt; G & B Speedy Car Wash, 2 deluxe washes and Minimizer.

Vandal's Family Market, \$40 gift card; BP Servicemen's

Club, \$20 gift card; Joe's Repair, gift card; BP Veterinary Clinic, gift card; Metal Services, gift card; Cassie's, \$50 gift card;

Cutting Edge, product basket; Tammy Bissel, hand-carved wood plaque; Connie Trom, meat for raffle; Geneva Meats, meat for raffle; B to Z Hardware, bucket of tools; TT Motorcycles, 2 pair sunglasses;

The Bakery, \$50 in \$10 gift cards; Bunkie's, \$75 gift card one-hour golf lesson; New York Life, basket; Blooming Prairie Country Club, round of golf with cart; J & H Liquor, bottle basket; Rachel's Hair & Nails, product basket; Frank & Tom's, plant; Vicki Olivo, basket; Geneva Liquor, sweatshirt, gift card; Darrick's, gift card, free oil change; NAPA, basket; Miner's Outdoors, sweatshirt; G & B Speedy Car Wash, 2 deluxe washes and Minimizer.

All you could want to eat at ribfest

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Writer

Whether it is food or music, people can get their fill of either or both at the annual ribfest on Saturday, July 1. The Blooming Prairie Boys & Girls Club will host the affair again at the local Servicemen's Club, with plenty of food and music for everyone.

Approximately 6 cookers will serve up BBQ ribs for tasting, but a steak cook-off and a BBQ chicken wing competition

will also be held. There will even be a hamburger cook-off for kids during the event. Prizes will be awarded for all the competitions, and a hog roast and beef raffle are included in the day's activities. Also included in the price of admission will a pulled pork sandwich, beans, and potato salad.

When it comes to music, plenty of that will be in performance to entertain the ribfest attendees. The Potluck String Band will make a repeat appearance, with

two new attractions added to the occasion. The string band had everyone tapping his or her toes last year, and this year will undoubtedly spark the same attention. The day will culminate with a presentation by the Thrillbillies Band from the Twin Cities. If you don't care much for the food, this entertainment alone will be worth the price of admission. Along with the music, the Firemen's park across the street from the servicemen's Club will be hosting several kids'

games, like a bounce house dunk tank, and other fun activities.

Wristbands are on sale at several locations for \$25 in advance, or the charge on the ribfest day will be \$30. For that, one can enjoy rib-tasting all day, and a full stomach will be the result. The music performances are free. Concessions will be available in stands operated by the Servicemen's club, and meat raffle tickets will be available. Raffle tickets are also on sale prior to the ribfest from B & G

Club board directors or at the Boys and Girls Club.

With the big 150th birthday party of the town on tap at the city park the next day, the ribfest will be an excellent opportunity to get a head start on the celebration. All proceeds from the event go for programming at the local Boys & Girls club, and a large crowd is expected for the ribfest activities. Hours of the activities go from 3 to 11 p.m. Come and join the fun.

Blooming Prairie Living

Host with the most Boys & Girls Club goes independent

By **MARISSA LARSON**
Staff Intern

Every once in a great while, someone comes along; someone who really stands out. Someone who goes above and beyond to set themselves apart from the crowd. When this happens, it does not go unnoticed, as Deb Vanravenhorst discovered.

She graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1972, but was recently presented with an Award of Hospitality, and now has her own spot in the Hall of Fame. For the past 23 years, Vanravenhorst has been working for HelmsBriscoe. This is a company that books hotels for other companies worldwide. They are the world's largest purchaser of group rooms. To put this into perspective, her company has booked over a billion dollars' worth of hotel rooms every year, for the past 3 years.

To establish just how much she stands out to the company, you should know that only 7 other individuals have received this award over the years.

"Being acknowledged in this way means the world to me; I am so proud. I feel so blessed to have been a part of this company for so long. I love everything about it."

She enjoys the extensive amount of interaction she gets with other people, whether it be associates or customers. "There is something new every day, and that keeps me on my toes."

She was recognized specifically based upon years of service, leadership, involvement, and contributions to the company. It also extends out to the charity events she's taken charge of, as well as being an outstanding mentor for other associates.



Deb Vanravenhorst

Despite her distinct achievements, she has faced many obstacles in her time. When asked what the most difficult part about her job is, she responded, "Getting people to try our service can be tricky. We are paid by the hotels, so the prices are not inflated on our clients. Often, people will think it sounds too good to be true, but in reality, there are no catches; we don't hide anything."

She commented that once customers try HelmsBriscoe, they realize how transparent the service is, and they love it.

Because Vanravenhorst is so passionate about what she does, she continues to set personal goals. This says something about her; even after being named one of the most appreciated employees of her company, she continues to move the needle.

Something she really keys in on is recruiting talented people for the company. Another main goal is keeping old clients and simultaneously gaining new ones.

Again, she is very proud to have received this rare award, while she knowingly embraces everything it stands for. Her sustained amount of exceptional service was lucid, and therefore could not be overlooked.

She continues to execute bigger things every single day to uphold the ideals of her work ethic.

By **LEMAR NELSON,**
TAMMY JOHNSON
AND PASTOR
CHARLIE LEONARD

After an 8-month period of strategic planning, the advisory board of the Boys & Girls Club of Blooming Prairie is pleased to announce our independence from our corporate club, the Boys & Girls Club of Rochester. The strong support from the Blooming Prairie community and the encouragement from the Rochester corporate club have brought us to move ahead with our own entity on Sept. 5, 2017.

After speaking with the national liason from Chicago, the choices for Blooming Prairie were to continue a satellite operation under the Rochester club or seek independence. Five years ago the national office discontinued opening clubs in rural areas, which limited the choices. The Blooming Prairie club has successfully operated under an agreement with the Rochester club since 2005, but it has become apparent that both clubs would operate more successfully with separation

and a new organization for the Blooming Prairie community.

In a letter to Blooming Prairie Board Chairwoman Angie Carlson from Rochester Board President Leon Clark and Executive Director Jodi Millerbernd, they stated, "It is apparent that we both seek the best outcome possible for the children of Blooming Prairie. It is also apparent that you are well positioned to assume responsibility for programming, fund raising functions, and club management. We congratulate you for the strong work you and fellow board members have done; thus the termination."

A follow-up letter to Carlson repeated the sentiments of the Rochester club and encouraged the separation of the two clubs. With that in mind, the Blooming Prairie organization felt justified and comfortable in the separation.

Transition teams from both clubs are being formed, and the new non-profit organization will be known as the Blooming Prairie Youth Club and will continue year-round operations under Director Marcy Sundine. The local business leaders and



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

The Boys & Girls Club is a staple of the Blooming Prairie community. In addition to after school care, they help makes holidays, like Halloween, special for children too.

educators feel assured that local leaders and private contributors offer a stable donor base that financially guarantees the Blooming Prairie Youth Club will continue to be strong. We are excited to provide a smooth transition and continue to meet the needs of children and families in Blooming Prairie and the surrounding area.

During the transition period, representatives from the two clubs will work together

to ensure that all donations designated for the Blooming Prairie Boys & Girls Club will be assigned to the Blooming Prairie Youth Club. Upon completion of all the items necessary in the transition, The Rochester club will transfer ownership to the local club. That will be one of the final steps in the separation process. The local organization looks forward to many more years serving the youth of our community.

Nothing like a Minnesota summer

SUMMER: from page 1B

Not to mention moldy wet shoes and that smell in the wall that nobody can quite identify. Then, we continue to cover it all with Lysol, air fresheners and that extra splash of cologne to cover the old coat smell.

It's a virtual opus of fresh when spring finds its way into the upper Midwest. And then, the transition to summer comes when the windows grow closed again and we live with air-conditioned air, especially nice if we have purchased a used conditioner that sat in

someone's rummage sale for years.

Because, it's rummage sale season and nobody doesn't like Sara Lee or great bargains, and we use what we buy because we are too proud to say that we made a mistake out there on the rubble range.

The popular scent of the year though, turns to dead animal in the middle of the road and mosquito repellent that repels both bugs and people. I think they call it "Eau de Raid" – love's fresh separator. That and sitting

on the porch frying up June bugs on the old bug zapper is especially palatable if you've just eaten dinner. Add more air freshener and a Rolaid for dessert.

Ah, but Minnesota can be a wondrous place in the summer months. All two of them. Heavenly rib feasts, dogs cooking at the Twins game, fireworks in the skies instead of snow clouds, bicycles, boats, fresh mown grass and of course, the conversation over lemonade on the front porch. We live for it. We expose

our toes to our neighbors as we wear our flip flops, we teach our kids the fine art of oooohing and ahhhhing at the local fireworks celebrations and we find more daylight than we thought we'd ever need to accomplish all the things we dreamed about during the drear of winter.

And we find ourselves lingering a little longer, loving a little stronger and laughing a little bit louder. Because we're Minnesotans who know a good "ting" when we see it.

Book fair rewards summer readers



BOOK NOOK

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Summer is in full swing at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library. We have had great programs over the last few weeks.

Our awesome readers have been checking out books by the bag and are ready for the June Book Fair that will be held from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday, June 29.

If your child has read for at least 20 minutes per day for 10 days since the beginning of June, they may come and choose a free book of their own. If your child listens to a parent, sibling, or day care provider, that child can also get a free book.

If you are unable to come that day, here's a secret: if you come any time within the week following the Book Fair, you can still choose your free book. For the June Book Fair, readers will also be receiving a coupon for a free cookie from the Bakery!

As we have for the past three years, the library will be having a unit in the 4th of July parade. If you or your children would like to join us, give us a call at the library - 507-583-7750.

Each year we have had people dressed as characters from books. See if you can figure out who we all are! If you don't want to walk the parade, please give us a shout out as we go by!

Thanks to the Friends of the Library we will be handing out pencils and bookmarks, not only during the parade but also at the 150th Birthday Celebration on July 2 at Central Park. See you there!

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Blooming
Prairie Cancer
Group

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

One of the Times' newest employees, Cat Manchack, was intrigued recently to learn about the many outreach activities of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group.

Cat, Times sales manager, is a volunteer with the Chemo Angels group, a support organization for people with cancer. She will share her involvement, encouraging people to contact her at bpcat@rontier.com.

Lets travel to the Chemo Angel website and learn more about Chemo Angels. Find it at <http://chemoangels.wixsite.com/chemo-angels-1>

Read:
"The Chemo Angels program offers support to those who find themselves in the most challenging situation of their lives – battling a cancer diagnosis and undergoing IV chemo treatment.

"Volunteers support their "buddy" throughout their journey with cards, uplifting messages, supportive words and lots of positive energy. The encouragement our Angels provide helps give patients the comfort and confidence of knowing they are not alone in their fight.

"The goal of Chemo

Cancer Corner

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

Chemo Angels offer support to cancer victims

Angels is to help fuel a positive attitude and aid in the road to recovery. Volunteers find that providing emotional support is a most rewarding experience."

On the website, find an application to be a Chemo Angels volunteer. Three different kinds of angels exist. They include:

- Traditional Chemo Angel -- As a Traditional Chemo Angel you will be assigned to a patient who you will encourage through small gifts, cards, letters, uplifting notes for the duration of their treatment. A recent poll shows 75% of our Traditional Chemo Angels spend \$50 or less a month on their patient.

- Card Angel -- As a Card Angel, you will send your assigned patient at least one card, letter, or note a week, and perhaps a small gift every now and then, but gifts are not required for Card Angels. Being a Card Angel is a great option for volunteers with limited budgets.

- Prayer Angel -- A team of Prayer Angels is always on call for the prayer needs of both our recipients and our volunteers.

Being a chemo angel becomes very rewarding, especially after viewing comments from those who have cancer and have been inspired by support from



Chemo Angels.

A recipient of Chemo Angels support writes the following: "I love my Chemo Angel! I believe she has to be a true Angel. She ALWAYS knows exactly when I need some cheering up! I don't know where you found her, but I want you to know I love her!" -- Tina

Volunteer Pam outlines her gratification received from being a Chemo Angel: "I was just amazed when I heard of your organization--what an obvious idea, yet I had never heard of anything like it. It's the small things in life that really make a difference--and this is a perfect example."

This organization is a program for cancer patients and seniors, not an evangelical ministry. All applicants are asked whether or not they wish to receive spiritual encouragement.

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Owatonna Second Semester A Honor Roll

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Ellendale Days

Small community celebrates with a big heart



LITTLE THOUGHTS ON THE PRAIRIE



MARK DELAP

At times, the life of a reporter can seem more like a vacation than a vocation. Some reporters were covering stories from the south of France this past weekend while others were at the BET Awards in Los Angeles. Closer to home, there were blues fests and rib fests, water parks and sports tournaments.

My vacation began Thursday night and didn't conclude until Sunday afternoon. I spent my weekend in the little city of Ellendale. Although I was working, writing stories, shooting pictures and videos, I was also embraced by the little community that is home to less than 1,000 people.

