



Excessive rain douses fair

Attendance down 9%; lowest in 9 years

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

Mother Nature's unrelentless lashing of heavy rains throughout much of the week caused the Steele County Fair to not "grow and sew" an all-time attendance figure into the record books this year.

In fact, this year's attendance ended up being the worst in nearly a decade and the first time in six years that the attendance didn't crack the 300,000 mark, according to figures released Monday afternoon by fair officials. The estimated fair attendance was 279,737, which is down almost 10 percent from last year when 307,000 people attended the fair.

FAIR AT GLANCE

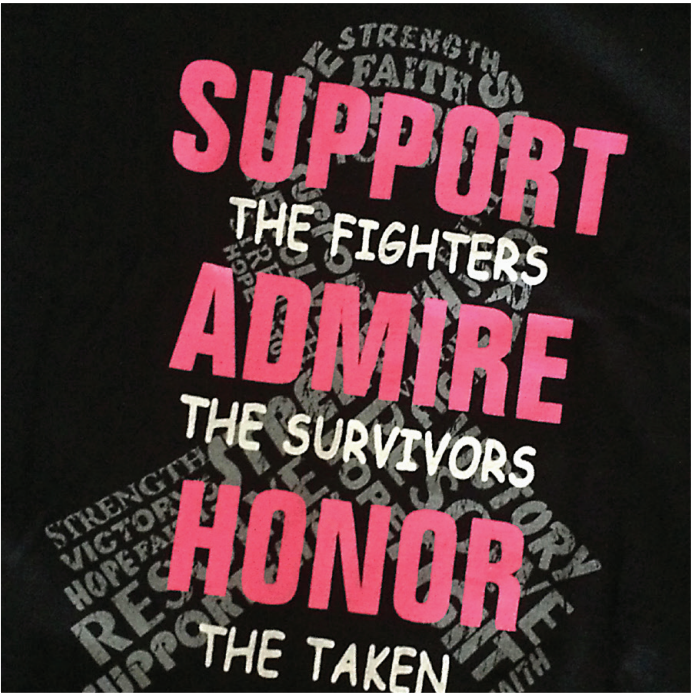
- 2016 Attendance- 279,737
- Down 9% from last year
- Lowest since 2007- 250,566
- Record attendance set in 2013- 350,899

"It's obvious weather was a factor for the attendance being down," said Todd Hale, the fair's publicity director. "It's all related to the weather."

The attendance record of 350,899 was set in 2013 under perfect weather conditions for the entire six-day run.

Ironically, the lowest attendance during the past 16 years came in 2007 when more than 8 inches of rain dumped on the fair over the weekend. In 2007, 250,566 people attended the fair. The only difference this year was that rain plagued nearly every day of the fair with some of those days being heavy

ATTENDANCE
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Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

A newly designed T-shirt has been unveiled by the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group and is on sale to the public. The shirt is black with white, grey and hot pink lettering. It reads: Support the Fighters - Admire the Survivors and Honor the Taken. With the cancer ribbon as a backdrop, several key words are printed: strength, faith, hope, resolve, support and victory. See story on page 8A.

Thursday thunderboomers



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Storm damage was spread throughout Blooming Prairie and surrounding area. This photo shows a 200-year-old walnut tree down on a garage on Center Ave. The residence is owned by Tim and Roxy Lee.. City crews were out early cleaning up tree branches and other evidence of a severe thunderstorm Thursday afternoon andnight. Worst damage was sustained by properties near Hollandale, a mini twister believed to be the culprit.

The uprooted tree pulled up sidewalk with it and electrical wires were also taken down.

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Strong straight-line winds raised havoc with lots of trees in downtown Blooming Prairie late Thursday afternoon.

City crews and city residents were busy cleaning up the storm damage early Friday. The city leaf dump was an active place Friday morning, welcoming many truck loads of debris.

Kyle Johnson Construction and Tree Service of Blooming Prairie was also on the job removing trees and tree limbs.

City crews were also busy restoring power at a residence just west of Blooming Prairie.

STORM
Continued on page 7A

Municipal candidates filed

BY EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

August 16 marked the last day for people to file for candidacy in any of the local municipal races.

In Blooming Prairie, two city council positions and the mayorship will be on the ballot. Mary Kittleson and Tara Gimbel, the council members whose seats are coming open, have both filed to run again. Hannah Peterson has filed to run for mayor. There are no other filings, so the three races will be uncontested. There are no major write-ins expected.

Ellendale also has two city council member positions and its mayorship open. Mark Skroch will be

CANDIDATES
Continued on page 7A



Submitted photo by Marisa Wagaman

Smokey, a 1-year-old rabbit, was taken Friday night from the rabbit barn at the Steele County Fairgrounds. The family is offering a reward for anyone who can help them get their prized rabbit back safely.

'Super Bunny' stolen from Steele fair

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

It will likely go down as one of the most sheepish acts to have happened at this year's Steele County Fair.

Someone walked away with a rabbit during the nighttime hours, leaving a Medford 4-H member without her prized possession for show.

Marisa Wagaman, 18, came to the fair with seven rabbits, but left to go back home without one that earned her a special plaque for being "Super Bunny." The same rabbit, which Marisa named Smokey, captured a purple ribbon at last

RABBIT
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INSIDE A: 2A OPINION
6A PUBLIC SAFETY

B: 1B SPORTS
3B HISTORY

C: 1C .. STEELE COUNTY FAIR
4C FAIR PICTURES

D: 6D . FAIR RESULTS
8D EXTRA

Opinion

Our view

The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat

There have been so many great and thrilling stories that came out of Rio these past few weeks. There were also some very disturbing things that were in the headlines. With a backdrop of intense poverty in a county that is suffering the worst recession in 90 years, the unemployment rate has gone over 11 per cent.

It's not that the jobs are not there. It's simply, that the country is so financially bankrupt that it cannot afford to hire workers. As a result of municipal spots left empty, the crime rate has skyrocketed and the health care is lacking.

Add to that, the threat of pestilence with the Zika virus, and you have a pretty dark canvass in which to paint the images of the brightly colored athletes. With each day, the pomp and circumstance grows with the medal count. The athletes stand in the midst of utter destruction holding and showing off expensive trophies in the face of a hurting country who has so graciously invited them to come visit.

Our athletes make a hefty sum of money for being successful in the Olympics, and nobody can begrudge someone else for success that comes from hard work and intensive training. One gymnast is reportedly worth about \$2 million after the Olympics. She will be taxed more than some of the people down there in Brazil make in a lifetime as estimates have her slated to pay over \$40,000.

I have also heard that some of the "higher priced" athletes have been complaining about the conditions. It is hard to imagine someone complaining about living like that for two weeks when all they have to do is look around and see that it is not a choice for the people of Brazil, but a lifestyle.

In other words, it is FOR life.

There was an HBO documentary written a few years ago entitled, "When it was a game." The thread that was woven through its fabric described the idea of baseball as a passion rather than a livelihood. Somewhere along the line we have made athletes into gods and heroes. We pay them exorbitant amounts of money to thrill and entertain us. Ex-or-bitant.

If you take your family to a Minnesota Vikings game, be sure to take out a second mortgage. And it wouldn't be bad paying for it when the players themselves are about the game and the passion. But in sports today, its sadly, all about the money.

Do they not remember the feeling of that neighborhood game played on a cool October afternoon? Not a care in the world except for that fear of being picked last. And even that was not a big deal, as once you kicked off, it was a game. It was a great game.

You played it for no other reason than to play. To be a part of a team. To find success in the thrill of catching a ball and crossing a dirt line end zone. To feel the agony of fumbling a ball that cost you the game. And losing one of those games hurt much more than our athletes of today who find solace in the paycheck in their locker after it's over.

Our young, local athletes have got to realize that very few will go on to stardom. But it doesn't matter. They are playing the best game of their lives when they are just playing for the love of the game.

When athletics make you feel entitled, it ceases to be a great contest. When you turn your head and pretend not to see the backdrop, the sport has blinded your eyes. When you can't reach out to the heart of the one cheering for you, you've lost your purpose. If you can complain about the poverty while holding the gold – you've lost your soul and forsaken your own mercy.



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Letters to the Editor

What really counts

To the Editor and reading public;

This is an open letter to the media and to all candidates for public office -- Local, State, and Federal -- Democrat, Republican, or Independent . I'm 81 years old and have lived through a lot of elections. The campaigning times are getting

longer and more expensive. And, all of this, at a time when communication technologies have never been better. Our political process, especially during the past 20 years, is an insult to voting citizens. Just think of all the problems that could be solved with just 1/2 of the time and money spent on campaigning.

Enough is enough! To all candidates, I am not at all interested in how bad your opponent is. And I don't want to read about it every day, watch it on every TV news broadcast all week, nor be drawn into social media sites on the internet.

What I am interested in is, specifically, what you personally plan to do to:

1. Put the country or state on

- a sound economic track.
2. Stop the political gridlock the country and states have been in for far too long
3. Put country first and political party second.
4. Reverse our enormous debt overload.
5. Develop a realistic international presence and a positive image.
6. Limit the amount of time

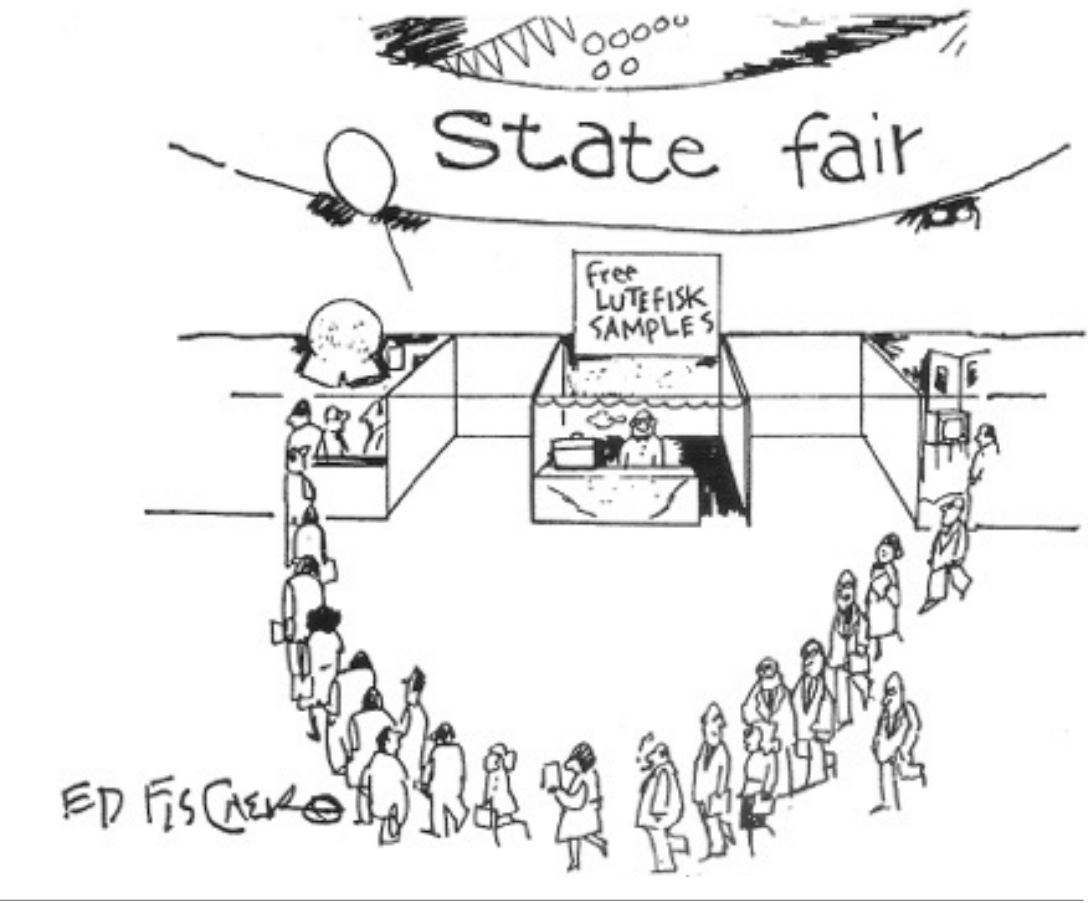
and money spent on campaigning.

I'm also very interested in what kind of skills & experience you possess in:

1. Striving for consensus in a diverse group setting.
2. Developing effective public/private partnerships.
3. Collaborating with those who have different views from yours.

I'm nearing the end of my life's journey but I am very concerned about the future of my grandchildren and all the young people who have many years to live. This country is on an unsustainable course and we all know it. Please give us "real information" on which to make voting decisions.

Jerry Monson
Owatonna



From courtroom theatrics to jamming on stage



She's been tearing it up in the courtroom for years as a top prosecutor tackling criminals in the St. Cloud area. But now Janelle Kendall is also trying to make a name for herself in a more fun venue.

The Blooming Prairie native charmed and dazzled a large crowd of fairgoers on stage with her band, Walter's Wheelhouse, at the opening night of the Steele County Fair. It turned out to be a sweet homecoming for Kendall, who hadn't been to the fair since she was a 4-H member back in the early 1980s.

"We all used to plan our summers around the fair," Kendall recalled. "It was the event of the summer for my first 18 years."

For Kendall, performing at her home fair was exciting. "I can't believe how many people I knew," she said, noting one of her old speech teachers Frank Vorlicek was in the crowd. She added there were some she hadn't seen for more than 30 years.

The Steele fair, Kendall says, is very much like she left it in 1983. "It's a staple of the community. It smells the same. It looks the same," she said. "Good things don't change. They just get bigger and better," she added.

Kendall looks at the fair as being one of the first places where she learned the value of responsibility, and something that has carried with her throughout her entire legal career. As a 4-H member, she was responsible for the flower

exhibit area. "That was life changing," she recalls. "This is where I got to do some things for the first time and it helped shape who I am today."

By day, Kendall is the elected Stearns County attorney, a position she has earned since 2002. But come night time, the courtroom theatrics are tossed aside and she comes out jamming by playing a rhythm guitar and being the lead singer for the somewhat newly formed band of only four years.

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

In her role as the county attorney, Kendall is often thrust into the public spotlight through the media. "I'm comfortable talking to the press because it all started with Todd Hale," she said, noting Hale interviewed her for 4-H activities at the fair. Hale was a radio announcer for many years and currently serves as the fair's publicity director. "He's the Walter Cronkite of Owatonna," she added.

She gives credit to her success as a prosecutor to Vorlicek and LeMar Nelson, both who coached her speech team at Blooming Prairie High School. "They helped me with public speaking and standing up in front of a crowd," Kendall said, adding she picked up many life skills from them that help her in

the courtroom today.

"We never get crowds like this at this stage," said Corky Ebeling, Parks and Recreation Director for Owatonna. The band was performing on a stage tucked into a quiet corner of the fairgrounds by the 4-H Building. Ebeling has Kendall coming back to the area for yet another appearance next month for a Music on the Patio gig at Brooktree Golf Course in Owatonna.

Kendall credits her uncle Terry for "harassing the fair board" until she finally got in to perform at the fair. She barely got off the stage and fair board members were already talking to her about returning next year to a more visible stage on the grounds.

Said Kendall: "There are some things that will never be the same, but some are just as you left it." And for her the Steele fair is one of those where she feels right at home just where she left off.

Walter's Wheelhouse will also be making an appearance at a bar in Minneapolis owned by one of Kendall's former classmates, Craig Kruckeberg of Blooming Prairie. The band will be at Lee's Liquor Lounge on Sept. 9.

No doubt Kendall will continue to go in hot pursuit of nailing criminals during the day and dazzling music lovers by night.



Stearns County Attorney Janelle Kendall charmed fairgoers on the opening night of the Steele County Fair as the lead singer and rhythm guitarist with Walter's Wheelhouse. Kendall grew up in Blooming Prairie and is a former Steele County 4-Her.

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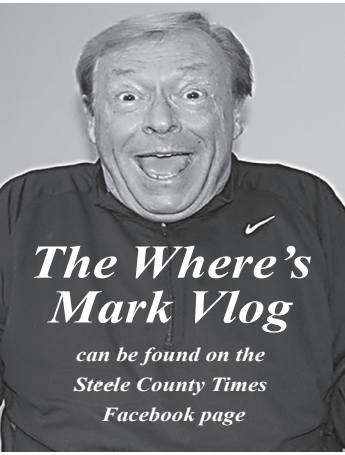
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A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

2016 8 State Awards	2011 4 National Awards (Awards presented by Minnesota Newspaper Association and National Newspaper Association)
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	



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DEADLINE

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

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

ETHICS

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

HometownLiving Community Calendar

PHOTO MEMORY



LAST YEAR AROUND THIS TIME

Jerry and Dory Scherger, of Dodge Center, take a closer look at this 1954 Chevy Bel Air during the annual Classics and Customs Car Show, held in Blooming Prairie.

AUSTIN/MOWER COUNTY

August 23, 2016

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum Mower County Historical Society
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Kids' Mixed Media Art Camp - Home-made Postcards Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912
12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesdays with Toastmasters Hormel Foods Corporate Office
3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Peace Garden Concert Series - Sena Ehrhardt and Cole Allen Hormel Historic Home, 208 4th Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912

August 24, 2016

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum Mower County Historical Society
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Kids' Mixed Media Art Camp - Tissue Paper Hot Air Balloons Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. SEMCAC Meal Heritage House
1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Body Donation Information, Mower County Senior Center
3 p.m. - 6 p.m. Cedars Market The Cedars of Austin, east side parking lot
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Minnesota Community Sings with Bret Hesla Veteran's Pavilion
7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness Peer Support Group, First Congregational Church, Austin

August 25, 2016

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. "Secrets of Writing a Blockbuster Novel" - Grant Blackwood Workshop Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave NE, Austin, MN 55912
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. ArtWorks Gallery - James Wegner Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum Mower County Historical Society
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Kids' Mixed Media Art Camp - Polymer Clay Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912, USA
12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Lunchbox History Series: The Battles of Attrition - World War I in 1916 Mower County Historical Society, 1303 6th Ave SW, Austin, MN 55912
1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Tom Pease Ruby Rupner Auditorium, Jay C. Hormel Nature Center
3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
4 p.m. - 7 p.m. Austin Farmers' Market 501 Oakland Ave East
4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Farmers Market Place LLC 18th Ave, in front of ShopKo
4 p.m. - 7 p.m. LeRoy Farmers' Market Corner of Broadway and Main Street, Downtown LeRoy
5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Austin ArtWorks Gallery Opening - James Wegner Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912
6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Brownsdale PL Puzzle Night (subject to change)
6:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Twilight Tales Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave NE, Austin, MN 55912

August 26, 2016

8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Rummage and Bake Sale Grace Lutheran Church, Austin, MN 55912
9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Garden Spot Market 106 W Main St, Brownsdale, MN 55918
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. ArtWorks Gallery - James Wegner Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912, USA
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Electrifying Minnesota: A Traveling Exhibit from the Minnesota History Center and the Bakken Museum Mower County Historical Society
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Kids' Mixed Media Art Camp - Watercolor Painting Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. SEMCAC Meal Heritage House
12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Grant Blackwood Book Signing Event Sweet Reads Bookstore
12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Olympics Party Mower County Senior Center
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. ArtWorks Festival Welcome Reception Hormel Historic Home, 208 4th Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Chateau Raceway Points Night Chateau Raceway, 54219 266 St, Lansing, MN 55950
7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. VFW Outdoor Music Event Austin VFW Post 1216

August 27, 2016

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 5th Annual Austin ArtWorks Festival Historic Downtown Power Plant, Austin, MN
9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Austin Farmers' Market 501 Oakland Ave E
9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Fall Baseball Tryouts for Summer 2017 - 12 and Under Todd Park North
9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Farmers Market Place LLC 18th Ave, in front of ShopKo
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. ArtWorks Gallery - James Wegner Austin ArtWorks Center, 300 Main St N, Austin, MN 55912
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Fall Baseball Tryouts for Summer 2017 - 13 Year Olds Todd Park North
12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. Fall Baseball Tryouts for Summer 2017 - 14 Year Olds Todd Park North
5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Baked Potato Bar/Silent Auction Fundraiser Salvation Army Family Store & Donation Center, 206 1st Ave NE, Austin, MN 55912
7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Dick Schindler Celebration Concert: Malamanya, Sonny Knight and the Lakers, Peter Jacobs Combo Historic Paramount Theatre
9 p.m. - 10 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory Viewing Sola Fide Observatory
Sun Aug 28, 2016
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 5th Annual Austin ArtWorks Center Downtown Power Plant, Austin, MN
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Fall Baseball Tryouts for Summer 2017 - 12 and Under Todd Park North
1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Grand Meadow Open Gym, Wrestling Room, Weight Room

August 29, 2016

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. SEMCAC Meal Heritage House

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BLOOMING PRAIRIE

August 23, 2016

BP Card Club & Luncheon
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime
6 p.m. - 7 p.m. BPBL Book Club

August 24, 2016

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime

August 30, 2016

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime

August 31, 2016

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. BPBL Storytime

MEDFORD

August 25, 2016

2 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner

August 29, 2016

2 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner

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BAR BINGO: MONDAY @ 6:30 P.M.

AUGUST 8, 22 & 26; SEPT. 12, 19 & 26 (MUST BE 21 TO PLAY)

WINE + WOMEN: WED 6-10 P.M.

CRAZY DAYS: SEPT. 14-17 (OFF SALE)

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SEPTEMBER-MAY - SCHED AVAIL 9/1

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HOLIDAY DAZZLE WINE & BEER TASTING: THURS. NOV. 3RD

HOLIDAY DAZZLE DOWNTOWN FESTIVITIES: THURS. DEC. 2ND

HARVEY'S HOLIDAY CHEER: DEC 10TH

NEW YEAR'S EVE: MUNCHIES & CHAMPAGNE

ELLENDALE/GENEVA

August 23, 2016

7 p.m. - 8:20 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

August 25, 2016

5:30 p.m. - 6:40 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm

August 29, 2016

6:20 p.m. - 7:40 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellndl

August 30, 2016

7 p.m. - 8:20 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

OWATONNA

August 23, 2016

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. OPL It's TALE TIME!

4 p.m. - 5 p.m. OPU Utilities Commission, Utilities Plant Office

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Owatonna Planning Commission, Council Chambers, City Hall

August 25, 2016

2 p.m. - 3 p.m. OPL Independent & World Films

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. OPL Family Story Time

August 26, 2016

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. Movie Night, New Beginnings Church, Owatonna

August 30, 2016

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. OPL It's TALE TIME!

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ALBERT LEA/FREEBORN Co

August 23, 2016

8 a.m. - 2:50 p.m. 8th Grade Orientation Day Albert Lea Senior High School, 2000 Tiger Ln, Albert Lea, MN 56007

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Neighborhood Picnic Morin Park 222 S St Mary Ave, Albert Lea, MN 56007

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Rock Gym

211 W Richway Dr Albert Lea MN 56007

August 24, 2016

School Begins (School in Session)

8 a.m. - 2:50 p.m. First Day of School Albert Lea Senior High School, 2000 Tiger Ln, Albert Lea, MN 56007

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Neighborhood Picnic - Valley Park, Valley Avenue, Albert Lea, MN

August 25, 2016

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. ALPL Story time

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Neighborhood Picnic Academy Park, Albert Lea, MN 56007

August 26, 2016

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Rock Climbing Open Gym

211 W Richway Dr Albert Lea MN 56007

August 27, 2016

Library Closed

Sat Aug 27, 2016 - Sun Aug 28, 2016

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Rock Climbing Open Gym

211 W Richway Dr Albert Lea MN 56007

August 29, 2016

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. ALPL Story time

August 30, 2016

Hawthorne's Picture Day

Tue Aug 30, 2016 - Wed Aug 31, 2016

Sibley Picture Day

Tue Aug 30, 2016 - Wed Aug 31, 2016

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Rock Gym

211 W Richway Dr Albert Lea MN 56007

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Area Church Spotlight

Trinity Lutheran Church, Hayfield, MN

Pastor's corner
Through thick and thin

The Sydney Swans were the joke of the Australian Rules football league. They had the worst record, the worst players, the worst coach, and the worst fans. Most of their home games were played in front of empty seats.

