



American Legion Post 52 commander Karl Luiken unveiled an original digital print of the Otto T. Lund Post Thursday night at a birthday celebration of the Legion at the Servicemen's Club in Blooming Prairie. The print reveals the founding members of the local Legion.

Legion celebrates 99th birthday

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

As members of the Blooming Prairie Legion and Auxiliary celebrated the American Legion's 99th birthday last week, legion commander Karl Luiken unveiled a secret to honor the local post.

Luiken and Jaclyn Schlichter of the American Legion Auxiliary unwrapped an original digital print of the Otto T. Lund American Legion Post 52 showing its charter from Aug. 10, 1919. Luiken came across the print on the internet and thought it would be great to display.

The charter reveals the founding members of the legion. They are Hans P.H. Hansen, Irving E. Ille, John Flanagan, Albert Rye, R.K. Brainerd, O.R. Wiger, Frank Rysavy, D.L. Brainerd, Selmer A.

Ullard, W.J. Dailey, J.E. Price, Martin Nelson, Mark Cochlin, Thomas Birgin and Albert Jolson.

Luiken pointed out that the American Legion was not actually founded in the U.S. It was formed on March 15, 1919 in Paris and chartered in the U.S. on Sept. 16, 1919, he said.

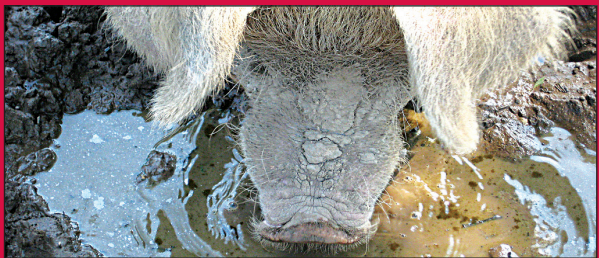
During last week's celebration at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club, several members were recognized for their longstanding membership to the organization. Donald Bakke has the longest tenure of 70 years with the Legion. Seven members were honored for 50 years or more service, including Glenn Kruckeberg, Dale Tollefson, Burnell Hanson, Harlan Hinzmann, Keith Holman and Maylon Heinz (deceased).

Lester Shaunce, commander of the First District, was one of the guest speakers at

the celebration. He pointed out how much the Legion supports youth throughout the state. Some of the ways are Legion baseball teams, scholarships and Boys and Girls State.

There are 13,000 Legion posts throughout the world that help disabled veterans, mostly through VA Hospitals, according to Shaunce. "The American Legion does these things not because we can, but because of who we are," he said.

Cheryl Nymann, president of the First District Auxiliary, told the group she is honored to work for veterans and support programs like the Legion. "They are the biggest heroes in our country," Nymann said. "You guys amaze me. Our debt to all these heroes can never be repaid, but it should be," she added.



FEEDLOT CONTROVERSY

Feedlot battles flares up again in Dodge County

Troms file lawsuit against proposed operation in Ripley Township

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The feedlot controversy in Dodge County appears to be sparking again, but this time in a different township.

A lawsuit has been filed in Dodge County District Court involving a proposed feedlot in Ripley Township located on the southern end of the county next to Westfield Township where the controversy has been swirling for years.

Lowell and Evelyn Trom of rural Blooming Prairie

are suing Ripley Township, Ripley Township Board of Adjustments and Appeals, and Timothy and Jennifer Langdon of Cannon Falls. The Langdons are attempting to build a swine factory farm in Ripley Township, which would be the 12th swine factory farm in a three mile radius of the Trom farm.

In their lawsuit, the Troms claim Ripley Township failed and refused to enforce Township Zoning Ordinances requiring

SEE **FEEDLOT, A3**

OWN OR LEASE?

County faced with dilemma involving sheriff's patrol fleet

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A unique proposal of bringing private industry best practices to government could mean huge savings for Steele County.

Sheriff Lon Thiele is proposing that his office shift to a leased fleet for patrol squad cars through Enterprise Fleet Management. Leasing would significantly reduce maintenance costs and capital outlay. Enterprise estimates a savings of approximately \$137,000 to the Steele County Sheriff's Office over the next four years.

In an environment of tight budgets and departments tasked to do more with less, Thiele sees the leasing program as a win-win for the county.

"It's an amazing savings," Thiele said. "This would save us money in the long run by leasing and having everything maintained under the Enterprise agreement, which will be beneficial to county taxpayers."

Thiele brought the idea forward to the Steele County Board last week. The proposal is catching so much momentum that commissioners are now looking at the leasing program for all county vehicles. "They are very

SEE **FLEET, A6**

"This contribution is just one way we can honor the service and sacrifice of our veterans."

Benji Bishop
Bishop Excavating



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Top: Bishop Excavating, Inc. of Blooming Prairie is donating site preparation for the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial to be constructed just east of the BP Servicemen's Club. Owners Benji and Nicki Bishop, center, are joined by Tom Peterson, chairman of the BP Veterans Committee, left, and by Doug Miner, committee member, right.

Bottom from left to right: Bennie Bishop, Bud Anderson, and Dale Mowers.

PITCHIN DIRT FOR VETS

Bishop Excavating steps up to donate site preparation for BP Vets Memorial

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

A local excavating contractor with ties to three grandfathers who served in the military has stepped forward with a significant donation to the Blooming

Prairie Veterans Memorial.

Benji and Nicki Bishop of Bishop Excavating in Blooming Prairie are donating all of the labor and materials for the site preparation of the memorial. Bishop's excavating experience and attention to detail are essential to making sure the memorial has a solid base, said

Tom Peterson, chairman of the memorial committee.

Peterson explained there are very important reasons why Benji and Nicki stepped forward with this donation. Both of Benji's grandfathers, Bennie

SEE **VETS, A3**

OUR VIEW

County needs to implement leasing program



It almost seems too good to be true. In fact, that's exactly what Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele initially thought when he came across a proposal that would potentially save his office and county taxpayers nearly \$140,000 over four years. But after further research he is finding out that it's not too good to be true. Thiele approached the Steele County Board last week with the idea of a leasing program for his patrol fleet. Instead of purchasing vehicles as has been the custom for many years, Thiele wants the county to team up with Enterprise Fleet Management, a company that operates 1.9 million vehicles worldwide.

Other government agencies around the country are jumping on board with Enterprise's program. Cattaraugus County New York, for example, expects to save nearly \$400,000 in its 2018 budget by leasing 31 vehicles rather than buying them outright.

True the county would not own the vehicles. But the Enterprise idea would greatly reduce the county's maintenance costs to keep vehicles on the road and capital outlay.

The idea is picking up steam that commissioners are now exploring the program for the entire county, excluding the county highway department. There is also word that the City of Owatonna is interested in learning more about the program.

If the county implements the program countywide, the overall savings would drop to about \$67,000 over four years because of various shifts with the overall budget, according to Cathy Piepho, Steele County treasurer. She said the biggest savings would come from fuel and mileage reimbursements.

The greatest news, Piepho points out, would be the county would save money without having to increase the general tax levy.

In this day and age, shrinking budgets are happening all over the place, and organizations are being asked to tighten their budgets. It's not easy to come across something that will provide such significant savings as the Enterprise proposal seems to offer.

County officials are currently crunching the numbers to make sure this will benefit the county overall.

The county board will dig into the proposal more at its meeting next week. The Enterprise deal seems to be a no-brainer, and we hope board members agree by implementing it countywide.

After all, providing savings to taxpayers is never a bad thing and shouldn't be overlooked.

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.



Phone scam hits close to home

The phone rang at my parents' house one day last week with the conversation starting off innocently enough, "Hi, Grandpa."

By the time my father was done with the phone call, he had fell victim to a common phone scam where the caller pretends to be one of the grandkids. Unfortunately, it cost him \$2,000 with likely no hopes of recouping the loss.

He is now the victim of a financial trick that is aimed at countless grandparents across the country, costing them millions of dollars, according to Federal Trade Commission estimates. In 2015 alone, the FTC received 10,565 "family/friend impostor" fraud complaints.

In my father's call, once it was established that it was a "grandchild" calling, the conversation switched over to a "judge." His grandson supposedly had been involved in a car crash in Iowa and needed money to get out of jail.

It isn't clear the scammers even had a name when they initially connected with my father. Scammers sometimes call numbers randomly until they each an older person. They then mention a grandchild in trouble, and if there's an emotional appeal to talk to the so-and-so, they take it from there.

Scammers will often move in quickly to get the caller so upset and confused that holes in their story are overlooked.

Other tactics used include claims to have been mugged, vehicle broken down or to pay customs fees to get back into the U.S. from another country. They may also pose as an attorney or law enforcement officials contacting you on behalf of a friend or relative. No matter the story, they always want you to send money—immediately.

My father ventured to the local Walmart store and bought a large number of gift cards. He then returned home to provide the access code numbers on the cards to the "judge." Within a half an hour,

the cards had been used. People prey on senior citizens. Callers pretending to be grandkids are targeting older Americans. It's estimated senior citizens are robbed of roughly \$3 billion a year in financial scams.

The scammers target people over the age of 65 mainly because they're more gullible.

Victims are usually embarrassed to report it to police. It's also very hard to catch these criminals, especially if they're operating outside the U.S. My father reported it to the local authorities. About the only thing he found out was that the phone call



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

originated from a phone prefix assigned to the Washington, D.C. area.

If you ever get a call from or about a grandchild or any other relative in danger or trouble, the best advice is to pause, clam yourself and say you will have to consult with another family member first, and hang up.

It's important to never give out any personal information on the phone unless you know specifically whom you are dealing with.

It's hard to stop the scams from happening. The best defense against them is making efforts to educate the public by keeping the information fresh in people's minds. To protect yourself and your family, be sure to warn your grandparents and any seniors you know and tell them about the scams happening.

Steer clear of unwanted calls, especially those from unknown phone numbers.

We can all go in hot pursuit of preventing senior citizens from losing millions to these sneaky schemes.

GUEST COLUMN

Prioritizing school safety and mental health awareness

By JOHN PETERSBURG
The recent tragedy in Florida has once again brought the school safety issue back to the legislative forefront. It's a good discussion to have.

And as we have this conversation, it's my belief that addressing children's mental health must also play a major role.

In Minnesota, we have approved a number of provisions that have begun to address the issues of mental health and school safety.

In both 2016 and 2017, the Legislature funded school-linked mental health to assist our school districts. The goal of this funding is to improve mental health and address mental health challenges by expanding services to schools and counties that do not have any existing grants to provide training on evidence-based practices.

We've also approved \$2.45 million for mental health innovation grants for intermediate schools, as well as a Safe Schools Levy, which authorizes funding for school security measures, mental health professionals, and resources officers.

In addition, there's \$405,000 for the School Safety Center, which administers hundreds of training sessions across the state each year. The goal is to work with those who work with our kids by helping

them learn to identify certain behaviors of a troubled student. Intruder responses and overall school security are also addressed.