Some small towns can be a bit "cliquish" and introverted when it comes to dealing with people who are not from their town. I have lived in places for decades, but never had a family name on a headstone in the cemetery, so was always considered an outsider.

Ellendale adopts people. From the first conversation with the mayor to eating lunch at a table across from the kids from the elementary school, this community has learned not only to "welcome" people, but have learned the fine art of grafting you into their family.

The most simple way to describe the feeling is saying that they give a sense of belonging there. It just feels like home, or in other words, what we live all of our lives in search of.

The Parade's Grand Marshall, Allen Lee, a lifelong resident of Ellendale was a firefighter for 44 years, a business owner for 45 years, was born and raised there and had the good sense to stay in a good thing all of his life.

When he describes his experience and the years he has been in this quaint Brigadoon, he has tears in his eyes. There is no arrogance in his stories or in the description of the town, but a gratefulness and a humility that boasts only of what life has given him in such a wondrous place.

And it's not just the Grand Marshall who rode in that parade with those tears of gratitude, but from young to old, they have a thankfulness to invest in a community that means the world to them, because in the midst of all the world's searching for home, they have found that rare gem.

And we all go in search of it. A place where we remember our childhood or wish we could have had a childhood that was storybook. And when they embrace you in Ellendale, there's a longing deep

inside to come away from the hustle and bustle to that front porch lifestyle.

And as you leave, not five minutes out of town, you already have an ache for family and start to recheck that schedule, to find the soonest opening to go back home.

And if you stay more than an hour, they may even invite you to be a volunteer for one of the many events that they host.

It all started Thursday night with the first annual run/walk for Alzheimer Disease. Some races are incepted with small opening crowds and a handful of runners. Not Ellendale. The entire town turned out and began to line streets, sit in front of homes with coolers of water for us and applauded as we ran by. 37 of us ran in that inaugural race and came away with a sense of great accomplishment.

It was only a 2.5-mile race, but the town treated us like we were Olympians running marathons. From the race to the outdoor bands behind the Ellendale Muni playing all weekend there was a festival feel. Everything for everyone.

From Bingo to the announcing of the Parade's Grand Marshall. From the crowning of the "Unsung Hero" to turtle races, kid's tractor pulls, adult tractor pulls, to a community church service where everyone from every denomination and faith came to gather.

And a parade that was so filled with energy that it blew the clouds away and invited the sunshine to become family. And it was so.

On some assignments, I

“We were told that

this award would go to someone who has done quite a bit for the community, and deserves some recognition. I never thought that I'd be the one getting it, but it's pretty nice of the people.”

-Logan Busho
- Ellendale Assistant Fire chief
Presented with the "Ellendale Unsung Hero" award

take a few pictures and head to the next city. In Ellendale, I kicked my shoes off and stayed a while. I got carried away. I ate too much. I got brain freezes from the Italian Ice. I took almost a thousand pictures and captured over 100 videos.

I had to capture the magic. I had to share with my corner of the world, a place for those who knew no home or had long since remembered where that was. This weekend my heart and my home were both 14 miles south of Owatonna, 16 miles north of Albert Lea just off I35 and Highway 30. On the little prairie of Minnesota.

All the pictures and all the videos can be seen by going to the Steele County Times Facebook page. It was a scrapbook of memories that will keep me smiling all through the year.





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Hometown Sports



A record season for Blossoms' boys golf, track

By LEMAR NELSON
Staff Sports Writer

It may be debatable, but a state champion golfer would indicate that the 2017 season had to be the most successful season in BPHS golf history.

With senior Tommy Braaten dominating the Class A meet and winning the championship by ten strokes, not much doubt existed as to the best golfer in the state in his class.

Under the guidance of Co-Coaches Cory Hendrickson and Carl Peterson, and the exert help from volunteer golf club manager Aaron Ressler, both the boys team and the two girls on the teams had a remarkable season.

As Coach Hendrickson remarked, "Braaten played very consistent golf all year, and he planned and executed his shots with good precision.

"The other boys made vast improvement as well, and successful golf should still be in the future. On the girls' side, Taylor Christianson completed a sparkling career as well. I think she will continue a successful golf career."

Braaten set a school record 18-hole 68 in the first round at the state meet and carded a 75.2 average score throughout the season.

He earned medalist honors two straight years in the section and was an All-State and All-State Academic selection. He competed at the state meet three times in his career.

Besides Braaten's banner year, the boys' team finished second in the Gopher conference behind Maple Rive, but won the Section 1A title for the second straight year. Lucas Noble averaged 86.8 over 18 holes, and Jake Ressler had an 89.4 average. Braaten, Noble, and Ressler all made the All-Conference team, and Braaten and Colin Jordison also were named to the Academic all-conference squad.

The team placed seventh in the state meet.

Christianson earned medalist honors in the section meet and competed at the state meet four times. Although disappointed in her play at this year's state meet, she dominated her opponents in almost every meet. She averaged 89.2 strokes over 18 holes, and a vastly improved Jessica Ressler averaged a102.8. Both Christianson and Ressler landed on the Gopher All-Conference team. It proved a very good year for BPHS golf.

Ille sets record

Junior Alec Ille led the boys' track team through the season and broke a long-standing record in the 3200 with a time of 9:53.34.

With just Elijah Baker the only senior on the squad, Coach Slack has an optimistic view on future competition. Ille won the conference 1600 in 4:39.39 and finished fifth in the state with a 4:36.61. Baker placed second in the conference 400 and ran 10th overall in the state meet at 53.50.

Ille earned an All-Conference spot in the 1600 and Baker landed an Honorable Mention in the 400. Ille was named the team's MVP, Sam Skillestad the Most Improved, and Xavier Rennie the True Trackster.

Of the 27 boys out for track this year, nine of them made the Academic All-Conference squad to culminate an interesting season for the boys.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Owatonna's Kodey Kiel makes a throw to first base during Friday night's game between the South All-Stars and the Metro East All-Star during the opening round of the Play Ball! MN High School Baseball All-Star Series at Chaska Athletic Park in Chaska. Kiel and the South All-Stars went 2-1 on the weekend, falling in the championship game.

Owatonna's Kodey Kiel plays in Play Ball! MN High School Baseball All-Star Series

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

CHASKA – For Owatonna senior Kodey Kiel, baseball has been a key part of his time as a Husky. It also will be a key part of his future after committing to play baseball at St. Mary's University.

However, before he shelves the silver and blue of Owatonna for the red and black of the Car-

dinal, there was one jersey left to be donned.

An all-star jersey.

The future St. Mary's Cardinal was one of twenty players to be selected to represent southern Minnesota in the 43rd annual Play Ball! Minnesota High School Baseball All-Star Series, which would pit the state's best baseball players in a 12-team showcase Friday and Saturday.

In fact, three of the state's

players who were honored with selection were unable to participate after being drafted in the 2017 MLB Draft, to include Burnsville hurler Sam Carlson, who was selected 55th overall to the Seattle Mariners.

"It's a cool experience," added Kiel. "Every pitcher you see is going to be good. You don't even have to ask 'what's he throw' because you know he's going to have good stuff."

It wasn't all about playing baseball but rather promoting it within the state.

On Thursday evening, the committee held a banquet honoring not just the players, but their parents as well. They were also able to attend the horse races at Canterbury Park. At the banquet they also were able to listen to Thad Levine of the Minnesota Twins talk about what goes into the sport itself,

from the high school level, to even how philosophies are established for building a lineup for the big leagues.

On Friday morning, prior to the series' opening game, Kiel and the rest of the South All-Stars made the quick trek to Minnetonka to play in another special game. Only this game,

KIEL

Continued on page 3C

'I dreamt of it since I was a freshman'



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Blooming Prairie's Brad Staska celebrates at home plate during a game earlier in the spring. The incoming senior was named to the Class A All-State team.

Blooming Prairie's Brad Staska named to Class A All-State Baseball team

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

For Blooming Prairie's Brad Staska, baseball has been a way of life, noting that he started playing the game the moment he could walk.

When he was a freshman, he set one individual goal he wanted to reach.

He wanted to be named to the Class A All-State Baseball team.

Now, the incoming senior can add one more accolade to his impressive high school resume after recently finding out that his efforts this past season help accomplish that goal.

After receiving a text message while at his summer job from Blossoms' head coach Matt Kittelson on the news, Staska was speechless.

"I was like, 'there's no way,'" he added. "I mean, I knew the numbers were there and that it was probably going to happen,

but it was something I dreamt about since freshman year."

Staska had an impressive junior season for Kittelson's young Blossoms' squad. In 72 plate appearances, he proved to be no easy task to pitch against, being struck out just six times the entire 2017 season.

That's where the real damage came from.

Batting an astounding .530, Staska was an extra-base hit machine, collecting the team's lone home run while legging out nine doubles and a pair of triples. He finished the season atop every major offensive category for the Blossoms, to include recording nearly 30 RBIs. Staska noted that his success at the plate came from keen awareness in his preparation in the on-deck circle.

"I'll watch the pitchers in on-deck circle to get a read on him," he added. "Most kids my age like to change their arm angle for a curveball or a break-

ing ball. From the windup their steps may slow or speed up, so if you can see that from the on-deck circle it benefits."

Being a multi-sport stand-out and already having schools contact him to show interest in playing college football for their respective school, Staska noted that he wants to pursue playing college baseball.

"It's one of the bigger moments of my life," he added about the attention. "I realize I could do something with this. So its cool to think that I could be one of those people that other people are thinking about like, 'Oh he got into college to play baseball; kind be a role model for young kids.'"

Staska will have a chance to show off his talents against the state's top juniors after receiving an invite to the MSHSBCA's Gopher Classic Junior Showcase on July 6 in Minnetonka.

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Blossoms take root in ‘The Dells’



Staff photo by Seth Bedenbaugh

Top: Coach Piller addresses the team during a timeout in the first half of a game during a team camp Wisconsin Dells. Piller looks to have a successful season with the squad he took to Wisconsin Dells. Bottom: Sophomore Kaden Thomas lines up for a free-throw Friday morning at the Wisconsin Dells. The Blossoms struggled Friday but still managed to finish 3-3 for the week.

Blooming Prairie’s boys basketball team lays ground work for 2017 season

By SETH BEDENBAUGH
Sports Staff Intern

WISCONSIN DELLS, WIS. -- This past week, the Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossoms took a three-hour road trip to the famous, Wisconsin Dells.

As they headed east, all that was on their mind for the first day was getting something to eat, and then hitting to waterpark for the day.

Upon arriving to the Dells, they ran inside their three-story cabin that would house them for the week. Everyone was scrambling around, trying to call “dibs” on where they would want to sleep, before someone else could snatch up their coveted spot.

Next, they headed to the waterpark. The shuttle busses used to transport them somehow were able to fit both JV and Varsity teams almost comfortably.

Almost. Once they hit the waterpark, coach Piller made clear the

guidelines that needed to be met in order to achieve good behavior. The weather on the first day was beautiful, around 80 degrees with sun beaming down from the sky. A little humid, nonetheless, no one was complaining as it ended up being perfect weather for a day swimming and sliding.

After the waterpark, the boys and parents car-pooled to the nearest Pizza Ranch. The line was a good half-an-hour wait, but the wait was worth it as the boys loaded up on the pizza buffet.

The next day was the long awaited basketball tournament; what the Blossoms went there to do.

Waking up at the crack of dawn proved to be a challenge for the team, as coach Hardecopf went several rounds around the cabin trying to wake up the groggy hoopers.

Their first game went more than well, as they started the week off with a 60-38 victory. Jake Ressler showed off his smooth shooting ability, as his

long 6-foot-8-inch frame found the bottom of the net on a couple of threes, and a turn around jumper in the mid-post.

The second game of the first day was the most exciting game of the week. A back and fourth game against Seneca came down to the final seconds. The Blossoms were down 43-45 on their last possession, but they were safe with the ball in the hands of the calm, cool, and collected sophomore, Kaden Thomas. He let go of a three at the top of the key that smoothly traveled into the net as the clock struck “0.0”. “You guys were more excited about that three than I was,” Kaden said.

He seemed to be right, as his teammates were quick to rally around him; Thomas kept his cool by just letting off a sly smirk.

They ended the day on a rather poor note by taking a loss of 79-48.

The boys did not let it ruin the rest of their day, as they were eager to take on the waterpark

once again. Before the waterpark though, the moms on the trip made a great dinner of walking tacos, fruit, and chips for the countless kids and parents who congregated in the dinning room.

The last day of the Dells was a sunny Friday morning. Fatigue started to play a role in how the boys started to play. They picked up their second, and third losses of the week on this day. Yet, in the middle of those two games, the were able to pull off another win for the week. Although they had good team performances, their starting five proved to be a big reason of their success. Starting point guard, Cameron Kubista did his part on defense and being a facilitator at the point guard position. Staring wing player, Maxwell Romeo, also did a great job locking up his opponent on the defensive end and knocking down a few shot on offense. Another wing player, Kaden Thomas, had one of the most impressive weeks. Thomas was scoring the ball at will. With

only being a sophomore, Thomas’s future looks very promising as a Blossom, more than likely will be a top scorer in the conference going into next year. Although he is humble enough not to care about that.