But a strange thing happened. The team got a new coach and a few new players – and started winning. Before long, the team that had been the laughing stock of the league was a powerhouse.

And since everybody likes a winning team, you can imagine what happened next. The stands began to fill. Thousands of people who had no interest in the team before began to attend games religiously. The Sydney Swans became the talk of the town.

Everyone wanted to be identified with them.

Downtown Sydney was awash in the team's colors, and people could be seen wearing Swans merchandise everywhere! Soon it became almost impossible to get a ticket to a Swans game.

One Sunday afternoon the Swans were playing a rival team in front of a capacity crowd. As the TV cameras zoomed in on the revelry and joy in the stands, one focused on a single man who was cheering and waving a sign that he had obviously made himself. Grinning proudly, he held up his sign for all the world to see: I WAS HERE WHEN NOBODY ELSE WAS!

What an awesome picture of Jesus when he thinks of us! When you're

not winning, when all the odds are stacked against you, when you've become the laughing stock, when you feel like the biggest loser of all time, Jesus is cheering you on. He's there when nobody else is. "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20.)

With this promise from the Lord, we can be Christ-like for others around us, too. What can you do today to cheer someone on? God lifts you up so that you can lift up another.

Pastor Paul Hauschild, Trinity Lutheran, Hayfield

Area Church Schedule

Lutheran

AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 38th St., Owatonna
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696

10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
588 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
(507) 676-5696
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie
Charles Leonard, Senior Pastor
Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor
(507) 583-6621
firstlutheranbp.com
Summer Worship:
9:00 a.m.

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

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

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

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN—ELCA
30450 570th Ave., Waltham
Minister Dwight DoBell
(507) 567-2474
Service: 8:30 a.m. Sunday Sunday
School: 9:45 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
Worship 8:15 AM



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

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2781 S.W. 92nd Ave., Meriden
Pastor Patti Meyer
(507) 451-2165
Worship 9:30 AM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH—ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor
Dean Smith, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4520
www.tlcowatonna.org
9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Sunday School

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

Catholic

ST. AIDAN CATHOLIC PARISH
Hwy 30 Ellendale
507-465-8217
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH
Rural Geneva
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 465-8217
Sunday Mass: 11:00 a.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St. Hayfield
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 477-2256
Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: Before Mass
Adoration: Tuesdays 9 to noon

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC PARISH
114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
The Rev. Thomas Niehaus
(507) 583-2784
stcolumbanuschurch.com
Reconciliation: 4:30 p.m. Saturday
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5:15 p.m. Saturday
and 8:30 a.m. Sunday.
Adoration: Mondays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 First St. SW., New Richland
The Rev. Raul Silva, Pastor
The Rev. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 465-8217
Sunday Mass: 9:15 a.m.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor
The Rev. Brian Sutton,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588
www.litomyisl.webs.com
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
with Children's Church
Reconciliation: after Mass 1st Sunday
Family Faith Formation and Adult
Bible Study after Mass with noon
potluck: 2nd Sunday of month
Confirmation class: 2nd Sunday and
Wednesday evening

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer
(507) 451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Sunday Mass: Vigil 5 p.m. Saturday,
7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., & 10:30 a.m.
Spanish Mass: 1 p.m. Sunday
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday
Adoration: Thursdays 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S Elm, Owatonna
507-451-4845
Fr. Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: Vigil Sat. 4 p.m.
8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Reconciliation 3-3:30 p.m. Saturday
Daily Mass Tues.-Sat. 8 a.m.
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205 NW Second Ave., Medford
(507) 451-6353
Fr. Kevin Connolly,
Parochial Administrator
Sunday Mass: Vigil Saturday 5 p.m.,
10 a.m. Sunday
Monday Mass: 8 a.m.

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Christian

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Pastors Sam and Cheri Benson
507-254-8514 www.destinycc.org
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

Methodist

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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.

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815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
(507) 451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday
Contemporary Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Church School/Adult Classes: 10 a.m.

Non-Denominational

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

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 CHRISTIAN CHURCH
332 14th St. N.E., Owatonna
Pastor Scott Peterson
(507) 213-9194
Service: 10 a.m. Sunday
Bible: 7 p.m. Wednesday

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

SIMPLE CHURCH
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507-451-5661
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Other gatherings? Please call.



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

Mormon

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

Presbyterian

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

Seventh-Day Adventist

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

UCC

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

Assembly of God

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

Baptist

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

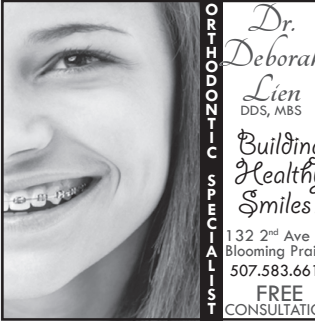


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Dylan Johnson, 23, Cannon Falls



Dylan Patrick Johnson, 23, of Cannon Falls, died Friday, August 12, 2016 as the result of a car accident.

Dylan was born March 17, 1993, in Cannon Falls, the son of Denell (nee Watson) Johnson and Bryan Johnson.

Dylan was a one of a kind kid with a big heart who made friends

young and old everywhere he went. He was quick to flash his bright smile and greet you with a joke or a personalized nickname. Often, the smile came with a twinkle of mischief in his eyes.

As just a middle school kid, he started mowing lawns and shoveling walks and drives around Cannon Falls and he would remain an entrepreneur all of his life, working hard at multiple jobs and known to friends as the “King of the Side Job”. He was always wheeling and dealing, and thinking outside the box.

He was fascinated by the demolition derby at the Cannon Valley Fair. As a child, he would take a hammer to his matchbox cars, tape out an infield on the floor at home, and play demo derby for hours. At age 16, with the help of friends, he started building real demo derby cars and entering derbies himself. He was happiest designing, welding, torching, banging, and problem

solving on derby cars with friends in the shop.

Snowmobiles, four-wheelers, pick-ups, trailers, tractors, backhoes, Bobcats, tow ropes and anything that kept him on the go and in the outdoors with friends and family were also favorites of Dylan. He was at ease covered in mud and/or grease. Dylan worked hard, and played even harder.

Dylan had true brotherly love and always looked out for his younger brother Derek (D.J.). He was proud that Derek was going to college.

He was fun loving and full of life, and would do anything for his many friends. In his death, he gave again as a tissue donor. He made a mark, living a lot in his short years.

He is survived by his mother, Denell; father, Bryan Johnson; brother, Derek, all of Cannon Falls. He is also survived by his grandparents, Imogene & Richard Symes, Dennis Watson, JoAnn

Johnson; Aunt & Uncle Denise (Doug) Krell, and Uncle Kim Johnson; cousins, Steven (Kelly Tomschin) Krell, Sarah (Adam) Longeran, and her children, Daniel & Amber; and many, many friends.

He is preceded in death by his grandfather, David Johnson.

A funeral service was held on Friday, August 19, 2016, at 2:00 PM at First English Lutheran Church (511 W Belle St., Cannon Falls). A visitation was held Thursday, August 18, 2016, at Lundberg Funeral Home (5839 Hwy 19 Blvd, Cannon Falls) from 5-8 PM, and one hour prior to the service. Burial to follow the service at Cannon Falls Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred.

Arrangements by Lundberg Funeral Home, Cannon Falls. Online condolences may be directed to www.lundbergfuneral.com.

Jesus ‘Jesse’ Hernandez, 79, Blooming Prairie



Jesus ‘Jesse’ Hernandez, age 79 of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, died Tuesday,

August 16, 2016 at his home. He was born on October 31, 1936 in Crystal City, Texas, the son of Jose and Juana Meza Hernandez. Jesse grew up in Texas and was raised by his aunt. He came to Minnesota as a migrant worker, employed by Hollandale Association. Jesse also worked at The Bootery, owned by Don Holtorf, where he learned the shoe repair business. He married Marlene Boverhuis in 1959. The couple divorced in 1976. After moving to Blooming Prairie, he worked as a custodian for more than 20 years for Blooming Prairie Schools, owned and operated Jesse’s

Shoe Repair, and started Jesse’s Cleaning Service, which he operated for 20 years. In June 1985, Jesse married LaVon (Filley) Madsen at First Lutheran church, where he was a longtime member. He also belonged to the Blooming Prairie Lions Club. Jesse and LaVon operated three motorcoaches as part of their Prairie Blossom Tours. Jesse enjoyed his role assisting LaVon and entertaining their passengers. His favorite pastimes included boating, having coffee with the guys, and Friday and Saturday night at the races where he followed his son and grandson. He will

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS
August 23
Darla Doocy

Robin Krampitz
Nancy Hansen
Tom Ressler
Valerie Winzenburg

August 24
Braxton Lee
Samuel Wehner
Lanell Sunde

August 30
Keith Doerhoefer Sr.

August 25
Cole Lindeman
Ruthie Ahrens

August 31
Kraig Olson
Delmar Ehlers
Bella Romeo
Lacey Bakken

August 26
Gerry Oswald
Chris Thompson
Jim Fiebiger
Annie Hanson
Bryan Hernandez Jr.
Pearl Swanson
Max Wondra
Chris Thompson

ANNIVERSARIES

August 23
Mark & Bonnie Coughlin
August 24
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Trotman
David & Rita Goodnature

August 25
Jeff & Amy Schieck
August 26
Keith & Jennifer Thomas
Bob & Linda Wolf
Meinard & Janice Haberman

August 27
Marv & Norma Amundson
John & Jeanine Humphrey
August 28
Denny & Terry Zwiener
John & Sue Swenson

August 29
Benji & Nicki Bishop
August 30
Jay & Kelly Braaten
August 31
Jeff & Rhonda McCabe
Tom & Doreen Blome

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Wednesday - Turkey	Friday - Beef

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SEMCAC senior menu

August 23: Crab Salad on Lettuce, Sweet & Sour Cucumbers, Peach Halves/Cottage Cheese, Batter Bun, Rhubarb Rosie	Salad, Baked Beans, Pickles, Melon Cup
August 24: Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Stewed Tomatoes, Orange Wedge	August 29: Tatar Tot Hot Dish, Fresh Fruit Cup, Wheat Dinner Roll, Strawberry Ice Cream
August 25: Meat Lasagna, Mixed Greens Salad, Garlic Bread, Orange Slices, Pudding/Fruit Garnish	August 30: Chicken Breast/Sauce, Wild Rice Pilaf, Spinach w/Vinegar, Waldorf Salad, Pudding
August 26: Shredded Turkey/Bun, Potato	August 31: Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Beans, Batter Bun, Fresh Fruit

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CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT Friends of the Library

By HOWARD LESTRUD Staff Writer

It’s very simple. Just pay \$5 or \$3 (seniors) and become a member of the Friends of the Blooming Prairie Library, Inc.

The Friends of the Blooming Prairie Library, Inc. is a non-profit organization formed to encourage the use of the library facilities and services, promote community awareness of library needs and stimulate volunteerism at the library.

The Blooming Prairie Library has been a branch of the Owatonna Public Library since 1976 and will be celebrating its 40th anniversary later this year. Watch for announcements of special events.

The library currently has 1986 active library card holders. Users come mainly from Blooming Prairie and from other areas including residents of Steele, Dodge, Mower and Freeborn counties.

The Friends group evolved in 1993 and counts 60 members. It is led by president Kelly Kittleson. She recently succeeded Linda Christianson. Loretta Ingvalson and Karen Thoen share secretarial duties. Joanne Nahlovsky is treasurer. The vice president’s post is currently open. Other board members include branch manager Nancy Vaillancourt and Barbara Blome.

Lloyd Mans was a long-standing president of the group. The first board of directors consisted of Christine Ward, Vicki Tate, Paula Sime and Nancy Hansen.

Searching the archives, one will find the mission of the Friends of the Library of Blooming Prairie, formed to:

- 1) Promote increased use of the library;
- 2) Promote public awareness of library services;
- 3) promote fundraising for specific projects;
- 4) to act as political advocates for the Blooming Prairie Branch Library;
- 5) to act as volunteers for library programs as needed and
- 6) to review the library’s program needs.

Vaillancourt, who has been branch manager since 2007, says the Friends of the Library group allows the library to enjoy some extras and not needing to ask taxpayers to provide additional services.

The Friends group has provided furniture; paid for special programs including most children’s programs in the summer; funded adult

speakers; provided volunteers for book sales; and furnished refreshments for adult programs.

Friends will sponsor a special program on Tuesday Oct. 11, “The Most Haunted Places in Minnesota,” presented by Chad Lewis.

Vaillancourt says the Friends of the Library group brings a different perspective and offers suggestions from other libraries. Vaillancourt is the lone full-time employee of the library. She is assisted by two part-time helpers, Laura Thomas and Krysta Harshbarger.

The Blooming Prairie Branch Library is no average library. In addition to checking out books, it offers magazines, DVDs, CDs, audio books and lots of online services. “Our library users can learn languages by studying here and they can read E-books,” Vaillancourt said.

Four public computers are available for public use at the library. Computer classes are also offered in January.

Library hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Branch manager Vaillancourt and Friends president Kittleson thank the community for its support. Many residents and businesses have given special donations to the library. “I would give the Blooming Prairie library high marks in rating its services,” says president Kittleson. “For a small town, we have so many resources and books at our fingertips,” she added.

The Friends group will help with a big book sale Sept. 8-15 at the library.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Helping eighth grader Ashley Brown find a book, Blooming Prairie Branch Library Manager Nancy Vaillancourt searches the many titles available. The library is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

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Public Safety



Blotter spotlight:

Officials encourage motorists to celebrate Labor Day safely

Extra DWI patrols on Steele County roads through holiday

Labor Day weekend is a final hurrah to the fun of a Minnesota summer. Steele County law enforcement officers will be helping keep Minnesotans safe as they travel and celebrate the final weeks of summer.

A DWI enforcement campaign began Aug. 19 and continues through Labor Day. Officers, deputies and troopers from more than 300 agencies will be working overtime with funding provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety (DPS-OTS) coordinates the extra enforcement and education effort.

Local agencies participating in the crackdown are Blooming Prairie and Owatonna police departments and the Steele County Sheriff’s Office.

An increasing number of motorists are making smart choices behind the wheel with DWI arrests declining by 40 percent in the last 10 years. In 2006, there were 42,007 DWI arrests across the state compared to 25,027 in 2015.

To make further progress, more Minnesotans need to plan ahead as summer winds down. In the last five years (2011 – 2015), August was the worst month for DWI offenders, averaging 2,509 arrests, followed by March (2,399) and July (2,354). On average, drunk driving will be a contributing factor in one fatality and two life-changing injuries during the Labor Day holiday period.

“People having a good time at the lake or grilling in someone’s backyard aren’t necessarily thinking about the consequences of being in an alcohol-related crash,” said Steele County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Kari Woltman. “Make just one poor choice by driving drunk and your life or the life of an innocent victim could be changed forever. We want Minnesotans to have a good time but also stay safe. Celebrate but have a plan for yourself and others before anybody gets behind the wheel.”

In the last five years (2011 – 2015), 24 percent of all fatal crashes in Minnesota during the Labor Day holiday period were drunk driving-related. During the same time period, there were 462 drunk driving-related traffic deaths in the state.

There are several consequences associated with DWI, including:

- Loss of license for up to a year, thousands of dollars in costs and possible jail time.
- Repeat DWI offenders, as well as first-time offenders arrested at 0.16 and above alcohol-concentration level, must use ignition interlock in order to regain legal driving privileges or face at least one year without a driver’s license.
- Offenders with three or more offenses are required to use interlock for three to six years, or they will never regain driving privileges.
- Officials offer several suggestions on ways to prevent drunk driving. They include:
 - Plan for a safe ride – designate a sober driver, use a cab/public transportation or stay at the location of the celebration.
 - Speak Up – Offer to be a designated driver, or be available to pick up a loved one anytime, anywhere.
 - Buckle up – the best defense against a drunk driver.
 - Report drunk driving – call 911 when witnessing impaired driving behavior. Be prepared to provide location, license plate number and observed dangerous behavior.

arrest at Chambers Ave. SE and Main St. E. at 10:07 a.m.

Thefts. Officers took three theft reports during the day.

Aug. 15
Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 100 block of Vine St. E. at 8:59 a.m.

Criminal Sex. Police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 11:47 a.m.

Disturbance. Officers responded to a noise complaint in the 100 block of 24th Place NW at 12:30 p.m.

Burglary. At 6:25 p.m., officers responded to a burglary in the 1100 block of 18th St. SE.

Aug. 16
Fraud. A fraud incident occurred in the 100 block of 26th St. NE at 12:25 p.m.

Stalking. Police responded to a stalking incident in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 2:37 p.m.

Assault. At 2:49 p.m., officers responded to the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW for an assault. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Property Damage. Officer took a report of vandalism in the 200 block of Beech Ave. NE at 8:33 p.m.

Aug. 17
Domestic. Officers assisted with a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 12:07 a.m.

Warrant. Police arrested a juvenile for an outstanding warrant in the 1000 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 10:20 a.m.

Arrest. At 1:41 p.m., officer arrested a motorist following a traffic stop in the 400 block of North St. W.

Shoplifting. A shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 2:38 p.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 500 block of Vine St. E. at 3:53 p.m.

Hit and Run. At 7:16 p.m., a hit and run crash occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

Aug. 18
Property Damage. Police took vandalism reports in the 600 block of Cherry St. NE at 1:34 a.m. and in the 200 block of McKinley St. E. at 9:52 a.m.

Vulnerable Adult. At 9:25 a.m., officers received a vulnerable adult report from the 200 block of Pearl St. E.

Steele County Sheriff Aug. 12
Child Protection. Deputy took a child protection report in the 300 block of Murray St. SE at 10:04 a.m.

Warrant. Deputies made a warrant arrest in the 100 block of Main St. E. at 10:46 a.m.

Theft. A vehicle was reported stolen from the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 10:14 p.m.

Aug. 13
Crash. Deputies assisted the State Patrol with a personal injury crash in the 4300 block of County Rd. 45 N. at 1:48 p.m.
Domestic. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 4100 block of 66th St. NW at 11:30 p.m. They made an arrest.

Aug. 15
Animal. At 11:51 a.m., deputies responded to a dangerous animal in the 400 block of 6th St.
Burglary. Deputies began a burglary investigation in the 9300 block of 92nd Ave. SW at 11:43 a.m.

Aug. 16
Criminal Sex. Deputies received information regarding criminal sexual conduct in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 9:33 a.m.

Aug. 17
Theft. Deputy took a theft report in the 6700 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 12:19 a.m.

Fraud. A citizen reported being the victim of a fraud incident in the 200 block of 3rd St. NE at 3:30 p.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 1500 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 5:36 p.m.

Aug. 18Theft. A vehicle was reported stolen from the 4100 block of 66th St. NW at 12:49 p.m.

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of Aug. 8 – 12 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

Isaac Clayton, 48, Albert Lea, previously appeared and was convicted of felony assault – dangerous weapon. Clayton was sentenced to \$5,436.40 and 46 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

Travis R. Martin, 32, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony fleeing in motor vehicle. Martin was sentenced to \$131, no possession of firearms, obtain permission to leave the state, no alcohol or controlled substance use, 5 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Aug. 8 – 12:

Blooming Prairie Police Department

Cole N. Byers-Sunde, 19, Austin, underage possession of alcohol, \$181; Jon L. Fosness, 67, Mantorville, stop sign, \$131; Alfredo F. Martinez, 33, Mapleview, expired tabs and object suspended on windshield, \$151; Carmen F. Rubio, 36, Austin, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Amar M. Shaeldin, 47, Austin, driving vehicle without ignition interlock, stay of adjudication, \$131 and 2 months of unsupervised probation.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Jose M. Acosta Santiago, 35, Butterfield, cancelled license, \$281; Brandon M. Ayde, 19, Oakdale, speeding, \$100; Samuel A. Bartholomew, 22, Kasson, speeding, \$121; Silvia Y. Bautista Medina, 40, St. Paul, suspended license, \$281; Andrew M. Blomker, 27, New London, unsafe lane usage, \$131; Alphonso K. Browne, 38, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$221; Melissa D. Czenkus, 27, Ellendale, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Rey Diaz, 38, Owatonna, invalid license, \$181; Robert D. Dietrich, 58, Medford, speeding, \$121; Kierra J. Ellingsworth, 23, Morristown, seat belt, \$106; Bruce K. Freerksen, 43, West Concord, seat belt, \$106; Arielle E. Glawe, 26, New Ulm, speeding, \$141; Christopher J. Hanson, 34, Minneapolis, DWI, \$406, 4 days in county jail, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Janean E. Hempler, 68, Lake Havasu City, AZ, speeding, \$131; Jillian L. Hiscock, 33, Minneapolis, speeding, \$141; Lee T. Johannes, 28, St. Augusta, speeding, \$121; Aliou Kamara, 20, Brooklyn Center, speeding, \$221; Desiree L. Larson, 33, Star Prairie, WI, expired registration, \$111; Parys C. Lee Lewis, 21, Waterloo, IA, speeding, \$131; Erik C. Macy, 39, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Miguel A. Martinez Lazu, 40, Abbotsford, WI, invalid license and passing parked emergency vehicle,

\$231; Mohamed O. Mohamud, 26, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Jin H. Moon, 23, Monticello, speeding, \$131; Aung Myint, 26, Austin, speeding, \$121; Kelly J. Neilsen, 26, Waseca, speeding and no insurance, \$321; Matthew E. Nelson, 42, Mankato, speeding, \$141; Dana A. Noss, 32, Minneapolis, speeding, \$131; Emmanuel O. Oman, 21, Austin, revoked license, \$131 and 10 days in county jail; Travis P. Perry, 27, Lonsdale, speeding, \$121; Ruben P. Reyes, 27, Minneapolis, invalid license, \$181; Lyman D. Ross, 45, Mililani, HI, speeding, \$221; Lynn A. Teague, 53, Cedar, leaking load, \$141; Jordan J. Tschumper, 22, Winona, speeding, \$106; Isidro A. Valdovinos, 37, Lynden, WA, pedestrian failure to obey traffic signal, \$101; Brady D. Waldbauser, 23, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Ashley L. Wick, 30, Eagan, DWI, \$406, 30 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, comply with Ignition Interlock program, no alcohol or controlled substance use, 224 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation; Carlton J. Williams, 26, New Hope, revoked license, \$281; Tyjuan L. Williams, 28, Owatonna, violation of order for protection, \$131 and 180 days in county jail; Lamar T. Wilson, 24, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Edward V. Zelko, 26, Buffalo, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$81, 118 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 3 years of supervised probation.