So while the Legislature has begun to take steps to address school safety and mental health – and I believe more will be done in this area this session – it's also important to remember that all of us can and must do our part to protect our children.

Often times, there are warning signs coming from a disturbed student before he or she makes an appalling action. The situation in Florida is a classic example, as a number of people spoke to school authorities, police, and even the FBI about the alleged suspect.

We should tighten security at schools, but we must also be vigilant in reporting the actions of an adolescent that is acting inappropriately. Family members, teachers, and even friends and acquaintances of a troubled youth often sense early on when someone isn't in a good place, and their voices must be heard and taken seriously.

Moving forward, we must do a better job of protecting our kids. School security will get the most headlines, but addressing children's' mental health – giving them the help they need early on and not allowing them to slip through the cracks – may ultimately be more important.

Rep. John Petersburg is a state representative for District 24A, which covers Steele and Waseca counties. He lives in Waseca.

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Fundraising continues for BP Veterans Memorial

\$100K still needed to reach group's goal



BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Ken Vermylea; VFW Auxiliary, Marilyn Meshke; Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club, Doug Miner and chairman, Tom Peterson, a Sons of the American Legion member.

Purpose of the memorial is to honor veterans of the Blooming Prairie area, Peterson says.

To date, 230 pavers have been sold. Fundraising has brought in \$143,759.12. This total is 57.5 percent of the goal to raise \$250,000.

Phase I, which started in May of 2014, was to determine who the memorial is for, what the memorial will be, and where the memorial will be located.

Phase II continues with raising funds. "Now is the time to raise the remaining \$100,000-plus," says Peterson. "Help us make this a reality," Peterson continued.

Construction begins in Phase III. Three walls will be built in Phase III. Each wall will have space for 288 pavers.

Phase IV involves maintaining the memorial.

Phase V includes preparation for expansion of the memorial.

The Blooming Prairie Veterans

Memorial was designed by the committee in collaboration with John Heerema of Owatonna Granite and Monument.

The memorial will include the following designs:

- Granite archway to the memorial
 - Solid granite pedestal with adorning bald eagle. Language on the pedestal recognizes the POW/MIA veteran.
 - Single flagpole adorned with the United States flag and POW/MIA flag
 - At the base of the flagpole are five solid granite tablets recognizing five branches of service.
 - Surrounding the flags and granite tablets are three walls with wall pavers to recognize the veterans.
 - LED lighting will be placed on the top of each wall. The pavers will glow in the dark.
- Granite for the memorial comes from India, Peterson said.
- If interested in buying a paver or in making a donation to the BP Veterans Memorial, contact Tom Peterson at 507-456-2017, or any committee member.

Feedlot: lawsuit against proposed operation

FROM PAGE A1

public notice and complete application information.

The Troms allege the township improperly granted a variance and conditional use permit for the proposed project consisting of 2,400 hogs on the border of Ripley and Westfield townships.

The township, according to the Trom's suit, ignored a 22-page letter and extensive supporting documentation provided by the Troms and several others concerning the serious public health and environmental issues related to factory farms.

The Troms claim the township ordinance requires a minimum of 7.5 acres for feedlots for 10 to 100 animal units. The Langdon 5-acre parcel is limited to fewer than 10 animal units, or 33 hogs on their property, not 720 animal units or 2,400 hogs as requested and approved by the township, according to the Troms.

"This is payback," said Sonja Trom Eayrs, daughter of Lowell and Evelyn, of the lawsuit. "My parents have spent their entire life working the land and building their farm operation. This is a way to force them off their farm. We are not leaving," she said.

Trom Eayrs said her family is tired of being targeted by big ag. "We've been targeted by corporate interests and their cronies who have corporate interests," she said. She noted big ag looks for vulnerable people to put up as many swine operations as possible in southern Minnesota.

She feels that the efforts to put swine factory farms all over are "back firing on the industry." Trom Eayrs claims the rules keep changing every time a feedlot is proposed to county and township officials. "They are digging their own grave," she said. "They can run, but they can't hide," she added.

Trom Eayrs said the lesson everyone should learn is that her family is not going away. "The harder they want to push, the harder we're going to push back and let the world know what's happening in rural America," she said.

She pointed out that her organization, Dodge County Concerned Citizens, reached out to the Langdons to purchase their 5-acre farm, but they got no response.

The current issue flared up in December when Ripley Township met to consider Langdon's proposal. At a township meeting, it was revealed officials failed to act on the application in a timely manner, and a little known law called "60-day Rule" would be invoked. The law provides that when a governmental agency fails to act on items like zoning requests within 60 days, it creates automatic approval of the request. The original request had been filed on July 5, well beyond 60 days of the December meeting.

Attorney Donald Savelkoul, who represents the Langdons, said the township granted a conditional use permit and variance in February. "It gives them the authority to start construction," Savelkoul said, adding that proper building

permits still need to be obtained.

Savelhoul said construction on Langdon's feedlot would like start in spring once the ground thaws.

However, in last week's lawsuit, the Troms are asking the court to reverse and vacate the conditional use permit, which, if granted, would prohibit the Langdons from moving ahead with the project.

The township and the Langdons have 20 days to respond to the lawsuit. Ripley will most likely be assigned an attorney through the state township association. Savelkoul said he hadn't seen the lawsuit when contacted late last week other than knowing it had been filed.

Efforts to reach township officials were unsuccessful.

Fighting large feedlot operations is nothing new for the Troms. In 2014, they began a lengthy court battle involving a feedlot operation in Westfield Township. The legal fight finally ended last year with the Minnesota Supreme Court denying to take on the matter.

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Vets: BP Veteran Memorial

FROM PAGE A1

and Gerth "Bud" Anderson, were veterans and served their country during World War II. Nicki's grandfather, Dale Mowers, 92 of Albert Lea, is also a veteran of World War II.

Like most U.S. Army infantry veterans who witnessed the horror of battle, Bennie Bishop was quiet about his service in the War.

His discharge paper showed three major battles/campaigns for World War II: Ardennes – Rhineland - Central Europe. He was at the Battle of Hurtgen Forest, where 4,500 American soldiers died. He fought at the Battle of the Bulge, where over 19,000 American soldiers died.

Bishop was also at Omaha Beach, where over 2,000 American soldiers died in a few hours. His comment to family members was, "It was not a very pretty place, when I was there, with explosives all around and bullets whizzing around you. I don't understand why I survived."

Benji's other grandfather, Gerth "Bud" Anderson, served in the South Pacific. He loved to talk to his family about his time in the Navy, and was proud of his service to his country, says Judy Bishop, Benji's mother.

Anderson was part of Operation Crossroads, which was a pair of nuclear weapon tests conducted by the United States at Bikini Atoll (coral reef) in mid-1946. His ship, the USS O'BRIEN, with 315 sailors, 19 officers, and a group of nuclear scientists, placed the atomic bombs in the water, near the atoll, and were detonated.

Tinted goggles were given to the sailors to protect their eyes and they were told to turn their backs to the blast. The Anderson family still has the goggles and fondly remembers how Bud would hold them in his hands, as he told of his time in the Navy and about his war time buddies.

Dale Mowers served three years in the U.S. Navy from January 1944 to April of 1946 and was decorated with the Good Conduct Medal and the Asiatic Theater Medal. His rank was RDM Radio Man Third Class.

He served on three different ships in the Asiatic Theater. Mowers trained in the Coral Reef with underwater demolition men. He was in Okinawa when the war ended in September of 1945. From there he helped repatriate people back to China.

Benji said when Doug Miner, memorial committee member, approached him last year about having Bishop Excavating do the excavation and site work for the memorial, he was on board and wanted to be part of this "great" project.

"This contribution is just one way we can honor the service and sacrifice of our veterans. We are excited to break ground and help build this memorial," said Benji.

Benji is the son of Wayde and Judy Bishop of Blooming Prairie and Nicki is the daughter of Darrell and Cindi Hansen of Blooming Prairie.

"The Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Committee wishes to graciously thank Benji and Nicki Bishop and Bishop Excavating Inc. for this generous contribution to the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial," said Peterson.

The committee is also moving forward by ordering the granite for the memorial.

Planning for this memorial to be located just east of the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club began in the spring of 2014. After extensive fundraising, the goal is to break ground in the spring of 2018, and, to dedicate the Memorial in the fall of 2018 on Veteran's Day.

Contributions to date total \$143,759.12, according to Peterson. The goal is to collect \$250,000 for the project.

At a special meeting in early January of this year, the committee voted to purchase the granite for the memorial at a cost of \$174,487 from Owatonna Granite and Monument. A down payment of \$87,250 was made. The high quality granite comes from India and must be ordered now, for late summer delivery, Peterson said.

If anyone is looking to reserve a paver for your veteran, or has questions regarding the Memorial, please contact Tom Peterson at 507-456-2017. He said 230 pavers have been sold.

As a reminder, the Blooming Prairie Veterans Memorial Corporation is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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OBITUARIES

Phyllis Jane Kruckeberg



Phyllis Jane Kruckeberg, 87, of Owatonna, died Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018 at Birchwood Cottages.

She was born Nov. 10, 1930 in Owatonna the daughter of Rueben and Elizabeth (Hybl) Carlson. Phyllis graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1949 and attended one year at Austin Community College for secretary training.

On Sept. 6, 1950, she married Corvin Ditlevson. He preceded her in death in 1978. Phyllis married Darrell Kruckeberg in 1983 and he preceded her in death in 1987.

She worked throughout her life as a waitress and a secretary. Phyllis lived in Blooming Prairie for most of her life before moving to Owatonna. While in Owatonna she worked at MBZ Communications, Sterling Drug and Culver's.

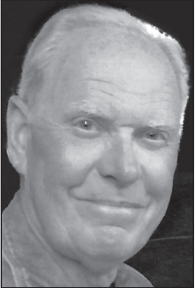
Phyllis was a member of First Lutheran Church for many years and joined Trinity Lutheran Church after moving to Owatonna. She was also a member of the Eastern Star. Phyllis was a Cub Scout leader and enjoyed crocheting, reading, cooking and baking. She loved playing Canasta and other card games.

She is survived by her son, Gary (and Alyce) Ditlevson of Faribault; grandchildren, Jolene (and Pat) Kunkel, Chad (and Katherin) Ditlevson, Scott (and Tracy) Harty, Rodney Lester, Kristi Lester; great grandchildren, Jacob Kunkel, Lizzy Kunkel, Cherise Petterson, Kylie Petterson, Connor Ditlevson, Brady Ditlevson, Justin Harty, Kevin Harty, Ethan Harty, Yasmine Lester; Giovanni Lester; brothers, Don Carlson of Hayfield, Doug (and Colleen) Carlson of Harmony; sister, Dorothy (and Adrian) Kilian of Geneva and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Corvin Ditlevson and Darrell Kruckeberg; daughter, Janell Lester; son, Dale Ditlevson; grandson, Jeremy Lester.