“I don’t care about how much I score,” he added. “I just want to win.”

Occupying the post, Game Hagen and Jake Ressler also were very impressive at the Dells. Hagen, also only a sophomore, proved last season that he can play with the best of them, and this tournament was no different. His supreme strength at his age, combined with his touch around the hoop makes him an impossible matchup for nearly

anyone. He was imposing, racking up points, rebounds and blocks this week.

Likewise for Ressler, who was giving fits to opponents nearly every game played. He has amazing shooting ability for his height that just seems to be unfair as no one can block his jump shot. He also sent plenty opponents’ shots out-of-bounds while protecting the rim for the Blossoms.

The week at the Dell’s proved that fans of the Awesome Blossoms have a lot to be excited about going into the 2017-2018 winter sports season.

GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS

WEEK 6 - June 19

1	Strunk, Farr, Koster	38.5
2	Bartsch, Lewer, Kartes	37.5
3	Pfiefer, Wanous, Hardecopf	35
4	D.Glynn, C.Glynn, Esplan	34.5
5	Behnken, Peterson, Peterson	33.5
6	Doehoefer, Olson, Worke	32
7	Hinzmann, Wurst, Hueman	31.5
8	Braaten, PirkI, Resler	31
9	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	30
10	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	29
11	Johnson, Kvaltson, Bolver	28
11	R.Skala, J.Skala, Theile	28
13	Larock, Iacovino, Schwartz	27.5
14	Carlson, Scheifer Jones, Kittleson	26.5
15	MotI, Myer, Lembke	26
16	Clark, Blome, Skala	25
16	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	25
16	Grunkle, Evans, Possehl	25
19	Morgon, Olson, Olson	24.5
20	Lea, Hansen, D. Johnson	23.5
21	White, Lysne, Johnson	21
22	Glynn, Gorman, Malo	20
23	Stangle, Stangle, Flemming	17
24	Klemmensen, J. Klemmensen, R. Anderson	16.5
25	Haberman, Henefield, Nahlovsky	14

TOP SCORES

A	Doerhoefer, Olson, Worke	31
A	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	32
C	Carlson, Scheifer Jones, Kittleson	36
C	R. Skala, J. Skala, Theile	31
C	Hinzmann, Wurst, Hueman	33
D	Bartsch, Lewer, Kartes	38
D	D. Glynn, C. Glynn, Esplan	38
D	Johnson, Kvaltson, Bolver	38



Youth 1st hosts baseball clinic



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Left: Kids from Youth 1st Owatonna partake in a clinic of proper throwing mechanics during the Play Ball! Minnesota baseball clinic Saturday at Manthey Park in Owatonna.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

Saturday mornings are usually spent waking up late, eating multiple bowls of cereal and falling into a trance while watching your favorite cartoon.

However, kids in Owatonna spent Saturday grooming their-baseball skills.

Oh, and ambassadors for the first place Minnesota Twins were running the drills.

As part of Play Ball! Minnesota ambassadors, who also

serve as coaches in the sport, partnered with Youth 1st of Owatonna for a free baseball and softball clinic at Manthey Park.

“The cool thing about Play Ball! Minnesota is that it’s one of the initiatives that the Twins have to get more boys and girls in the games of baseball and softball,” Youth 1st Founder and Director Mark Arjes commented Saturday.

Due to large numbers, there were two age groups set up for camp. The first group holding kids from ages 6 to 9 and the second 10 to 16. Once in the

group boys and girls alike had a first-hand opportunity of learning the game in three stages. Arjes noted that the clinic is all about fundamentals.

“It’s all about the basics,” he added. “It’s about getting comfortable enough to play the game and to learn to love the game. And that’s what’s so cool about Play Ball! Minnesota.”

The first station allowed kids to learn the proper mechanics of how to aim and throw a baseball in a short amount of time. To help teach the kids, coaches who were assisting had a yellow

tee set up along the back stop of home plate where kids tried to knock the ball off the tee. The second station was all about fielding, from learning the proper mechanics of how to field a ground ball to how to judge and field fly balls in the outfield. The third and final station was batting, where kids in attendance learned about how to attack the ball while at the plate with a proper motion in the swing.

The best part for Arjes?

The parents were allowed the opportunity to be hands-on in helping out in the drills.

“They (Twins ambassadors) do a great job of that,” he added. “So in the group in the morning, there were probably 20 to 30 parents out there helping them.”

Arjes also noted that the first year they conducted the camp, a parent came up to him and said that it helped them feel more comfortable to go out and play catch with their son in the backyard. The statement resonated with him.

“To me, that’s the whole purpose is to get parents out there with their kids and to have fun,” Arjes added. “I feel like

some of our youth sports lost that a bit.”

It wasn’t all about learning the game.

There were goodies too.

After the kids finished their stations, most grabbed a hot dog and went to one of the patios on location where a raffle for an assortment of goodies, to include a signed Eddie Rosario baseball, were up for grabs.

Arjes noted that kids who attended all receive a free shirt and a grab bag.

Kiel selected to All-Star Series

KIEL: from page 1C

there was no real winner or loser.

They played a game with kids who have special needs in the Minnetonka Miracle Field. Kiel noted it was a moment that allow a bit of perspective and showed the real love for the game.

“They were really energetic so it was easy to just go out there and play with them,” added Kiel. “We just played with them, ran the bases, helped them hit, it was fun.”

After making it back to

the Chaska Athletic Park, all 12-teams were in attendance to cheer on their teammate in the home run derby.

Once each of the 12 players were done showing off their power, the games started in full force. Kiel’s South All-Stars narrowly escaped with a 10-9 win in Friday night’s contest before surging to the tournament’s championship game, where they ultimately fell to the Metro West All-Stars 6-1. Kentucky commit

Jimmy Ramsey of Minnetonka was on the mound for Metro West.

In Friday night’s game, Kiel was 1-for-3 at the plate with a pair of RBIs on a hard line drive to right-center field.

The tournament marked the culmination for his high school career, one that ended with an All-Big Nine Conference team selection and a future at the collegiate level. However, when taking the time for looking back

on his career, Kiel noted that he was fortunate for his time as a Husky.

“It was just a good experience,” he added. “I’ve grown a lot. Everybody is playing in college so I’ll get to see them again in college or hear about them and that’s fun too.”

Kiel was have nearly a month left of playing ball for Owatonna before heading to St. Mary’s.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Former Owatonna baseball player Kodey Kiel gives a teammate a high five after the first inning of the Play Ball! Minnesota High School Baseball All-Star Series.

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at Lansing for the week of June 23

No results due to being rained out

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Windfall in Steele and Dodge



BY EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

A new business venture is blowing into Steele and Dodge counties.

NextEra Energy Resources is proposing The NextEra Wind Project to establish a field of wind turbines in both counties.

The project would consist of 30-year contracts with local landowners, particularly farmers who are willing to loan out parts of their fields. The company says for the landowners that wish to participate it can be a very stable source of income.

The project was originally named Dodge County Wind, as the company planned to deal exclusively in Dodge. Optimal wind patterns, however, have also been

found in Steele County expanding the project. 20 to 25 turbines are planned for Steele County in the Havana and Aurora Townships.

The project is currently in the outreach phase, as representatives from NextEra are currently in contact with county governments and local landowners to ensure a positive experience for all.

At the Steele County Board meeting on June 13, Jason Harris, who was presenting the project to the board on behalf of the company, said the response to their project has been positive so far.

Addressing the county boards is something of a formality, as projects of this size are exempt from local zoning laws. Only the state can actually alter or reject the project, but NextEra is attempting to establish

goodwill with the people who may be its neighbors for the next three decades.

As a gesture of solidarity, Harris promised that NextEra would strive to use as much local contracting work as possible, so more residents of the two counties can benefit from the turbines.

The company's projected local economic impact includes more than 200 construction jobs, seven to 12 full-time jobs, and \$27.7 million in revenue from property taxes.

NextEra is the largest generator of wind energy in the world with more than a 115 wind projects in 20 states and four Canadian provinces.

Minnesota is ranked 6th in the country for wind farms.

Business Briefs

United Prairie donates to Salvation Army

United Prairie in Owatonna recently raised \$880 through its Denim for Dollars program. Those funds were donated to the Salvation Army of Steele County. The Salvation Army helps those in need throughout the community with various programs, as well as a store in Owatonna.

Denim for Dollars is a company-wide program that gives back to the communities United Prairie serves through a combination of employee and company donations. Employees have the option to pay \$5 on Fridays to wear denim. Four times each year, those funds are donated, along with a company-match, to deserving causes across the United Prairie footprint. The program has raised over \$200,000 company-wide.

To learn more about the Denim for Dollars program, visit their website at www.unitedprairiebank.com.



Submitted photo

Jason Sundberg, Katy Busho, Jennifer Hix from the Salvation Army with Jennifer Frazier, and Emma Helkenn.

Community Leadership Academy announces twelve new graduates

Congratulations to the 2016/2017 Graduating Class of Owatonna Community Leadership Academy (OCLA)!

The participants kicked-off their experience with a social picnic in August, completed Strengths Finder 2.0 in September and attended eight additional program days from October to May including a most recent graduation celebration in June.

These twelve individuals learned about Owatonna resources, values, strengths, weaknesses and challenges.

They took an in-depth look at eight key elements of our community; education, economic development, government, healthcare, public safety, quality of life, agriculture, and culture & diversity.

We welcome these leaders into the pool of nearly 300 Owatonna Community Leadership Academy Alumni graduates and thank you to their sponsoring business for allowing them to participate in the program.

•Julie Conlin, HomeTown Credit Union

•Bobbi Jo Fleming, Fernbrook Family Center

•Hannah Gehrke-Keltgen, Owatonna Public Schools

•Cassie Gilgenbach, Owatonna Public Library

•Ryan Gillespie, Bremer Bank

•Jenny Heimerman, Owatonna Public Utilities

•Tamara Murphy, Federated Insurance Company

•Kevin Oja, Wenger Corporation

•Brian Savage, Viracon

•Carrie Saxton, Profinium Financial & Mohs Contracting Inc.

•Maureen Schlobohm, Steele County Clothesline

•Todd Trout, U.S. Bank

For more information on the upcoming 2017/2018 program year or if you know of someone who would benefit from this program, please contact Rhonda Guthrie, Director of Operations at the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism at rguthrie@owatonna.org or 507-451-7970. To view the latest application, visit Owatonna.org.

STEELE-DODGE BUSINESS

PIZZA ... IN ... SPACE ...



Domino's Pizza manager Russell Patschke winds up to toss a pizza in the Kasson store ... He prepares for take-off... And follows through with perfection.

Domino's Pizza customers embrace online, app technology

"I've been with Domino's since they had Diet Coke. There've been about 100 changes since then. It just keeps getting better."

- Marty Gritz, owner of the Domino's Pizza store in Kasson

By RICHARD JOHNSON
DCI Managing Editor

They still flip pizza dough the old-fashioned way – high in the air - at Domino's Pizza in Kasson.

You can still call your order in, or stop by the store at 501 Mantorville Ave. S.

But the Domino's app – that's space-age stuff.

Grab your iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch or Android and start clicking off choices: pizza size, crust, toppings, all sorts of ingredients. And don't forget pasta, sandwiches, sides and a beverage.

Click the button and ... Zing!

"It's always amazing to me when people come in and have a question," store owner Marty Gritz said. "If they have a concern, they can just whip out their app. They can find it before we can find it."

The high-tech offering conforms with Gritz' motto: "Sell more pizza, have more fun."

Objective achieved.

Nearly 60 percent of orders – from about 550 customers per week - at Domino's in Kasson come from mobile apps (smart phones and tablets) and the Internet (dominos.com), he said.

Gritz, who also owns Domino's franchises in

Rochester, Albert Lea, and Mason City, Iowa, said franchisees around the nation added advertising money to promote a Domino's app around 2010, "and it's just been growing like mad, ever since."

"I think they were starting to see declines in TV advertising and knew there were opportunities out there in digital," he said. "It seems that we were right."

Growth in "digital pizza" between stores in Rochester and Kasson seems to be spurred by tech-savvy young people – though older folks also use the app, store

manager Russell Patschke said.

Gritz said they all seem to appreciate the Domino's Rewards program.

Order six pizzas through your Domino's app (for at least \$10 per order), get one free medium two-topper.

"And we do lot of redemptions," he said. "It's fun to see, and we're sure seeing a lot more of it."

Gritz said he expects sales will increase even more in the fall, thanks to a store remodeling (with the addition of a new oven) about six months ago.

And it doesn't hurt that

about 11,600 vehicles travel daily down Mantorville Avenue, while more than 17,000 cruise by on Highway 14, according to loopnet.com, an online commercial real estate marketplace.

"It's a very convenient location," Patschke said.

Many of those travelers are hungry. They have apps. And they will use them.

"It's nice to get a timely, accurate order," Gritz said. "All we have to do is make it and get it out. I've been with Domino's since they had Diet Coke. There've been about 100 changes since then. It just keeps getting better."