Owatonna Police Department

Teresa L. Bell, 49, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Michael A. Braith, 26, Owatonna, distract driver, \$181 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Joshua D. Bramer, 29, Medford, seat belt, \$106; Jessica M. Brueck, 19, St. Anthony, theft, \$75, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Robert J. Burston, 28, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Jacob C. Carlson, 23, Owatonna, domestic assault, interference with 911 call and criminal damage to property, \$131, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, no possession of firearms, mental health screening, obtain GED, domestic no contact and 60 days in county jail; Anthony W. Caywood, 23, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Edward J. Climer, 35, Faribault, theft, \$81 and 27 days in county jail; Jonah M. Deml, 19, Owatonna, theft, stay of adjudication, enroll in school and 90 days of supervised probation; Dixie L. Denhof, 40, Owatonna, assault, controlled substance crime and check forgery, \$212, 7 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, 100 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Scott D. Dirksen, 26, Mankato, suspended license, \$281; Joshua R. Drabek, 26, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Trisha K. Efta, 40, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Zachary J. Eisen, 22, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Cedric J. Elusmond, 20, Shakopee, controlled substance crime, stay of adjudication, \$300, 134 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain GED, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, mental health evaluation and 3 years of supervised probation; Stetson P. Fox, 29, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Samantha J. Halvorson, 27, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Dessa R. Heathman, 45, Owatonna, liquor sale to minor, stay of adjudica-

tion, \$381 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Ron C. Hill, 37, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Janessa A. Jandt, 24, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jay H. Jewell, 53, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Jeremy A. Miller, 29, Owatonna, assault, \$281, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Raymond M. Scovill, 33, Owatonna, give peace officer false information, \$131 and 8 days in county jail; Karl D. Seewald, 48, Owatonna, violation of an order for protection, \$181, cognitive skill training and 1 year of supervised probation; Randy L. Stull, 35, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Samuel M. Tanner, 34, theft, \$131 and 90 days in county jail.

Steele County Sheriff’s Office

Bradley S. Allen, 53, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Kristine A. Anderson, 48, Shakopee, speeding, \$121; Alexandria J. Bandy, 24, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Lisa M. Barrie, 31, Owatonna, speeding and no insurance, \$341; Jonathan Baxter, 43, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$121; Gerald W. Blevins, 37, Bemidji, seat belt, \$106; Brad J. Blowers, 35, Winnebago, suspended license, \$281; Julie A. Boshaw, 53, Powsay, CA, speeding, \$121; Allison R. Calkins, 20, Janesville, WI, speeding, \$121; Angel M. Cassen, 29, Ellendale, speeding, \$131; Sidney D. Cobum, 27, Faribault, suspended license, no insurance and speeding, \$521; Lucio Cuevas, 29, Owatonna, speeding, \$81; Sheila M. Distel, 48, Owatonna, invalid license, \$181; Sergio I. Garcia, 21, Waseca, speeding, \$141; Desiree J. Gehrke, 21, Waterville, speeding, \$221; Lauren K. Grunklee, 18, Claremont, speeding, \$121; Nathan R. Heers, 26, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Zachary T. Hemann, 23, Austin, no insurance and expired tabs, \$321; Michele L. Hendricks, 45, Apple Valley, speeding, \$121; Christopher S. Holmes, 28, Austin, speeding, \$141; Greg A. Horton, 53, Kansas City, KS, speeding, \$221; Porsha L. Hoskins, 27, Ellendale, revoked license, failure to deliver title within 10 days, no insurance and expired tabs, \$721; Jeffrey A. Iaquinto, 53, Austin, speeding, \$221; Carisa R. Jewison, 39, Ellendale, speeding, \$121; Travis J. Kadrlik, 25, Hope, seat belt, \$106; Haylee E. Kremmin, 22, Owatonna, harassment restraining order violation, \$181, 3 days in county jail, no contact with victim, anger management and 1 year of supervised probation; Abriell C. Krier, 24, Millville, speeding, \$141; Henry P. Kupfer, 25, Chanhassen, invalid license, \$181; Marilyn J. Larson, 59, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$141; Amy J. Lujan, 41, Blooming Prairie, possession of Marijuana, \$231; Michael W. Martin, 47, Owatonna, revoked license, no insurance and open bottle, \$581; Jesus Martinez, 19, Fennville, MI, speeding, \$141; Jacob J. Menzel, 26, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Sean A. Mikesell, 26, Rochester, revoked license, \$281; Chad F. Neitzel, 34, New Richland, speeding, \$121; Leon S. Nelson, 57, Ellendale, expired tabs and revoked license, \$311; Charles E. Paxton, 43, Austin, revoked license and speeding, \$421; Anthony P. Payne, 24, Austin, no insurance and speeding, \$341; Bruce R. Priebe, 50, Blaine, DWI,

Public Safety
Continued on page 8A

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

- Randy Aguilar – DWI – no bail
- Rashid Ahmed – assault - \$10,000 bail
- Belen Alaniz – DWI - \$12,500 bail
- Jose Alarcon Jr. – soliciting child – no bail
- Jonathan Aleman – motor vehicle theft - \$10,000 bail
- Omar Alfaro – minor consumption - \$500 bail
- Abdisalam Ali – controlled substance - \$5,000 bail
- Roger Allen – false information - \$1,500 bail
- Juan Alvarez – delinquent minor - \$6,000 bail
- Ben Ambrose – open bottle - \$181 bail

- Darren Anderson – theft by check - \$5,000 bail
- Darla Andrews – theft by check - \$19,000 bail
- Mack Anthony – open bottle - \$500 bail
- Andrew Anzaldua – DWI - \$1,000 bail
- Jose Aquilas – DWI - \$12,000 bail
- George Arcos – DWI - \$1,000 bail
- Jorge Arias – DWI – no bail
- Michael Armstead – DWI - \$500 bail
- Maria Arredondo – theft - \$1,000 bail
- Christopher Asplund – DWI - \$12,000 bail

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

ACTIVE WARRANTS

Senator Jensen addresses drug reform



Photo courtesy of Minnesota Senate
Senator Vicki Jensen

BY EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

On August 13, Senator Vicki Jensen hosted her monthly Second Saturday with the Senator at the Elks Club in Owatonna, where she spent an hour speaking on several pressing issues and took questions from the au-

dience. She opened with the latest update n the possibility of a special legislative session to pass bills that remained undone during the regular season. She said political leadership along with Governor Dayton was still meeting to discuss the possibility, so while hope remained for a special session to be called; there was no official word yet. The special session would be called to deal most pressing with the un-passed tax bill and bonding package. Senator Jensen said even if the bonding bill was passed in a special session, serious transportation legislation would still need to be passed in the coming regular season. The first prepared issue for discussion was the raising of the minimum wage. As of this August, the minimum wage will be raised to \$9.50 completing the last in a set of three increases mandated in a piece of 2014

legislation. This raise applies to any “large” business, one whose annual revenue exceeds \$500,000. Smaller businesses are required to pay only \$7.75. Starting in 2018, the wage is set to automatically increase to meet inflation. In case of recession, the Department of Revenue does have the authority to refrain from meeting a raise in inflation for a year or two. Jensen expressed her concern for automatic raises feeling that they, for the sake of simplicity, removed legislators from an important discussion. The senator expressed mixed feelings on minimum wage as a whole. While she understood and supported people’s need for adequate pay, she feared the mandatory raises would simply lead companies to cut costs elsewhere, such as hiring and raises for established employees. “I just don’t think minimum wage lifts everyone up the way they say,” Jensen remarked. Reforms in drug sentencing were also addressed. Recent legislation has led to the first major change to drug sentencing in Minnesota in 30 years. The focus of the reform was to shift away from punishment for petty users to treatment and rehabilitation. The Department of Public Safety has been allocated nearly \$500,000 annually for establishing grants to organizations dedicated to combating chemical dependence and reducing recidivism. The legislature hopes to fund this measure with the \$12 million annually the bill is projected to save. The bill will lead to roughly 500 fewer inmates in Minnesota prisons, which should additionally help with state’s prison overcrowding problem. Pharmaceutical laws were also updated. Pharmacists can now send patients home with up to 90 days worth of prescription provided it is not a controlled

substance, such as medical marijuana. The bill was passed in hopes of making it easier for patients who have difficulty traveling to receive their medication. The final law of the prepared discussion was the newly passed legislation that requires police body camera footage to be released to the public if a police officer discharges a firearm or uses physical coercion that causes substantial bodily harm. Subjects of the video can also request the footage, and anyone may petition the court to have access to it. Jensen was happy with over-all intent of the bill, but said as the law was implemented some language in the bill would have to be more strictly defined. She commented that bills like this were always tricky, because they placed people’s desire for safety against their wish for privacy. When asked if she thought recent racial tension and movements like Black Lives Matter had contributed to the bill’s passage, Jensen responded that the conversation had been ongoing in the legislature since 2013, but recent events certainly added momentum to its passage and got the public involved. When asked about her recent primary win, Jensen said she was happy to have gotten so much support and was now looking ahead to November. Jensen commented that the big issues going into the upcoming election should be transportation, safety, and education. When asked what she would say to people who are considering voting for her, Jensen responded that they need only look at her record to see her dedication to serving her district and her ability to look at the long-term outcomes of bills, a strength she felt she had over her opponent.

Rain washes out attendance

ATTENDANCE: from page 1A

pours of several inches. The weather caused five of the seven major grandstand shows to be cancelled. Hale said it was the worst he’s seen it in his 25

years with the fair. “I’ve never seen this many shows rained out,” he said. “It will not be a money-making fair for us.” The fair board met Monday

night after this edition of the Times went to press to decide if the Enduro Race would be rescheduled. Since the Steele fair offers free admission, fair officials can only estimate attendance. They use an equation factoring in arcade sales, midway sales, parking, ATM transactions and beer garden sales to arrive at the attendance figure. Parking took the highest hit as nearly 6,000 fewer vehicles were parked during the fair. Officials could not use the ball diamonds for parking as they have in past years because of the soggy conditions. Even though overall attendance took a dive, there were a few bright spots in the individual categories. Arcade sales jumped 20 percent this year while beer sales rose 3 percent. The fair also sold a record of 5,477 Mega ride tickets prior to the start of the fair. Hale said many of the entertainment acts that were postponed throughout the fair will be brought back for next



Municipal candidates races heating up

CANDIDATES: from page 1A

running for re-election as mayor, while Russell Geotte opposes him. Council members Dwayne Goebel and Dick Lassahn will also be running for re-election with newcomer Steve Engel challenging. Owatonna has a slightly larger election with three council member positions open in addition to their contest for mayor. Owatonna divides itself into five wards and will be electing council members from wards two and four, as well as one council member at-large. Thomas A Kuntz will be running unopposed to be re-elected mayor. Hamid Torabpour and Douglas Voss will be challenging Les Abraham as he runs for re-election to council member at-large. Anthony Boyd will be running against incumbent Greg Schultz for ward 2, and Kevin P. Raney will be running unopposed for re-election for ward 4. The elections will take place Tuesday November 8.

‘What’s up Doc?’

RABBIT: from page 1A

year’s Minnesota State Fair. The animal was taken from a cage in the rabbit barn Friday night. “It’s heartbreaking to think somebody would take him,” said Marisa, a member of the Medford Go Getters 4-H Club. “He just means the world to me. I want him back,” she added. Once Marisa’s mother, Mary, discovered the rabbit was missing while making the rounds, they looked all over the barn to find him. Mary Wagaman, Marisa’s mother, discovered the rabbit was missing while making the rounds Friday. The cage had been closed, but no rabbit was to be found. “I couldn’t believe he was gone,” Mary said. “We looked all around the barn to find him, but he wasn’t anywhere. We were all shocked and devastated.” Smokey was not just any ordinary rabbit, according to Mary. She said the rabbit had a show quality look and featured different colors. Smokey had excelled at hopping over the past few months. “He was one of our special rabbits,” Mary said. Marisa described Smokey as a goofy rabbit with lots of personality and energy. “He is really sweet,” she said. “He’s not a wild rabbit. He can’t live on his own and relies on people to live.” The family reported the incident to the 4-H Office and the Steele County Sheriff’s Office. However, no missing rabbit had been located by the end of the fair. The Wagamans have no idea who may have taken the rabbit. They are offering a \$50 reward for information leading to their bunny. For Marisa, the fair was a bittersweet experience this year. Though she lost a pet rabbit, she is excited to have been awarded a state fair trip with her chickens. Anyone with information about the missing rabbit is asked to call the Wagamans at 507-676-5489.

Thunderstorms rip through Blooming Prairie

STORM: from page 1A

Several trees were downed, taking power lines with them. One of the most notable hits by the strong winds came on Center Avenue at the residence of Tim and Roxy Lee. A large walnut tree, believed to be over 200 years old, was felled by the wind and landed on the Lees’ garage. The uprooted tree pulled up sidewalk with it and electrical wires were also taken down. Fortunately, the garage roof took the brunt of the tree weight and saved cars inside from any damage. The Lees’ house roof was also damaged by the storm. The Lees said the tree measures about 8 feet in diameter. A mini tornado was said to have struck the Hollandale area late Thursday afternoon. Minnesota Highway 251, west of Hollandale, was closed for a time because of storm debris on the road.

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GRIEF RELIEF

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Cory Michaelson

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COMBINES & HEADS
2005 9660 STS JD comb, 2610 separator hrs; 1990 JD #9500 combine, Ag Leader yield monitor, 2928 sep. hrs; JD 7720 comb.; 2--JD 4400 comb: 3--JD 6620 combine; Case #2166 comb.; IH #1063 corn head; 3-C/IH #1083 corn hd.; 2008 C/IH #2612 chopping corn head, 12 row; 2--1992 JD #843 corn head; 2--#643 corn heads; 2-JD #443 4r corn head; JD #444 4r 36"; JD #630F flex head; 2-- JD #920 flex; JD #216 bean hd; IH #1020 25' flex hd; many other heads;

TILLAGE
JD #3710 8x plow, used 4 seasons, like new; Int. #800 9x plow; Int. #720 5x & 6x plow; Int. #700 7x & 8x plow; IH #735 5x plow; White #588 4x plow; IH #710 4x plow; JD #2800 4x; 2--#588 White 4x plows; White #449 7x; Krause 6200 Landsman finisher, 45'; #1650 JD chisel plow converted to vertical tillage bar, 30'; JD #2410 42' chisel plow; JD #2800 chisel plow; JD 2700 disc ripper 7 shank; Wil-rich 3-' chisel plow; 1997 HD #510 disc ripper, 7 shank; Wil-Rich V957 DDR ripper, 7 shank; 1980 IH 32' disc; JD #722 finisher; JD #980 32' field cult; DMI 530B ripper; C/IH #4900 34' field cult; Glenco 13 shank disc chisel; many other tillage items;

PLANTERS
#610 White planter, 8r 30"; JD #7000 4rw; Int. 13 r bean planter; Krause #5250 20' no till air planter, field ready; #7000 JD 8r30, dry fert; White #6100 12r 30";

GRAIN CARTS-WAGONS
Brent 774 gain cart, dual wheels, scale; Brent #674 grain cart; Kinze #840 grain cart; Kinze Row crop #1040 grain cart, holds 1100 bu., roll tarp, scale straddle duals: approx.. 30 gravity wagons from 600 bu.& smaller-all kinds;

ANHYDROUS BARS; CHOPPERS; GRAIN DRYERS
Sukup T 16 dryer & Farm Fan CMS 420J grain dryer;

TRUCKS-TRAILERS-4WHEELERS-PICKUPS-CARS
inc. 2010 Trail King MG 48'; 2009 XL 70SD step deck, 48' trl; 2009 Tow Master T-100 DT6-LD detach; 1989 Landall double drop, 53'; 2008 Timpte hopper bottom, 42'; 2007 Freightliner Columbia; 2006 Freightliner Century; 2010 Feightliner Cascadia DD13; 1993 & 1995 Mack CH613 semi tractors; 32' Road Boss 5th wheel trl; several farm grain trucks; many cars, pickups, implement trailers, motor homes;

FERTILIZER APPLICATOR-SPRAYERS-SPRAYER TANKS-GRAIN BIN BLDG EQUIP-SKID LOADERS-TELEHANDLER-COLLECTOR TRACTORS INC
JD 40 utility; JD A; 8N Ford; MH #22; Allis WD 45; #460 Farmall; AC D-17; MM US Special; MM UTS; MM UT4; MM ZTU; MM ZA; JD D; Case SC; Cle Trac crawler AGH: along with other collector implements; Int. LA gas engine, 1.5 to 2.5 hp; Fairbanks hpi; Int. M 1.5 hp on original trucks;

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Public Safety



COURT NEWS Steele County

\$606, 70 days in county jail, alcohol monitor, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel and 3 years of supervised probation; Samuel Z. Ramirez, 34, Rochester, revoked license, \$131 and 90 days in county jail; Jason R. Royer, 33, Owatonna, failure to register ATV, \$131; Lucio Sanchez III, 30, Pharr, TX, speeding, \$121; Derek R. Swingen, 20, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Gerald E. Tracy, 38, Vermillion, SD, speeding, \$121; Brandon D. Underdahl Lyman, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Corey J. Vanthomme, 35, Waterville, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Devin J. Winlaw, 23, Shakopee, speeding, \$100.

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COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following case was heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Aug. 8 with Judge Jodi L. Williamson presiding:

Eric A. Portillo, 39, Rochester, previously appeared and was convicted of felony fleeing a peace officer. Portillo was sentenced to \$205, 181 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Aug. 8 – 15:

Dodge County Sheriff's Office
Michael A. Hammerschmidt, 37, Dodge Center, suspended license, \$280; Nathaniel K. Jackson, 25,

Minneapolis, cancelled license, \$280; Merrick M. Jervis, 35, New Ulm, revoked license, no insurance and texting while driving, \$530; Wayne W. Klinger, 74, Dodge Center, cancelled license, \$280; Ashton C. Lee, 24, Dodge Center, possession of Marijuana, stay of adjudication, \$1,000, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, mental health screening, chemical dependency evaluation, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation; Brandon M. Mendoza, 25, Dodge Center, speeding, \$140; Samuel Z. Ramirez, 34, Claremont, possession of Cocaine/Heroin/Methamphetamine, stay of adjudication, \$1,000, 118 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, cognitive skill training, mental health evaluation, obtain GED, complete drug court, maintain employment, 100 hours of community service and 25 years of supervised probation; Melissa S. Rongve, 34, Dodge Center, animal at large, \$100; Jacob K. Schandorff, 19, Hayfield,

suspended license and speeding, \$340; Mark D. Stork, 46, Rochester, speeding, \$120; Dianna R. Tatge, 24, Glenville, speeding, \$120; Maria E. Wilks, 31, Dodge Center, speeding, \$220; Andrew W. Woodfin, 35, Dexter, speeding, \$140.

Kasson Police Department
Seevert B. Gronvold, 68, Grand Meadow, speeding, \$220; Sydney M. Hanenberger, 19, Kasson, possession of Marijuana and paraphernalia, \$180; Jeremy M. Morse, 35, Rochester, seat belt, \$105; Matthew D. Narveson, 32, Hayfield, speeding, \$140; Cory L. Rasmussen, 38, Hayfield, suspended license, \$280; Allie K. Schellhammer, 21, Kasson, revoked license, \$280; Crystal D. Thorne, 36, Mantorville, no child passenger restraint system, \$130; Matthew A. Wiley, 30, Kasson, seat belt, \$105.

MN State Patrol Rochester
Vernell K. Anderson, 24, Rochester, speeding and revoked license, \$340; Joseph R. Aubin, 29, Owa-

tonna, speeding, \$120; Lisa M. Barrie, 31, Owatonna, speeding, \$130; Meghan E. Beighley, 24, Albert Lea, seat belt, \$105; Kiona D. Davis, 25, Waterville, speeding, no license, no insurance and no child passenger restraint system, \$480; Emanuel D. Gingerich, 35, Rochester, expired registration, \$110; Arice S. Hansen, 26, Stewartville, speeding, no insurance and revoked license, \$530; Serena A. Harguth, 21, Waseca, speeding, \$120; Suleiman A. Kassan, 23, Columbus, OH, speeding, \$120; Laura E. Huneke, 22, Zumbrota, speeding, \$120; Michael C. Mihalek, 26, New Berlin, WI, speeding, \$120; Cassidy A. Morlan, 22, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Ashley A. Pace Friese, 20, Kasson, speeding, \$120; Justin M.

Porter, 26, Owatonna, speeding, \$120; Katie C. Smith, 32, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Leigh A. Spoor, 57, St. Peter, speeding, \$120; Brian J. Sumner, 35, Brownsdale, speeding, \$120; Tony M. Wither-spoon, 56, Raleigh, NC, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$140 and 6 months of unsupervised monitoring without conviction.

West Concord Police Department
Leticia D. Crow, 34, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105; Bernard J. Held, 26, Kenyon, seat belt, \$105; Craig J. Poore, 34, Faribault, theft, revoked license and operate vehicle with plates, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation.

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Walk/run for the cure

Cutting for a cure

Get your old tennis shoes out of the closet and get ready to participate in the 4th Annual 5K Walk/Run "For The Cure" on Saturday morning, Sept. 10.

Register in advance by stopping by Krejci Ford or contact either Mandy Doocy (507-530-5084) or Ashley Valek (507-676-2156). Also, register at the Field of Flags, Highway 218 across from Main Street, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and continuing until 9:45 a.m. the day of the race.

While waiting for the walk/run to begin at 10 a.m., stop by the tent near the Field of Flags and get your hair cut as part of the promotion, "Cutting for a cure." Many activities will be featured under the tent or adjoining it. Many kids games will be available for enjoyment.

Photo submitted

Donations are asked for two big nights of auctions at the 16th Annual Blooming Prairie Cancer Group Cancer Auction Sept. 9-10. Here's a sample of a donated item. Cheri Krejci, BP Cancer Group treasurer, crafted this Minnie Mouse quilt.

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16th Annual Blooming Prairie

Cancer Auction

Sept. 9th & 10th

2 - BIG NIGHTS ~ Friday & Saturday

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"UNDER THE BIG TENT"

OUTSIDE THE CUE COMPANY ~ BLOOMING PRAIRIE

FRIDAY NIGHT

7:00 LIVE AUCTION

Under the BIG TENT

SATURDAY EVENTS

10:00 4th Annual 5K Walk / Run "For A Cure"

Starting at the "Field of Flags" (Register 8:30 - 9:45am)

9:00 - 1:00 CUT "For A CURE" \$5 Hair Cuts

Crazy Hair, Face Painting, Chair Massages, Manicures, Games & Lots of Fun Stuff

4:30 - 6:30 FAMILY BINGO Great Prizes

Fun for ALL

6:30 STIX of FURY PERFORMANCE

7:00 LIVE AUCTION

To Donate Items or for Information

DROP OFF DONATIONS at:
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Any day between 3:30 pm - 9:00 pm or at Krejci FORD ~ During Business Hours

NOTE: Must Drop off Items or Information by Sat., Sept. 3rd to be included on the Auction Items List

For Information contact:
Cheri Krejci 507-438-6895
Jennifer Milton 507-456-6846
All Proceeds to B.P. Cancer Group
501C3 #27-1252726

16th Annual BP Cancer Auction Raffle

Tickets \$10 each

1st Prize: \$1000

2nd Prize: \$300

3rd Prize: \$200

CASH PRIZES

This year's Raffle is in Memory of Steve Prihoda
Thanks to his family & friends!