Funeral services were held Saturday, March 3, 2018 at Trinity Lutheran Church with Intern Pastor Madison Chelberg officiating. Interment was at the Danish Baptist Cemetery in

Orris Ohm



Orris E. 'Orrie' Ohm, 83 of Brownsdale, died peacefully on Monday, Feb. 26, 2018, at St. Mark's Heritage Community in Austin, surrounded by his loving family.

Orris Edward Ohm was born May 4, 1934, in Waltham Township, Mower County, the son of Edward C. and Erma (Wollenburg) Ohm. He attended Austin High School.

Orrie made his living as a master carpenter, serving the Mower County area, retiring in 1996.

On Sept. 5, 1955, he married Florence Keller in Kasson. To this union, four children were born. The couple later divorced. Orrie was united in marriage to Marlene Christopherson on Feb. 14, 2004 in Blooming Prairie. The couple has enjoyed 14 years of marriage.

Orrie was an outdoorsman, and spent much of his leisure time hunting, fishing, camping, riding motorcycles and four-wheelers. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in rural Waltham, the Stump Jumpers 4X4 Club, and enjoyed taking trips and drives. Especially important to him was the time he spent with his family. He treasured his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Orrie will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his wife Marlene Ohm of Brownsdale; four children, Brian Ohm of Austin, Robert (Marla Mae) Ohm of Sparta, Wis., Scott (Kris) Ohm of Rochester, and Jane (Stephen) Sauter of Cocolalla, Idaho; 19 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; a brother Myron (Ann) Ohm of Buffalo, Minn.; a sister Val Burns of Austin; Marlene's family Tim (Lynn) Schaefer of Rose Creek, Terry (Lisa) Schaefer, Troy (Kat) Schaefer, Becky (Chad) Rasmussen, Brandon (Tami) Schaefer, Bryan (Kylene) Schaefer, and Beth (Derek) Laskewitz, all of Austin; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Edward and Erma Ohm and two sisters, Marlene and Darlene.

A memorial service was held Saturday, March 3, 2018 at Trinity Lutheran Church, rural Waltham with Rev. Jesse Krusemark officiating. Interment will be at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Waltham, on Friday, May 4, 2018.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the family. Condolences may be expressed to the family online

Calvin Paulson



Calvin George Paulson, 90, of Rochester, died Sunday, March 4, 2018 at Homestead of Rochester Rehabilitation and Living Center.

He was born June 13, 1927 in Austin, the son of Alvin and Ida "Marie" (Hjelmun) Paulson. He graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1945. On August 20, 1951, he married Carol Rockne in Austin.

The couple farmed for 25 years west of Blooming Prairie. They moved to Owatonna in 1969 and owned and operated Cal's Laundromat for nine years. Calvin then worked for Steele County from 1978-1993 and retired at age 65 as the Building Maintenance Supervisor. In retirement, he also mowed lawn at St. John Cemetery.

Calvin was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna serving on the call committee, the Sons of Norway and the Elks. He enjoyed woodcarving, visiting with everyone, and helping anyone who needed help. He was a generous man giving of his time to his family, church and friends. There were no strangers to Calvin as he easily started a conversation with everyone he met. He was especially proud of his family and enjoyed spending time with them.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Paulson of Rochester; children, Sherri (and David) Johnson of Eagan, Greg (and Renee) Paulson of Rochester and Tracy (and Brian) Ryks of Minneapolis; nine grandchildren; one great-grandson and a sister-in-law, Joyce Larson of Edina.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alvin and Ida "Marie" Paulson and his sisters, Bernice Milton and Harriet Lawman.

A funeral service will be held Friday, March 9, 2018 at 11 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna with the Rev. Amanda Weinkauff officiating. Visitation will be at the church one hour prior to the service. Interment will be in the St. John Cemetery in Owatonna.

DEATH NOTICE

Ida Lorraine Shanahan, 90, of Blooming Prairie, passed away on Feb. 25, 2018 at Allina Hospice in Owatonna. Arrangements are pending.

COLLEGE NEWS

Area students earn spot on Dean's Lists

Several area students have earned spots on the Dean's Lists at their respective colleges for the fall of 2017 semester. Marissa Larson and Anthony Nelson of Blooming Prairie have been named to the Dean's List at Bethel University in St. Paul.

The Dean's List at Bethel honors students who achieve an outstanding scholastic record during a semester with a GPA average of 3.6 or greater.

Larson is the daughter of Tammy Larson and Nelson is the son of Brian and Lois Nelson. They both are juniors.

Evan Holt of Owatonna has been named to the Grinnell College Dean's List. Holt was one of 294 students honored for outstanding academic achievement at the college.

To make the Dean's List at Grinnell, students must have a GPA of 3.75 or above.

Holt is the son of Jonathan Holt and Marla Holt.

Brandon Peeters of Owatonna has been placed on the Gettysburg College Dean's honor list for outstanding academic achievement.

Students with a quality point average of 3.6 or higher for a semester's work are placed on the Dean's List.

Memorial Service

A Celebration of Life for Cecil Friesner will be held at a Memorial Service at Red Oak Grove Church in rural Austin on March 10, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

- BLOOMING PRAIRIE SCHOOL MENU - A6
- SEMCAC MENU - C6

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

March 6
Hannah Stoneburner
CJ Coleman
Sylvia Swenson

March 7
Allyson Skillestad
Marissa White
Brendan McCabe
Shirley Hinzmann
David Miller

March 8
Noah Jonathan Nelson
Cody Pashusta
Jean Lee
Clint Becker

March 9

Jeremy Wangen
Nicki Bishop
Kylie Forystek
Kim Eaker Lang
Adrian Noble

March 10

Elizabeth Noble
Brenda Yentsch
Ryan Glynn
Jean Farr
Aspen Clayton
Heidi Schaefer

March 11

Harlan Hansen
Jon Carlson
Neila Nelson
Marion Mast

March 12

Riauna Bishop
Denise Thompson

Charlotte Trom

March 13

Kelli Williamson
Shelby Jean Kasperek
Andrea Farr
Lonnie Lembke
Kelly Peterson
Evie Emanuel
Jessica Jensen

ANNIVERSARIES

March 15

Jerry & Patty Ingvalson

March 16

Mr. & Mrs. Laverne Johnson

March 17

John & Barb Stenzel
Chip & Pat Decker

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Wednesday - Turkey	Friday - Beef

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A grand celebration for George



Well known Blooming Prairie businessman George Ressler was visited by many of his family members and many friends on his 100th birthday on Feb. 22, 2018. He was given a special 100th birthday cake by his immediate family. He has two children, Joanie Muellner, and David Ressler; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. George Ressler operated the Blooming Prairie bowling alley beginning in 1947. The bowling establishment is now owned by George's grandson, Aaron Ressler.

GRIEF RELIEF



If a friend is dying, what can you do? Don't avoid your friend by staying away or changing the subject when they talk of

illness or death. Follow the normal conversations that are part of your relationship. If your friend wishes to talk further allow them to; letting them know that you care and will help in anyway you can. Honest conversations are usually most welcome and your presence may be all that is needed.

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Cory Michaelson

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LIBRARY BOOK NOOK

Libby joins the local library



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Blooming Prairie, meet Libby! Libby is the new app built for readers who enjoy eBooks and audiobooks. You may be familiar with Overdrive, which has provided eBooks for users of the Blooming Prairie Branch Library for several years. Libby, created by Overdrive, has been developed with the goal of making a simpler app for people to use.

So what do you need to know about Libby? First of all, it is for Android, iOS (iPhone, iPad, etc.), and Windows 10 devices. That's just about every popular device. Second, the app is free! Just go to

your device's app store and install it from there. The next steps are simple: find your library by entering the name (Owatonna Public Library/Blooming Prairie Branch Library), city, or zip code. You can then see what titles are in the collection. Formats include audiobooks if you enjoy listening to books, or eBooks. When you see what you want, you sign in using your valid library card. If you need a library card, come and see us in person at the library.

You will be able to keep the items for 21 days. After that time, they fade away off your device without any late charges. It is possible to renew the items for 21 more days. If the item you want is not available, you can reserve it and receive an email when it is available for you to check out.

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Lent reflects on the great sacrifice of Christ



FATHER TOM NIEHAUS
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For Christians throughout the world, Lent is a special season of reflecting upon the great sacrifice of Christ upon the Holy Cross.

Participation in the cross is a necessary part of a relationship with Jesus. Sometimes it may seem that in our Christian faith that we want to follow the teachings of Jesus, but to do so with the least amount of inconvenience.

Jesus says, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for my sake, will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, yet lose himself? (Luke 9:23-25).”

In order to be a disciple of Jesus, we

must deny ourselves of the pleasures of this world and look to the sacrifice of love that Jesus models for us. If you and I are disciples of Jesus then we will want to take time out of each day to pray, read the scriptures, and serve those in need.

Learning from Jesus consists of

If you and I are disciples of Jesus then we will want to take time out of each day to pray, read the scriptures, and serve those in need.

being guided by His way of loving the Father and serving those who were sick, broken and lost. Jesus did not simply ignore the hardships of life by taking up the cross, rather He lovingly embraced

them as part of the Father’s will. We, too, embrace the Father’s will when we take up the cross in daily life.

Taking up our cross daily and following Jesus may consist of offering up the pain felt in cancer treatments, carrying the hurt of family conflict,

shouldering the grief of a loved one, or bearing misunderstandings patiently. When we learn from Jesus how to carry our cross in life, we learn fast that help is needed. It can be easy to fall into modes

of pity, despair or even just give up when presented with the reality of the cross. Jesus gives us the encouragement to lose our life in Him and trust fully in the power of His love on Calvary. Jesus suffered for our sake and carried the cross through the streets of Jerusalem knowing that our salvation was at hand. The seeming shame and scandal of the world’s view of the cross was replaced by the triumphant joy of Christ’s victory over sin and death.