Staff photos by Richard Johnson

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Auto safety devices that can help seniors with older cars

Dear Savvy Senior,
Do you know of any auto safety products that can help seniors with older cars? My 80-year-old father, who drives his beloved 2004 Toyota Avalon, is still a good pretty driver but he has limited range-of-motion, which makes looking over his shoulder to back-up or merge into traffic very difficult.
Inquiring Son

Dear Inquiring,
To help keep your dad safe and extend his driving years, there are a number of auto aids and new safety technology products that can be added to his car to help with various needs. Here are several to consider.

Backup Aids

To help your dad increase his visibility when backing up, a simple product that can be added to his car is an AllView Mirror (\$60, AllviewMirror.com). This is an oversized rear view mirror that attaches to his existing mirror to widen his rear visibility and eliminate blind spots so he can see traffic without significant neck or body rotation. It also helps during parking.

Another option is a backup camera. These come with a weatherproof, night vision camera, which attaches to the license plate on the rear of the car. When the car is in reverse, it sends live images wirelessly to a small monitor that mounts to the dash or windshield. The Yada Digital Wireless Backup Camera (\$140, Amazon) with 4.3” Dash Moni-

tor is a good option. Or, if your dad doesn’t want a monitor in his car, the Auto Vox Wireless Backup Camera (\$140, Amazon.com) is one that displays the images in a rearview mirror.

Blind Spot Helpers

To help your dad see better when switching lanes or merging into traffic, purchase your dad some “blind spot mirrors.” These are small convex mirrors that would stick to the corner of his side view mirrors to improve side and rear vision. They can be purchased in any store that sells auto supplies for a few dollars.

Or, for a high-tech more comprehensive solution, there’s the Goshen Blind Spot Detection System (\$239, Goshers.com). This system uses small sensors

installed on each side of the rear bumper that monitor the sides of the vehicle, and will alert your dad with a light indicator, installed inside the car, if any object detected within 10 feet.

Safety Products

For extra safety, you may also want to consider a collision warning/lane departure device for your dad’s vehicle like the Mobileye 630. This is a smart camera that attaches to the windshield and will alert your dad if he speeds, drifts out of his lane, gets too close to the car in front of him, or gets too close to a pedestrian or cyclist. Sold only through retailers (see Mobileye.com/en-us/find-a-retailer), this device can be purchased and installed by a Mobileye-certified



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technician for around \$1,100.

If you’re interested in something a little less expensive, there are also dashboard cameras that can double as collision warning systems. Garmin’s Dash Cam 35 (\$129, Amazon.com), for example, monitors up to 130 feet in front of the vehicle, so if your dad is going 30 mph or faster, it will issue audio and visual alerts of impending collisions.

Another product that can help keep your dad safe in emergency situations is the Hum (Hum.com). This nifty device will automatically call emergency services if your dad has been in an

accident. It also sends alerts to drivers’ phones if there’s a mechanical problem and lets driver’s press a button if they need roadside assistance. Hum works in cars built in 1996 or later, and costs \$10 per month with two-year required subscription, and one-time set-up and activation fees totaling \$50.

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

History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Elise Slinger, Editor
June 12th, 2007

If you’ve cruised past Main St. This past week you couldn’t help but notice that there was some work hap-pening on the water tower.

The crew from Maquire Iron out of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, spent four days in Bloomington removing peeling paint, corrosion and oxidization and then priming and painting the “red-topped” water tower that occupies the piece of land on the southeast corner of the Bloomington city park.

A hero’s good deeds are not forgotten, especially when it comes to saving someone’s life. Ralph Berg of Bloomington, who died last October of lung cancer, could have certainly attested to this statement after Lonnie Foster saved his life on December 24, 1944.

While flying over Germany in a B-26 Marauder bomber, Berg and Foster, along with four other men, were shot down by a Messerschmitt Bf-109 fighter. Foster pushed Berg out of the plane so he wouldn’t be caught in the blaze.

Foster received an Airman’s medal for Heroism for saving former BP resident Ralph Berg’s life during World War

II.

20 Years Ago
Elsie Slinger, Publisher
July 1st, 1997

The gloomy weather outside didn’t dampen the hearts of 13 little girls as the Little Miss Firecracker was crowned Saturday, June 28th at the Bloomington Prairie High School auditorium.

Samantha Kraling, 6, was crowned the 1997 Little Miss Firecracker, and along with lone Little Mr. Firecracker candidate Soren Peter-son, both will reign over the upcoming Fourth of July Spectacular festivities this weekend.

Mike Anderson remembers the Court of July celebrations growing up in Bloomington, with the parade, games, and entertainment.

Now, as a part of the musical group, Rhythmic Ties, he is rich in the middle of the excitement, as the musical group provides music for the fireworks on Fourth of July.

They will play their own pieces, as well as musical selections from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s.

50 Years Ago
Victor, Vernon, & Vyrle Krejci, Editors
June 15th, 1967

Miss Margaret Ann Colenberg and Miss Kathleen Herron, both of Bloomington, will be among 123 graduates of St. Mary’s School of Nursing at commencement exercises on Sunday, June 18.

Margaret is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Herron. Both girls are graduates of Bloomington Prairie High School. The Most Rev. Edward Fitzgerald, Bishop of Winona, will present the diplomas to the graduate nurses.

Betlach Food Co. one of Bloomington pioneer business firms, will celebrate with a gigantic three-day sale on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week, June 15-17.

The Betlach Food Co. was established in Bloomington in 1892 and has been a familiar name in the business district for the past 75 years.

In honor of the firm’s diamond anniversary, they are offering their customers an opportunity to participate in an “S. and H. Green Stamp” bonanza.

75 Years Ago
Walter K. Mickelson, Editor and Publisher
July 2nd, 1942

59 youths, ranging in age from 18 to 20, were registered Tuesday at the community building in the fifth selective service registration. Only 15 of the men were from the village, the others were from surrounding rural areas.

The 20-year-olds are subject to call for the Army. Although the others aren’t subject to immediate call, the army has indicated it would like authorization to draft them.

Showing a gross trading profit of \$13,208 for the past year, the Farmers co-op, Elevators Assn., of Bloomington, revealed one of the outstanding financial reports in its history Saturday night the annual stockholders meeting here in the community building. Net profit for the year was \$8,515.41, leaving a dividend distribution fund of \$7,761.95.

This is by far the largest volume of business the company has had in quite sometime.

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302 12th Ave NE. Kasson, Sat. 9-4. Moving Sale - patio furniture, chairs, couch, motorcycle helmets, and Xmas items. 28p
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Sat., July 1, 2017
TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: From I-35, Exit 26, Ellendale, MN take Hwy. 30 east 2.5 miles to Steele Cty. 45, then go north 2.5 miles to SE 128th St. then go 1.4 miles east to SE 19th ave., then go south .8 miles to Auction Site. From Owatonna, MN, take Steele Cty. 45 south 10.6 miles to SE 128th St., then go 1.4 miles east to SE 19th Ave., then go south .8 miles to Auction Site. Watch for Jensen Auctions signs.

LOCATION: 13656 19th Ave. SE, Blooming Prairie, MN

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GUNS (selling at 11:30 a.m.)
Pistols: Browning 22 LR pistol w/ 2 clips, w/ case, 655 PX 11534 - Taurus (The Judge) pistol, DM992562, 5-shot .45LC/410 Ga, w/ original case (Handguns require permit to buy.) **Long Guns:** Remington, Model 870 Wingmaster, vented rib 12-ga. w/ slug barrel, SN62500ZV (very nice) - Marlin Model 60 22 LR only, Semi Auto SN: 08309122 w/ Tasco 4x15 Scope (looks new) - Stevens 12-ga single shot (107B) (nice gun) - J.C. Higgins, Model 583.20 12 ga. bolt action single shot - O.F. Mossberg & Sons 85C 20 ga. bolt action w/ (2) clips - Ten Point Turbo GT Crossbow Flex Point Series, SN: D70682 w/ case (used twice).

AUCTIONEER'S COMMENT: Due to Mark's declining health, he has decided to sell off all his nice items at auction. So come on out and enjoy the day! Thanks - Dennis (Lunch and portable toilets available.) **TERMS:** Cash or good check w/ proper ID, all major credit cards w/ 4% processing fee. All sales final. All sales selling as-is, where is. Everything must be paid for on Auction Day. Not responsible for accidents. Verbal announcement take precedence over all printed material.

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Clinic set to help crop disease

By DAVE NICOLAI

The improvement of plant health (and yields) can only be successfully achieved after a clear understanding is made of what is reducing plant health in the first place. This is where the Plant Disease Clinic (PDC), can help.

The PDC is based on the St. Paul campus at the University of Minnesota. It provides diagnostic services, specializing in microbial pathogens of plants. The PDC diagnoses thousands of samples each year from state and federal agencies, the agriculture and horticulture industry, and the general public.

For single season crops like corn and soybean, it is particularly important to pay close attention to plant health problems early in the growing season. Diseases that start in June will tend to have a much greater impact on final yields than diseases that don't get started until much later in the summer. There are multiple pathogens and abiotic issues that can cause similar symptoms and a misdiagnosis based on an

incorrect assumption can lead to expensive and wasteful treatment applications, as well as not fixing the original problem.

Accurate diagnosis also requires high quality and timely samples. Plants that are symptomatic but still living are typically the best to submit. Every fall the PDC receives soybean samples submitted by growers that suspected they had a disease issue but were simply too busy during the active growing season to submit them. In many cases the dead soybean plants are impossible to diagnose as saprophytic organisms have colonized the tissues and it is not possible to be sure which organism caused the initial disease.

Pythium root rot, Rhizoctonia root and stem rot, Fusarium root rot, and Phytophthora root rot are common soybean seedling diseases in Minnesota, which the U of MN Plant Disease Clinic can help to determine. The

soilborne pathogens that cause these diseases are widespread and persistent in field soils across the state. These pathogens are also key targets for most fungicidal seed treatments.

•Pythium root rot. The wet and cool soils that occurred in many areas with the frequent rains in late May have been especially favorable for Pythium seed and seedling root rot. Pythium infections typically result in brownish-colored, rotting tissue.

•Phytophthora root rot is also favored by wet and saturated soils, although it generally prefers warmer soil conditions than Pythium root rot. The light, soft-rot symptoms on roots caused by Phytophthora are very similar to those caused by Pythium, and laboratory diagnosis may be required to tell which disease it is. Phytophthora can damage soybean seedlings or initiate infections in the spring that may result

in severe root and stem rot in July and August.

•Rhizoctonia root and stem rot caused by Rhizoctonia solani is also a widespread problem in Minnesota. Warm and moist soils favor Rhizoctonia root and stem rot. Plant stand loss can be high when soil is warm (>74F) and wet while seedlings are in the VE to V1 growth stages, as these are prime conditions for disease development. Reddish to dark brown, firm and often sunken, lesions caused by Rhizoctonia develop on the stem and often girdle stems near the soil line.

•Fusarium root rot is another common soybean seedling disease in Minnesota that can cause significant damage. The typical symptoms are damping-off and root-rot with dark brown lesions.

Please consult the PDC website (<https://pdc.umn.edu>) or call at 612-625-1275 for instructions on sample submission, fees for diagnosis, and additional information.

Dave Nicolai is a regional extension educator focusing on crops for the University of Minnesota Extension.

Forage options for dairy cow production

ON THE FARM



Claire LaCanne

June is "Dairy Month," prompting me to address dairy production in this column. I am learning more about livestock every day, but due to my background in crops, I will be addressing forage for dairy cows. Alfalfa is still the primary forage fed to lactating dairy cows, however, there is interest in and several studies investigating the use of alternative plants for dairy cow diets. The drivers of this interest in alternative forages are primarily farm sustainability issues such as nutrient management, risk management, and economic concerns. Having a more diverse crop rotation can reduce financial risk, add and hold various nutrients in the soil, and reduce the risk of severe weather conditions. We often think of crop diversification in as an option for commodity cropping systems, but diversification can also be a useful tool in dairy production.

Variable winter conditions result in increased risk of winter injury of alfalfa; approximately 1,000,000 acres of alfalfa in Minnesota and Wisconsin experienced injury or kill during the 2012-2013 winter. These environmental threats make it wise to understand alternatives in order to maintain production in forage systems. Replanting alfalfa after winterkill has low success rates due to residual autotoxicity, where different legumes or grasses can serve as valuable substitutions to fill this void and reduce loss in production.

Additionally, other hay can be as productive as (and less expensive than) alfalfa or corn. Orchardgrass is a cool season perennial, like alfalfa and is a viable dairy cow feed, and can replace corn/soybean meal in a total mixed ration (TMR). Orchardgrass wouldn't be a great option to replace alfalfa after a winterkill, but is a viable alternative if you are looking to diversify your landscape. Brown Midrib (BMR) sorghum sudangrass is a warm season grass which is highly competitive with corn in biomass production and higher in crude protein than silage corn. These are just a few options, and grasses contribute different nutrients and carbon sequestration than legumes, so diversifying can contribute to soil health.