Drawing Sept. 10th @ 10 pm
BP Cancer Auction - Cue Company - Downtown B.P.
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OUTSIDE



THE LINES

LeMar Nelson

Almost time

Last week the fall sports teams battled their way through the first week of organized practice, and this week the teams begin to polish and refine their game strategies in preparation for the first contests of the season. The football team has been working two practices a day and both the volleyball and cross country teams have also been working hard, both in conditioning and team communication.

While football has another week of practice before action begins for it, the volleyball team will entertain Byron in a non-conference match on Thursday, Aug. 25. That will be quite an obstacle for the team, as Byron now plays two classes higher than the Blossoms, and their enrollment continues to soar to several times that of BPHS. Nevertheless, it will be a good test for the locals and give a glimpse as to what local fans can expect, as the team gets back into competition with comparable schools.

Next week sports fans will get the big fall sports tab published by the Times. It will have articles of preview from at least three sports in four area schools, and it should provide some interesting reading for area sports fans. We encourage readers to enjoy the hard work by the local writers, as they strive to entertain and enlighten local fans about their respective teams.

Because of that we hope readers will understand that the work necessary to produce the tab has hampered our usual coverage, and this column and other regular sports articles may be a little shorter than usual. This week is probably the only time all year that a little less hot air circulates throughout the column.

This and that

I mentioned last week that I am going to attend my old high school reunion for the first time in several years. It will be fun to connect with some of the other 15 students that made up my graduating class. That also may explain a little why I can often boast at being the salutatorian of the class. Sixteen total students don't offer a great deal of competition.

Now that the Olympians have completed their stay in Rio, it is interesting to assess some of the accomplishments. In track and field the three

gold medals in three separate events earned by Hussein Bolt will probably stand for a long time. The exploits of the American swimmers, anchored by Michael Phelps, will also stay in the record books for a time.

Lindsey Whalen and three other Minnesota Lynx women played a big part in the U.S.A. winning its sixth gold medal in a row. The women's gymnastics team did its part by winning the gold medal again, and a first and second in the all-around competition capped a wonderful Olympics for the gymnasts. I certainly could mention many other accomplishments, for example a first gold medal ever for an American in ladies' wrestling, but I think you probably get the idea.

Overall, it was an intriguing two weeks of excellent competition, and I admit to spending way too much time viewing the many events. It is probably a good thing that the games come around only once every four years!

I mentioned the start of a new Broadway touring season last week, with the production of 'Paint Your Wagon'. The more I thought about the show after attending, the more I liked it. It was truly one of the more entertaining shows I have seen lately, and the singing and dancing both were to be admired. As I said, it was a good show with which to open a new theater season.

What's ahead

For the first time in several weeks, last weekend marked a quiet one in the community. Maybe that is just a sign that the next few will be rather busy and full- filling. Next weekend as part of the Paint the town pink campaign, the field of flags will grace the lot on the east side of 218 and Main Street. It offers a moving tribute for the many, many victims and survivors of cancer.

Having a personal loss of my own, I always offer a silent prayer as I pass the display. The last I heard there were just a few flags left, but I would venture that all of the 250 flags purchased will be flying when the display is erected.

Next Saturday the firemen are throwing their annual brat and corn feed at the firemen's park. This is an opportunity for the firemen to thank the community for their support of this fine volunteer organization. But, more importantly, it is just another chance for the members of the community to continue their support of the firemen. We don't ever realize jus how important a fire department is until a crisis forces the volunteers to spring into action. They keep us safe, and we should show our gratitude accordingly.

And it is also time to start thinking about the big cancer auction on Sept. 9 and 10. This two-day affair offers many fine items for bid. It should be another rewarding event in the cause of fighting cancer. See you there.

Readers are aware that cows cannot be fed with round bales of hay any more. They can't get a square meal! Get ready for fall sports, and we'll talk again.

Golden Gophers look to surprise the Big Ten



Freshman runningback Rodney Smith attempts to stiff arm an Ohio University defender during their matchup on September 26,2015. Smith will look to continue his rushing success in 2016 for the Gophers offense.

By JOSH ZIMMER
Sports Editor

When you're in a conference that boasts powerhouse programs like Ohio State and Michigan State, a 6-7 season is just not going to cut it. However, back in May, first year Head Coach Tracy Claeys said that last season was just a hiccup in the road to prominence.

"I believe this is our best football team since we've been here," he said.

Prior to his promotion to Head Coach in November, Claeys was a part of two consecutive eight-win seasons in 2013 and 2014 as defensive coordinator. Now, the coach faces the challenge of returning the Golden Gophers to football glory in the Big Ten.

With the Iowa Hawkeyes appearing to be the toughest opponent on the schedule this season, the Golden Gophers have a chance to return to being one of the more competitive teams in the conference.

Being just two weeks out until the Gophers open the 2016 season with the Oregon State Beavers at home, I thought it would be a good idea to give fans a quick preview of what you should expect from the team this year.

Return of "RB U"

The Gophers have been known for producing quality college running backs that eventually get the opportunity to play in the NFL. However, the last time the Gophers had

a two-headed rushing attack was back in 2003 and 2004, when Marion Barber III and Laurence Maroney each rushed for 1,000 yards.

Last season the Gophers were led by true freshman Shannon Brooks and redshirt freshmen Rodney Smith. Brooks rushed for 709 yards on 199 carries, scoring seven touchdowns to include a 75-yard burner. Smith on the other hand, saw more touches (157) but only managed to gain 670 yards and score two touchdowns.

When asked about his running back situation during the spring, Claeys made a statement that should resonate with opposing defenses.

"It's hard for anyone to argue at tailback that we're pretty good.

This season, expect more of the two-headed attack this season, as both players are threats as receivers out of the backfield.

Leidner's team

Redshirt senior Mitch Leidner will have a revamped arsenal to work with this season. A player that has received a lot of notoriety as a highly-regarded quarterback to national media members involving the NFL draft will have to grow as a decision maker.

Last season, the quarterback from Lakeville South had a completion percentage of 59.9 while sporting a touchdown to interception ratio of 14 to 11.

With the loss of KJ Maye to the NFL, senior wide out Drew Wolitarsky will be Leidner's top returning target.

Defense wins rings

For the Gophers defensive line, they will be spear-headed in the middle with Owatonna native Andrew Shelter at defensive tackle. The 6 foot 4, 290 pound redshirt junior saw action in all 13 games last year making seven starts. He finished the season with 26 tackles and a tackle for loss.

On the edges, the Gophers are fairly experienced having starter Hendrick Ekpe and nickel rusher Gaelin Elmore returning to bring pressure to opposing quarterbacks.

At linebacker, Cody Pook returns to help generate more hype around a conference that may boast the best linebackers in all of college football. The upcoming junior started eight games as a sophomore next to former Gopher and current Atlanta Falcon De'Vondre Campbell.

Pook recorded 99 tackles, five tackles for loss and a forced fumble. With Jack Lynn returning the man one of the outside linebacker positions, the Gophers could have the most experienced linebackers in the West Division.

The secondary will see a pair of 2015 returning from season ending injuries. Redshirt seniors Ace Rodgers and Demarius Travis will be returning to man the two safety positions for the Gophers.

Travis was granted a medical hardship from the NCAA after sustaining a season-ending injury in 2015. The leader of the secondary, Travis has seen action in 40 games.

When Travis went out, Adenkule Ayinde was thrust into the starting role for 11 games and played admirably. The redshirt junior had 43 total stops and was awarded the Gary Tinsley award, which is presented to the student-athlete who best personifies the late Tinsley's underdog spirit.

At corner, Jalen Myrick proved to be one of the conference best lockdown corners. The speedster from Georgia has seen action in 34 career games and started seven in 2015.

Mind the hype

Two players that Gophers fans need to keep their eyes out for in 2016:

Antoine Winfield Jr.- The son of former Minnesota Vikings cornerback Antoine Winfield has had rave reviews during fall camp as his father's old position.

Carter Coughlin- the Eden Prairie product was the Gophers most anticipated signee of the 2016 recruiting class. The four star linebacker is in the midst of a linebacker battle with Jonathan Celestin to be the starter.

The Gophers open up at home against the Beavers of Oregon State on September 1.



MEET the PLAYERS

Tuesday, August 30th, 2016

at the Blooming Prairie High School football field

6:30 p.m. - Mini camp (grades 3-6)
conducted by the varsity players

7:00 p.m. - Meet the players

Enjoy hotdogs, chips & bars during this event

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Coach Chad Gimbel and some of the Blossom players accepting a Waterboy Cart from Dennis and Ryan Heimerman of Metal Services, Inc. The donation was made by Metal services to the BP Quarterback Club for the team.



These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of August 12

No results due to being rained out

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GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS		
WEEK 13 - AUGUST 15		
1	Braaten, PirkI, Resler	93
2	Morgan, R.Olson, R.Olson	79.5
3	Drexler, Zwiener, Klemmensen	78.5
3	R Skala, J Skala, Thiele	78.5
3	Lea, Hansen, D.Johnson	78.5
6	Hillberg, Wanous, Pfeifer	78
7	Larock, Iancovino, Schwartz	76.5
7	Hareid, Bartsch, Lewer	76.5
9	Glynn, Ingvaldson, Esplan	72
9	Seykora, Schuster, Schuster	72
11	Strunk, Farr, Ingvaldson	69
12	Lembke, Benson, Hanson	68
13	Ingvalson, Klemmensen, Bishop	67
14	Doerhoefer,Olson, Worke	66.5
14	Peterson, Behnken, Bishop	66.5
16	Klemmensen, Klemmensen, Anderson	65.5
16	White, Lysne, Johnson	65.5
18	Kruckeberg, Kruckeberg, Johnson	64.5
19	Jenson, Glynn, Ebeling	64
20	Johnson, Caldwell, Bulver	61.5
21	Grunklee, Evans, Possehl	61
21	Zwiener, Hinzmen, Wurst	61
23	Clark, Blome, Skala	60.5
24	Carlson, P. Jones, M. Jones	60
24	Kormann, Kormann, Kormann	60
26	Stangel, Mauseth, Schammel	60
27	Myer, Mott, Tollefson	57
28	Koster, Long, White	52.5
29	Haberman, Henefeld, Nahlovsky	52
TOP SCORES		
A	Lea, Hansen, D.Johnson	31
B	Morgan, R.Olson, R.Olson	31
B	Strunk, Farr, Ingvaldson	31
C	Hillberg, Wanous, Pfeifer	32
D	Hareid, Bartsch, Lewer	34



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Ihlenfeld, Eustice named to Livestock Hall of Fame

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

Mark Ihlenfeld and Ron Eustice are the newest members of the Livestock Hall of Fame at the Steele County Free Fair. The two were inducted at a program last Tuesday. Ihlenfeld was inducted into the Hall of Fame while Eustice was the first inductee into a new category, the Hall of Fame Service Award.

Also recognized at the program were Ken Kern family as the Farm Family of the Year, Sylvan and Evelyn Jacobson as a Century Farm, Karen Kasper as the Midwest Farm Mom of the Year and several other awards from the local FFA and Soil and Water Conservation District.

Program emcee Brad Rugg of the University of Minnesota Extension Service began the

ty. Rugg said he was instrumental in the development of the University of Minnesota's "Pig Champ" record keeping system, pioneered and researched the concept of "All-in-All-Out rotation, an innovator of wider and natural ventilation in finishing barns and developed a new idea for stainless steel feeders.

His swine farm was used by the University of Minnesota Veterinary College as a research and teaching facility for 12 years.

He has hosted international visitors from Nepal and Japan and was a member of the original Steele County Feedlot Task Force in 1997 and also a task force that updated the rules in 2003.

He has been an active member of the Steele County Pork Producers since 1981, a member of the MN Swine Honor roll,

for 26 years in Medford and is still active with Medford Boy Scouts.

"I'm humbled to be inducted," Ihlenfeld said as he accepted the award.

While a person's impact, influence and leadership in the livestock industry with a priority being Steele County is a criteria for Hall of Fame membership, Rugg said, there are also those whose reach goes even farther to the national and international level.

To honor those individuals, he said, a Hall of Fame Service Award was established and presented for the first time to Steele County native Eustice.

Eustice grew up on a farm in Deerfield Township, was active in 4H and FFA before graduating from Owatonna High School in 1963 and attending the University of Minnesota where he majored in agricultural journalism and animal science.

He was an international 4-H Youth Exchange delegate to Uruguay in 1967-68.

In the years since, Rugg said, he has gained an international reputation, traveled to 80 countries and worked on long-term projects in Uruguay, Mexico and Indonesia.

Recognized internationally as an expert in food safety and irradiation, he has lectured at more than 150 workshops in 30 states and nine foreign countries.

From 1970 to 1982 he was international marketing director at Carnation and ABS. For 22 years he was executive director of the Minnesota Beef Council.

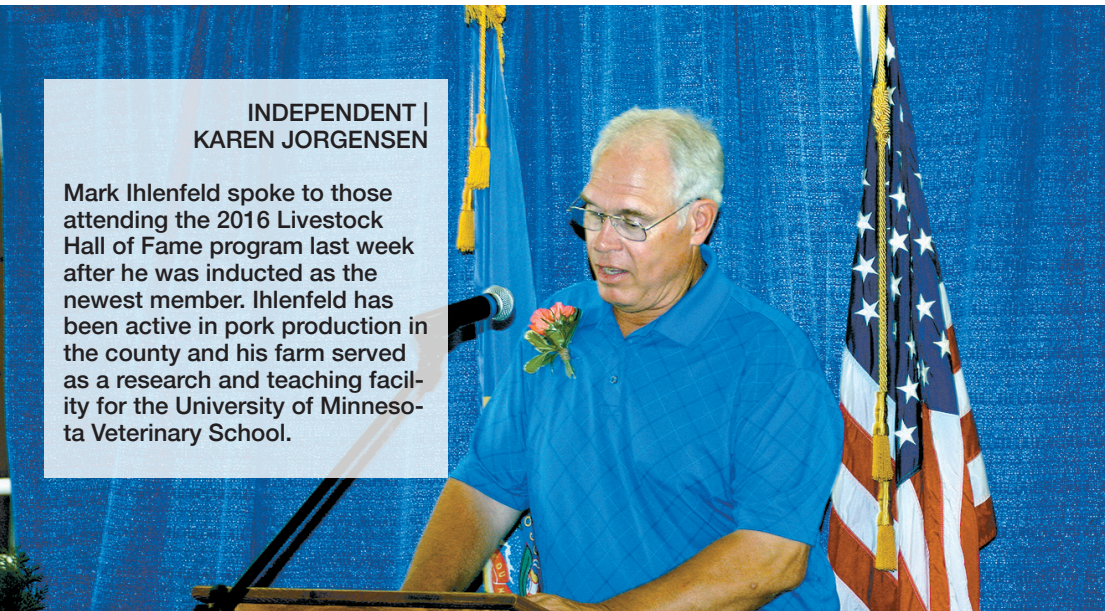
He was an early promoter of the Red & White Dairy Cattle breed and has authored books on the history of the breed.

In 2008 he was elected to the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Hall of Fame.

"What I learned in Steele County has served me well," he said. "I've had some great opportunities but never forgot where I come from, Steele County."

Ken and Lisa Kern and their family were also honored as the 2016 Steele County Farm Family of the Year.

The farm, Kerncrest LLC, began with Ken and Lisa's dream



INDEPENDENT |
KAREN JORGENSEN

Mark Ihlenfeld spoke to those attending the 2016 Livestock Hall of Fame program last week after he was inducted as the newest member. Ihlenfeld has been active in pork production in the county and his farm served as a research and teaching facility for the University of Minnesota Veterinary School.

to start their own registered Holstein dairy farm, which they did in 1995 when they rented a milking facility in the Faribault area.

In 2001 they bought their own farm in southern Steele County and with the help of family and friends remodeled an existing barn into a 50-cow tie stall facility.

In 2014, their son, Andrew, and his wife, Allana, became partners in the operation and the cows were moved to the current free stall facility with a milking parlor.

Today they milk 70 registered Holsteins with the intention of slowly growing the herd to their goal of 120 cows.

Also helping out on the farm are Matthew, Elizabeth and her husband, Shelton, and their one-and-a-half year-old daughter, Ceola.

In accepting the award, Ken Kern said that he is still surprised that the family could win an award for doing their job.

"Surprised and humbling," Lisa Kern said of the award.

The afternoon's program also recognized Karen Kasper, who was named Midwest Farm Mom of the Year in a program sponsored by Monsanto earlier this year, and Sylvan and Evelyn Jacobson who received the Century Farm designation from the Minnesota Farm Bureau and the Minnesota State Fair.

Shawn Lewis of AgStar presented the Steele County Fair

Board with a check for \$3,000 that will be used to repair the floor in the Allan R. Radel Family Livestock Pavilion. The floor was damaged by the sprinkler system earlier this year.

Courtney Zimmerman was recognized as the recipient of the Robert Chladek Scholarship/761 School District Foundation.

Also receiving recognition were recipients of the American FFA Degree from Steele Coun-

ty. They included Greg Selk, Tim Kock and Tanner Nelson of the Owatonna FFA Chapter and Steph Choudek and Mariah Larson from Medford.

Steele County Soil and Water Conservation Awards went to Robert Heers, Outstanding Conservation Farmer; Dennis Ringhofer and Bec Sletten and Dan and Dean Ringhofer, Outstanding Windbreak and Tim Sorenson, Outstanding Wildlife Conservationist.



INDEPENDENT | KAREN JORGENSEN

Ron Eustice left Steele County after graduating from high school in 1963 but his influence has extended nationally and regionally in the years since. That influence led the board of the Livestock Hall of Fame to offer a new recognition and Eustice was inducted as the first recipient of the Hall of Fame Service Award. Eustice pointed out that throughout his career he never forgot where he came from, Steele County.

afternoon by saying that while he generally looks forward to the Livestock Hall of Fame as the kickoff event of the Steele County Fair he was a little nervous this year as his boss's boss, University of Minnesota President Eric Kaler, was in the audience.

Ihlenfeld has been active in pork production in Steele Coun-

served two terms on the Minnesota Southern Research and Outreach Center advisory committee from 1997 to 2002, has served on the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Districts since 2001 and been Outstanding Young Farmer and Owatonna Jaycees and Farm Family of the Year.

He also served as scoutmaster

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Minnesota Crop Report:

Wet field conditions and continued precipitation limited Minnesota farmers to 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending August 21, 2016, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The wet conditions made it a challenge to harvest small grains and hay in some areas. There continued to be reports of saturated fields and, in some areas, standing water. There were some reports of white mold on soybeans due to continual precipitation. There were also reports of sudden death syndrome in soybeans in the southeastern part of the State.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 71 percent adequate, and 27 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 21 percent surplus.

Thirty-one percent of the corn acreage was in or beyond the dent stage, 4 days ahead of the five-year average. Corn condition rated 86 percent good to excellent, up 1 percentage point from the previous week. Six percent of the soybean crop was turning color, 2 days behind last year. Soybean condition rated 80 percent good to excellent, up 1 percentage point from last week. Seventy-seven percent of the spring wheat acreage had been harvested, 9 days ahead of average, but 6 days behind last year. Eighty-five percent of the oat crop was harvested for grain, 3 days ahead of average, but 3 days behind last year. Eighty-five percent of the barley acreage had been harvested, 10 days ahead of average. Sunflower condition rated 58 percent good to excellent. Sixteen percent of the potato acreage had been harvested, 5 days ahead of average. Potato condition rated 92 percent good to excellent. The second cutting of alfalfa hay was nearing completion. The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 70 percent complete, a week ahead of last year. Pasture condition rated 76 percent good to excellent.

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Donating Old Hearing Aids, Eyeglasses and Mobility Equipment

Dear Savvy Senior,
Where are some good places to donate old hearing aids, eyeglasses and mobility equipment? My uncle passed away a few months ago and left behind a bunch of useful aids that could surely help someone else.
Searching Nephew

Dear Searching,
Donating old, unused assistive living aids and/or medical equipment is a great way to help those in need who can't afford it, and in most cases its tax deductible too. Here are some good places to check into.

Hearing Aids
There are several national nonprofit service organizations that offer hearing aid recycling programs. Hearing aids that are donated are usually refurbished and either redistributed to those in need, or resold with the proceeds going to buy new hearing aids for people who can't afford them.

One of the most popular places to donate old hearing aids, as well as hearing aid parts or other assistive listening devices is the Starkey Hearing Foundation "Hear Now" recycling program (starkeyhearingfoundation.org, 800-328-8602), which collects around 60,000 hearing aids a year. Hearing aids and other listening devices should be sent to: Starkey Hearing Foundation, ATTN: Hearing Aid Recycling, 6700 Washington Avenue South, Eden Prairie, MN 55344.

Some other good nonprofits to donate to are the Lions Club Hearing Aid Recycling Program (go to lionsclubs.org and search for: HARP), and Hearing Charities of America (hearingaidadonations.org, 816-333-8300), which is founded by Sertoma, a civic service organization dedicated to hearing health.

Or, if you're interested in donating

locally, contact your Hearing Loss Association of America state or local chapter (see hearingloss.org for contact information). They can refer you to state agencies or community service programs that also accept hearing aids.

Eyeglasses

One of the best places to donate old eyeglasses is to the Lions Club Recycle for Sight program. They collect nearly 30 million pairs of glasses each year and distribute them to people in need in developing countries.

To donate, look for a Lion's Club glasses donation drop-off box in your community. You can often find them at libraries, community centers, churches, schools and many local eye doctor offices, or call your local Lions Club for drop-off locations. See directory.lionsclubs.org for contact information.

New Eyes (www.new-eyes.org/recycle) is another not-for-profit organization that collects unused

eyeglasses and distributes them abroad to people in need.

Medical Equipment

If you have old wheelchairs, walker, canes, shower chairs or other durable medical equipment, there are many foundations and organizations that would love to receive them. For example, Goodwill and Salvation Army stores are popular donation destinations, as are foundations like the ALS Association (alsa.org) and Muscular Dystrophy Association (mda.org), which accept donations at local chapters.

There are also state agencies and local nonprofit organizations that accept medical equipment donations and redistribute them to people in need. To find what's available in your area, contact your state assistive technologies program for a referral. See ataporg.org/programs for contact information.

Or, if you're interested in selling your uncle's old medical equipment,



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you have options here too, including craigslist.com, recycledmedical.com and usedhme.com, which are all free sites that let you list what you want to sell online.

Tax Deductible
Don't forget that donations to nonprofits are tax-deductible, so when you drop off your donated items, be sure to ask for a receipt for your tax records. Or, if you're mailing it in or are using one of the Lions Club drop-off boxes, you'll

need to include a note requesting a letter of acknowledgement of the donation. Your note should include your name and a brief description of what you donated, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

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
Tuesday, August 29, 2006
Dan Evans, Publisher

The Steele County Free Fair saw a record crowd this year. "It was a phenomenal year!" was the comment of a Steele County Free Fair Secretary Elmer Reseland as he revealed the 2006 fair attendance figure of 293,060. The combination of near-perfect weather, little rain, and two new grandstand shows, bull riding and the auto-thrill show, helped push attendance to an all-time high!