As we make this pilgrimage through the season of Lent let us not lose ourselves in the things of this world, rather may we find ourselves drawn to the cross of Christ to stand and proclaim the Lord’s praises for what He has done for us.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN AURORA LUTHERAN 6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna Pastor Stephanie Wood 507-676-5696 Worship: 9:00 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 106 Third St. SE., Geneva Pastor Kristen Venne 507-256-4288 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC 503 Radel Ct., Ellendale Pastor Richard Sliper 507-684-2451 Saturday: 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship; 10:15 a.m. Sunday School/ Confirmation Tues.: 7 p.m. Call to Prayer, open to all churches Wed.: 9:30 a.m. BibleStudy; 3:30 – 5 p.m. Jesus and Me; 6 p.m. Call to Prayer; 6:30 p.m. Youth Group Christmas Eve Service: 5 p.m. Dec. 24 FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA 434 First St. SW., Blooming Prairie Rev. Heidi Heimgartner, 507-583-6621 firstlutheranbp.com Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sundays Education Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sun. FIRST LUTHERAN – LCMC 8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope Pastor Sandy Miller 507-451-3854 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m. Sun. GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN – LCMS 2500 7th Ave. NE., Owatonna Rev. Mark Rosenau, Senior Pastor Rev. Greg Schlicker, Associate Pastor 507-451-4125 www.goodshepherd owatonna.com Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA 7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon Pastor Nancy Edwardson 507-789-6661 Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA 9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale Pastor Mike Walerius 507-465-8366 Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.	REDEEMER LUTHERAN – LCMS 1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna Pastor Kirk Griebel 507-451-2720 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. Sun. RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN – ELCA 30456 Mower-Freeborn Road, Austin Pastor Lindsay Stolen 507-583-2038 or 507-437-3000 www.roglutheran.org Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday School (Sept. – May): 10:15 a.m. ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS 4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont Pastor Alan Broadwell 507-528-2404 Worship: 6 p.m. Saturday; 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS 28959 630th Ave., Sargeant Pastor Collin Duling 507-251-5568 Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9 a.m. ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA 30450 570th Ave., Waltham Pastor Dwight DoBell 507-567-2474 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – LCMS 202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale Pastor Jesse Krusemark 507-567-2272 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA 2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar 507-451-2165 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna Rev. Todd Buegler, Senior Pastor Rev. Dean Smith, Associate Pastor Rev. Amanda Weinkauf, Associate Pastor 507-451-4520 www.tlcowatonna.org Worship: Saturday: 5 p.m.; Sun.: 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 6 p.m. Sunday School:	8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 104 First St. SE., Hayfield Pastor Paul Hauschild 507-477-2248 www.trinityhayfield.org Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS 108 Third Ave. SW., Medford Pastor Mark Biebighauser 507-451-0447 Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 Sun. Education Hour: 9:15-10:15 a.m. Sun. TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS 57043 300th St., Waltham Pastor Jesse Krusemark 507-567-2272 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA 7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale Pastor Cheryl D. Indehar 507-451-2165 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.	Father John Sauer Fr. Jose Morales, Parochial Vicar 507-451-1588 www.sacredheartowatonna.org Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday; 8:30 a.m. & 10 a.m. Sun. Spanish Mass: 11:45 a.m. Sun. Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m. Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Sat. Adoration: 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. Thurs. ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC 114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie Father Thomas Niehaus 507-583-2784 www.stcolumbanuschurch.com Mass: 10 a.m. Sun. & 8:30 a.m. Friday Reconciliation: 9 a.m. First Friday & Saturday ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH 512 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna Father Kevin Connolly Deacon Patrick Fagan 507-451-4845 Saturday Mass: 4 p.m. Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m. Reconciliation: 3-3:30 p.m. Sat. Daily Mass: 8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri. (Communion Service 8 a.m. Thursday) Adoration Chapel available Mon. – Fri. 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Key fob required after hours or weekends	OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST 815 E. University, Owatonna Loren Olson, Pastor Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor Joyce Parker, Associate Pastor 507-451-4734 www.owatonnaumc.org Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Contemporary Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun. Sunday School/Adult Classes: 10 a.m. Wednesday night service at 6:30 p.m. BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY 130 W. Bridge St., Owatonna Pastor Keith Haskell 507-215-2249 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. Biblestudy: 9 a.m. Sun. Reformers Unanimous Meetings: 7 p.m. Friday CEDAR CREEK 30 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Aaron de Neui 507-477-2255 www.cedarcreekchurch.org Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. DESTINY CHRISTIAN Owatonna Campus 422 North St., Owatonna Pastors Tyler & Jessica Braucht 507-254-8514 www.destinycc.org Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. ELEVATION NORTH 2002 Austin Road, Owatonna Pastor Doug Jones 507-363-3099 www.elevationnorth.blogspot. com Worship (English): 10 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Worship (Spanish): 2 p.m. Sun. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Spanish Evangelism & Prayer: 7 p.m. Friday NEW BEGINNINGS 332 14th St. NE., Owatonna Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson 507-721-1366 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. Gateway Connection: 6 p.m. Sun. SIMPLE CHURCH 4515 NW 22nd Ave., Owatonna (Country Goods building across the freeway from Cabela's) Pastor Todd Lundgren 507-451-5661 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday MENNONITE PRAIRIE MENNONITE 13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie Bishop Dennis Martin 507-583-7532	Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wed. MORMON THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS 404 31st St. NW, Austin Bishop Rick Bremner 507-433-9042 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. PRESBYTERIAN ASSOCIATED CHURCH Presbyterian Church (USA) and United Church of Christ 800 Havana Road, Owatonna 507-451-1546 www.associatedchurch.org office@associatedchurch.org Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. (Fellowship, Church School, and Adult Discussions follow) Wednesday Activities: Sept – May (see website for schedule) FIRST PRESBYTERIAN 109 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Kirk Johnston 507-477-2631 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 2373 Seventh Ave. NE, Owatonna Pastor Bob Brauer 507-340-7143 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat. Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat. UCC CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 211 Main St. S. Medford Rev. Richard Waters 507-451-4596 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. ASSEMBLY OF GOD VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 702 Third St. S., Ellendale Pastor Patrick Stitt 507-684-3421 www.vibrantlifeag.com Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun. BAPTIST FIRST BAPTIST 104 First Ave. NE, Blooming Prairie Pastor Matt Fennell 507-583-2673 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Sunday School: 9 a.m. Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.
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A	M	E	S			C	S	T				S	H	A	N	

Fleet: Proposed lease of squad cars

FROM PAGE A1

interested in this program,” Thiele said. “I thought it would be beneficial for the whole county,” he added.

If the county decides to expand the program countywide to all departments with the exception of the highway department, the overall savings would actually drop to \$67,000 because of shifts in the general funds, according to Cathy Piepho, treasurer for Steele County. But she is still on board with the proposal and thinks the county would benefit.

“We would save money without having to increase the tax levy,” Piepho said.

Piepho said most notably fuel costs and mileage reimbursements would go down under a leasing program. Enterprise is proposing more fuel efficient vehicles. Steele County is looking at Ford Fusions and Escapes for its fleet, she noted. “Employees would have safer vehicles than what we currently have,” she said.

Officials in the highway department are currently looking at their own needs to see if Enterprise can help them out in the future, Piepho said.

Though Steele County has always owned its own vehicles, many other jurisdictions took part in leasing programs about 20 years ago, according to Thiele. He noted government agencies dropped the leasing program at that time because it became too costly to continue.

Since then, the sheriff said, Enterprise has redeveloped its leasing program. Enterprise is now offering an “open” lease in which there are no early termination, mileage requirements or abnormal maintenance penalties.

“Leases are written to a residual balance to preserve cash flow,” Thiele said. “The sheriff’s office would receive the flexibility of ownership as well as net equity from sale at the time of disposal.”

One area that would greatly benefit from the leasing program is the Steele County Detention Center, which utilizes vehicles to transport prisoners. “The detention center always received what we had left over—vehicles with high mileage and maintenance was starting to become an issue,” Thiele said.

If the county decides to join the program, vehicles would be phased in over the course of several years until the county’s entire fleet is replaced, Thiele said.

The idea of leasing vehicles came out of a recent District 6 Sheriff’s meeting, which Thiele attends regularly with 12 other sheriffs from southeastern Minnesota. “One of the sheriffs brought up the idea of the Enterprise leasing package,” Thiele said. After looking at it more closely, Thiele found it was too good of a program to pass up.

“This is what’s great for law enforcement in networking with other sheriffs,” Thiele said. “We can find ideas that will work in other places,” he added.

Enterprise operates 1.9 million vehicles across the world. The company, which employs 97,000 employees, has annual revenue of about \$21 billion.

The county board is expected to decide on the program at its next meeting on March 13.

HARVEST OF THE MONTH
Dill, Radish, Pineapple

Blooming Prairie High School Lunch Menu
All meals subject to change without notice

*CC = Classic Cafe
DC = Diner Cafe
GG = Chef Salad
CS = Creation Station
PP = Pizza Parlor*

Wednesday, March 7
CC: Macaroni & Cheese DC: BBQ Rib Sandwich GG: Ham Munchable CS: Orange Chic

Thursday, March 8
CC: Pasta w/Meat Sauce, French Bread DC: Mini Corn Dogs CS: Build Your Own Baked Potato

Friday, March 9
CC: Cheese Personal Pizza, Garden Salad, **Birthday Cake** DC: Maxx Sticks, Marinara Sauce CS: Build Your Own Sub

Monday, March 12
CC: Sweet & Sour Chicken, Brown Rice, Whole Grain Dinner Roll DC: Cheeseburger on Bun GG: Chicken Caesar Salad CS: Pasta Bar

Tuesday, March 13
CC: Lasagna, Caesar Salad, Garlic Toast DC: Chicken Patty on Whole Grain Bun CS: Taco Bar PP: Pepperoni Pizza

Milk choice of 1% White, Skim or Chocolate, Skim is included with lunch. Entree Salads are Served with Dinner Roll

For questions or comments, contact Melissa Taylor at 507-583-4426 ext 464 or email mtaylor@blossoms.k12.mn.us



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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Make ale
- Residue
- Female parent
- Succulent plants
- OJ’s judge
- Czech river
- Embarrassing predicament
- NHL legend Bobby
- Sunfish
- One who acclaims
- On the __: running away
- Oklahoma’s “Wheat Capital”
- The Golden State
- Merrymake
- Siberian nomads
- Pock-marked
- Baleen whale
- Leaf-footed bug genus
- Treasure
- Tanzanian shilling
- Changed
- Intestinal pouches
- Walked in a celebratory way
- South American mountain chain
- Jai __ sport
- Consumed
- Firm
- Pubs
- Leafy drink

CLUES DOWN

- Crush
- Razorbill genus
- “Full House” actress Loughlin
- Bluish green
- Garlic mayonnaise
- Attacks repeatedly
- Secretion
- Special instance
- A handsome youth loved by Aphrodite
- Tree genus in the mahogany family
- Israeli city
- Formed a theory
- Remove
- Type of light
- Repeats
- Certified public accountant
- River in eastern France
- Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- Special __: military group
- Ribonucleic acid
- Not even
- Power transmission belt
- Doctor of Education
- Type of nerve
- Types of tops
- Large primate
- Flooded, low-lying land
- Gritty
- Gets up
- Stake
- Not the most
- Swedish rock group
- Expresses pleasure
- Expression of boredom
- Queen of Sparta
- Where Adam and Eve were placed at the Creation

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HARVEST OF THE MONTH
Pineapple, Radish, Dill

Blooming Prairie Elementary School Menu
All meals subject to change without notice

Prices
Breakfast: Regular \$2.40, Reduced/Free \$0.00, Adult \$3.65, Milk (extra or with sack lunch) \$0.50

Wednesday, March 7
Breakfast: French Toast Loaf, Cheese Stick, Choice of Cereal, Graham Crackers, Vegetable Selection, Apple Juice, 1% Milk
Lunch: HOM: Pineapple/Radish, Soft Beef Tacos, Turkey Munchable, Black Beans

Thursday, March 8
Breakfast: Banana Blueberry Muffin, Cheese Stick, Choice of Cereal, Graham Crackers, Vegetable Selection, Apple Juice, 1% Milk
Lunch: Italian Meatball Sub, BBQ Rib Sandwich, Garlic & Herb Broccoli

Friday, March 9
Breakfast: Mini Bagel Strawberry Cream Cheese, Choice of Cereal, Graham Crackers, Vegetable Selection, Orange Juice, 1% Milk
Lunch: Chicken Nugget Basket, Whole Grain Dinner Roll, Fish Sandwich Basket, Golden French Fries
Birthday Cake

Monday, March 12
Breakfast: Mini Donut, Choice of Cereal, Graham Crackers, Vegetable Selection, Canned Fruit, 1% Milk
Lunch: Sweet & Sour Chicken, Brown Rice, Chicken Caesar Salad, Roasted Broccoli, Whole Grain Dinner Roll

Tuesday, March 13
Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, Choice of Cereal, Graham Crackers, Vegetable Selection, Apple Juice, 1% Milk
Lunch: National Pasta Day, Lasagna, Cheese Bread, Italian Meatball Sub

Breakfast: Milk choice of 1% White or Skim is included with breakfast. **Lunch:** Milk choice of 1% White, Skim or Chocolate. Skim is included with lunch. Entree Salads are served with Dinner Roll.