Cool season perennial grasses and legumes are the most common forage types in most of Minnesota. Warm season grasses have fallen by the wayside a bit in use as forage, but a 2016-2017 study conducted by UMN Animal Science Specialists Brad Heins and Kathryn Ruh found that both cool and warm season plant mixes can be used to maintain milk quality and production. The warm season crops used in the study were BMR sorghum sudangrass and teff grass, which had similar biomass, crude protein, and milk production to the cool season mix which included alfalfa. Theirs was a dairy grazing system, but the study indicates that warm season mixes can be used to in dairy production, which fits nicely into the scenario of other forage crops, like alfalfa, winterkilling. Replacing alfalfa with warm season plants is a feasible option.

Using alternative forages can be a practical tool for economic and environmental risk management, and can result in feed quality and milk production similar to that of alfalfa.

Claire LaCanne is the new agricultural extension educator for Steele and Rice counties. She may be reached at 507-444-7691 or lacanne@umn.edu.

Farming a preferred living

By LEMAR NELSON
SCT Staff Writer

When my editor assigned me a farm story for the paper, I told him, "That is a tough assignment, as in my experience, most farmers never retire. They just keep working the soil. " As evidence of that, I listed the rural Wolf family as an example. The other thing I found most representative of the Wolfs was that, at least in the Midwest, family farms generally are passed on from one generation to the next.

Bob and Linda Wolf will hand over the farming operations to son Bruce and daughter-in-law Tammy, and when their son Tim, eventually takes over the farm, it will mark the fifth generation of the family that has engaged in agriculture. And that is not so unusual a tradition as one might think. In fact, it is quite typical.

Son Bruce and the Wolf family currently farm about 1800 acres of corn and soybeans and don't have any livestock to worry about. "I think farming has good rewards", commented Bruce. "I enjoy being my own boss, I like planting the crops and watching them grow, and it is really special to see the rewards, as the crops mature and provide the dividends for the labor put into the whole process.

Probably the most difficult aspects of farming are the weather and the markets, and we can't do much to control either. In the last couple of years, the market, especially the corn, has not been very kind to farmers, and the weather has thrown its share of problems as well, but through it all, farming is still my career of choice, and it has been a joy in following the footsteps of my father. "

Although the elder Wolfs still actively work alongside Bruce and his family with the operation, they have taken an opportunity now to get away from farming for short periods of time. As Bruce remarked,

"They generally head south, alternating between Arizona and Florida for a month or so in March after winter sports have concluded. I am a big sports fan and follow all of the sports at the school, and I think Dad and Mom may be even bigger fans. They seldom miss a game or a contest."

Bruce and Tammy have now been married for 27 years and have raised three daughters and Tim. Kelsey, Katelin, and Katie are now adults, and Tim is primed to take over the farm when dad and grandfather call it quits. Tim commented, "I have been interested in agriculture since very young, and I enjoy farming just as dad does. I like nothing better than coming home from school and jumping on the tractor to do field work."

Tim is a three-sport athlete in football, basketball, and baseball, and is becoming successful in all three. He has been active in 4-H since childhood, and he is also an active member in the school FFA program, participating in its activities and on judging teams. He finds enjoyment in being around family and being close to home, and playing sports keep him plenty occupied.

Neither Bruce or Tim have hobbies away from farming, although both indicated that playing sports and following the school teams keep them heavily involved in activities. That is enough for them and for Tammy too. Tammy is a ten-year cancer survivor and has a sideline little business in photography. She, too, enjoys seeing the seeds planted and then growing up to produce mature crops, and her one complaint about farming is the many hours involved. "When rains, come", she commented, "one might think that some free time is available, but there is always machinery to repair and farm errands to run.

"My dad has seen a lot of changes in farming", continued

Bruce, "and now I am seeing many changes too. The advances in technology and improved and the bigger machinery are sometimes difficult with which to become accustomed. It also seems that each year brings more rules and regulations to follow, and it is important to stay abreast of all of them. But we do it."

In the winter, Bruce is a snowplow operator for the Minnesota Department of Trans-

portation, clearing roads on various routes in Southeastern Minnesota. He is also a township supervisor at the present time, and these two part-time responsibilities keep him busy during the months away from farming duties.

I will conclude this article the way I began. Family farms are often passed on from one generation to another, and most farmers never retire- they just keep farming.



Minnesota Crop Report

Mostly dry weather allowed for **4.8 days suitable for field work** during the week ending June 25, 2017, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Crop stages advanced well despite the cooler than normal temperatures. Field activities for the week included side dressing corn, applying herbicides, and cutting small grain hay.

Topsoil moisture supplies rated 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 84 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies rated 0 percent very short, 5 percent short, 86 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus.

Minnesota's **corn** condition was rated 78 percent good to excellent. The **soybean** crop had scattered reports of blooming, and crop condition rated 76 percent good to excellent.

Eighty-seven percent of the **spring wheat** crop had reached the jointing stage or beyond this week with 42 percent of all spring wheat headed. Spring wheat condition declined slightly to a rating of 86 percent good to excellent. **Oats** jointing progressed to 92 percent, with 57 percent headed. Oats condition was 82 percent good to excellent. Ninety percent of the **barley** crop was jointing with 45 percent of the crop headed. Barley condition decreased slightly this week, and was rated 85 percent good to excellent. **Dry edible bean** crop condition was estimated at 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. **Sunflower** condition was rated 84 percent good to excellent. Potato condition was rated 91 percent good to excellent. **Sugarbeet** condition rated 66 percent good to excellent.

The first cutting of **alfalfa hay** was nearly finished at 95 percent complete, and second cutting progressed to 19 percent complete. **All hay** condition had no change from the previous week at 83 percent good to excellent. Likewise, pasture condition rated similar to last week with 78 percent good to excellent.

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Public Safety



Blotter spotlight: Assault. On June 18 at 12:16 a.m., deputies responded to an individual trying to fight with people in the 100 block of 5th St. SW in Dodge Center. They arrested the subject for assault and transported him to the Steele County Jail.

CRIME BRIEF

Man arrested for third DWI in Owatonna

A faulty brake light led to a drunk driving arrest for police in Owatonna.

On June 18 at around 12 a.m., police stopped a vehicle on North Cedar Avenue for a brake light not operating. The officer found the driver, Daniel Schley of Owatonna, to be confused and slow to respond to questions, police said. The officer also smelled an odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the vehicle and Schley admitted to drinking.

After he was arrested and taken to the detention center, Schley vomited just prior to the breath test. He was taken to Owatonna hospital and became



Daniel Schley

unresponsive on the way.

During his arraignment on the new charges, Schley pleaded guilty to second-degree DWI. His 2013 Chevrolet Silverado is being held for forfeiture.

Schley’s driving record shows he has two prior convictions for DWI within 10 years.

of Frontage Rd. W. at 6:54 p.m.

Arrest. Police made a traffic arrest at 20th St. NW and 3rd Ave. NW at 9:16 p.m.

June 20

Shoplifting. Officer issued a shoplifting citation in the 400 block of North St. W. at 12:09 a.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 100 block of 21st St. NW at 6:34 a.m. and 2:55 p.m. and the 200 block of 21st St. NW at 12:55 p.m.

Drugs. Officers responded to drug activity in the 300 block of School St. W. at 2:20 p.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Hit and Run. A hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 2200 block of 26th St. NW at 5:54 p.m.

June 21

Theft. Thefts occurred in the 800 block of 25th St. NE at 8:31 a.m. and in the 700 block of Elm Ave. N. at 9:02 p.m.

Assault. Police responded to an assault in the 2200 block of 46th St. NW at 11:37 a.m.

Shoplifting. Officer issued a shoplifting citation in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 1:39 p.m.

Warrant. Police made warrant arrests in the 500 block of Florence Ave. NW at 3:38 p.m. and in the 100 block of Landmark Dr. NE at 4:39 p.m.

Crash. Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries at Hoffman Dr. NW and 24th Ave. NW at 4:15 p.m.

Shoplifting. Police arrested a subject for shoplifting in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 7:42 p.m.

June 22

Property Damage. Vandalism was reported in the 1100 block of Industrial Road NW at 3:04 a.m. and in the 1000 block of Hoffman Dr. NW at 7:50 a.m.

Suspicion. Officers responded to suspicious activity in the 400 block of Elm Ave. N. at 3:06 a.m.

Child Protection. At 4:25 p.m., police began an investigation of child abuse in the 500 block of Mineral Springs Road NE.

Domestic. Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 1300 block of Cherry St. NE at 9:22 p.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Disturbance. At 10:41 p.m., police arrested a subject for disorderly conduct in the 200 block of Elm Ave. N.

Steele County Sheriff

June 16

Vandalism. Deputy took a report of property damage in the 9000 block of 128th St. SW in Berlin Township at 9:39 a.m.

June 17

Medical. At 11:55 a.m., deputies responded to a medical emer-

gency at 2nd Ave. NW and Main St. N. in Medford.

Arrest. Deputies arrested a motorist following a traffic stop at 72nd Ave. SW and 118th St. SW in Berlin Township at 10:50 p.m.

June 18

Traffic. Deputies made a traffic arrest in the 2200 block of 25th St. NW in Owatonna at 1:24 a.m.

Domestic. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 4100 block of 66th St. NW in Medford Township at 1:34 p.m.

Suspicion. At 6:04 p.m., deputies received information regarding suspicious activity in the 5700 block of 43rd Ave. SW in Lemond Township.

June 19

Traffic Arrest. Deputies arrested a motorist following a traffic stop at 52nd Ave. NW and 76th St. NW in Deerfield Township at 5:23 a.m.

Arrest. Deputies arrested a subject in the 6800 block of Frontage Rd. W. in Medford at 9:51 a.m.

June 20

Vandalism. Property damage was reported at Interstate 35 northbound and 26th St. NW in Owatonna at 4:47 p.m.

June 21

Suspicion. At 2:37 a.m., deputies responded to suspicious activity at 2nd Ave. NE and 3rd St. NE in Medford. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Warrants. Deputies made warrant arrests at the detention center at 6:26 a.m. and in the 9300 block of 92nd Ave. SW in Lemond Township at 12:37 p.m.

Theft. Deputy took a theft report in the 1400 block of 38th St. SW in Owatonna Township at 3:58 p.m.

Assault. Deputies responded to an assault in the 600 block of School St. S. in Ellendale at 6:06 p.m.

June 22

Burglary. At 12:01 a.m., deputies began a burglary investigation in the 4200 block of 26th St. NW in Meriden Township.

Suspicion. Deputies received information regarding suspicious activity in the 200 block of Main St. S. in Medford at 3:24 a.m.

Thefts. Deputies took theft reports in the 4100 block of 26th St. NW in Clinton Falls Township at 4:02 a.m. and in the 6700 block of Frontage Rd. W. in Medford at 9:31 a.m.

Warrant. Deputies arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant at the detention center at 8:48 a.m.

COURT NEWS

Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 12 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Miranda L. Hald, 24, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony aid and abet theft. She was sentenced to \$1,917.09, 51 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, mental health evaluation, complete Steele Waseca Drug Court and 5 years of supervised probation.

Martin J. Klaustemeier, 22, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana and misdemeanor theft. The defendant was sentenced to \$131, 90 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain permission to leave the state, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 5 years of supervised probation.

Nicholas M. Lacroix, 30, Ellendale, previously appeared and was convicted of felony domestic assault by strangulation. He was sentenced to \$581, 4 days in county jail, no possession of

firearms, obtain permission to leave the state, obtain employment, mental health evaluation, Domestic Violence programming, chemical dependency evaluation, 80 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation.

Brett W. Warner, 29, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony financial transaction card fraud. Warner was sentenced to \$983.60, 174 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no contact with victim, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 12 – 16:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Nicole P. Cuevas, 19, Albert Lea, revoked license and speeding, \$331; Jaime R. De Leon, 31, Blooming Prairie, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Christopher S. Hang, 65, Arden Hills, expired tabs, \$111; Alexander W. Miller, 19, Austin, no license and speeding, \$221; Samuel K. Nhial, 19, Omaha, NE, no license, \$181; Steven J. Salinas, 31, Blooming Prairie, no license, \$181; Trisha D. Tietje, 38, Austin, expired tabs and speeding, \$251.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Victorina Almendariz, 55, St. Paul, speeding, \$131; Tanner S. Anderson, 26, Los Angeles, CA, speeding, \$141; Brittany R. Barton, 23, Beecher, IL, speeding, \$221; Montique R. Bickham, 22, Albert Lea, suspended license, \$281; Merton E. Burke, 51, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$141; Scott M. Eaton, 42, Owatonna, license plate cover violation, \$111; Angela M. Erickson, 33, Owatonna, speeding, no license and revoked license, \$421; Jasmin N. Flicek, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Jardin B. Fuller, 34, Memphis, MO, vehicle weight violation, \$381; Ahmed M. Garane, 20, Faribault, failure to yield, \$181; Mariah C. Green, 22, Albert Lea, speeding, \$131;

Zachary J. Hanlon, 21, Plainview, speeding, \$381; Oriana G. Henderson, 24, Dodge Center, speeding, \$121; Jordan L. Jensen, 30, Blue Earth, possession of marijuana, stay of adjudication, \$50, 8 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, mental health screening, chemical dependency evaluation and 5 years of supervised probation; Carl L. Johnson, 31, St. Paul, unsafe passing on shoulder, \$131;

Nicholas M. LaCroix, 30, Ellendale, suspended license and window tint violation, \$331; Conor G. Loftus, 44, Rochester, speeding, \$281; Yulsamar Lopez, 27, Eagle Pass, TX, no license, \$181; Christopher M. Probst, 45, Shakopee, speeding, \$131;

Tony M. Roenue, 25, Austin, suspended license, \$281; Junior O. Seren Hernandez, 29, Chaska, revoked license, \$281; Paul E. Steinberg, 72, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Randy L. Sylvara, 54, Hollandale, seat belt, \$106; Khor S. Wal, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Connie M. Wangen, 57, Cambridge, speeding, \$121; Adam G. Weppler, 30, Burnsville, seat belt, \$106; Anthony C. Wilson, 30, Oakdale, speeding, \$221.