20 Years Ago
Tuesday, August 27, 1996
Elsie Slinger, Editor

A wagon train following the historic Dubuque Trail to St. Peter will be stopping off in Blooming Prairie on Sunday, September 1. The Traverse De Sioux Commemorative Encampment takes place the weekend of September 6-8 in St. Peter, but wagon, carriage and saddle horse owners are invited to follow the 1850s Dubuque Trail.

The Blossom cross country team began their third year of competition as the defending conference champions in both

the boys and the girls divisions. Coach Jake Jacobusse, in his third year as the head coach, will have some experience and talent as the Blossoms try and duplicate their conference success and possibly move up in section competition this season.

50 Years Ago
Thursday, August 25, 1966
Victor, Vernon and Vyrle Krejci, Editors

The centennial celebration of the Lansing Methodist Church was held on Sunday, August 21, with a large crowd in attendance. The anniversary worship service was held

at 10:30 am, with Dr. E.W. Foote, District Superintendent, bringing the centennial message, "God Bless the Methodists."

The "Helping Hand" committee of the Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church packed the second and final shipment of 500-pound supplies for the civilians of Vietnam last week. The shipment was taken to the Minneapolis-St. Paul Air National Guard airport and placed on a C-97 plane, Thursday, August 11. The plane departed the following day and arrived in Saigon on August 17. These shipments have been carried free of

charge from St. Paul to Saigon. The S-5 (Civil Affairs Section) was on hand to unload and distribute the shipment to the civilians at Cu Chi. Included in the shipment were one hundred pounds of dry milk, school supplies for at least one hundred children, and over 200 bars of soap.

The 1966 State Fair is expected to be the "best in history", according to Stan Muckle, Owatonna, a member of the Fair's Board of Managers. "We've experienced a banner year in agricultural production in Minnesota, which will be reflected in the many competitive departments at the Fair," said Muckle. "The livestock barns will be jam-packed with animals, and the Agriculture-Horticulture will be filled to overflowing with product from Minnesota fields, gardens and orchards."

75 Years Ago
Thursday, August 28, 1941
Frank Krejci, Publisher

More than 400 students will say goodbye to summer vacation Tuesday morning. Registration this year indicates that enrollment this year will be as heavy as last year's all-time record of 418 students. A number of new students from rural areas will register this year, but the freshman class will be much smaller than last year.

Game warden George Huber and Glenn Davis, a conservation enthusiast here,

supervised the planting of Chukkar partridge on the Jay Beal farm this week. Planting of quail on the Ray Zweiner farm and pheasants at the gun club preserve, the O.K. Benson and Habberstad farms were also done.

Chicken Thieves have been busy the last week in this area, concentrating in the Summit community, according to reports. Several farms in the township were raided lately. A police dog was reported shot by the marauders on the Tony Wesley farm. The thieves were at the chicken house when Mrs. Wesley, home alone, let the dog out. The thieves then shot the dog and fled.

Six lettermen will be the foundation of Coach Ralph Summers football team this fall, as the season's first call for candidates is issued Tuesday afternoon. Summers expects about 25 or more boys to report.

Merville Bray, a young Blooming Prairie merchant and photography hobbyist, recently received a check in payment for the publication of two outstanding photos in "Rural Gravure", a rotogravure magazine of wide circulation throughout the nation. The photos were taken out on the Albert Bray Farm. One was of a black bird that had hung itself on a tree when entangled in string. The other was a young goat and cat eyeing each other as though to 'mix-it-up'.

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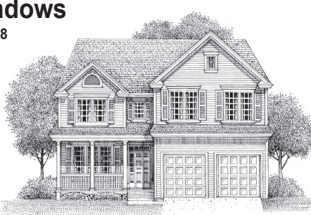
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Turning 90 and turning a corner



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

Greta Shadewald shovels popcorn for those who came to celebrate the Izaak Walton League's 90th birthday celebration at the Steele County Free Fair last Saturday. A free bag of popcorn was given away with the purchase of five raffle tickets.

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

“As no man is born an artist, so no man is born an angler.” – Izaak Walton

The simple philosophy behind the prose and writing of the man born in Stafford, England, was that education can help us create and can help us live lives filled with beauty and purpose. Lives that can record, preserve and set precedence for the generations to follow.

Izaak Walton lived primarily in the 17th century and his passion for preservation and purpose lives on today in the Izaak Walton Leagues that are international in scope. At the Steele County Free Fair

on Saturday, well-wishers stopped by to celebrate a milestone.

The Owatonna chapter of the national conservation organization turned 90 this week and many special guests from the organization turned out to offer their congratulations. Coincidentally, the state Izaak Walton organization also turns 90 this year.

State of Minnesota Izaak Walton Chapter President, John Crampton joined former state president and now Secretary of the Owatonna chapter, Gary Schwartz and former Secretary of Conservation Issues chair, Cherry Schwartz for a special time of remembrance.

The Izaak Walton League of America deals primarily with five areas of preservation and awareness; clean air and energy, fish and wildlife, soils and agriculture, water, and woods and public lands. They are also instrumental in approaching state legislators to ensure the furtherance of conservation.

“The organization is pretty much funded at the grass roots level,” said Crampton. “We do fundraisers, memberships, and partner with foundations to do our work.”

The chapter has also been instrumental in the developing of the solar legislation of 2013. The Owatonna chapter has emphasized the use and development of solar energy

and has also made it available to the members.

From helping to restore wetlands to educating the public on conservation of how to dispose of the grass clippings from their own back yard, the chapter is turning a corner into blazing the trail into sustainable energy and harvesting the natural resources to purify the world we live in.

It's not an organization without its challenges as it

fights years of ignorance concerning pollution without thought. The local issue, of course, is the hotly contested thoughts on protecting and preserving the boundary waters right here in Minnesota.

“I think in this issue, we're winning,” said Crampton. “The polluters keep coming back. They never rest.

“One of the things we would like to do is restore the clean water act with its original intent and purpose, so

that's one of the things we're fighting for.”

With so much to do and only a lifetime to do it, the chapter hopes that in their lifetime they will make a difference. “We are just 90,” said Schwartz. “Just 90 and we're hoping to see 100.”

For an entire look at the interview with Crampton and the Schwartz's, you can go to our Steele County Times Facebook page or: youtube.com/watch?v=Tfp1fE1Yhml

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BOOK NOOK

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Where has the summer gone?

We spend so many months anticipating summertime but it seems to fly by in a flash. If these last days of summer are leading to the doldrums, here's a reminder of the activities that will be happening at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library:

Movies continue on Monday afternoons at 2 p.m. We can't publish the names of the movies due to licensing restrictions, but they are sport related this summer.

Preschool storytime is held on Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. Come listen to stories, sing, rhyme, and make a craft!

Our final Pony Tales of the summer will be held on Wednesday, August 24 at 2 p.m. Thanks to Stephanie Bruggeman for inspiring our growing group of horse lovers. Also, thanks to Patience and Chance who are very patient and friendly with the children.

The August Book Fair will be held on Thursday, August 25 from 1-4 p.m. If you have read for at least twenty minutes a day for at least ten days, come in and choose your free book! That's what our goal has been this summer: to keep reading all summer long. The kids have done a great job, so keep on reading!

Carrot Cake

1 1/4 c salad oil	1 c. flaked coconut
1 3/4 c. white sugar	1 (6 oz) can crushed pineapple, undrained
3 eggs	2 c. shredded raw carrots
1 tsp. salt	1 c. chopped pecans
2 tsp. vanilla	2 tsp. cinnamon
2 c. flour	
2 tsp. baking soda	

Mix together in bowl, oil, sugar, eggs and salt. Add dry ingredients slowly. Add all other ingredients one at a time. Bake at 350° in a well-greased 9x13-inch pan for about 57 minutes. Frost with cream cheese frosting.

Recipe Corner

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Legal Notices

Foreclosure

15-101317

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: October 19, 2012 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$127,281.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Brian Wocelka and Rhonda Sorenson, unmarried MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. MIN#: 1000730-0085873727-3 LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Freedom Mortgage Corporation SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed October 30, 2012, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000387628

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 9, Block 1, Northview Addition PROPERTY ADDRESS: 245 21st St NW, Owatonna, MN 55060 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-258-0109 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$120,468.32 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: September 8, 2016, 10:00am PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of sale said 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 March 8, 2017, or the next business day if March 8, 2017 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: July 13, 2016 Nationstar Mortgage LLC Assignee of Mortgagee SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP BY: Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559 Diane F. Mach - 273788 Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778 Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X Gary J. Evers - 0134764 Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X Attorneys for Mortgagee 12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200 Burnsville, MN 55337 (952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

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): Timothy P. White, a single person MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None. ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$164,000.00 DATE OF MORTGAGE: August 28,

2006 DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on September 11, 2006 as Document Number A000344185 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: \$139,733.66 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 21, Block 2, Roever Addition, Owatonna, Steel County, Minnesota. STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 625 22ND ST NE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-1477

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota TRANSACTION AGENT: None NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-293-0221

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 27, 2016 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 March 27, 2017.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED. MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: July 22, 2016 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A. By: Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq. N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. *Curt N. Trisko, Esq.* Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. Attorneys for Mortgagee The Academy Professional Building 25 North Dale Street St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (16-1014-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30

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): Bonnie L. Petersen, an unmarried person MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$330,000.00 DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 23, 2009

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 27, 2009 as Document Number 362972 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: \$192,677.36

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North Range 20 West, Change North 1312.97 feet along the East line of Section 28 to the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter of said Section; thence West at right angles

50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence West along the South line of the Northeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter, a distance of 205.75 feet; thence North 190.0 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid road No. 1; thence South 190.0 feet to the point of beginning. And Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 28, Township 108 North, Range 20 West, thence North 1502.97 feet along the East line of Section 28, thence West at right angles 50.0 feet to the West right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1 and the point of beginning; thence continuing West 205.75 feet; thence North 214.35 feet, thence East 205.75 feet to the right of way line of State Aid Road No. 1, thence South 214.35 feet to the point of beginning.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 3890 N CEDAR AVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota

TRANSACTION AGENT: None NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 12-028-1206 and 12-028-2105

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 27, 2016 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 twelve (12) 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 September 27, 2016.

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: August 1, 2016

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A. By: Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq. N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. *Curt N. Trisko, Esq.* Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. Attorneys for Mortgagee The Academy Professional Building 25 North Dale Street St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (16-1087-FC01) 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30, 9/6, 9/13

Cert of Assumed Name

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business. ASSUMED NAME: BALANCED HEALTH CARE CENTERS, 1414 SOUTH OAK AVE SUITE 4, OWATONNA, MN 55060. Person(s) doing business under the above Assumed Name: MCGREGOR CHIROPRACTIC, PC, 1414 SOUTH OAK AVE, SUITE 4, OWATONNA, MN 55060. If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document of his/her behalf. I understand that by signing

this document I am subject to penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: NICHOLAS J. MCGREGOR, PESIDENT MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: njmdc@hotmail.com. Exclude the above email address from requests for bul data, to the extent allowed by Minnesota law.

Person who can be contacted about this form: DAVID L. EINHAUS (507) 451-3580.

Entities that own, lease, or have any financial interest in agricultural land or land capable of being farmed must register with the MN Dept. of Agriculture's Corporate Farm Program.

8/16, 8/23

BP ISD#756 Fam. Ed. Right

Family Education Rights & Privacy Act

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

Directory-type information under this policy is defined as:

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

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

8/16, 8/23

Order to Show Cause

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE IN DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File Number: 74-CV-16-1552 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

In the Matter of the Petition of Gary E. Burandt For New Certificates of Title After Fulfillment of a Contract for Deed

TO: PEOPLES SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION: Upon receiving and filing the Report of Examiner of Titles in the above entitled matter, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that you and all persons interested, appear before this Court on the 23rd day of September, 2016 at 11:00 a.m, Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, and then, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be heard, show cause, if any there may be, why this Court should not enter an Order as follows: That the Registrar of Titles, upon the filing with him of a certified copy of this Order cancel the following Certificates of Title and enter new Certificates of Title for the following properties:

Certificate of Title No. 9871 Lot 1, Block 1, Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9872 Lot 2, Block 1; and Lot 1, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9873 Lot 3, Block 1; and Lot 2, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9874 Lot 6, Block 1; and Lot 5, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9875 Lot 7, Block 1; and Lot 1, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9876 Lot 8, Block 1; Lot 2, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9877 Lot 9, Block 1; and Lot 3, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9878 Lot 10, Block 1; and Lot 4, Block 2; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9879 Lot 4, Block 1; and Lot

3, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Certificate of Title No. 9880 Lot 5, Block 1; and Lot 4, Block 3; Cedar Hills Townhouses, Owatonna, Minnesota.

in favor of Gary E. Burandt free of the memorial of the following documents: #T000023676 and #T000060810

and free of the memorial of this Order, but subject to all other memorials and recitals appearing on Certificates of Title No. 9871, 9872, 9873, 9874, 9875, 9876, 9877, 9878, 9879 and 9880.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this Order be served:

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

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

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

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

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

BY THE COURT, /s/ Karen R. Duncan 08/08/16 Judge of District Court Attorney for Petitioner: Mark Joseph Rahrick 108 West Park Square P.O. 271 Owatonna, Minnesota 55060 Approved as to form: /s/ David L. Einhaus Steele County Examiner of Titles Attorney License Number 026190 202 North Cedar, P.O. Box 545 Owatonna, Minnesota 55060 Telephone: (507) 451-3580 Facsimile: (507) 451-3532 E-mail: einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com 8/16, 8/23

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No.: 74-PR-16-1667 In Re: Estate of John A. Kuhn, Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF DESCENT

Kerri A. Kuhn has filed a Petition for Determination of Descent. It is Ordered that on September 20, 2016, at 10:45 o'clock a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Steele County Courthouse, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, on the petition.

The petition represents that the decedent died more than three (3) years ago leaving property in Minnesota. The petition requests the Court probate the decedent's Will, determine the descent of such property and assign the property to the persons entitled.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the petition will be granted.

Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by mailing a copy of this Notice and Order to each interested

person by United States mail at least 14 days before the time set for the hearing.

BY THE COURT /s/ Judge A. Bueltel 8.12.16 Judge of District Court

/s/ Sonia Kocher 8.12.16 Court Administrator SMITH, TOLLEFSON, RAHRICK & CASS Stephen J. Smith (MN# 102799) 108 W Park Sq., Ste. A ~ P.O. Box 271 Owatonna, MN 55060 Telephone: (507) 451-6540 Facsimile: (507) 451-1846 e-mail: steve@owatonnalaw.com 8/23, 8/30

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION COURT FILE NO.74-PR-16-1652 COUNTY OF STEELE Re: Estate of Dorothy E. Buecksler a/k/a, Dorothy Buecksler, Deceased

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN AN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of September, 2016 at 10:45 a.m., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Steele, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the above named decedent, dated March 2, 2015, and for the appointment of Kay M. Wegner, whose address is 5506 SW 38th Street, Owatonna, MN, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in an unsupervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a final account for the allowance and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court, and close the estate.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: 08/10/2016 /s/ Karen Duncan Judge

Gregory C. Olson PATTON, HOVERSTEN & BERG, P.A. 150 W. Park Square Owatonna, MN 55060 (507)451-9000 Atty. Reg. No. 81390

Always the last to know?

If you keep finding out about local news and events after they happen, it's time to check out the Steele County Times.

Every week your local paper connects you to local sports, and county schools, news, government and area businesses.



STEELE COUNTY Times
Always local, all the time.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY and stay connected.
507-583-4431

STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: that on Tuesday, September 6th, 2016 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Steele County Administration Center, 630 Florence Avenue, Owatonna, Minnesota, the Steele County Board of Adjustment will hold a Public Hearing on the following variance application:

Joshua Federly has requested to locate a row of shrubs and a row of trees less than the required setback from the road right of way and a row of American Arborvitae less than the required distance from the property line. This property is located in the NW ¼ of the SW ¼, Section 11, Merton Township. The property address is 7027 74th Ave. NE.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or contact the planning and zoning office to be heard on this matter.

STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT Dale Olman Steele County Zoning Director 630 Florence Ave. P.O. Box 890 Owatonna, MN 55060 507-444-7482

Cert of Assumed Name

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: **Bridge Street Tavern**
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: **712 South Grove, Owatonna, MN 55060 USA.**
NAMEHOLDER(S): Name: **Burrs' Enterprises, Inc.** Address: **712 South Grove, Owatonna, MN 55060**

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document of his/her behalf. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: **Ronald M. Burr**
MAILING ADDRESS: **None Provided**
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **ronburr58@gmail.com.**

8/23, 8/30

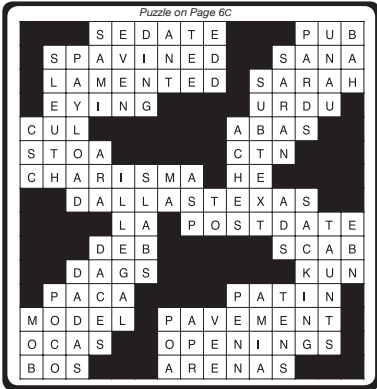
Fetch for attention

Call today to place your ad!
507-583-4431



FOR RENT

Six 15,000 Bushel GRAIN BINS
Available for rent
Located 3 mi N of Blooming Prairie
Call Chuck 507-202-4089



MINNESOTA PRAIRIE COUNTY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY SERVICES OF DODGE, STEELE & WASECA COUNTIES

Child & Family Services Social Worker/Ongoing Child Protection 2 Positions

If you want to use your education and experience to assist people with the child care licensing process, apply now to join Minnesota Prairie County Alliance in the provision of human services for Dodge, Steele, and Waseca counties. MNPrairie is a not for profit, public agency providing innovative, extraordinary and professional customer services and achieving positive outcomes. One position will be a member of the Child and Family Social Services team at the **Waseca** County site and one will be at the **Steele** County site.

Qualified candidates will have a bachelor's degree with coursework in social work, psychology, sociology or related field. Social work license and experience in areas of program emphasis preferred. Wage range is \$22.29 - \$35.49 per hour plus benefits, which includes PERA pension.

To be considered, candidates must complete the 2-step application process: 1. Complete the Minnesota Merit System qualification at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem/default.cfm> 2. Submit a current MNPrairie Application before the deadline at http://www.co.steele.mn.us/departments/administrator_human_resources/job_opportunities.html

For questions contact Steele County Human resources at 507.444.7400 or HR@co.steele.mn.us. Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. Thursday, September 1, 2016.

Equal Opportunity-Affirmative Action Employer



MINNESOTA PRAIRIE COUNTY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY SERVICES OF DODGE, STEELE & WASECA COUNTIES

Adult & Disabilities Services Case Manager/Social Worker – MnChoices Assessor

If you want to use your education and experience to provide strength-based adult and disability services to families, apply now to join Minnesota Prairie County Alliance in the provision of human services for Dodge, Steele, and Waseca counties. MNPrairie is a not for profit, public agency providing innovative, extraordinary and professional customer services and achieving positive outcomes.

We are currently accepting applications for one (1) position in the area of **MNChoices Assessor** at the **Waseca** County Site.

Qualified candidates will have a bachelor's degree with coursework in social work, psychology, sociology, nursing or related field. Licensed Social Worker or Registered Nurse and experience in areas of program emphasis preferred. Wage range is \$21.85 – \$34.80 per hour plus benefits, which includes PERA pension.

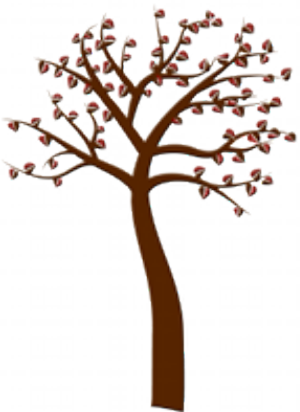
To be considered, candidates must complete the 2-step application process:

1. Complete the Minnesota Merit System qualification at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/mnmeritsystem/default.cfm> (position #011-OC)
2. Submit a current MNPrairie Application before the deadline at http://www.co.steele.mn.us/departments/administrator_human_resources/job_opportunities.html

For questions contact Steele County Human resources at 507.444.7400 or HR@co.steele.mn.us. Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m., Friday, September 1, 2016.

Equal Opportunity-Affirmative Action Employer

NEW RICHLAND CARE CENTER



New Richland Care Center

Is looking for a

FULL-TIME CHARGE NURSE

We are city owned and offer great benefits And a great working environment.

Please call Marnie or Lavonne at 507-465-3292 for more information.

EOE/Affirmative Action



Zumbro River Brand, Inc.
Albert Lea and Owatonna, MN
are currently seeking applications for

MACHINE OPERATORS

QUALITY CONTROL

WAREHOUSE

MAINTENANCE POSITIONS

DIRECT HIRE IS POSSIBLE WITH EXPERIENCE

We specialize in agglomeration and extrusion technologies for the food industry
We offer \$15 - \$16 starting wage

WITH LITTLE OR NO EXPERIENCE, ALONG WITH AN ABOVE INDUSTRY STANDARDS BENEFITS PACKAGE. All interested applicants can apply directly at our plant located at 1215 Hershey St. Albert Lea, MN 56007 or 138 West Front St. Owatonna, MN 56007 or send a resume to jobs@zumbroriverbrand.com

PART TIME HELP WANTED

General Plant Help

2-3 Days per week

6-8 Hrs per day

- Set-Up
- Packaging
- Clean-Up
- 40# Lift

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1-3 days per week

6-8 hrs per day

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 - Two Wheel Cart
 - Straight Truck-Under 26,000# No Special License Required
 - 50# Lift
- COMPETATIVE PAY BASED ON EXPERIENCE & ABILITIES**
Contact Victor Mrotz @ Hope Creamery 507-456-7451



NOW HIRING FOR:

- Resident Assistant
- A Part-Time Van Driver to take residents to appointments
- A Part-Time Custodian/Maintenance Worker

For more Information call 507-684-3026



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Prairie Manor Care Center

"Quality Care with a Small Town Touch"

Prairie Manor Care Center has an Immediate Openings for:

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Part-time, days, evenings & weekends

Apply in person or call Pam Doerhoefer, CDM at 507-583-5181
220 3rd St NW Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Prairie Manor Care Center

"Quality Care with a Small Town Touch"

Prairie Manor Care Center has an Immediate Openings for:

❖ HOUSEKEEPING ❖

Part Time Weekdays, Some Weekends, and Some Holidays!

To apply, contact George Snyder at 507-572-6194
gsnyder@prairiemanorinc.com • fax 507-583-2401, or in person
220 3rd St NW Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

NOW HIRING

HOUSEKEEPERS

WATER PARK STAFF

BANQUET STAFF

COOKS

RESTAURANT SERVERS & HOSTS



2365 43rd St NW • Owatonna
daren@hiowatonna.com

Holiday Inn
507.446.8900

HomeTown Credit Union has an opening in Owatonna for a FULL-TIME CONSUMER LOAN OFFICER

Applicants will:

- ❖ Act as the main point of contact for members both by phone and in person
- ❖ Identify their needs, considering their best interests, and providing them with personalized financial solutions.
- ❖ Deliver a friendly HomeTown experience for members by consistently providing exceptional service, asking them for the business and proactively following up with them on future opportunities
- ❖ Applicant must possess the ability to communicate proficiently and effectively, strong decision making skills and proven sales experience



HomeTown offers a competitive wage and benefit package. We are an equal opportunity employer. Please submit resume and letter of interest to yblum@hometowncu.coop Attn: Human Resources or call 507-455-6720 for more information.