2017 TAX PREP GUIDE

FREE TAX HELP

You may qualify for free tax preparation help from IRS-certified volunteers at locations across Minnesota for your federal and state income tax returns. Qualified taxpayers are age 60 or older, have a disability, speak limited or no English, or have income less than \$54,000 per year.

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WRESTLING



Owatonna's Cade King prepares to grapple with an opponent during the 182-pound weight class championship match on Saturday at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Cade is King for Huskies at 182

Owatonna junior claims first state title

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Owatonna junior Cade King claimed his first state title this past weekend during the Minnesota High School State Wrestling meet at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

Even though King stood atop the Class AAA

182-pound division, he still wasn't completely satisfied.

"I was bummed after the championship match because I want to wrestle my best in every match and although I won, I wasn't happy with my performance," King said. "Most kids are just happy to win, but I'm not happy to win. I want to wrestle my best and dominate. I want to go out there in every match and make

sure that my opponent never wants to wrestle me again."

This attitude is one of the reason's King has established himself as one of the most physically dominating wrestlers in the state.

"You can see in his matches that he just doesn't want to win, he wants to dominate his opponents," Owatonna coach Adam Weitalla said. "If you ask coaches from around the state,

I bet a lot of the would agree that [King] is one of the dominating wrestlers we have in the state of Minnesota."

King started the tournament with a victory in his opening round match against Cambridge-Isanti's Travis Drews by technical fall, 20-4, at 4:16.

SEE KING, B2

Peyton Robb becomes Owatonna's first three-time state champion

Huskies' senior perseveres through injury

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Owatonna senior Peyton Robb cemented his name atop all the great Husky wrestler this past weekend when he become the school's first three-time state champion.

Robb had a dominating performance in route to winning the Class AAA 160-pound weight class title at the Minnesota State Wrestling Meet at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul on Friday and Saturday.

"I had the goal of being a state champion and to have my first undefeated season," Robb said.

"That's exactly what I did. Just to finish the year with no losses and be the undefeated champion at 160 means so much to me.

Robb finished the season with a record of 48-0.

"I felt like I really left no doubt that I was best wrestler at that weight class," he said. "But it also felt good to represent Owatonna. It was nice to go up there with some of teammates and we just had a good time and good state tournament overall."

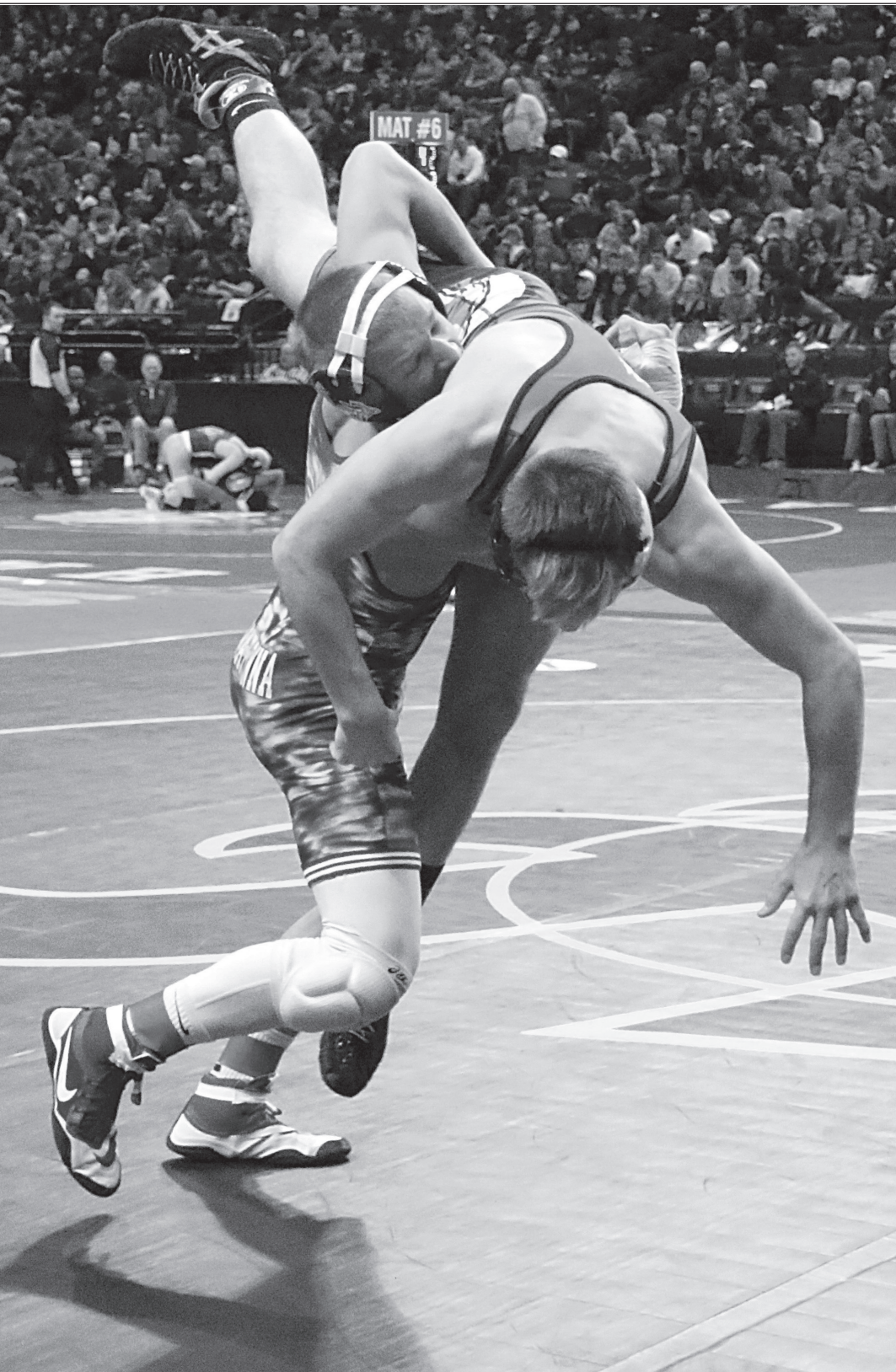
SEE ROBB, B2



STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Left: Owatonna's Peyton Robb slams his opponent during the state championship match at 160AAA on Saturday.. Above: Robb attempts to hold his opponent to the mat while battling a tooth and jaw injury.





Owatonna's Peyton Robb slams his opponent to the mat with authority during the second round of the state tournament on Friday.

ROBB: *Three-time champ*

FROM PAGE B1

Robb won the state championship at 106 as a freshman and at 120 as a sophomore.

He lost to his close friend and future roommate at South Dakota State University, Alex Lloyd of Shakopee, in the 2017 title match at 145.

Robb finished his high school career as a five time state qualifiers, with four consecutive state title match appearances, three-time state champion and Owatonna's all-time pins leader.

"Anything you break a record here in Owatonna for wrestling, you're doing something special and Robb had a special career," Owatonna coach Adam Voitalla said. "We wish him all the best at South Dakota State and I look forward to hearing about the great things he does out there because I know his career is only getting started."

Robb pinned Lakeville North's Jacob Forar (32-9) in 3:40 in the opening round.

"He's a technician out there," Voitalla said. "In that first match he was just being himself. He was scoring points and wrestling for position and he wasn't forcing anything."

"The kid that he wrestled in the first round was big and strong and actually ended up coming back and taking fifth place," he continued. "[Forar] didn't want to make a mistake. It just took [Robb] some time to open the kid up and kind of make him wrestle him. Once he opened him up he was able to get the pin right away and move on to the next round."

Robb pinned Park's Garrett Whitehead (40-5) in 2:38 in the quarterfinals, but during the match Robb broke one of his teeth and potentially fractured his jaw when slammed Whitehead to the mat and his jaw into Whitehead's hip bone.

"That's just how much force he hit the guys hipbone with his face," Voitalla said. "That's how powerful he is."

Robb finished the mat after taking a moment to gather himself.

"My tooth was loose, one of filling came out, my jaw turned all black and blue and my teeth were bleeding quite a bit," Robb said. "I just knew I was going to have to fight through the pain for the rest of tournament."

Robb said he is awaiting further tests, but the doctor believe it's likely he has a fracture in his jaw.

"I still have to go to a dental surgeon," he said. "I still might have to have surgery on my jaw and tooth."

Robb returned to the mat on Saturday and pinned Cambridge-Isanti's Martin Puttbrese (44-7) in just 27 seconds to earn his fourth straight state championship match appearance.

"I knew I just wanted to get on and off the

mat real quick," Robb said. "I didn't want spend a lot of time out there where something more could have with a jaw."

"So I just went out there and hit a quick shot," he continued. "Everything kind of worked out to where my opponent fell right into kind of a front head pinch move. He ended up on his back and I just kept squeezing as hard as I could just to try to get his shoulder blades on the mat and it worked out for. It kind of fell right in lap."

Robb went on to score a 8-2 decision over Saint Cloud Tech's Austin Brenner (44-4) to become Owatonna's first three-time state champion in wrestling.

"Austin Brenner is a really good wrestler," Robb said. "He has good technique and he also is very strong, more so then a lot of my other opponents at that weight class."

"All around he's just a solid wrestler," he continued. "I knew I was going to have to stick to some good technique and beat him throughout the whole match."