Owatonna Police Department

Mursal A. Ahmed, 20, Faribault, failure to signal for turn, \$131; Jonathan A. Aleman, 24, DWI, \$181, 90 days in county jail; Shana N. Andrews, 31, Mounds View, theft, \$131 and 1 day in county jail; Douglas M. Blouin, 57, Ellendale, theft, \$181; Michael R. Brown, 68, Owatonna, speeding, \$121;

Danielle D. Carter, 21, Owatonna, disorderly conduct,

\$391 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Jordyn R. Caudle, 27, Owatonna, failure to stop for school bus, \$431; Carrie S. Cook, 39, Waseca, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$50, 13 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain employment, chemical dependency evaluation and 5 years of supervised probation; Derek C. Edge, 22, Owatonna, liquor sale to minor, \$431 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Paul A. Fitch, 58, Waseca, stop sign, \$131;

Jay B. Fuentes, 21, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Cody M. Granle, 22, Waltham, theft and give peace officer false information, \$81 and 24 days in county jail; Deon M. Grunwald, 41, Owatonna, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$381, 1 day in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation and 2 years of supervised probation; Angela R. Herpinck, 34, Owatonna, no license, \$181;

Dinah R. Hodges, 36, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Samuel B. Hylle, 20, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Vincent Johnny, 27, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$131 and 2 days in county jail; Martin J. Klaustemeier, 22, Owatonna, theft, \$131 and 90 days in county jail; Dena L. Leaders, 47, Owatonna, theft, \$131; Terry A. Lester, 43, Waseca, violation of order for protection, \$181, 15 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Wuilson A. Lopez Reyes, 37, Willmar, DWI, \$381, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory and 1 year of supervised probation; Sashy A. Martinez, 31, Albert Lea, theft, \$131 and 1 year of supervised probation; Caedon D. McCartney, 17, Owatonna, speeding, \$121;

Michael P. Newcombe, 58, Owatonna, assault, \$281, 1 day in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Amandalee M. Papow, 24, Owatonna, parking violation, \$37; Autumn S. Pena, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$181;

Josiah S. Ranslow, 18, Faribault, illegal u-turn, \$131; Andrew J. Rezac, 25, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$131; Anna M. Rodriguez, 33, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Trace M. Stanley, 19, Owatonna, controlled substance crime, \$281, 12 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation and 2 years of supervised probation; Debra A. Strand, 48, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131;

Travis J. Vasquez, 32, Rochester, aid and abet theft, \$581, 13 days in county jail, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, obtain driver’s license and 2 years of supervised probation; Jonathan S. Viera, 28, Albert Lea, domestic assault, \$131 and 180 days in county jail; Michelle L. Whetstone, 42, Owatonna, assault, stay of adjudication, \$81, diversion program, Domestic Violence Inventory, counseling and 2 years of supervised probation; Zachary T. Will, 24, Owatonna, speeding, \$281.

Steele County Sheriff’s Office

Gregory A. Bearth, 54, Lake Elmo, speeding, \$121; Amy J. Berger, 42, Maplewood, speeding, \$121; Jacob R. Boerner, 17, Owatonna, speeding, \$221;

Anthony J. Brown, 50, Brooklyn Center, DWI, \$381, 30 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, Ignition Interlock program, 216 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Dixie L. Cary, 60, St. Michael, speeding, \$121; Michael A. Cook, 19,

Austin, speeding, \$221; Maxwell M. Deike, 22, Waseca, speeding, \$141;

Dennis W. Fenske, 58, Rochester, speeding, \$221; Miranda L. Hald, 24, Owatonna, receiving stolen property and controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$131, 50 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Mary J. Jenatscheck, 61, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Marlette M. Jones, 44, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Zachary D. Keller, 30, Owatonna, speeding, \$281;

Brian J. Kooy, 52, New Prague, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$221 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Jeffrey W. Kruger, 63, Owatonna, speeding, \$121;

Terry A. Lester, 43, Waseca, violation of order for protection, \$181, 18 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Sahra A. Liban, 37, Owatonna, permit violation, \$106;

Kimberly L. Luedke, 48, Warsaw, speeding, \$141; Breanna K. Miller, 18, Owatonna, minor consumption, \$181; Kalley R. Morales, 19, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Kent E. Patterson, 49, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Diego A. Rubio, 22, Austin, speeding, \$121; Joseph M. Skala, 52, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Thomas J. Starman, 26, New Richland, speeding, \$121;

Carter M. Tollefson, 24, New Richland, speeding, \$121; Leng Vang, 34, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Craig M. Vatsaas, 39, Medford, speeding, \$121; Kelly M. Warke, 31, New Richland, speeding, \$121; Kevin Webster, 28, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Jamey B. Williams, 43, Waterville, speeding, \$121.

POLICE BLOTTER

Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff’s Office handled 199 complaints during the week of June 14 – 20. Some of them include:

June 14

Civil. Deputy assisted with a civil matter regarding a custody dispute on Main St. W. in Hayfield at 6:45 p.m.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of Center Ave. N. in Hayfield at 10:38 p.m.

June 15

Trespassing. At 12:16 p.m., deputies responded to a trespassing incident in the 10600 block of 640th St. in Claremont.

Animal Abuse. Deputies received a report of animal abuse in the 18300 block of County Hwy. 24 in West Concord at 1:13 p.m.

June 16

Accident. At 10:11 a.m., deputies responded to an accident involving a motor vehicle and a tractor at 190th Ave. and 185th Ave. in Dodge Center.

Civil. At 2:21 p.m., a woman called deputies to report that her dad hasn’t returned her truck after using it in the 400 block of 2nd Ave. NW in Dodge Center.

Larceny. Deputy took a report of the theft of two swivel lawn chairs and two small end tables from a front yard in the 200 block of 10th Ave. NW in Dodge Center at 5:36 p.m.

Violation of Release. At 8:19 p.m., a subject tested positive for narcotics at the Court House. He was taken into custody and transported to the Steele County Jail.

June 17

Fire. Deputies responded to a report of large amounts of smoke in the 66200 block of 180th Ave. in Dodge Center at 7:01 a.m.

Larceny. At 11:16 a.m., a citizen reported two decorative roosters missing from her yard in the

The following individuals as they have active warrants in Steele County.

The sheriff makes this information available as a public service.

- Desmond Walton – traffic - \$500 bail
- Tanner Ware – false name - \$1,000 bail
- Tristan Watts – counterfeit currency - \$6,000 bail
- William Waymire – theft by check - \$10,000 bail
- Dennis Weber – no insurance - \$6,000 bail
- Kevin Webster – domestic assault - \$1,000 bail
- Paul Wechtuor – stalking - \$3,000 bail
- Eric Weiser – theft by check - \$3,000 bail
- Jeremy Werchowski – DWI – no bail
- Jonathan Werstein – traffic - \$500 bail

- Charles West – theft - \$20,000 bail
- Levi Westling – controlled substance – no bail
- Ryan Whelan – failure to yield - \$300 bail
- Darnell Whitner – drug possession - \$200 bail
- Joshua Wiedemann – drugs – no bail
- Calvin Wiggins – theft - \$300 bail
- Danny Wiles – DWI - \$12,000 bail
- Bernice Williams – no license - \$1,000 bail
- Deangelo Williams – suspended license - \$500 bail

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

ACTIVE WARRANTS

800 block of Center Ave. S. in Hayfield.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a neighbor dispute in the 100 block of 5th St. SW in Dodge Center at 7:32 p.m.

Disturbance. A Dodge Center resident called deputies at 8:55 p.m. when his girlfriend came home and was creating a disturbance in the 400 block of 2nd St. NE.

Juvenile. Deputies received a complaint of three juveniles running around in the 400 block of 7th St. NW in Dodge Center at 10:54 p.m.

June 18

Juvenile. Deputies received a report of a 11-year-old boy driving a ranger alone in the 22600 block of 710th St. in Hayfield at 10:45 a.m.

Noise. Deputies received a noise complaint of constant music from the 200 block of East St. N. in Claremont at 9:16 p.m.

Juvenile. A citizen report a juvenile being violent by kicking and hitting in the 500 block of Meadow Lark Lane in Dodge Center at 9:28 p.m.

June 19

Noise. Deputies received a noise complaint from 1st St. NE and 3rd Ave. NE in Hayfield at 9:39 p.m.

June 20

Larceny. The Claremont Pub reported that it was missing a money bag with about \$3,200 in it at 12:07 p.m.

Environment. At 7:01 p.m., garbage was dumped alongside the road at 197th Ave. and 750th St. in Hayfield.

Fleeing. A subject was fleeing from deputies at U.S. Hwy. 14 and State Hwy. 56 N. in Dodge Center at 10:35 p.m.

COURT NEWS
Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of June 12 – 19:

Dodge County
Sheriff's Office

David D. Antl, 53, Owatonna, DWI, \$980, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, Ignition Interlock program and 2 years of supervised probation; Matthew M. Audette-Hoberg, 17, West Concord, speeding, \$120; Caleb L. Buchanan, 26, Hayfield, speeding, \$130; Morgan G. Chladek, 51, Kasson, seat belt, \$105;

Teryn L. Coffman, 26, Claremont, careless driving, \$380 and 1 year of supervised probation; Jace D. Gasner, 26, Dodge Center, DWI, \$505 and 1 year of supervised probation; Travis W. Jackson, 37, Owatonna, violation of restraining order, \$205, 14 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; Kassi M. Lane, 33, Rochester, expired registration and no insurance, \$310;

Lisa M. Musolf, 54, Waltham, possession of marijuana, stay of adjudication, \$500, chemical assessment, mental health evaluation, cognitive skill training, no alcohol or controlled substance use, 50 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation; Cole W. Rasmussen, 17, Hayfield, speeding, \$120; Jacob K. Schandorff, 20, Hayfield, littering, \$180; Sadie E. Short, 18, Dodge Center, failure to stop for school bus, \$380; Zachariah N. Tamez, 25, Dodge Center, revoked license, \$280; Abdullahi A. Yusuf, 20, Rochester, suspended license, \$280.

Kasson Police
Department

Travis R. Andrist, 35, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Jose G. Angulo, 37, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Catherine A. Brown, 50, Hope, seat belt, \$105; Nicolas A. Brown, 22, Kasson, no insurance, \$280;

Scott J. Campbell, 44, Galesburg, IL, seat belt, \$105; Franklin A. Chiqui Mejia, 30, Minneapolis, prohibited passing on right, \$130; Dean K. Conner, 61, Austin, seat belt, \$105; Christopher J. Cozik, 38, Rochester, seat belt, \$105;

Michael C. Herdina, 62, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$105; Amy R. Horgdal, 32, Kasson, speeding, \$130; Kaylynn D. Julius, 36, Rochester, giving peace officer false information and possession of drug paraphernalia, \$255 and 2 years of supervised probation; Lorilie S. Kadlec, 56, Zumbrota, seat belt, \$105; Joachim Marjon, 33, Santa Fe, NM, seat belt, \$105;

John E. Naatz, 59, Kenyon, seat belt, \$105; Joseph S. O'Connell, 40, Baxter, seat belt, \$105; Isaiah

A. Pierce, 20, Rochester, seat belt, \$105; Daniel D. Rappe, 19, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Ammon L. Reidhead, 42, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Torey A. Schmit, 33, Rochester, revoked license, stay of adjudication, \$100 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Nicholas S. Tabor, 23, Mazeppa, seat belt, \$105;

Michael A. Tucke, 46, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Charles W. Watson Jr., 61, Mantorville, seat belt, \$105; Leroy S. Wohlfiel, 55, Mantorville, seat belt, \$105; Theresa A. Zimmerman, 63, Mantorville, seat belt, \$105.