Classifieds

3-WEEK SPECIAL: \$30
BUY TWO WEEKS, GET THE THIRD FREE
UP TO 20 WORDS; 10¢ FOR EACH WORD AFTER



REACH OVER 17,000 IN
OVER 12 COMMUNITIES

To place an ad: Call: 507-583-4431, E-mail: bptimes@frontiernet.net, Mail: P.O. Box 247, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

EMPLOYMENT

FT afternoon caregiver position available at Wellington Adult care. Working with elderly clients, experience preferred but will train. Must love elderly people and enjoy working in a home setting. Applicant must be 18 years old, have a valid drivers license, and pass a background check. If interested please call please contact Janie or Bill at 507-374-2198 or 507-319-4821. 31tfc

Concord Store & Locker looking for full time help to cut & wrap meat; stock coolers & freezers & nightly clean-up. Please call 507-527-2736 or stop in Monday-Friday 7:00am to 6pm 55217 201st Ave, West Concord, MN. 35-37c

P/T Temp, Faith Formation Assistant. 10-19 hours. Competitive wage. Christ the King, Byron and Holy Family, Kasson. Request application by calling 507-775-6455 or email jenniferckhf@gmail.com 36,37c

Job opening at K-M High School kitchen, 4.5 hrs., 8-1pm. Please contact Wendy Sellers at Taher Food Service. 507-634-4462 36c

Millennium Seamless Gutters needs installers & helpers, full & part-time positions, no experience, will train. 507-259-1264. 34-36c

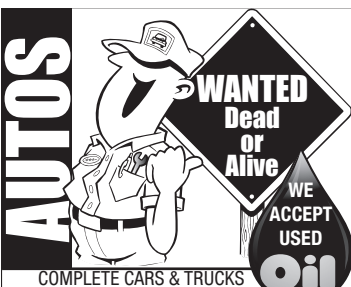
HELP WANTED: Motivated, dependable person to join our team full time on large dairy farm in Dodge County. Responsibilities will include all aspects of farm operation. Experience a benefit, but will train the right person. Fluent English for this position. Call Eric at 507-259-4096 36c

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

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

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

College student looking for yard jobs; lawn mowing, gutter cleaning, junk removal, landscaping, and window washing, many years of experience, provide quality



McNeilus Auto Parts
507-374-6392

WAITSTAFF
needed at Prairie Meadows in Kasson. Split shift, 11-2 & 4-7, every other weekend.

Apply in person.
Ask for Kabrie.
Prairie Meadows
SENIOR LIVING
Kasson EOE.

HELP WANTED

CHS has multiple openings for **Seasonal Operations/ Labor & Office Help** for fall harvest in Kasson.
All shifts available. Please apply online at:
www.chsrochester.com/about-us/careers



If you have any questions contact Greg (Kasson) at 507-634-7545 or stop by the CHS Office at 107 8th Ave. SW, Kasson.

workmanship at a fair price! Call/text Ryan at 507-259-2860 References available, FREE estimates. 22tfc

Can I help? Lawn mowing service. Responsible high school student looking for Kasson-Mantorville area mowing jobs, please call Nic 507-884-5212. 30tfc

Caleb Kern would like to sit for your cats and dogs. Please call 507-634-7907 32tfc

SERVICES

FT daycare openings for all ages immediately! 2 Byron providers with over 40 yrs. combined experience. Our days include, but are not limited to, cooking, arts, crafts, reading, storytime, pre-school learning, outside fun, dramatic and free play! Great benefits for everyone having 2 providers to care for your children! Contact Denise 202-3704 or Tiffany 271-1321 for more info 34-37p

HAMM'S WELDING - All types, aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, fabrication work and repairs. HAMM'S WELDING, 528-2524, rural Claremont. 9tfc

Dodge County Printing, wedding invitations, bumper stickers, graduation invitations, pens, can holders, letterheads, envelopes, business cards, carbonless forms, computer stationary. Ask about other items available, 507-634-2661. 33tfc

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

FOR SALE

FRESH VEGETABLES- tomatoes, canning or eating, gourmet garlic, kohlrabi, candy onions, cabbage, green peppers, call 507-477-3337 or 507-421-1466, Hayfield. 34-36p

If you or a loved one have taken Xarelto and suffered any serious side effects, call 507-573-4430 to speak with a lawyer. You may be entitled to compensation. ttc

Beer signs, cast iron banks, horse pictures. 633-6310. 34-36p

WANTED

Farm land to cash rent in or near Canisteo Township. Call Wayne Larson at 507-202-3411 35-37c

FOR RENT

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

Prime office spaces for rent



Events Sports Bar & Grill

401 8TH STREET SE KASSON

**COOKS
SERVERS
BARTENDERS
DISH WASHERS
needed.
No experience
necessary.
Apply within.**



REACH OVER 17,000 IN
OVER 12 COMMUNITIES



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Tuesday night the skies were full of drama. A light show to rival the Fourth of July gave snapshot glimpses of the angry clouds while thunder provided a bass rumbling soundtrack. The high on Tuesday was 83° and the heavy, humid air barely moved until the rain came. This shot was taken in Albert Lea, although the celestial show could be enjoyed from anywhere in SE Minnesota.

Staff photo by Tawni Hammer

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Steele County Fair

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Photo by Rick Bussler

Hannah Mundt, 14, from the Pratt Commandoes 4-H club takes a well deserved break using her Brown Swiss cow, Hawaii, as her dream catcher

Inside:

2C Myron Aldrich - the sound guy

3C Seniors at the fair

6C 4-H focus

7C The human cannonball

3D Bands at the fair

6D - 7D Fair results

8D Local food truck

2C Opening ceremony



2C



3C



3D



8D



2C

Steele County Fair 2016

How does the biggest Minnesota county fair open?



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

The Steele County Fair opened with a grand celebration Tuesday afternoon unveiling something new for all to enjoy. Texas Ranger Stanley, right, has joined the famous duo of Steely and Stella as the fair's mascots. They danced around the main stage to mark their start of promoting Minnesota's largest county fair.

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

Patriotism was front and center at the opening of Minnesota's largest county fair in the state. The Steele County Free Fair opened Aug. 16 with the Owatonna Knights of Columbus singing a series of songs that both uplifted and inspired the fair-goers and christened the upcoming festivities.

From their first rendition of "This Land Is Your Land" to the final tune, "God Bless America," the crowds cheered, applauded and wiped away a tear or two.

The color guards from Blooming Prairie, Ellendale, Owatonna brought forth the flags and the VFW auxiliary presented SCFF board president Dan Deml with both an American flag and a POW-MIA flag which were both raised by an honor guard to the flag pole at the central hub of the Steele County Fairgrounds.

The crowd was invited to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked to remain standing and sing together the Star Spangled Banner.

The Voice of Democracy winner for the State of Minnesota this year was 17 year-old Medford student, Rachel Bluhm, who read her award winning speech entitled, "A Young Vision For America." It reads as follows:

"What is becoming of America? This is what I hear on the news, at school in history class, and from elders at church. These people may not know what the future of America holds, but I have an idea. The future America that I see is filled with prosperity; a land that our founding fathers would truly hold pride in. I envision a strong nation that upholds standards of freedom and justice for all.

A country that can defend themselves and their people against any opposing force and assist those who are weak. My vision of America, although it may be different than what others see, is how I believe the future will be.

I envision an America that would satisfy our founding fathers. In this future nation, the constitution is the law of the land and it lays

out how the country will be governed. The Amendments of the Constitution are followed closely. The laws are upheld and violators are prosecuted. The people are all treated as equals and there is no discrimination against those of different races, sexual orientation, gender, or religion. This America allows women and men to be paid equal wages and to have equal



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Color guards from around the county marched at the fair's opening Tuesday. John Iverson saluted the flag as others raised the flag and sang patriotic songs.

have pride in how America has excelled since establishment and the people who have helped us get there.

This country has a strong military, a military that could defend themselves against any enemy. The men and women are strong and committed to protecting our nation. The Americans are thankful and appreciate the

planet. Compared to fossil fuel technologies, which are usually mechanical, the renewable energy industry is more labor-intensive. Thus, renewable energy sources would create and sustain more jobs for the Americans.

This is my vision of America. I believe in the future there will be equality for everyone and that the Constitution will be followed closely. The crime rate will decrease and the military power will increase. The country will also move toward renewable energy sources. These are just some of the reasons why I have an optimistic vision of our nation."

Following her speech, the men's chorus broke into a medley of military anthems featuring all branches of the military as the color guard presented the respective military flag.

The grand finale was the song, "God Bless America" as the audience was called to join hands in a unified prayer in song for America. The entire ceremony can be seen at the Steele County Times Facebook page or at: youtube.com/watch?v=18i840MCT30

Shortly after the ceremonies concluded, the much anticipated announcement of the new SCFF mascot was unveiled complete with a story of how it came to be. Many know well, the mascots Stella and Steely who have graced the SCFF for many years.

This year with a new twist, it was revealed that Stella and Steely had many years ago, adopted a son in Texas who went on to join the Texas Rangers in the campaign against cattle rustling. His name was Stanley and he was concealed from the public and the paparazzi due to the nature of his work. He remained incognito until his revealing at this year's fair, where he was reunited with his adopted parents to live happily-ever-after with them in the friendly confines of Owatonna.

The great mascot reveal can be seen in its completion at the Steele County Times Facebook page or at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Susm14VeHqs.



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Rachel Bluhm, 17, of Medford presented her VFW Voice of Democracy essay during the fair's opening festivities Tuesday.

employment opportunities. Not only do the lawmakers follow the Constitution, but the people of America do as well.

In my vision, all of the people have morals. Parents raise their children with ethics so that they can determine the right from the wrong. This America is peaceful and the amount of crime is minimal. The people are kind to each other and are proud to be American. They also

soldiers and their hard work. The United States would go through other changes as well.

Saving energy is important in my vision. In the future, non-renewable sources of energy, such as coal and gasoline, are no longer used. Instead, clean energy is the main focus. Solar, wind, water, and other renewable sources are the power for majority of America.

This would result in a cleaner and healthier

He's called the sound guy



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Myron Aldrich turned 88 during the 2016 Steele County Fair. He was the only person doing sound at the fair during his early years of service. Now, he is assisted by John Hihlenfeld and Gary Sigler.

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

He's known to many around Steele County Free Fair circles as "The Sound Guy."

Also known as Myron Aldrich, The Sound Guy is celebrating "two doubles" this year, one his 88th birthday on Aug. 21 and the other his and wife Lois' 66th wedding anniversary on Sept. 21.

Aldrich has been the main sound man at the Steele County Free Fair's Fair Square Park for 23 years. The stage at the Fair Square Park is sponsored by the United Prairie Bank. Three other stages are also part of the fair fun each year: KRFO and Kat Kountry Stage, Village of Yesteryear Stage and Elmer Reseland Stage.

Aldrich, a 37-year veteran of IBM, picked up the sound guy tag in 1993 when a good

friend of his, Ron Houghtlin introduced him to Todd Hale, advertising manager and publicity director. Hale needed help with the fair sound system.

The opportunity appealed to Aldrich because he already was doing the sound system at the Assembly of God Church in Owatonna.

"Myron is a most loyal sound man who used to do it all by himself in the early years and put in some very long hours," Hale commented.

Setting up the stage and sound system has been a major responsibility of Aldrich, one he handled alone until recently when he received some additional help from Gary Sigler and John Hihlenfeld.

This additional help has cut Myron's 90-hour week down to about 40 hours for the duration of the fair. "I get home at 8 at night

rather than midnight," Aldrich remarked.

The original stage in Fair Square Park was provided by Wenger Corp. It has since been updated with new amplifiers and new speakers. The speakers are now placed out front rather than atop the stage frame. "This new arrangement makes for better sound," Aldrich says.

In Aldrich's early sound days, the stage had to be set up every day and taken down at night. "It looks like a semi when it's folded," he said. Now, the stage can be left up from day to day. The miles of cable can also be left from day to day, he said.

Setting up sound depends on the needs of the entertainers, Aldrich said. One of the most trying times is setting up for the talent show on Saturday and again on the day of the show on Sunday.

"There are 20-30 acts trying out for the talent show and many of the performers have not been on stage before and must be familiarized with the equipment," Aldrich said. "It's fun meeting young talent," he added.

Aldrich says he looks at his sound responsibilities as "just fun" while his wife thinks it's work and believes Myron spends too much time at the fair. "During fair week, she is a widow," he says.

Asked what he likes best about the Steele County Fair, Aldrich answers quickly. "I don't get to see much of the fair," he says. He confesses, however, that he does sneak away to an occasional food stand and especially likes root beer floats.

Aldrich is proud to be part of the free fair work crew. "It's one of the best fairs in the state, I know that," he said.

Aldrich's interest in staging and sound came from his lifetime vocation working

with IBM and from his time spent in the U.S. Army with the Signal Corps. Aldrich served during the Korean War.

He repaired teletypes for the Signal Corps. He also shot signals into the air to propagate radio signals around the world. "I almost got into the area in the Pacific where they were testing the A-bomb," he said.

Aldrich was born near Sauk Centre and moved to Owatonna in 1953. His father owned a grocery store in Verndale.

Following graduation from the Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis, Aldrich worked for IBM. He was on the IBM payroll during the early days of computers. His job then would be equivalent to the IT (Information Technology) job of today.

"I hope I can make it to 25 years as sound guy," Aldrich acknowledges. He missed the last three days of the fair last year due to his grandson's wedding in San Diego, CA. "That was the first time I had missed time at the fair in 23 years," he said.

When not doing sound at the fair, Aldrich loves to do home repairs and installing of appliances. "My wife says someone is always asking me to fix something," he says.

The Aldrich's have three children, five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Three great granddaughters recently spent a week with Myron and Lois and then accompanied their great grandparents on a trip through the Black Hills and into Yellowstone National Park.

An objective for Myron is to have even sound for everyone. "Some say it's too loud and others say it should be louder," Aldrich says. Looking at the smile on The Sound Guy's face, it is apparent that the sound is just right.



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Scenes from
the midway



Staff photos by Rick Bussler



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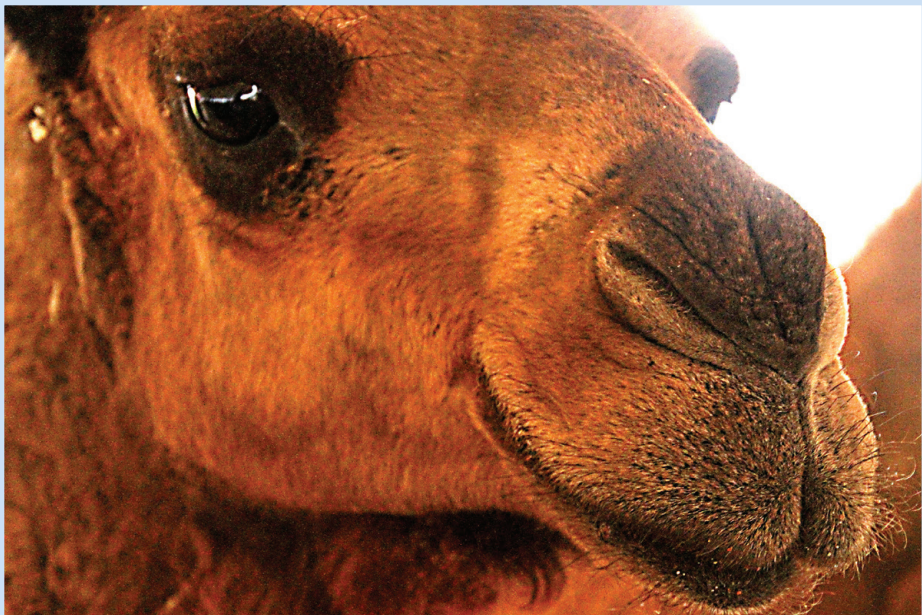


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Top left: Nick the camel provided rides for many children at the SCFF.
Top right: SCT managing editor, Mark DeLap snuggles with Nick the chocolate chip camel.

Staff photos by Rick Bussler



Bottom: Humphrey the camel enjoyed talking to the children at the petting zoo





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Steele County Fair 2016

Purple Ribbon Club's fair feast to support 4-H



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Members of the Purple Ribbon Club serve fairgoers a feast of corn, cookies, and pork chops at the 4-H grill during the Steele County Fair on August 11, 2016. The club is raising money for local 4-H participants.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Dakota Thiele cuts the ends off of the cobs of corn for the Purple Ribbon Club's event at the Steele County Fair on August 19, 2016. The club is raising money for local 4-H participants.

By JOSHUA ZIMMER
Staff Editor

When you think of a feast at the county fair, I'm confident the first thing that pops into your head is the snacking of various food vendors that are strategically placed throughout the grounds. However, one meal that surely would have been considered a feast was the grill-out put on by a local club in Owatonna.

The Purple Ribbon Club held their annual corn feed at the Steele County Free Fair to support area kids who participate in 4-H events at the State Fair. One of the event's organizers, Angie Jensen, said that this is the last event that the club will hold prior to the State Fair.

"It can be expensive so we do a lot of fundraising. We've done retrofits, pancake breakfasts... All sorts of things like that before," she said.

The cost for a plate was eight dollars. The meal consisted of pork chops, virtually bottomless corn on the cob, cookies and lemonade to wash it all down. All the food was catered by the local Hy-Vee. The smell of the corn alone would make your mouth water just walking by.

She also explained that the reasoning behind raising the money for the kids is because cost. See, when kids go to the state fair, they have a chance to be rewarded a purple ribbon depending on the event they are participating in.

Although, the county has to buy back the ribbon, which sometimes can become an expensive item.

"With the county having to buy back the ribbon, the funds will help with any expenses that they may come across," added Jensen.

Jensen continued that in the beginning, the fundraisers were originally designed for the kids who had livestock in the 4-H events but decided to expand on all events shortly thereafter.

Some of the 4-H livestock events that local kids will be able to compete in are cattle, sheep and poultry events. They also have a chance to show their swine, to include Boer and dairy goats as well as their horses.

Kids who participate with events donning their horse can compete in numerous events throughout the week. The money comes in for those who receive a purple ribbon. Jensen said that the monetary benefit would be different for each kid. Some who receive ribbons would receive \$25 as well as those in the livestock shows that did not happen to receive one in the livestock events.

The lucky few who have their animals make the auction, would receive a larger benefit, according to Jensen. Jensen said that despite supporting the 4-H, they are needed a separate affiliation in order to do some of the events they planned.

"Under 4-H, there are stricter policies and guidelines you have to follow with fundraising," she said.

So eight years ago, Purple Ribbon became a non-profit, allowing them to sell raffle tickets. The raffle tickets were \$20 and gave those who purchased them the chance to win up to \$1,000.

Those vying for a chance to receive purple ribbons will be in St. Paul on August 25 through September 5.



Staff photo by Josh Zimmer

Members of the Purple Ribbon Club husk corn as part of their preparations for the club's event on August 19, 2016. The club is raising money for local 4-H participants.

4-H Auction

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Saturday morning members of local 4-H clubs and their families gathered for the annual 4-H Ribbon Auction.

The auction serves as an opportunity for local businesses to show their support for 4-H by bidding on the ribbons won by different kids during the fair. The event is something of a cotillion for cattle. One at a time the kids bring out their ribbon and prize winning animal for a quick promenade around the show ring before the bidding commences. The proceeds from the auction go to support the club to which that kid is a member.

Over a 134 4-H members showed livestock ranging from massive dairy cows to a cage full of several rabbits. The animals were all in fine form, though a few were a little lively when it came time for their promenade, as a goose fluttered free from one girl's arms and a large steer kept kicking up sawdust at his young handler.

The rain outside didn't dissuade roughly 200 people from turning up to watch the auction and place their bids. Dozens of businesses from the Blooming Prairie and Owatonna Bus companies to the Steele County Free Fair itself placed bids ranging from a few hundred to a couple thousand. The first three ribbons up for auction were each sold for over \$2,000. Joseph Stravinsky's steer and Abby Wilker's pig took \$2,400 each.

The auction is also an opportunity for the public to see the different animals that will be representing Steele County at the state fair. Several steers will be at the state fair including ones raised by Elizabeth Buck, Jacob Katzung, and Lex Lewison.

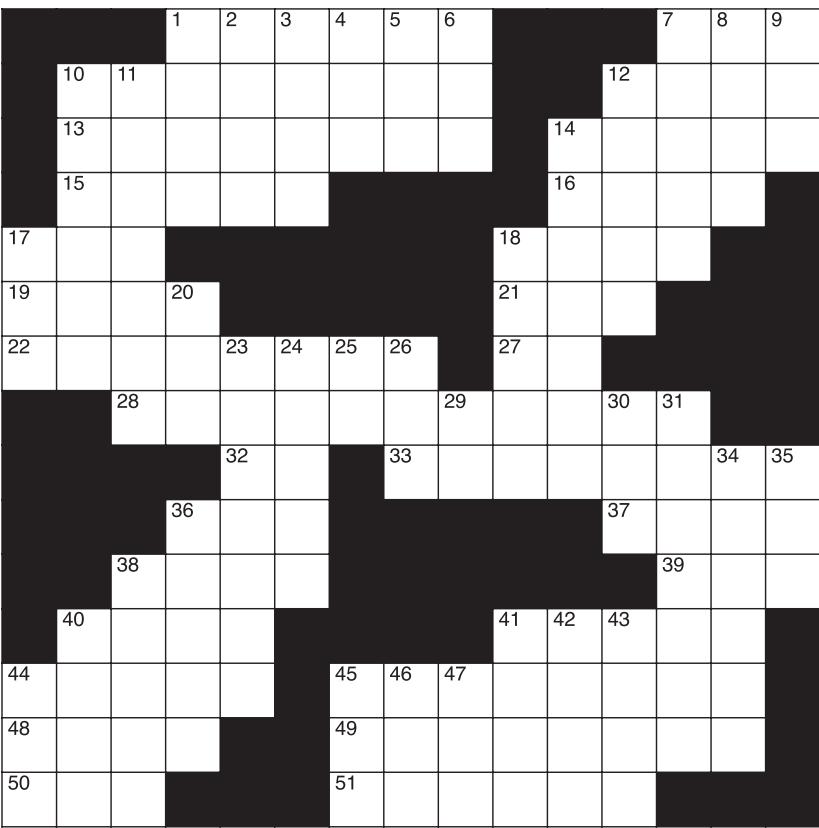
Despite the weather, this year's auction was a success bringing in over \$75,000 for county 4-H clubs.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

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- Be later in time
- Woman
- A type of protection
- Conservative people
- Bela __, Hungarian Leader
- Rodent
- Gloss or sheen
- Looks good in clothes
- Stephen Malkmus' band
- Org. of C. American States
- Doorways are some



- Cattle genus
- Rock bands play them

CLUES DOWN

- Indigenous people of Norway
- Not odd
- Ring
- Adam is one
- Champion Volunteer QB
- The smartest Ed
- Fast cats
- Two-toed sloth
- ___ humbug!
- Investigator
- Explosive warhead
- Wrap
- Hidden meaning
- Reciprocal of a sine
- Go with pains
- Small constellation
- Prohibited
- Blocks
- Home to Boston (abbr.)
- Small viper
- Toward
- Promotional materials
- Plundering and destroying
- Provokes
- One point north of due east
- Freshwater fishes
- Male parents
- Little (Spanish)
- Sean __, actor
- Bowfin fish
- Large integers
- An association of criminals
- Genus of grasses
- Annual percentage rate
- Mechanical belt

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Steele County Fair 2016

He flies through the air with the greatest of speed



David Smith Jr., or “The Bullet,” as he’s more famously known for, stands in front of his cannon at the Steele County Free Fair on August 19. Smith Jr is a second generation human cannonball, following in the footsteps of his father. Staff photo by Mark Delap

By MARK DELAP
Managing Editor

An explosion erupted on the midway this past week at the Steele County Free Fair. There were no injuries, but the blast did send a man flying 150 feet over the amusement ride “The Yo-Yo.” Fortunately for him, he landed in a huge net suspended 20 feet above the ground.