The match had to be stopped once because blood was starting to run from Robb's mouth down his chin despite him using a mouthpiece to try to keep it at bay.

"I got a mouthguard the night before the championship match and I put a bunch of Orajel in it to kind of numb the inside of mouth," he said."It still hurt a little bit, but once the match started up and adrenaline kicked in it was much a problem, but once my adrenaline started go down after the match the pain definitely returned."

Voitalla said he couldn't say enough good things about Robb, and he was the kind of wrestler that coach dream of having on their teams.

"He works hard in and out the room and in the offseason," Voitalla said. "He's a leader. He not only tries to better himself, but he wants to better those around him. He helps his teammates with their technique and just helps the kids understand what needs to be know. He sets the tone in practice of what it means to work hard."

"However, probably the most important thing I can say about him is that is a great kid," he continued. "He's very respectful and a down to earth, humble kid. All those things have attributed to our success as a program. He will be hard to replace and we will sure miss him."

Robb said it was special feeling to finish his high school career on top and know that this what people will remember.

"My favorite win was probably my first state title," Robb said. "It was probably the most exciting and fulfilling win I have had, but the best memories I have are from spending time with my teammates and coaches."



Above: Owatonna's Cade King locks onto a opponent during the Minnesota state meet at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul on Friday.

KING: *First state title*

FROM PAGE B1

"That kid was really coming at me hard with underhooks and stuff," King said. "So I launched him and threw him pretty far. I didn't get any points, but I felt like that really set the tone for the rest fo the match."

King won his quarterfinals match 11-4 over Eagan's Alex Wick (36-12).

"There was no way he was going to beat me," King said. "I don't like that kid. He's a dirty wrestler. I just went out there and was physical with him and took him down five times and just really dominated him."

King won by a 11-3 major decision over Hastings TJ Pottinger (44-7) in the semifinals.

"I was really pumped up for and I wrestle great that match," King said. "I had wrestled [Pottinger] twice earlier this year and beat him in two pretty close matches."

"He couldn't keep up this time," he continued. "I went out there and scored right off the bat and let him know that he wasn't going to be able to comeback or wrestle with me."

King won a 6-5 decision over Prior Lake's Calvin Sund (24-4) to claim his first state championship.

"I set goals from the beginning of the season and one of them was to win state," King said. "So I accomplished that. I felt that I went out there and wrestled close to my best in almost every match."

"But my finals match was a sloppy," King said. "I wasn't as good offensively as I can be. I kind of just pushed the kid around. I wasn't really looking for too many attacks because I was nervous and hyped up."

Voitalla said King could have easily won the state championship this past

season.

"He wrestled a very talented kid named Alex Crowe from Skakopee, who now wrestles at the University of Minnesota," Voitalla said. "[King] was actually the only kid to take Crowe down in the whole season, but he ended up losing 6-4 in the finals."

King said he used the pain and sorrow he felt from coming up short this past as motivation.

"I remember walking off the mat and saying to myself that I would be back here in 365 days," he said. "I came back and did it."

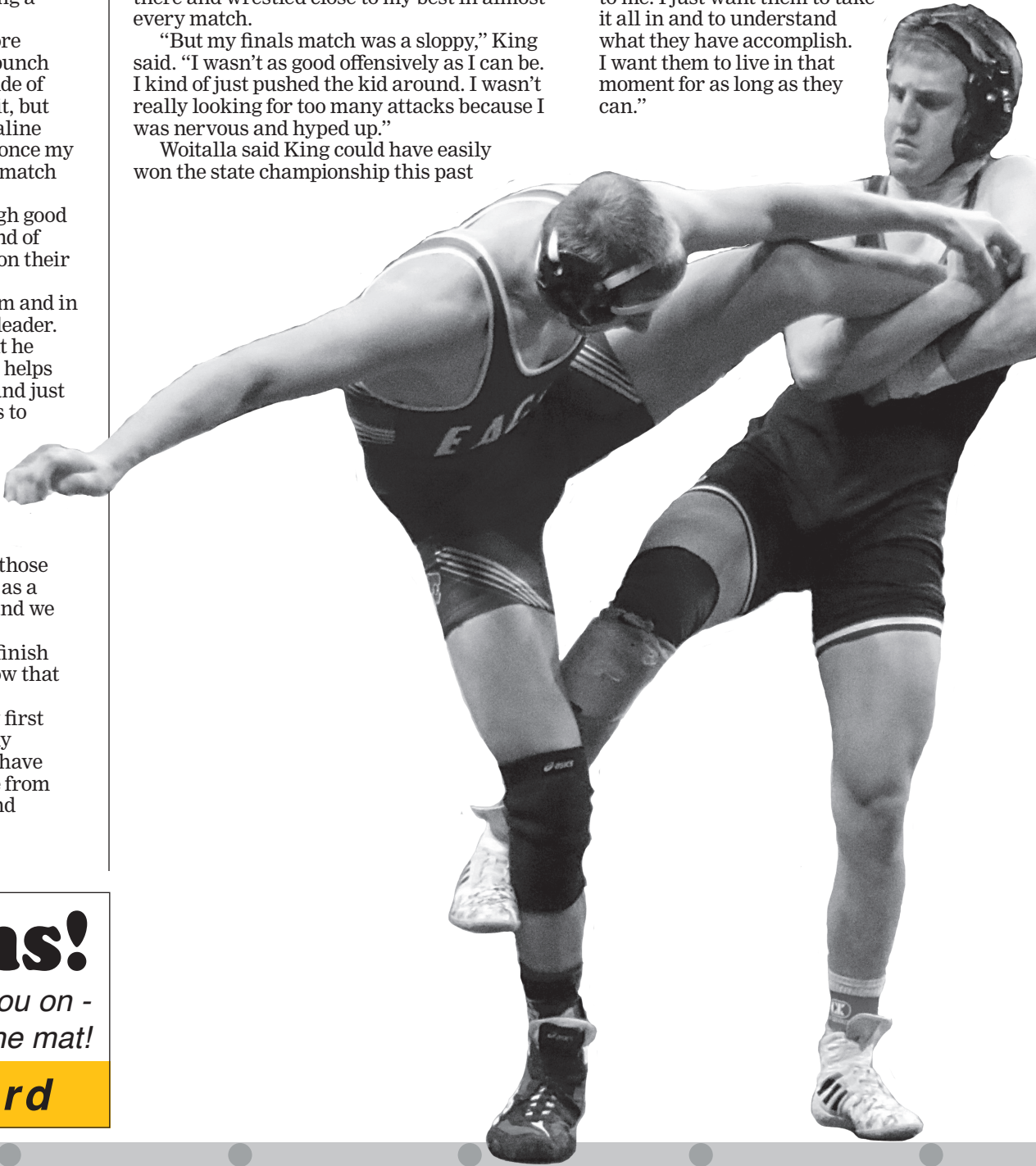
Voitalla said King's state title and overall season record of 44-0 is especially impressive because he went through the season with a target on his back.

"[King] lives and dies wrestling," Voitalla said. "He never takes a day off and he constantly wants to work and get better."

Voitalla said watching King and Robb claim state titles were moments he will never forget.

"I'm really kind of a reserved person out there and I like to keep my cool," he said. " At the end of the day I am overcome with pride of joy for these kids. I see how much work and effort they put in day in and day out."

"Winning the state title is one of their dreams," Voitalla continued. "To see these kids accomplish that means the world to me. I just want them to take it all in and to understand what they have accomplish. I want them to live in that moment for as long as they can."





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Moving kids forward



Top left: Owatonna's Nick Staska takes down an opponent on Friday at the Minnesota state meet in Saint Paul.. Top Right: Owatonna's Blake West explodes off the mat after defeating his second round opponent on Friday at the state meet. Bottom: Owatonna's Parker Westphal squares up with an opponent at the Minnesota state meet on Friday.

State tournament appearance leaves Huskies wanting more

Owatonna's West place fifth, Westphal and Staska fall short

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Owatonna Huskies definitely left their mark at the 2018 Minnesota High School Wrestling State Meet this past weekend at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

In addition to senior Peyton Robb and junior Cade King capturing individual state titles, Huskies' freshman Blake West place fifth at the 106-pound weight class, junior Nick Staska won his first match before falling in the consolation bracket and senior Parker Westphal capped off an excellent high school career.

"All five guys went up there and took care of business," Voitalla said. "All five of them really competed hard and they took it to heart."

Had team score been totaled from wrestlers competing, Owatonna would have finished sixth.

"Overall, we were really happy with the performance," Voitalla said. "The kids should be ecstatic for how they competed. We just got after it."

West started the Huskies' off on Friday by scoring a 5-2 victory over Centennial's Emily Shilson (25-8) in the first round.

West followed that match up by defeating New Prague's Nicholas Novak (44-6) by a 5-4 decision to advance to the semifinals.

"The key to those first two matches was [West] got the first takedown in both of them," Voitalla said. "He went out there and got those takedowns which kind of set the tone. If you give a kid like Blake West a led in match, he usually doesn't give it up.

"His record speaks for itself in proving how true that is," he continued. "Once he gets that lead he's not going to back down and he knows how to win."

Eventually state champion Joey Thompson (46-10), from Maple Grove, pinned West in the semifinals in 2:43.

"I tried to go for something big and I ended up getting put to my back and pinned," West said. "But it was alright. I knew the kid was huge."

West lost his next match to Wayzata's Cael Swensen (37-7) by major decision 11-2.

"They knew each other very well," Voitalla said. "Swensen used his height and length. [West] had to risks some things to get back into the match and [Swensen] was talented enough wrestler to take advantage of that. Talent-wise I would say these two are pretty equal and the score didn't reflect that."

West finish the tournament with a win in the fifth place match where he defeated Novak for the second time.

"That speaks to the maturity that [West] has a freshman," Voitalla said. "He knows you have to keep moving forward and it's not about what you have done, it's about what you're going to do. He was able to get previous matches out of his head and realize that he wanted to end the state tournament on win and that's what he went out there and did."

This time West won by a 12-7 margin.

"It's always tough to beat a kid twice in one tournament," West said. "They're going to be going after you twice as hard and they're going to be twice as an aggressive. Plus, they kind of know what they need to work on to win. You can learn a lot more from losing than you can from winning."

"I was really happy because I didn't want to end my year with a loss," he continued. "I've been having such a good season so far. Just ending with a win, I was so proud and happy. It was just a rush of emotions."

Voitalla said West just finds a way to win matches.

"He's very mat savvy," he said. He always know the score, his position on the mat and the situation he is in. He's just uses that all to his advantage to find a way to win.

"Even when guys are bigger and stronger than him, it just seems like he wills himself to victory," he continued. "He doesn't want to lose so much that he finds a way and we saw that at the state tournament."

West finished the season with a record of 46-5.

Voitalla said, "We are happy with [West's] progression and we expect big things from him in the future."

But Voitalla isn't the only with high expectations for the future.