MN State Patrol
Rochester

Patrick D. Burnes, 26, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120; Jeremy C. Chilson, 44, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120; Richard W. Gwilt, 55, Hayfield, DWI, \$505, alcohol assessment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 40 hours of community service and 1 year of supervised probation; Amber L. Rew, 28, Pine Island, speeding, \$120; Andrew W. Schnable, 37, Hayfield, speeding, \$140; Larry J. Simpson, 58, Dodge Center, speeding, \$140; David S. Splittstoesser, 42, Kasson, DWI, \$1,055, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 90 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation.

West Concord
Police Department

Timothy E. Kanne, 50, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Melissa R. Quaintance, 41, Ellendale, seat belt, \$105; Bethany R. Rapp, 26, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; David E. Weitzenkamp, 52, Dodge Center, DWI, \$305, chemical assessment and 1 year of supervised probation.

ARREST
Steele County

Owatonna Police

Dustin David Craft, 25, arrested at 12:15 a.m. June 16, felony probation violation, held for court.

Ryan Anthony Close, 30, arrested at 9:35 p.m. June 16, warrant arrest, held for court.

Richard Ernest Skow, 55, arrested at 12:34 p.m. June 17, DWI and drug paraphernalia, held for court.

Collin Wayne Orth, 28, arrested at 11:20 p.m. June 17, order for protection violation, held for court.

Daniel Wayne Schley, 36, arrested at 12:19 a.m. June 18, DWI and revoked license, held for court.

Isaac Guerrero, 18, arrested at 12:13 p.m. June 18, domestic assault by strangulation and domestic assault, held for court.

Alexander Jay Brown, 22, arrested at 5 p.m. June 21, warrant arrest, body only.

Brandon Bradley Hammond, 26, arrested at 8:08 p.m. June 21, felony theft, held for court.

Richard Ramirez, 19, arrested at 8:08 p.m. June 21, felony theft, held for court.

William Woodrow Kilwy, 53, arrested at 5:18 p.m. June 21, felony criminal sexual conduct, held for court.

Alexander Alvarez, 22, arrested at 1:45 a.m. June 22, violation of order for protection, held for court.

Carter Allen Broton, 18, arrested at 11:30 p.m. June 22, reckless driving, disorderly conduct, open container and possession of marijuana, held for court.

Michael Steven Lehnertz, 29, arrested at 2:15 a.m. June 23, felony controlled substance, false name of another person and warrant arrest, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff

Heather Joy Marovich, 36, arrested at 12:25 p.m. June 16, warrants arrest, held for court.

Caleb Michael Connolly, 26, arrested at 3:53 p.m. June 17, warrant arrest, \$1,000 bail.

Randy Donavon Schroader, 35, arrested at 1:30 a.m. June 18, DWI, held for court.

Jeffrey James Herzog, 57, arrested at 4:34 p.m. June 20, apprehension and detention arrest, held for court.

Travis Jay Troska, 37, arrested at 6:56 p.m. June 20, drugs warrant arrest, held for court.

Andrew James Bogenschutz, 35, arrested at 1:56 p.m. June 20, domestic assault warrant arrest, held for court.

Christopher Jon Kohler, 26, arrested at 2:56 a.m. June 21, felony possession of controlled substance and receiving stolen property, held for court.

Kasandra Jean Collins, 20, arrested at 4:25 a.m. June 21, felony receiving stolen property, held for court.

Andrew Arthur Lopez, 31, ar-

rested at 2:36 p.m. June 21, warrant arrest, \$1,000 bail.

Edward James Climer, 36, arrested at 11:45 a.m. June 22, warrant arrest, \$10,000 bail.

OWATONNA FIRE

June 18

Crash. Fire rescue responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Interstate 35 at 11:46 a.m.

June 21

Accident. At 9:55 a.m., a motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred on Elm Ave. SE.

June 22

Gas Leak. Fire fighters responded to a natural gas leak in the 400 block of Kelly St. NW at 3:40 p.m.

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Crossword solution

K	S	E	D		A	C	V	d	V	d	
S	E	I	H	O	L	V	H	O	B	V	T
L	E	H	V	N	I	M		S	T	T	V
	T	E	B	V	T			E	S	L	E
					W	I	D		E	B	U
					B	I	H	V	S		
					D	V		D	E	E	W
					C	T	L		P	L	S
S	O	S			B	V	C	S		V	I
E	C	N	O		S	E	W	V	L		
O	C	O	C				B	S	W		
H	E	I	H	E	E		H	V	W	V	S
	S	S	O	H	C	V		H	E	D	I
			N	O	I	L	V	I	A	E	H
					T	L	U	C	C	O	

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. A minute amount (Scott)
5. Supernatural
11. Shortening
14. More firm
15. Other side
18. Philippine island
19. More unnatural
21. Microsoft Surface Book
23. Ice T's wife
24. Domesticates
28. Only one time
29. In absentia
30. Crustlike surface of a healing skin lesion
32. Distress signal
33. Engine additive
35. 1990s female R&B trio
36. Very fast airplane
39. A reward (archaic)
41. Anno Domini
42. Golf supplies
44. Indian term of respect
46. French river
47. Turn down the lights
49. Blood-sucking African fly
52. Provides info
56. Procrastinates
58. Tower with balconies
60. Where researchers work
62. Religious office
63. Must-have for office workers

CLUES DOWN

1. In possession of
2. Aborigines
3. Early Syrian kingdom
4. Clip
5. Misleads
6. Cosmetic Ingredient

Review

7. Calcium
8. United Talent Agency
9. Hair problem
10. Took down
12. Round Dutch cheese
13. Bicycle manufacturer
16. Suffix plural

17. Painting technique

20. Small Eurasian deer (pl.)

22. Mr. T's character "___ Baracus"

25. Progressive nerve disease

26. Shock therapy

27. Able to be sold

29. Suffix

31. Binary coded decimal

34. Goes well with a carrot

36. A way to measure performance

37. Doctor ___, children's book author

38. Jewish calendar month

40. Designated hitter

43. Polish village

45. Part of the mind

48. Hand (Spanish)

50. Hit with the open hand

51. Italian island

53. Shakespeare was one

54. Lake ___, one of the Great

55. Oswald and Marvin were two

57. Soak up using something absorbent

58. Kids' dish ___ and cheese

59. Expression of disappointment

61. The ancient Egyptian sun god

Let's get you movin!

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Jennifer Walsh
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CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT
Money-saving shopping tips

Sticking to a budget when shopping can help shoppers stay out of debt and avoid buying items they don't need. But staying within budget is a challenge for many shoppers, especially when they come upon items that are hard to resist.

Breaking the budget is imprudent, and savvy shoppers know it's oftentimes unnecessary. By employing a handful of money-saving strategies on their next shopping trip, shoppers can have their cake and eat it, too.

- Embrace coupons. The days of clipping coupons from store circulars or catalogues may seem like a thing of the past, but shoppers can still use coupons to save substantial amounts of money. While national retailers may be unlikely to offer customers coupons, many small local businesses still utilize coupons to compel shoppers to visit their stores. Small businesses may not have the

advertising budgets to promote their coupons as much as their larger competitors, but savvy shoppers willing to put in a little work may find their diligence rewarded with discounts. Scan local newspapers or peruse small businesses' websites for coupons.

- Try negotiating. There was a time when negotiation was a big part of the shopping experience. While that time has long since passed, many retailers, particularly small, locally owned businesses, may be open to negotiation. Small business owners can often be found working in their stores, so budget-conscious shoppers should not hesitate to speak with business owners or managers in an effort to negotiate sale prices.

- Shop at the right time. Retailers must make room for new products by unloading their existing inventory. Study industry trends to determine when retailers mark down

items as they try to clear room for new products. For example, clothing retailers tend to discount summer clothing as autumn approaches, making late summer a great time to shop for swimsuits and other warm weather apparel.

- Be flexible. If a certain item just won't fit into your budget, try to be flexible and find a similar item that's more affordable. When purchasing big-ticket items such as appliances, apply this approach by looking for last year's models instead of the newest models on the market. Last year's models might still be an upgrade over your existing items, and retailers tend to greatly reduce prices once new models are introduced to the market.

Savvy shoppers working within a budget can still find great deals without accruing debt or spending more money than they're comfortable spending.

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Legal Notices

Foreclosure

15-101690

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: November 21, 2005
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$229,050.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Amado Mendez Solis and Lorna E. Mendez, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Town and Country Credit Corp.

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Town and Country Credit Corp.
SERVICER: Specialized Loan Servicing LLC

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed December 7, 2005, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000337562
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Ameritrust Mortgage Company; Dated: December 2, 2005
filed: December 26, 2007, recorded as document number A000354323; ; thereafter assigned to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., dated December 2, 2005, recorded December 26, 2007 as Document No. A000354324; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee for Certificateholders of Bear Stearns Asset Backed Securities I LLC, Asset Backed-Certificates, Series 2006-HE2 dated March 19, 2012 recorded April 9, 2012 as document number A000383927; and dated November 1, 2012, recorded November 13, 2012 as Document No. A000387911; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee for Bear Stearns Asset Backed Securities I Trust 2006-HE2, Asset Backed-Certificates, Series 2006-HE2 by a Corrective Assignment of Mortgage dated December 1, 2016.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 6, Block 3, Radel's Francis Addition
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1283 Bellflower Lane NE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-437-0306
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$411,521.23
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 11, 2017, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

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

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

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

Dated: May 15, 2017

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee for Bear Stearns Asset Backed Securities I Trust 2006-HE2, Asset Backed-Certificates, Series 2006-HE2 Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

5/23, 5/30, 6/6
6/13, 6/20, 6/27

Notice

Notice of Sale

The personal property described as follows, to-wit: A 2008 Saturn Aura Automobile with a VIN number of 1G8ZV57728F107319, will be sold at Public Auction by the Steele County Sheriffs Office on the 6th day of July, at 11:00 o'clock am at Hometown Motors LLC in the City of Owatonna, County of Steele, State of Minnesota, to pay and satisfy a lien claimed to be due from Mr. Paul Joseph Schultenover as the owner of said property thereof to Hometown Motors LLC in the sum of \$2,499.95, computed to the last day of said sale, exclusive of expenses of said sale and of the advertising thereof, together with the necessary expenses of advertising and making said sale; and that the grounds of said lien are as follows, to-wit: an unpaid invoice, storage, towing, impound fees, and document fees and sale preparation fees.

Dated this day of June 12, 2017

Submitted by:
Daryl D Kubicek
Hometown Motors LLC
1125 S. Oak Ave
Owatonna, MN 55060

6/13, 6/20, 6/27

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): William K. Wagner and Renee M. Wagner, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as nominee for Sterling State Bank, a Minnesota corporation
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on July 14, 2011 as Document Number A000379020 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$114,098.00
DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 17, 2004
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on February 18, 2004 as Document Number A319442 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: \$100,791.90
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Tract I: All that part of the South half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 107 North, Range 21 West, Steele County, Minnesota, described by: Commencing at the Southeast Corner of said Northeast Quarter; thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes East, assumed bearing, 333.44 feet along the East line of said Northeast Quarter to the North right of way line of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad; thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes East 273.67 feet along the East line of said Northeast Quarter to the True Point of Beginning; thence South 88 degrees 33 minutes 17 seconds West 213.88 feet; thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes East 88.54 feet; thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 15 seconds East 213.81 feet to the East line of said Northeast Quarter; thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes East 84.01 feet to said True Point of Beginning.

Containing 0.42 acre, more or less. Containing 0.36 acre, more or less excluding highway easement. Subject to a public highway easement along the East 33 feet of said Northeast Quarter. And
Tract II: All that part of the South Half of the NE 1/4 of Section 18, T 107 N, R 21 W, Steele County, Minnesota, described by: Commencing at the

southeast corner of said NE 1/4; thence N 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, assumed bearing, 333.44 feet along the east line of said NE 1/4 to the north right of way line of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad; thence N 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East 273.67 feet along the east line of said NE 1/4; thence S 88 degrees 33 minutes 17 seconds W 213.88 feet; thence N 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds E 44.50 feet to a corner of a parcel recorded as document number 284737 in the Office of the Steele County Recorder, last said corner being the True Point of Beginning; thence N 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds E 44.04 feet to a corner of said parcel; thence S 89 degrees 46 minutes 15 seconds W 115.13 feet to the west line of said parcel; thence S 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds W 52.86 feet to a corner of said parcel; thence N 85 degrees 23 minutes 44 seconds E 115.50 feet to said True Point of Beginning.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1130 92ND AVE SW, OWATONNA, MN 55060-4877
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Sterling State Bank, a Minnesota corporation
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 09-018-1208
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100112065678153632
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: August 8, 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 February 8, 2018.