They call him “The Bullet” and he describes his job description as a second generation human cannon ball. At 39 years of age, David Smith Jr. has flown over 7,000 missions. Each one

accomplished. Surprisingly, he has no concussion symptoms or hearing loss and for a middle-aged man, he is in remarkable physical shape.

Mentally? The jury is still out on that deliberation because the bullet has chosen one of the most dangerous professions known to mankind. He not only walks on the barrel of a cannon high above the ground with no net, he then climbs into and slides down the inside barrel of a cannon. He then subjects his body to explosion, and if that’s not enough, he goes from 0 to 60 in about two seconds time, flies 150 feet above the earth

where gravity eventually takes over, and he lands in a safety net that is supported only by four metal poles.

Smith’s father was a human cannonball who had been involved in the profession for 42 years. He flew death defying acts until almost 70 years of age until he rests comfortably in the mountains of Utah. Something about living up high that was part of his DNA one would suppose.

In addition to flying from the cannons, the elder smith also built eight cannons in his career, all of which are still fully functional today. The projectile would, in fact, at the

Steele County shows be shot out of cannon number eight.

While attending graduate school at Utah State, Smith’s parents met, fell in love and his father who was a gymnast in college, began teaching school. One day a call came with an invitation to quit his teaching job and become a part of a flying trapeze act that was touring the country. The couple sold everything they owned, ran away to join the circus and never looked back.

“I grew up mostly in the circus business,” Smith said. “In the past 20 years, I have taken the cannon out of the circus and have taken it solo

all over the world.” Smith has expanded the scope of venue from circuses to fairs, baseball games, concerts and much more.

Smith expanded the vision and is now living the dream that his dad instilled in him. He had done a couple of practice shoots as a kid, but really didn’t actually morph into a cannon ball until he was 19 years old.

“I’ve had a life of non-stop travel, and when I was 19 my dad called me and told me that he had injured his back and that he needed me to come in and start learning,” Smith said. “It was just a small show he was working on. I had three days

notice to drop what I was doing, go cross country and climb into a cannon for the first time in a show, and that’s what I did.”

Although Smith has never had a crippling injury, he casually stated that it is a rough sport and he has all kinds of sore spots and after 20 years and thousands of shows, he said that it takes a toll.

“Last Tuesday I hurt my back doing a show in New York and I haven’t had that kind of pain in cannon shots for a long time,” Smith commented. “So I got up and realized it was muscular in nature and went off to a new chiropractor because I had a show to do. I’ve seen about 50 chiropractors.”

Unlike normal nine-to-five jobs, Smith can’t just call in sick or take a day off when a performance is scheduled. He has been faithful to show up to every performance he has booked for 20 years. He has never missed a scheduled jump.

The worst accident that Smith has ever had was a time that his body tore through a worn net and he found himself waking up after being unconscious for eight minutes on the ground below the gaping hole. There were some broken ribs, but he taped himself up and the show went on.

It must go on. And it’s quite a show.

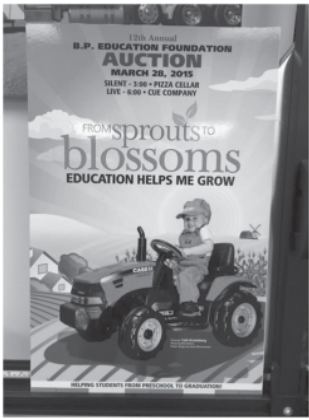
As for another generation of human cannon balls, Smith said that he has a son who is 10 years old and although he hasn’t jumped into his father’s flight pattern yet, he has inherited that addiction to adrenaline and in about ten more years, we may see a father-son cannon ball extravaganza.

The entire interview and a video of one of Smith’s jumps can be found at our Steele County Facebook page or at: youtube.com/watch?v=bMVaG_k952I

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Mountain hiking spurs champion 4-H project

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

Prompted by a summer job in the mountains of Colorado, a Steele County 4-Her has created a safety project to educate others about keeping safe while hiking.

Abigail Bendorf of Owatonna had limited time to put together her project as she returned home just a day before fair judging after spending 12 weeks this summer as a counselor for the Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp near Fort Collins, Colo. But having a short time to put together the project didn’t stop her from earning a grand champion in the safety area in the 4-H competition at the Steele County Fair.

“I didn’t prepare for it much, but I had been living it for 12 weeks,” Bendorf said. She added that she didn’t want to miss entering in the fair because she loves 4-H so much.

For her efforts, she qualified for a state fair trip, but declined because she will be heading back to college in Wisconsin next week.

The safety project turned out to be Bendorf’s favorite project. “I learned the most about it,” she said. “And I dedicated my summer to it and was really proud of myself,”

she added.

She made a modified backpack stuffed with lifesaving items needed to survive mountain climbing. Bendorf stressed the various items hikers should have on their trips. Some of them included: radio, rain gear, headlamp, sunscreen, water bottles, chap stick, first aid kit, water filter, watch and moleskin, which prevents blisters on your feet.

“This is one of the best projects I’ve ever done,” Bendorf said. “It’s one that I’ve had the most passion for.”

Bendorf used her project as a way to portray her knowledge of backpacking for others. “A lot of people love to hike, but they don’t know what to pack,” she said.

She stresses the number one rule in the mountains is to drink lots of water. “You need to always be drinking water,” Bendorf said. “You’re sweating out a lot by going up in elevation quickly.”

As for the summer job, Bendorf headed into the mountains for the entire 12 weeks with a 75-pound backpack strapped to her. She came down only twice during that period for a short time.

She was as high as 11,500 feet in elevation. “The views were amazing,” she said.

“It’s very stress relieving to go up in the mountains,” said Bendorf, who is an 11-year member of the Meriden Meadowlarks 4-H Club. “We had no internet or no cell phone service. I loved it. I didn’t have to worry about anything,” she said.

Climbing the mountains proved to be a physical challenge for Bendorf. “I love being in nature,” she says. “It’s really peaceful and I love challenging myself to see how fast I can do it.”

Bendorf said the fun about being a camp counselor is not knowing what will happen. She had to deal with kids who got elevation sickness on the first night of hiking. She also got everyone lost one day, though she never let on to the kids about being lost.

This year’s fair wrapped up Bendorf’s final year in the 4-H program. She is majoring in industrial engineering at the University of Wisconsin at Platteville.



Abigail Bendorf of the Meriden Meadowlarks 4-H Club earned a grand champion with her safety project. She qualified for the state fair, but declined to go because she is heading back to college next week. Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Grow, sew & show it in 2016!
Steele County Fair
August 16-21, 2016

Top - The big Steele wheel keeps rollin'; proud folks keep on goin.'

Middle - "Hi guys!" Sisters Oriana and Violet Jewissn had fun at the Steele County Free Fair in Owatonna visiting with some friendly goats. Oriana is 6 and Violet is 3. Both are from Waseca.

Middle - Miner's Outdoor & Rec of Blooming Prairie was a favorite place for these two youngsters who try out one of the lawn vehicles. Grabbing the wheel are Reed Gaulrapp and Lily Gaurapp. Lily is the granddaughter of Jack and Darlene Noble, Owatonna.



Staff photo by Mark DeLap



Staff photo by Karen Jorgensen



Staff photo by Karen Jorgensen



Below left: Elizabeth Roesner, 11, of Owatonna took a break from showing in 4-H and enjoyed the new climbing tower at this year's fair. She gave it her best shot, but did not make it to the top.

Below center: Polka music is alive and well with the Marv Nissel Band of New Ulm performing Saturday afternoon at the fair. The band features Marv's 10-year-old grandson, Christopher, playing the drums.

Below right: Outfitted with a chicken hat, Thank A Farmer founder Joyce Rice Ross dazzled crowds with her program, which features interactive and fun education that teaches the importance of farmers' contributions for a healthy population and economy.



Staff photos by Rick Bussler



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Grow, sew & show it in 2016!
Steele County Fair
August 16-21, 2016



Staff photos by Rick Bussler



Texas Ranger Stanley is the newest addition to the fair's mascots. Stanley joins his long lost relatives, Steely and Stella.

Fairgoers enjoyed looking at trucks in the Wells Fargo Museum. An elderly man takes a peak at a 1917 Ford Model T pick-up.

Keeping old time music alive has been Luverne Wanous' passion for more than 60 years at the fair. He had retired once from the fair in 2014, but that only lasted a year and now he's back performing as he has for decades.



Staff photo by Rick Bussler



Staff photo by Mark DeLap

A daddy daughter ride on the midway provides a special kind of bonding.



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Old-time music attracted fairgoers to dance at Fair Square Park. Joan Kaiser and Alvin Gilbertson, both of Owatonna, enjoyed dancing while listening to the Marv Nissel Band Saturday afternoon.



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Weston Johnson of Blooming Prairie captured first place in the Kids' Pedal Pull Saturday at the fair. He finished the contest with a distance of almost 23 feet.



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Steele County Fair 2016

Blue ribbon dinner for midway workers

By RICK BUSSLER
Publisher

Midway workers are often on the road for weeks at a time so the chances for a home-cooked meal are few and far in between.

Recognizing that need, several area churches came together to offer a blue ribbon dinner for the workers on the night before the fair opened. And they turned the fair's beer garden into a mission field at the same time.

"It's a nice way to kick off the fair," said organizer Cheryl Deason, a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna. "What a great welcome and outreach to them."

About 200 Midway workers took advantage of the pasta dinner catered by Hy-Vee and served by volunteers from three churches, including

Trinity, Good Shepard and Christ Community Covenant. Trinity and Good Shepard picked up the cost of the dinner.

"You can't beat a homemade meal," said Renaldo Jones, who was one of the workers enjoying the meal. "I'll be talking about this for a long time. It's all gravy today," he said, adding he's never seen anything like this before.

To Deason's knowledge, Steele is the only fair that offers a meal for the carnies.

But it's not only about free food.

For Deason, the fair meal is a great ministry opportunity for the churches. "I just love seeing our community pull together to welcome people," she said. "It's a great partnership to serve others that may be strangers and hope that

it has an impact on them," she added.

"Many of them may have little faith backgrounds," Deason said, "So we hope this touches them and they have a positive experience with a church."

In addition to food, the churches provide conversation to the workers who come through the serving lines. "We want to seem welcoming, but not intimidating," Deason said.

Last year, Deason witnessed a table of 18 and 19 year olds grabbing hands and praying together. "That makes me feel like we're touching people," she said, adding it's all about developing personal relationships with people.

"Faith doesn't have any boundaries," Deason says. "Serving others is a big

premise of that."

Dewayne Erickson of Owatonna represented the Gideons by offering New Testament Bibles at the door. "I'm a Christian and it's all about helping people out and hope for the future," said Erickson, who has been volunteering at the fair dinner for three years.

Pastor Brent Carlson of Christ Community Covenant said the dinner is a great opportunity "to offer the love of Christ to all who come."

Carlson said carnival workers are busy serving fairgoers throughout the entire fair. "They're here to serve us and we wanted to do something to serve them as we welcome them to our community," he said. "We're here to encourage and pray for them," he added.



Staff photo by Rick Bussler

Volunteers from three area churches, including Trinity Lutheran, Good Shepard and Christ Community Covenant, came together on the night before the fair opened to serve a homemade meal to about 200 carnival workers in the beer garden on the fairgrounds. Steele is believed to be the only fair that offers a free meal for carnies. The churches have been providing the meal, along with Christian fellowship, for about 10 years.

Sheriff's Posse newest member of Equine Hall of Fame



Staff photo by Karen Jorgensen

Patrick McCarthy presented Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele with a plaque recognizing the Sheriff's Mounted Posse as the newest member of the Equine Hall of Fame. The posse was organized 50 years ago

By KAREN JORGENSEN
County Staff Writer

Sometimes the latest technology is not the best solution. Sometimes a more "old-fashioned" approach works better. Sometimes a horse and rider is better

at controlling a crowd or patrolling an event than a squad car.

With that in mind, the Steele County Mounted Sheriff's Posse and Auxiliary, celebrating its 50 anniversary, was officially inducted into the Equine Hall of Fame last week

at the Steele County Free Fair. Pat McCarthy of the Hall of Fame Committee, did the honors last Tuesday afternoon as Sheriff Lon Thiele and posse members gathered for the program.

This marks the ninth year of recognizing leadership and

achievement in the equine world, Murphy said.

The Steele County Posse was formed in 1966, Murphy said, the third such group in the state and the first to have an auxiliary.

The posse members, he said, give countless hours during the fair to patrolling the grounds at night and protecting the livestock and during the rest of the year in helping the Sheriff's Office in a variety of ways.

They are on the scene with their horses in situations where horses can get where a squad car or ATV cannot go, for crowd control, assisting in securing crime and accident scenes and search and rescue duties.

A number of years ago, he said, the posse helped in the search for Jacob Wetterling when he was kidnapped.

"It's a great organization that gives countless hours of service," he said.

Both riders and horses are fully trained to react in many situations, said 1st Lt. Jodi Briant.

They have mandatory first aid and CPR training, practice search and rescue scenarios and training in the use of force, both on the ground and

on horseback. The horses are also trained, she said, learning to adapt to many scenarios including helicopter landings.

Although they are deputies, she said, they do not carry weapons and rely on their horses to control the situation.

"Even in today's high tech world," McCarthy added, "the posse demonstrates the utility of the horse."

The posse was officially organized in January 1966 under the leadership of Sheriff Buf Coufal. In addition to Coufal, the charter members included Buzz Cummins, Palmer Johnson, Robert J. Klemmer, Paul Mueller, Carl R. Quimby and William O. Skaar.

Coufal led the organization until 1979 when Wes Wilker took over the sheriff duties. Sheriff Bill Hildebrandt took over the program in 1983 until 2000 when Gary Ringhofer became sheriff. Rignhofer served as sheriff through 2010 until Lon Thiele taking over in 2011.

Thiele told the crowd that he had grown up on a dairy farm and knew nothing about horses.

Upon assuming the duties as sheriff he was informed he was the leader of the posse and

therefore had to learn to ride a horse.

He was told he could not lead the group driving a four-wheeler; he was a member of the posse and that meant a horse.

Capt. Joe Schwering got him on a horse, he said, a very well trained horse and he learned to ride.

"It is so nice being part of an organization that takes pride in representing Steele County," Thiele said. "I am very proud to call them my friends."

The Steele County Mounted Posse is a nonprofit organization that maintains a sense of civic responsibility through activities such as wagon trains, directing traffic and the Steele Waseca Co-operative Electric annual meeting.

They also participate in Shop with a Cop where they are given money to take a child shopping for necessary school supplies. They also participate in a children's safety camp and ride in numerous parades.

Among the groups fund raising activities are the annual pancake breakfast, the Minnesota Sheriff's Mounted Posse Association's wagon train and the MSMPA convention.

Marv Nissel Band brings polka to beer garden

By HANNAH BATES
Staff Writer

Once again, the Marv Nissel Band made sure that there was no shortage of polka at the Steele County Fair.

The New Ulm-based Marv Nissel Band is a band with a lot of history behind them. Shortly after Marv and Carol Nissel got married, the pair did something familiar to them. They started a band.

"We were both from musical families, and now we've been going for about 52 years," Carol said.

The Marv Nissel Band is

a polka variety band. The couple chose to play polka because that is the kind of music with which they grew up.

Fifty-two years after the band was formed, it is still going strong today. Over the years, the Nissels would add new members to their band. As their family grew, so did the Marv Nissel band. When Marv and Carol's children grew old enough to play in the band, they did.

Their daughter Lori still plays is still a part of the Marv Nissel band lineup. Their daughter Jodi, who moved

to Wisconsin, does not play with the band as regularly as she formerly did, but she still plays with them occasionally.

The band features Marv Nissel on the concertina. Carol plays keyboard, bass, piano and sings. Lori plays trumpet, fiddle, concertina, drums and sings.

As younger family members grow old enough, the Marv Nissel band is still adding new members. Recently, Marv and Carol's ten-year-old grandson, Christopher, joined the band. Christopher, who has played drums since he was 4 years old, now occasionally

plays drums with the Marv Nissel band.

During one of their Saturday afternoon Steele County Fair performance, Christopher would occasionally switch places with Lori, taking short breaks from playing the drums. But he had no problem keeping the beat for the Marv Nissel Band during the show.

Everyone put all of their different musical talents on display at the Steele County Fair. Marv spent the show seated front and center with his concertina, sitting behind a Marv Nissel Band banner. Lori would switch from

trumpet to drums to fiddle, or Carol would take on the vocals in some of the songs.

The Marv Nissel band performances were located in the fair's beer garden. While most of the concertgoers stayed seated at tables and sipped on their drinks, the occasional couple would get to dancing in front of the band. The indoor performance guaranteed that polka dancers would not slip and fall on the ground outside. The ground, made muddy by the previous night's heavy rainfall, would not have been the safest place for people to polka dance.

This time of year is one of the busiest times for the Marv Nissel Band. Carol estimates that they play 10-12 shows every month, and many of these shows are played at a variety of venues and events. The band has always played at the Steele County Fair, Carol mentioned. Fairs are just one of the types of event they frequently play, along with casinos, festivals, church festivals and senior dances. The Nissels also make time to host a radio show on KNUJ.

Parade of Champions at fair

By KYLIE RICE
Staff Writer

Almost 100 people crowded into the hot tin barn, located between the livestock pavilion and the cattle barns on Sunday, August 21, 2016. They were there to support the 4-Hers, who were receiving their plaques and prizes for showing, and for their excellent 4-H project exhibits. This is the Parade of Champions.

At promptly 3:00, the 'parade' began! The show started with the poultry showers, and went through all

of the divisions to end with the Herdsmanship section.

"I was very nervous," Bo Zwiener, 9, of Blooming Prairie, said. "But it went well." For the young 4-Her in his first year showing at the county fair, he did well indeed. Zwiener took home a plaque for Junior Shop. He won this plaque by scoring Champion there, for his yard art that showed his Blooming Prairie Blossoms pride. "It took me two days to make this." He said with a charming grin. "I live in Blooming Prairie, so I wanted it to show that. I made sure a flower was

on it!"

The parade gives awards, which are sponsored by various families and business' in the community, to the children. Jenna Klecker, of Owatonna, took home a reward for Champion Market Barrow. "4-H has taught me a lot in the three years I've participated in it." She says. "But most of all it taught me to never quit; to never give up. It's always worth it in the end."

Animals and Shop projects were not the only participants there, though. For those who wanted a more educational

choice of project, there were many other options to compete in. Erin O'Brien, 13, competed in Senior Veterinary Science, in which she won Champion. Her project was on a veterinary procedure, of which she made an informational poster board. O'Brien, who has been in 4-H for 7 or 8 years now, says that 4-H has taught her many things. "Most of all, 4-H has taught me to have good sportsmanship. There are times when you won't do so well, but that's okay. As long as you have a good attitude, you'll come out fine."



Staff photo by Kylie Rice

Bo Zwiener, 9, holds his award for Champion Junior Shop.

Steele County Fair 2016

Bands battle at the fair

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

The 15th annual Battle of the Bands commenced Wednesday evening inside the fair’s grandstand.

Five bands faced off for the mantles of People’s choice and Judge’s choice. The bands played largely metal and rock music, though one had more country roots.

Last Breath For a Capulet, a local metal band, opened the battle. Fans pressed up against the stand’s railing, as they tried to get as close to the musicians as they could. Close proximity, however, wasn’t necessary to feel the band’s music vibrating through the seats of the stadium. They closed their allotted 15 minute set by throwing a piñata into the crowd during their final number.

The band More House followed, though they announced at the opening of their set they would now be going by Sick Society. The band was by far the most rock ’n roll. They steered clear of metal songs and

preferred a more traditional rock sound. Decked out in a homemade shirt that read “crazy & unstable”, their lead singer poured out music from his guitar ironically plastered with anti-vaccination and Trump stickers. He invited the audience to sing along with him when the band played rock classic “I Hate Everything About You”.

Once they finished their formal set, the lead singer said he had someone he needed to invite onstage to thank for being in his life. He proceeded to bring his young daughter up and sing her a lullaby.

Discord Curse was third in the line-up and brought local Derek Petricka back up onstage. Patrick had earlier played guitar for Last Breath For a Capulet as well. This metal band had audience members mosh pitting and screaming along, as the lead singer for the band, Antonio Jandro, commanded, “Everybody jump!”

It was the band’s second time at the fair’s battle for the bands. This time around they were plagued with a

few microphone problems. When Jandro’s mic cut out, he jumped into the crowd and finished out the song thrashing with the crowd. His mic was back in working order in time for the group’s final song, “Tempest”.

Bringing a little country to the night, Just Mirlyn had the challenge of following up Discord Curse. The tech problems persisted when they tried to start their set, so they took a quick break, while Chris Brooks and The Silver City Boys, the grandstand’s headliner that was warming up, played a quick song.

Once the technical issues were resolved, Just Mirlyn slowed things down a bit with some good old-fashioned summer country jams.

Closing the battle, The 9th Planet Out began their elaborate set-up that included not just their instruments but black boxes for them to stand on, a smoke machine, and devices that intermittently shot up fire.

Clad all in white, the band led an enthusiastic audience in some lighter metal songs

with a rock flare. Sitting in the stands, the crowd could feel the heatwaves radiating from the special effects, as lead singer, Greyson Serie, spit out lyrics at a mile a minute.

After the set wrapped up, it was time to turn the night over to the judges and the audience. Judging the battle this year was Owatonna City Council member, Nathan Dotson,

Sheriff Lon Thiele, Music Festival Organizer Jon Lynch, Molly Penny of Led Penny, and her husband Wesley Johnson, a former winner of the fair’s battle.

Before the judges handed off their verdict, the MC asked the bands to gather onstage. He went down the list of bands that had battled that night asking audience members to

cheer for who they thought had performed the best.

While every band got some applause, the People’s choice award was decided by the massive way of applause that sent 9th Planet Out clear into first place. Following up that win, for the second time only in the Battle of the Band’s history, the People’s choice was the Judge’s choice as well.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Drummer Clay Ebertowski and bass player Nick Wanek pump up the crowd as they cheer for the People’s Choice award. They and the rest of the members of 9th Planet Out would win both the People’s Choice and Judge’s choice.

Bluegrass grows strong at the fair

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

For the eleventh year in a row, Bluegrass Review took the stage for its only performance day of the year.

The band, dedicated to bringing the heart of bluegrass to the fair, performed two shows from The United Prairie Bank Stage for audience members on Wednesday. From the shade and surrounding picnic tables, fairgoers could listen to the nearly hour long set the group played.

The band is made up of five members. Local man, Bruce Bernhardt, plays the mandolin for the group he founded. The rest of the members belong to

Switched at Birth, a bluegrass band out of the Twin Cities.