"I'm going to get bigger and have another year to work on everything I need to," West said. "I expect myself to win it next year, that's my goal."

Staska pinned Little Falls' Sam Nagel (19-9) in his opening round match in just 98 seconds.

"He came out real aggressive in that first match," Voitalla said. "He got a early takedown which got him comfortable and in his groove."

"Then the kid tried to scramble and do some big stuff," he continued. "But [Staska] stayed composed and wrestled for his position. He was able to get on top and run his half [nelson] and pin the guy. It really locked him in and got him focused."

Staska lost to eventually state champion and No. 1 seed Hastings' Trey Rogers (49-0) by technical fall 23-8 at 4:18 in the second round.

Staska won his next match in the wrestlebacks by pinning Minneapolis South's Treighton Thompson (26-17) in 3:50, but he missed out on the opportunity to place by losing his next match 9-3 to Centennial's Cody Peterson (27-6).

"I'm already thinking about next year," Staska said "I still hasn't left my mind that this wrestling season is over. I had that little taste of what it's like to be at the state tournament as an individual. Now I'm so hungry for more. I'm going to work as hard as I can in the offseason and perfect my moves so that next year I can leave everything out there and have no regrets."

Staska finished the year with a record of 36-12.

Voitalla said he excited to have another year to coach Staska and he is confident in him at either 195 or 220.

"I imagine he will want to get bigger for football," Voitalla said. "I can see him being at 195 or 220. His style matches both those weight classes very well. He's already a really strong kid. We have great confidence in him."

No. 1 Seed Saint Francis' Cole Kirpach (43-5) pinned Westphal in the the first round at 170. Then Westphal lost a 5-0 decision to Bloomington Kennedy's Jake Leicht (41-6).

"Westphal had a fantastic year and career for us," Voitalla said. "He kind of got a tough draw here in the state tournament drawing the No. 1 seed right away, but he went out there and competed and wrestled against some of the best kids in the state at his weight."

"You gotta give him credit for battling," he continued. "If you change a few things the story could have been different for him, but overall he had a great year."

Westphal finished the season with a record of 25-15.

He said he obviously wanted to win, but he enjoy the overall experience of competing at the state meet.

"I'm just glad to have wrestled in this great arena," Westphal said. "It's a great atmosphere for everybody. I'm proud I made it to state. I wish I could have placed, but I guess it just wasn't meant to be."

"It's been great to be able to workout with all these great wrestlers everyday," he continued. "My teammates made me so much better. I hope I made a positive impact and was a positive influence for them like they were for me."



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Moving kids forward



Top left: Westfield's Colton Krell takes down an opponent on Friday at the Minnesota State Meet. Top right: Westfield Morgen Moreno attempts to win hsi opponent on Friday at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul. Bottom left: Westfield's Ethan Arett wraps up with an onponent during his first round match at the state meet. Bottom right: Westfield's Mitchell Oswald holds his opponent to the mat on Saturday.

STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Westfield has strong showing at state meet

Razorbacks' foursome land on podium

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Westfield Razorbacks had four of its five wrestlers place at the Minnesota state meet this past weekend at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

Sophomore Colton Krell finished second at the 160-pound weight class in Class A. senior Morgen Moreno was fifth at 195 and seniors Ethan Arett and Mitchell Oswald each placed fourth at 106 and 285, respectively.

“Overall, it was the perfect time for these kids to peak,” Westfield co-head coach Shane Masching said. “We had kids that wrestled to their full potential this weekend.”

Westfield has had 10 state qualifiers the past two seasons since Blooming Prairie and Hayfield formed the conjoined team. Last year, Krell finished fourth at 160 and Oswald place third at 220.

Krell started the state tournament this year with a victory over Norwood-young America’s Joe Hennen (22-19) by major decision 16-6 in the first round.

“Once I got one takedown everything kind of feel into place and it turned into one after another,” Krell said. “I kept taking him down and continuously stayed low and out of dangerous ties.”

He followed that with 12-4 major decision over Pelican Rapids’ Matt Ziebell (6-3).

Krell said Ziebell was a little harder to open up and he had to wear him down a little more than he did in his first match.

“[Krell] is a champ,” Masching said. “He pushes himself to his max in every match. He loves wrestling at a high pace and kids can not keep up with him.

“He’s a great kid and I love coaching him,” he continued. “He’s just so impressive. He works hard and he deserve everything he gets.”

Krell had a much tougher test in the semifinals, but he outlasted Goodhue’s Kelby O’Reilly (32-9) 7-5 to earn a trip to the championship match.

Krell actually lead the match 7-2, until O’Reilly scored three points in the final 15 seconds.

“The score didn’t show what the match was in my opinion,” Krell said. “I went in there knowing what his style was and I wasn’t worried that he was going to dominate me or score on me a whole bunch. My focus was to score on him once and see how things open up.

“I wrestle real solid,” he continued. “I didn’t take any unnecessary chances.”

Krell place second and finished the season with a record of 38-4 after Caledonia-Houston’s Zach Schneider (37-3) defeated him in the championship match 9-2.

“He was a little bit stronger and taller,” Krell said. “I wasn’t getting in close like I should have. I was taking shots from open space and I really should have been bringing him in close where my strong points are.”

Krell plans to improve his physique during the offseason. He said he noticed during weigh ins that all of the other 160-pound wrestlers were larger than him.

“They all looked like what they should look like at that weight,” he said. “I’m going to lift a lot of weights and next year I am planning on making myself a full 170.”

Krell said he wasn’t happy with the second place finish because one of his goals was to be a three-time state champion.

“That feeling is really going to push me to do even more than I did last year,” he said. “It really motivates me.”

Masching has high expectations for Krell next season.

“I believe he will a state champion the next two years,” he said. “He’s pretty hungry for it. He won’t be satisfied until he is standing on the top of the podium.”

In addition to Oswald and Arett each placing fourth, both were named to the Academic All-State Team for carrying a 4.0 GPA.

Arett defeated New York Mills’ Dane Niemi (34-9) in first round by a decision 5-2.

He scored the deciding points of the match with a fireman’s carry and near fall.

“[Arett] is very good at that move,” Masching said. “It’s kind of signature thing.”

However, Arett lost to eventually state champion and No. 1 seed Will Magaard (46-1) of Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg 10-3 in second round.

“It was two very good wrestlers going at it,” Masching said. “We weren’t able to get to do the things we have been doing all year.

“The loss wasn’t because of a lack of a ability from Arett,” he continued. “His opponent stayed great position the entire match. The match of much closer than score shows.”

Arett pinned Blackduck Cass Lake Bena’s Christian Peter (26-19) in 33 seconds in the opening round of consolation.

“It was all attitude,” Masching said. “He had one thing on his mind...winning. That’s all he

had on his mind. He was wanting to get into the third place match after getting beat.”

He went on to defeat Sibley East’s Drayden Morton (35-10) in the second round of consolation 6-0, and Long Prairie-Grey Eagle/Bowerville’s Carter Meiners (39-8) 4-2 to earn a spot in the third place match.

“[Arett] is one of our most respectable kids,” Masching said. “He does anything he is asked of. He is a great leader.”

Arett finished the season with a 32-10 record after he lost 10-4 to Chatfield’s Seth Groetzinger (34-8) in third place match after being called for two controversial penalties: a fleeing the mat and stalling call.

“I’m still not very pleased,” Masching said. “It was not fleeing. He was doing a lift. It’s part of move.

“He was trying to stay in position on the stall call,” he continued. “He was doing exactly what he is suppose to do.”

Masching said the calls cost Arett the match because he had to completely change his style afterwards.

Oswald finished the season with a record of 34-7.

He finished fourth in the heavyweight division after placing third at 220 a season ago.

Oswald started the tournament by pinning Norwood Young America’s Sam Meeker (26-14) in 3:39, but he lost his second round match by fall to Blue Earth Area’s Trevor Oppedal (34-6).

Oswald surrendered nearing 40 pounds to Oppedal.

Oswald won by fall against his next two opponents in the consolation. It him 2:38 to pin Caledonia-Houston’s Brent Robley (19-6) and 4:33 to pin Badger-Greenbush-Middle River’s Zach Evans (29-13).

Oswald defeated No. 1 seed Canby’s Josh Hansen (44-8) by a 6-0 decision to earn a rematch against Oppedal in the third place match.

Oswald wrestled much better against Oppedal the second time around. He controlled the entire match until Oppedal got a reversal with about 15 second remaining to secure a 4-3 victory.

“We got a reversal for two points and we couldn’t create enough movement to get our deficit back,” Masching said. “We are proud of [Oswald]. His career was pretty impressive.”

Moreno place fifth at 195 after being eliminated in the first round of the state tournament this past year.

Moreno won his first reound match over

Crosby-Ironton’s Taylor Eigenheer (37-11) by a 16-11 decision.

Moreno lost in triple overtime 2-1 to Zumbrota-Mazeppa’s Jacob Bennett (47-4) in the second round, but he defeated Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg’s Ryan Torkelson (29-13) by a 6-4 decision in the opening round of wrestlebacks.

“Moreno just loves to wrestle,” Maaching said. “We would have all loved to see him in the state finals, but things didn’t go our way. We’re proud of him because he wrestled his heart out this weekend.”

Moreno went on to pin Minnewaska Area’s Tyler Vanluik (42-5) before losing a 11-5 decision to Fosston/Bagley’s Jake Ubert (38-5) in the semifinals of wrestlebacks.

Moreno finished the tournament and his high career on a positive note when it took him just 49 seconds to pin New York Mills’ Jake Erckenbrack (36-5) in the fifth place match.

“I’m glad a got a win as my last match,” Moreno said. “I know I could of done better, but I’m happy because I felt like a pushed myself a lot harder than I did all year.”

He finished the season with a 35-7 record.

Moreno said he was happy he got to finish his high school career with a bang and used his signature move, the high flyer, to win his final match.

“Before the match I knew I was going to do it,” Moreno said. “I just wanted to go out doing my favorite move and get it done. I was sore but I wasn’t going to make any excuses. I wanted to go out on a win.”