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: June 14, 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.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(17-0623-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

6/27, 7/4, 7/11,
7/18, 7/25, 8/11

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

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

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-1037

Estate of
Charlene Marie Wetzel,

Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on August 14, 2017, at 10:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Owatonna Fire Hall, 107 W. Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Jurene K. Mortensen, whose address is 558 Hazel Lane, Owatonna, MN, 55060 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

Karen Duncan
Judge of District Court
6/12/2017

Kim Wobschall
Court Administrator
6/12/2017

Attorney for Petitioner
Kristin K. Haberman
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 0268045
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: haberman@owatonnalawyers.com

6/27, 7/4

BP School

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA May 15, 2017

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

OPEN FORUM – No comments.

I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL - CLERK Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister, Michelle Vigeland, Jenny Thurnau, Jon Sunde, Steve Ille, Rodney Krell

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools, High School Principal, Associate Principal, Members of the BPTA

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Steve Ille to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Reports given by Mr. Olson (on behalf of Mr. Staloch), Mr. Worke, and Ms. Mach.

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED

Minutes, Bills, Treasurer's Report, Resignations, Donations
Motion by Pam Hameister seconded by Michelle Vigeland to approve the minutes, bills, treasurer's report, resignations, and donations. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Employment
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the employment of Rebecca Johnson as a third grade elementary teacher for the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the employment of Jenna Krell as a fourth grade elementary teacher for the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried. (6 Aye/0 Nay/1 Abstention: Krell)

Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve the employment of Krista Reeder as a music/ elementary teacher for the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Food Service Management Contract
Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve a food service bid for the 2017-18 school year from Taher, Inc. Taher, Inc. was the only firm that placed a bid. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

2016-17 Budget Revision
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and

seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve a revision of the 2016-17 budget. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Operating Levy Questions
Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve specific questions if an operating levy is pursued. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

2017-18 Staff Development Set-a-Side
Motion by Michelle Vigeland and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve waiving the 2% staff development set-a-side requirement, which was also approved by the BPTA. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY

Election Timelines
Dates were reviewed for both general school board election and special operating referendum.

Committee Reports
A report update was given on the committees: Education Foundation, Negotiations, Staff Development, and Wellness.

Enrollment Data
Enrollment for the 2016-17 school year as of May 10, 2017, is 418 at the elementary school and 312 at the high school (307 attending BPHS and 5 attending PSEO). The PSEO number consists of 2 seniors and 3 juniors with attendance being full-time.

Dates to Note
The Board noted dates of importance

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Graduation will be held on Sunday, June 4.
Last day of school for students is on June 1. Teachers report for one-half day on June 2.
Rodney Krell stepped down as a part of the negotiating committee. Going forward, Kelly Braaten will replace him.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Steve Ille to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at 6:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the High School. Tentatively, the next regular meeting of the School Board will be Monday, June 19, 2017, at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center (Open Forum begins at 7:00 p.m.).

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota
6/27

BP School

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA May 11, 2017

A regular school board work session was held at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 11, 2017, in

the Board Room at the High School.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pam Hameister, Michelle Vigeland, Jenny Thurnau, Jon Sunde, Steve Ille, Rodney Krell, Kelly Braaten

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools

DISCUSSION ITEMS:
General review and discussion was held on agenda items for the May 15, 2017, regular school board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-1020

Estate of
Ronald W. Racek,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on August 14, 2017, at 10:30 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, January 30, 1998, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Brian Racek, whose address is 1027, SE 28th 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,

Karen Duncan
Judge of District Court
6/9/2017

Kim Wobschall
Court Administrator
6/9/2017

Attorney for Petitioner
Eric J. Mattison
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
P.O. Box 545
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 151609Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: mattison@owatonnalawyers.com

6/20, 6/27

STEELE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That on Monday, July 10th, 2017 starting at 7:00 pm., the Steele County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing in the Commissioner's Room of the Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, MN, to receive comments on the following permit application.

Chris Hanke has requested to rezone 12 .6 acres in the SW ¼, of the NW ¼, Section 4, Medford Township from Agricultural to Industrial. The property is owned by Medford Properties II LLC. The property address is 8100 NW 21st Ave.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearings and be heard on these matters.

Dale Oolman
Steele County Zoning Director
630 Florence Ave. P.O. Box 890
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 444-7482

6/27

Obituaries

Dr. William Bryant Gruhn, 72 of Columbus, N.C.

Dr. William Bryant Gruhn, 72, of Columbus, North Carolina, died Sunday, June 4, 2017, of heart failure at the Elizabeth House Hospice Facility in Flat Rock, North Carolina, surrounded by loving family.

Born in Riverside, California to Maxine (Bryant) and Herman Gruhn, he spent his childhood days there and in Huron, South Dakota, working on his family's farm. His academic accomplishments included a degree in Chemistry from University of California- Riverside, studies at Georgia Augusta University in Gottingen, Germany, his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry at Northwestern University, and a postdoctoral fellow-

ship at Harvard University.

He ultimately pursued his medical degree from Dartmouth College in 1974, completing his residency in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. There he met his wife, Kathryn, who shared an interest in horses and farm life.

He took a research position at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, and in 1981 joined the Nalle Clinic in Charlotte. He also served as Clinical Professor of Medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill. In 1990, he joined Carolina Bone and Joint, dedicating 16 years to clinical practice and research. He and Kathryn developed a farm in Weddington,

North Carolina, where they raised their daughters.

He also explored passions in woodworking, fox hunting, polo, tennis, writing, gardening, birding and photography. He retired in 2006 to live part-time in the mountains of Independence, Virginia. There, he found a love for bluegrass guitar and played in local jam sessions, eventually leading him to the Blue Ridge Music Center. Seeing a need in the area, he returned to practice rheumatology at Twin County Hospital in Galax, Virginia.

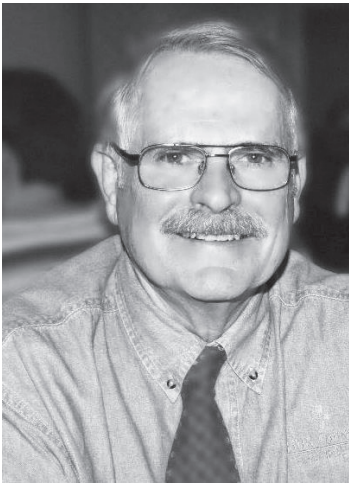
He retired again in May 2016, to focus on traveling and being a grandpa. "Bill," as he liked to be called, had a quiet exterior, but un-

derneath he was a sweet, compassionate soul with a witty sense of humor and lighthearted take on life. He loved his family, his dogs, serving others, and the simple things in life and was quick to downplay his talents and accomplishments. He is well-loved and will be sorely missed, but the music and joy that he has brought his family and friends lives on.

He leaves behind his wife of 43 years, Kathryn (Thorson) Gruhn; daughter Alice Kexel and son-in-law Torin Kexel; daughter Jennifer Gruhn; grandchildren Miles and Eden Kexel; nieces Remy Newcombe and Honor Karol; dogs Wiggles and Leon; and many wonderful extended family and friends.

Joint memorial services for Dr. William Gruhn, along with his brother-in-law Stephen Thorson will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 5, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, with pastor Jeff Sandgren officiating. The Gruhn and Thorson families will greet friends from 10:00 to 11 a.m. Wednesday before the service, at church.

Interment will be in the First Lutheran Cemetery, rural Blooming Prairie. In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to the Blooming Prairie Education Foundation. Worein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Online condolences may be expressed at www.worlein.com.



Stephen (Steve) Henry Thorson, 72 of Andover

Stephen (Steve) Henry Thorson, 72, of Andover, Minnesota, lost his battle to cancer June 8, 2017, at J.A. Wedum Residential Hospice in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, with his loving family by his side.

Thorson was born Aug. 25, 1942, in Owatonna, to Glenn Thorson and Isabelle Alice Joy (Osterberg) Thorson. He spent summers in Nashua, Montana, with family. He graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1960.

He attended college at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. Later in life he graduated from Lakeland Community College in Minnesota. In 1963 he joined the U.S. Navy where he was on tour on the USS Baya (nuclear submarine) during the Vietnam War.

Thorson dedicated six years of his life to the U.S. Navy. After the service, he lived in Denver with his brother and then Australia and New Zealand with friends on a work exchange pro-

gram. He set roots in Andover, in 1974 with his wife, Deanne, whom he has known since middle school.

Thorson was a long-distance truck driver and then a technician at a circuit board company in Northfield. Thorson retired at the age of 70, Jan. 2, 2013. His interests included family, sports, winters' in Arizona, motorcycling, bingo with his wife and astronomy. Thorson was a very devoted and loving grandfather.

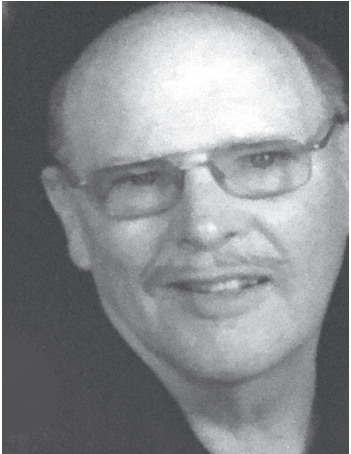
Thorson is survived by his be-

loved wife of 43 years, Deanne; daughters and son-in-law, Jane and Jeffrey Eilders, Lisa Thorson; grandchildren, Tessa Eilders, Rogan Eilders; sister, Kathy (Thoson) Gruhn; brothers, Gary Thorson, Ty Thorson, Ronnie Thorson; nieces, great nieces, great nephews, relatives and friends.

Joint memorial services for Stephen Thorson along with his brother-in-law Dr. William "Bill" Gruhn will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 5, 2017,

at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, with pastor Jeff Sandgren officiating.

The Thorson and Gruhn families will greet friends from 10:00 to 11 a.m. Wednesday before the service, at church. Interment will be in the First Lutheran Cemetery, rural Blooming Prairie. Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Online condolences may be expressed at www.worlein.com



Ingval Martin Hove, 95 of Blooming Prairie

Ingval Martin Hove, age 95 of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, died Thursday, June 22, 2017, at Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie. He was born July 26, 1921, in rural Dodge County, to Ivar and Pauline (Madson) Hove.

Hove lived in the Hayfield area and attended school in Dodge County. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1943 and served his country until his honorary discharge in 1945, then went to work for Lysne Construction.

On Oct. 28, 1947, Hove was united in marriage to Lorraine Haberman at the First Lutheran Church parsonage in Blooming Prairie. Their union was blessed with one daughter.

Upon moving to Blooming Prairie in 1948, Hove worked for the Blooming Prairie Co-op Creamery hauling milk, and as an over-the-road truck driver for Madsen Truck Lines out of Albert Lea until 1982.

In his retirement years, he did mowing for the City of Blooming

Prairie. The Hoves belonged to First Lutheran Church and Hove was a member of the American Legion Post 52. Hove enjoyed traveling, taking road trips and visiting over coffee. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

Survivors include his daughter Beverly (Roger) Wessels of Albert Lea; 4 grandchildren Debbie (Rockland) Bolhuis, David Bolhuis, Jay Wessels, Christopher Wessels; 4 great-grandchildren Nicole, Dylan, Gemma and Jacey; his sister Ma-

rie (Gerald) Jacobsen of Owatonna; nieces, nephews and cousins. Hove was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of over 60 years Lorraine Hove, and one brother in infancy.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 30, 2017, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with pastor Jeff Sandgren officiating. Visitation will be one hour before the service at the church.

Interment will be in First Lutheran Cemetery with military honors

by American Legion Post 52 and V.F.W. Post 878. Memorials can be directed to the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association, or recipient of donor's choice.

Services prearranged and performed by Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.



Richard (Rick) Stoen, 61 of Glendale, ARIZ.

Richard (Rick) Stoen, 61, of Glendale, Arizona, died unexpectedly June 16, 2017.

Mass of Christian Burial is set for Wednesday, June 28, 2017, at 11 a.m. at the St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church in Claremont, with Father Tom Niehaus officiating.

Burial will take place following the service at St. Francis de Sales cemetery. Friends

may greet the family from 9:30 until the time of services at the church.

Stoen was born the son of Ralph and Betty Stoen May 7, 1956, in Blooming Prairie. He was a member of the graduating class of 1974 of Claremont High School. He attended Austin Vocational Technical College for auto body rebuilding.

Stoen worked at Tri-Ford/Krejci Ford in Blooming Prairie and Weber's Garage in Claremont, followed by various automotive jobs over the years until completing his employment with Napa in Phoenix. Stoen's life interests included cars, racing, building race cars and farming.

Stoen is survived by his longtime friend, Debbie Eden-

hofer of Glendale, Arizona. He is survived by his mother Betty and children: Amy Johns of Blooming Prairie, Aaron Stoen of Baxter, Minnesota, Amanda Nichols of Owatonna, Zachary Wanous of Atlanta.

Stoen is further survived by 8 grandchildren and siblings: Ronald Stoen of Claremont, Roger Stoen of Medford,

Donna Herda of Faribault, Mary Olson of Medford, Barb Kraling of Blooming Prairie, Rodney Stoen of Blooming Prairie, Randy Stoen of Claremont. Stoen was preceded in death by his father, Ralph. To leave a message of condolence go to www.bStoen-megerfuneralhome.com



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