Pam Kolupailo serves as lead vocals as well as playing guitar, while Noel Holloway plays a standing base, and Rick Anderson takes a turn at the banjo. Katie-jo Pidel, the youngest member, rounds out the ensemble with her fiddle. They are all members of The Minnesota Bluegrass All-time Music Association.

The band was founded 11 years ago when Bernhardt was offered the chance to perform at the fair. He invited his friends of Switched at Birth to join him, and thus a yearly tradition was born.

The one-day-a-year band does not rehearse before their performances. They say that

each of them plays frequently enough with other groups that they already know all of the songs they’ll play on the day of the fair.

Their playlist includes bluegrass staples like “Orange Blossom Special” and “Roll in My Sweet Baby’s Arms.” Songs from the soundtrack of “Brother Where Art Thou” make for crowd favorites. As the band’s own particular calling card, Kolupailo yodels in several songs such as “When the Cactus Bloom”.

Fairgoers who missed them this year won’t be able to catch them all together anytime soon, but they can take solace in knowing the band will be back next year.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Bluegrass Review plays for an afternoon audience on The United Prairie Bank Stage. They were one of several rotating acts for the day.

Led Penny Band rocks the Steele County Fair

By JOSHUA ZIMMER
Staff Editor

One of the more prominent attractions at the Steele County Fair is the musical talent that has been on display since the grounds were open to the public. There have been over 80 musicians that have electrified fairgoers on three stages. However, one band that performed showed that the fair is all about family interactions.

The Led Penny Band rocked the beer gardens at the Steele County Fair this past Saturday. The band is a local band that plays gigs throughout southern Minnesota. The best part is that the band is formed is one, big family. Tim Penny said the band has been coming to the fair for almost 10 years now because of the exposure.

“It’s a great venue. The beer gardens have bands playing all week long and its always a great crowd,” he explained.

The band is comprised of Tim Penny as the acoustic rhythm guitar. His son, Marcus plays the bass. Dan Penny, who is Tim’s brother, plays the electric rhythm guitar. His son, Shawn is the group’s lead guitarist and his son Logan plays the keyboard. The band was started in 2000 and his brother Dan said that it is really a culmination of previous musical experiences.

“It goes ways back. In high school, Tim had a band. I had a band and each of our sons had a band,” He said.

Tim said that when the band first started out playing gigs, they were geared toward community events and fundraisers. During a community event the band was playing at, that was when Tim said they first got the idea that the band could be much more.

“During the event, we thought maybe we could turn this into a bar band. One thing lead to another and we’ve been rolling for 15 to 16 years now,” Tim said.

In fact, while Tim was preparing to run for Governor in 2002, the band played several gigs for the campaign and just kept going. After his 20 years of service as a politician in Washington, Tim returned to southern Minnesota and is currently the president of the Southern Minnesota Foundation.

The band rocked the gardens for nearly four hours, playing some of the biggest hits in the world of classic rock. From the Beatles of the 1960’s to CCR and ZZ Top of the 1980’s, there was no shortage of great music. They even played some Rick Springfield and the Cars.

“We try to pick music and songs that will get people tapping their feet or getting

them up out of their seats to shake it for a bit,” Dan smiled.

Tim reiterated with his brother’s take by adding that they are not selection “B side” songs during the respective eras they draw music from.

“Every song we play is a top 10 song from when it was popular so everyone knows them well,” he added.

As for playing with family members, Dan chuckled when asked the emotions that go into playing in a family band.

“We have our moments sure but it’s a fairly cool experience,” he added.

Tim also said that there’s something to be said about family voicing blending to melodies.

“We all have the same genes, so we can blend pretty well on harmonies or melodies,” he added.

They both also mentioned that while Shawn takes the reigns on the majority of songs, they get their fair share of chances to take a hold of the lead vocals.

Starting in the fall, you can go see the band at the Eagles club in Owatonna on every second Thursday during the fall.

“We try to play once or twice a month but try to not play during the winter. Dan I and don’t enjoy lugging around on the ice,” Tim chuckled.

Stanley’s band takes the bandstand

By EMILY SCHOENBECK
County Staff Writer

Back for their annual county fair performance, The Stanley Koslosky Band brought their polka music to the KRFO stage Saturday afternoon.

The six man band includes its founder Stanley Koslosky, his father Bernie on the trumpet, drummer Alex Qunel, bass guitarist and accordionist Gene Retak, concertina player Todd Jurek, and Josh Eidsor, who subbed in with his concertina for regular member Dick Powell.

The band played polish polka favorites like “Scotch on the rocks” and “Undreaming” with Bernie Koslosky singing lead when he wasn’t playing the trumpet. Since Eidsor was the guest musician, the band

gave him several solos with concertina focused songs such as “Climbing the Beehive”.

The music was well received by the crowd with several audience members getting up to polka. For the last half of their set, a song didn’t pass without at least one couple getting up to dance.

The big story in the band is the young man its named after. Stanley Koslosky has been playing instruments since he was four years old. After he won the county fair talent show at age seven, he was invited back to play at the fair again the next year. He asked his father and several friends to play with him, and they were so well received they’ve been asked back every year since. This is their tenth year at the fair.

Stanley plays both fiddle and bass for the band, but says he can also play the saxophone and piano. When asked how he started playing such a unique genre of music at such a young age, Stanley answered that it was the music his parents played and what he had grown up with. His favorite song is “Lightening Strikes” which that band played that afternoon.

This might be Stanley’s last year at the fair for awhile, as his plans for the future are uncertain. He’ll be spending the next year living and working in New Zealand before he returns to the US to attend college presumably in Minnesota. Stanley isn’t sure if he’ll pursue music professional, but says it’s something he’ll “always have for himself”.



Staff photo by Emily Schoenbeck

Stanley Koslosky plays the fiddle with his band as crowd members dance a polka. Th band has played at the fair for over a decade.



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Steele County Fair

August 16-21, 2016





Top: Splish, Splash, I was taking a bath... Ericka Jaster, 7, of Medford may not be singing, but definitely concentrated hard as she scrubbed her calf, Shelly, in preparation for showing. Ericka is a second year Clover Bud with the Medford Go-Getters.
Center: Two young girls dared the stomach stretcher at the midway.
Center left: The Lumberjack Show is always one of the crowd pleasers at the fair.
Center right: Some young boys flexed their muscle while doing pull-ups at the fair Saturday.



To see more fair photos, go to www.facebook.com/BusslerPublication



Above: Jada Cole, 12, of Owatonna enjoyed splashing around in a bubble in the midway Saturday afternoon.
Right: Husking corn became a chore for many 4-H members Saturday in preparation for a corn feed at the 4-H Diner. Jacob Katzung and Ali Brown, both members of the Meriden Meadowlarks, assisted in husking about 500 cobs of corn.



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For the love of the fair, Steely and Stella enjoy a romantic moment during the opening ceremony of the fair.



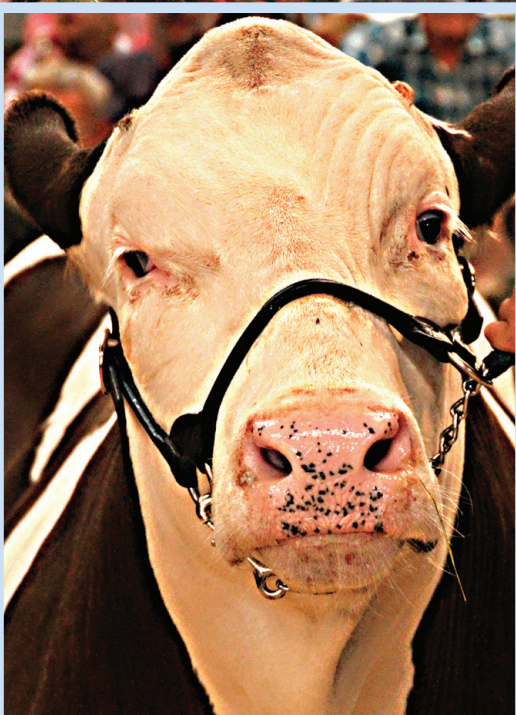
Staff photo by Mark DeLap



Center: Fair-goers were treated to a beautiful double rainbow that hung over the entire Steele County Fairgrounds on Saturday night, signaling an end to the rain.

Lower left: It proved to be a soggy mess for exhibitors to get around Saturday. Milo Dahlin carries a large umbrella as his son leads a goat into the 4-H Livestock Auction.

Lower center: Big Ben and The Brians Concertina Band performed Saturday at the fair.



Staff photos by Rick Bussler

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Steele County 4-H General Exhibits Results

Aerospace:
Champion—Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers; Reserve—Ethan Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Bicycle:
Champion—Oliver Hansen, Happy Hustlers; Reserve—Ethan Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Purple—John Pfeifer, Pratt Commandoes.

Cat:
Champion—Melanie Winzenburg, Merry Lane; Reserve—Addison Poe, Deerfield Get There.

Child Development:
Junior Champion—Derek Klecker, Happy Hustlers; Junior Reserve—Nicole Behne, Happy Hustlers; Senior Champion—Brianna O'Connor, Deerfield Get There; Senior Reserve—Elizabeth Prostrollo, Pratt Commandoes; Purples—Becca Zollner, Pratt Commandoes and Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers.

Clothes You Buy:
Junior Champion—Nicole Behne, Happy Hustlers; Junior Reserve—Jenna Klecker, Straight River Stars; Senior Champion—Baylee Sorensen, Merry Lane and Senior Reserve—Brianna O'Connor, Deerfield Get There.



Anna Mollenhauer, 9, with her champion of revue clothes.

Clothes You Make:
Champion—Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There an Reserve—Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Club Banner:
Champion—Deerfield Get There and Reserve—Pratt Commandoes.

Club Go-For (Gopher) Display:
Champion—Happy Hustlers; Reserve—Pratt Commandoes.

Club Project – Container Garden:
Champion—Ellendale Hustlers; Reserve—Medford Go Getters.

Club Scrapbook:
Champion—Happy Hustlers; Reserve—Straight River Stars.

Computer:
Champion—Elliot Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Reserve—Derek Klecker, Happy Hustlers.

Crafts:
Junior Champion—Joshua Bluhm, Deerfield Get There; Junior Reserve—Nicole Behne, Happy Hustlers; Senior Champion—Katla Michaelson, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Senior Reserves—Kalyn Naatz, Merry Lane and Zach Sisler, Straight River Stars; Purples—Addison Poe, Deerfield Get There; Teagan Sutter, Merry Lane; Katelyn Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Tatum Smith Vulcan, Record Busters; Ty Forystek, Merry Lane; Trinity Smith Vulcan, Record Busters; Gabrielle Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; Hannah Fessel, Medford Go

Getters; Journey Utpadel, Ellendale Hustlers; Maren Forystek, Merry Lane; Abigail Bendorf, Meriden Meadowlarks; Brianna O'Connor, Deerfield Get There; Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks; Cassandra Borwege, Deerfield Get There; Emily Haas, Happy Hustlers.

Demonstration:
Junior Champions—Anton Schroeder, Pratt Commandoes and Andrew Skov, Pratt Commandoes; Junior Reserve—Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks; Senior Champion—Gabriel Dahle, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Dog:
Champion—Katelyn Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Reserve—Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Electric:
Champion—Matthew Seykora, Straight River Stars; Reserve—Mitchell Seykora, Straight River Stars.

Engineering Robotics:
Champion and Reserve—Jace Katzung, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Entomology:
Champion—Emily Keck, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Reserve—Logan Stenzel, Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Anna Mollenhauer, Pratt Commandoes; Junior Reserve—Katlyn Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Champion—Hailey Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Senior Reserve—Katelyn Rysavy, Straight River Stars.

Fine Arts:
Junior Champion—Katlyn Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Junior Reserve—Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Champion—Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Senior Reserve—Katla Michaelson, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Purples—Elliot Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars; Rebecca Bendorf, Meriden Meadowlarks; Melanie Winzenburg, Merry Lane; Jarrett Larson, Merry Lane; Cassandra Borwege, Deerfield Get There; Michelle Honsey, Medford Go Getters; Greta Jacobson, Meriden Meadowlarks; Hannah Schull, Medford Go Getters; Marissa Larson, Merry Lane; Josh Nechanicky, Meriden Meadowlarks; Rachel Winzenburg, Merry Lane; Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers; Gabrielle Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; Ruth Weckman, Straight River Stars; Ashlynn Schwering, Deerfield Get There; Anton Schroeder, Pratt Commandoes.

Fishing Sports:
Junior Champion—Sean O'Brien, Merry Lane; Junior Reserve—Ethan Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Champion—Bailey Keck, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Reserve—Scott Weckman, Straight River Stars.

Flower Garden:
Junior Champion—Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers; Junior Reserve—Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks; Senior Champion—Logan Stenzel, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Senior Reserve—Madison Jaster, Medford Go Getters; Purples—Brooke Purrier, Medford Go Getters and Teagan Sutter, Merry Lane.

Food & Nutrition:
Junior Champion—Ali Slater, Meriden Meadowlarks; Junior Reserve—Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers; Senior Champion—Marissa Larson, Merry Lane; Senior Reserve—Grace Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Food Review:
Champion—Elizabeth Karl, Straight River Stars; Reserve—Kalyn Naatz, Merry Lane.

Food Preservation:
Junior Champion—Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers; Junior Reserve—Ruth Weckman, Straight River Stars; Senior Champion—Greta Jacobson, Meriden Meadowlarks; Senior Reserve—Michael Kanne, Deerfield Get There.

Forest Resources:
Champion—Carson Ahrens, Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Geology:
Champion—Charlie Tucker, Happy Hustlers;



Josie Lorenz, 12, Mary Lane 4-H, poultry project champion

Reserve—Cartier Oatway, Medford Go Getters.

Global Connections:



William Behne, 16, of Owatonna's lawn and landscape champion

Champion—Sarah Manderfeld, Medford Go Getters; Reserve—Abigail Hansen, Happy Hustlers.

Health:
Champion—Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers.

Home Environment:
Junior Champion—Jessica Willette, Happy Hustlers; Senior Champion—Mikayla Spinler, Deerfield Get There; Senior Reserve—Ethan Prokopec, Straight River Stars; Purples—Logan Stenzel, Owatonna Victory Boosters and Zach Ahrens, Straight River Stars.

Horseless Horse/Horse Related:
Junior Champion—Sierra Larson, Merry Lane; Reserve—Sarah Johns, Straight River Stars.

Indoor Gardening:
Junior Champion—Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Junior Reserve—Anastasia Carreon-Sorensen, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Senior Champion—Ethan Prokopec, Straight River Stars; Senior Reserve—Kiya Erler, Meriden Meadowlarks; Purples—Desiree Svoboda, Pratt Commandoes; Madison Prokopec, Straight River Stars; Sarah Manderfeld, Medford Go Getters.

Lawns, Landscape and Design:
Champion—William Behne, Happy Hustlers.

Needle Art:
Junior Champion and Reserve—Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers; Senior Champion and Reserve—Brody Jensen, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Performing Arts:
Champion—Greta Jacobson, Meriden Meadowlarks; Reserve—Jacob Pfeifer, Pratt Commandoes.

Pets:
Champion and Reserve—Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Elements of Photography:
Junior Champion—Anton Schroeder, Pratt Commandoes; Junior Reserves—Kiara Gentz, Happy Hustlers and Trinity Smith Vulcan, Record Busters.

Elements of Photography Intermediate:
Champion—Grace Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; Reserve—Melanie Winzenburg, Merry Lane.

Elements of Photography Senior:
Champion—Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Senior Reserve—Riley Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Creative / Applied Photography:
Junior Champion—Charlie Tucker, Happy Hustlers; Junior Reserve—Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Creative / Applied Photography Intermediate:
Champion—Baylee Sorensen, Merry Lane; Intermediate Reserve—Leah Tucker, Happy Hustlers.

Creative / Applied

Photography Senior:
Champion—Kalyn Naatz, Merry Lane; Senior Reserve—Jesse Oatway, Medford Go

Abby Munns, Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Self-Determined:
Junior Champion—Alexis Klecker, Straight River Stars; Junior Reserve—Annabelle Petsinger, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Champion—Brianna O'Connor, Deerfield Get There; Senior Reserve—Tristan Simon, Record Busters; Purples—Christian Sorensen, Merry Lane; Elliot Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; Aaron Dahlin, Ellendale Hustlers; Benjamin Hagen, Ellendale Hustlers; Isabella Katuin, Happy Hustlers.

Shooting Sports/Wildlife Management:
Junior Champion—Marcus Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Junior Reserve—Ashlynn Schwering, Deerfield Get There; Senior Champion—Bailey Keck, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Reserve—Tristan Simon, Record Busters.

Shop:
Junior Champion—Bo Zwiener, Merry Lane; Junior Reserve—Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Intermediate Champion—Zach Kubicek, Straight River Stars; Intermediate Reserve—Noah Kubicek, Straight River Stars; Senior Champion—Luke Kubicek, Straight River Stars; Senior Reserve—Cole Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Purples—William Behne, Happy Hustlers; Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Levi Kubicek, Straight River Stars; Leif Michaelson, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Alia Kubicek, Straight River Stars; Brandon Skala, Meriden



Brody Jensen, 13, champion of needle arts

Straight River Stars; Natalie Aaseth, Straight River Stars; Ashley Hagen, Ellendale Hustlers; Abby Munns, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Leah Tucker, Happy Hustlers; Logan Stenzel, Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Video/Filmmaking:
Champion—Elliot Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Reserve—Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars.

Crop Science:
Champion—Mikayla Spinler, Deerfield Get There; Reserve—Lucas Arndt, Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Plant and Soil Science:
Champion—Lucy Paschke, Medford Go Getters.

Potato:
Junior Champion—Ruth Weckman, Straight River Stars; Junior Reserve—Carson Ahrens, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Senior Champion—Hunter Jensen, Meriden Meadowlarks; Senior Reserve—Kalyn Naatz, Merry Lane.

Quilting:
Champion—Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; Reserve—Hailey Rysavy, Straight River Stars.

Safety:
Junior Champion—Cole Sheehan, Happy Hustlers; Senior Champion—Abigail Bendorf, Meriden Meadowlarks; Reserve—

Meadowlarks; Kaden Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Ruth Weckman, Straight River Stars; Caden Kubicek, Happy Hustlers.

Small Engines:
Champion—Oliver Hansen, Happy Hustlers.

Tractor:
Champion—Michael Kanne, Deerfield Get There.

Vegetable Garden/Fruit:
Junior Champion—Carson Ahrens, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Junior Reserve—Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Champion—Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Reserve—Matthew Bartness, Straight River Stars.

Veterinary Science:
Junior Champion—Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Junior Reserve—Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Senior Champion—Erin O'Brien, Merry Lane; Senior Reserve—Adrianna Bermea, Merry Lane.

Wildlife Biology:
Junior Champion—Derek Klecker, Happy Hustlers; Junior Reserve—Tatum Smith Vulcan, Record Busters; Senior Champion—Elliot Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Senior Reserve—Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Open Class Results will appear in next week's paper.

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FAIREXTRA

OWATONNA

DANIEL'S DANIELLE THE CHEESECAKE HEIRESS

Coming through main corridor of food vendors at the Steele County Free Fair in Owatonna was intoxicating. The business that was stopping people in their tracks was a little food truck that was displaying homemade cheesecakes.

Local cheesecake heiress Danielle Schmitz (and husband Matt), became co-owners of Daniel's restaurant in Kasson. Danielle was behind the open window with sister-in-law Michelle Freiderich this past week, serving up their delicacies to the thousands of fair-goers.

Daniel's has had a food truck at events and county fairs for over 31 years and although Schmitz is a relatively new owner of the restaurant and the food truck which is an extension of the main restaurant, she is no stranger to the business.

The food truck saw long lines and many satisfied customers wiping caramel and chocolate and cheesecake crumbs from their faces. Schmitz did not always aspire to be a food truck entrepreneur.

"I've been doing the different fairs and festivals since I was five," said Schmitz. "I'd come and help my parents and when I took over the restaurant, I took over the food truck as well."

"It's a way to promote the restaurant, get out of the restaurant, advertise a little bit, and show people around communities what we do."

The current truck that Schmitz and Freiderich were serving from was estimated to be 12 years old, but there has been a Daniel's food truck long before food trucks were all the rage. With tongue in cheek, she responded to the observation that they were trendy before food trucks were trendy. "I guess," she said and then with a laugh, responded, "We started the trend."

Danielle Schmitz is the daughter of Dan and MargAnn Gadiant (founders of Daniel's which they opened in 1977) and took over new ownership of Daniel's on April 1, 2015. No April joke. No foolin'. Matt and Danielle within the first year, also remodeled the Northwoods Lounge and rebranded it as the 504 Tavern which is the actual address of the building. The changes included a massive remodel opening up the space, including live music and extending the hours.

Daniel's is famous for its fresh food preparation and its value, but right there at the top of the list of reasons to eat there is the fresh baked cheesecakes, cookies, homemade fudge brownies and pies such as the deep dish Kentucky bourbon pecan pie. Another award winner is the "Double Baby Do It" which is a four-layer chocolate cake. Her father came up with all the recipes and has passed them down under lock and key to the new owners.

"There's still a handful of us who know how to make everything," she said. "But when I'm here and not obviously baking at the restaurant, I have a couple of great people putting together the batches."

Schmitz went to the University of Wisconsin – Stout for a year and majored in hospitality/tourism. She was there for a year before coming back to Minnesota to finish her Associates degree at Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC).

A formal education is great on paper, but to learn from the master of a successful business in which you are taking over is priceless. She learned from the best. She learned from her dad.

"I learned from my dad," Schmitz said. "He taught me everything. He kind of just threw me in and said, 'have at it' and he would guide me along the way."

Schmitz husband, Matt, who she said, she met for the first time at a church service, has been a great support and help in both the restaurant and remodeling. He even stepped into the food truck operations at the fair this past week. When asked how he handled the fact that his wife was the heir-apparent to Daniel's, she responded, "He's super supportive and he thought that if that's what I wanted to do, then he would support me in any capacity that he could."

Matt rolled up his sleeves six days after the purchase of the restaurant and used his carpentry skills to remodel the bar. "My husband did all the work," she said. "He built the tables, the bar, everything. So that was challenging in itself because we essentially added a whole other business."

As to how mom and dad see the transition after a year, Schmitz says, "They seem very proud, because even though we've remodeled the bar, we've left the restaurant exactly the same; very traditional. It's Daniel's."

As for the challenges of ownership after their first year, Schmitz says, "It was a long first year. There's a lot going on, always something to fix; always something to upgrade."

In addition, there have been 10 new employees added. All this with three children, one who was only four months old when the restaurant was purchased. And... the quality hasn't changed. It's home-style, homemade, hometown and oh so "home-good" Minnesota.

Kasson is fortunate to have the princess who has taken over from the king and queen of a good home style restaurant. Some of the most apparent things passed down to her are the talent to bake, the personality to lead, the charisma to entertain and the passion to succeed. Her destiny was set at a young age. Her legacy will endure the test of time.

The complete interview is running on the Dodge County Independent Facebook page and at: youtube.com/watch?v=h0MmSmnl0uc



Story and photos by Mark DeLap

Danielle Schmitz has taken on the role of co-owner of Daniel's Restaurant and the 504 Tavern in Kasson. Her team was out in full force and fed many satisfied customers with their signature fish & chips and homemade cheesecake.