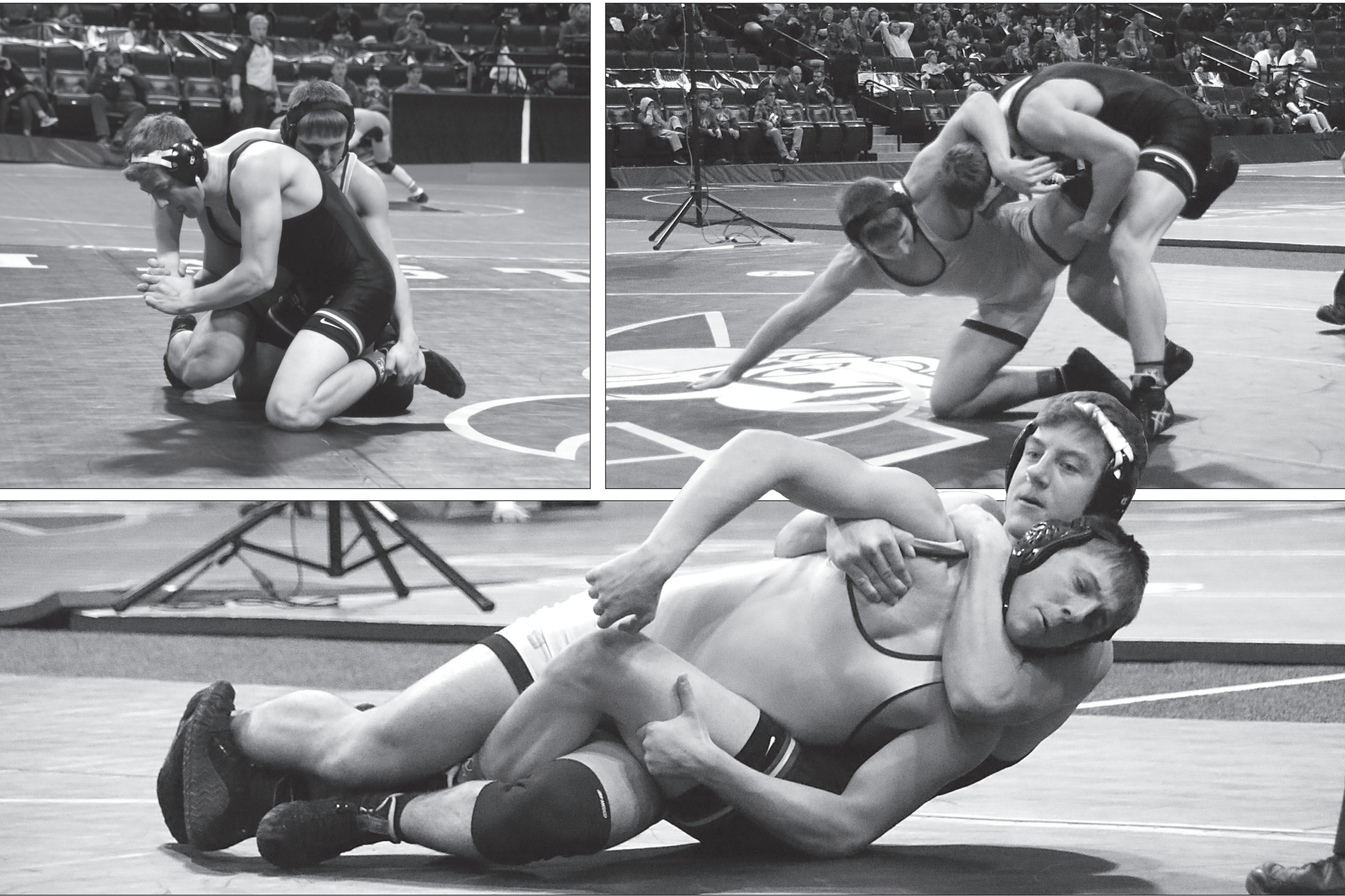
Moreno said he was in shock after picking up the quick pin.

“It didn’t hit me until l when I was leaving,” Moreno said. “I got off the mat and walked through the tunnel and I kind of just broke down. That’s when it hit me that it was a last match ever in high school.”

Blooming Prairie sophomore Dylan Nirk also qualified for the state meet but failed to place after he was pinned in his first match by Paynesville Area’s Grant Ludwig (37-8).

Unfortunately, Ludwig lost his second round match which meant Nirk would not get the opportunity to participate in wrestlebacks.

“We would have love to have seen him keep going and advance further into the tournament,” Masching said. “But getting up here is an accomplishment of its own. Now his goals are to take another step higher next year.”



NRHEG's Tyler Jacobson battles against Royalton-Epsala's Lyle Zimmerman during the first round of wrestlebacks on Friday at the Minnesota State Meet at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

NRHEG's Jacobson falls short of podium at state

Panthers' junior competes against top caliber opponents, gains valuable experience

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

After making his first appearance at the state meet this past weekend, New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva junior Tyler Jacobson is already looking for ways to train and prepare in order to make a return trip next season.

"It made me even more hungry and motivated," Jacobson said. "I have a long way to go and a lot of work I can do in offseason to better myself."

NRHEG coach Shawn Larson said Jacobson is already counting the days until the start of next wrestling season.

"[Jacobson] was outmaneuvered by a couple of guys," Larson said. "But with another year of training he could be right there with any of them."

"He is one of these guys who is the first one in the morning and he's the last one to leave," he continued. "It was a very valuable experience for him because he got to see his ability was right up there with the top guys from around the state."

Jacobson hit the ground running in his

opening round match at the Xcel Energy Center on Friday when he defeated Trinity School at River Ridge's Aiden Willard (17-13).

Willard was blocked Jacobson's first couple of takedown attempts, but Jacobson scored on the third shot and locked in an armbar to Willard in just 89 seconds to advance to the quarterfinals.

"I was riding pretty high after that one," Jacobson said. "That's probably one of the best feeling ever to go out and pin a kid at the state tournament and you look up and there is 20,000 people watching you get your hand raised."

Jacobson faced the No. 1 seed of the 170-pound weight class in Class A in Colton Waldvogel (37-3) of Osakis in the second round.

He led the match 5-3 before Waldvogel secured the victory by pin 50 seconds into the second period.

"I took a bad shot and I got caught underneath in a headlock," Jacobson said. "It's tough to fight out of that. I wasn't my best showing, but it's definitely a kid I can roll with. It's good to know I can compete with people like that."

Royalton-Epsala's Lyle Zimmerman (21-11) defeated Jacobson on Saturday morning in the consolation bracket to end his trip to state.

"He was going to get near fall points and possibly a pin," Larson said. "But [Zimmerman] bridged out and I don't think [Jacobson] was ready for that guy to have that much horse power."

Zimmerman pinned Jacobson with 16 seconds remaining in the second period.

"That kid was just bigger than me," Jacobson said. "It was another one where I had him on his back for a little bit. We both were scoring points. I definitely felt like I was in that match. It wasn't like a runaway deal. I just got caught on back. That's the way it goes in wrestling."

"Obviously, it didn't end the way I wanted," he continued. "But it was pretty cool. It was definitely a lot different than wrestling in our gym at New Richland. It was a cool opportunity and I had a lot of fun. I'm happy I got to have this experience, but I'm definitely motivated for a better finish next year. That's always the goal."

Larson said it was one of Jacobson's best performances he's seen as his coach.

"He scored points and had his opponent on their back in every match," Larson said. "The experience he gained from competing at the state meet is invaluable. It's a very positive

thing to have him back for another year because I think the kids will look up to him and try to emulate what he is doing."

Jacobson said he anticipates wrestling a weight class or two heavier next season.

"It depends on how much weight I can put on over the summer," he said. "I'm hoping to get a little bigger for football to help me at my middle linebacker and fullback position."

Although Jacobson was NRHEG's only state qualifier, the Panthers have bright future with a lot of upcoming talent.

"We had four wrestlers who contributed that were tenth grade and above," Larson said. "Everybody else is ninth grade and below."

Jacobson finished the season with a record of 24-11. He said he hopes his trip to state will motivation the Panthers' younger wrestlers to make the sacrifices and put in the time necessary to achieve their goals.

"I hope this shows them that it is possible," he said. "My goal is for the kids who are working their way up, like I was, can see this and know they can be that person someday if they work hard enough."

Pair of Medford Tigers place at state meet

STAFF REPORT

Medford had two of the three wrestlers it sent the 2018 Minnesota High School State Wrestling meet finish in the top three of their respective weight class this past weekend at Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

Medford seventh grader Charley Elwood finished second in Class A at the 106-pound weight class. He started the state meet for the Tigers by picking up a 19-4 technical fall at 5:35 over Badger-GB-MR's Tony Olson (24-17).

Elwood followed that up with a 7-4 decision over Zumbrota-Mazeppa's Michael Majerus (37-8) to earn a spot in the semifinals. He pinned LPGE-Browerville's Carter Meiners (39-8) in 1:17 to earn a trip to the championship match.

Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg's Will Mugaard (46-1) ended Elwood's run in the title match with a 10-7 decision.

Elwood finished the season with a record of 26-4.

Sophomore Willie Von Ruden picked up a third place finish for the Tigers at 138.

He defeated New York Mills' Matt Frost (32-10) in the first round by a major decision



Medford's Charley Elwood flips an opponent over during one of his matches at the state meet on Friday.

10-2, but then Von Ruden fell short against Osakis' Gage Zieske (44-2) 7-4.

Von Ruden won his next two matches in the wrestlebacks. He defeated Silbet East's Lincoln Carpenter by sudden victory 7-2 and Kimball Area's Payton Schiefelbein (36-8) by a 9-2 decision.

He defeated Staples Matley's Owen Bjerga (38-7) in the consolation semifinals to earn a spot in the third place match where he pinned Badger-GB-MR's Owen Novacek in 3:00.

Von Ruden finished the season with 35-5 record.

Senior Nate Meixner

won his first match by a 11-3 major decision over LPGE-Browerville's Keegan Cavallero (37-12), but he was pinned in his next match by Bertha-Hewitt-Berndale-Parkers Prairie's Holt Truax (43-1). Meixner came back and pinned his next opponent, Mahnomen-Waubun's Nick Podlack, in 3:59.

However, he came up short in final match when Dover Eyota's Michael Nelson (37-6) pinned him in 1:19.

Meixner finished the season with a record of 27-9.

Note: Several attempts were made before press time to contact Medford's coach.*



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Robb

Owatonna wrestler Peyton Robb capped off his 48-0 senior season with his third state championship on Saturday at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.



King

Owatonna wrestler Cade King finished his junior season with a record of 44-0 and his first state championship on Saturday at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul.

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BASKETBALL



BP boys defeather Cardinals

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

A lockdown first half that held LeRoy-Ostrander to just 12 first half points proved the key in a 63-48 victory for the Awesome Blossom boys at Leroy on Thursday. The section win by the No. 9 Blossoms moved them into a Monday, game against No.1 seed Rushford-Peterson at Rochester Civic Center. “The guys really worked hard on defense,” BP coach Nate Piller said. “It was a team defense and offense the team decided to make the cornerstone of their game on this night It was really all about defense.” BP jumped to a 26-12 lead at the break and built the lead to 27 points at one time in the second half, before Trey Hungerholt



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOWER COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Left: Blooming Prairie's Karson Vigeland gets a hand in a Leroy-Ostrander ball handlers face on Thursday in the Blossoms 63-48 victory. Right: Blooming Prairie's Jake Ressler goes for block against Leroy-Ostrander.

found his rhythm. He finished with 17 points to lead all scorers, but he and Seth Royston counted just 4 points combined in that Blossom dominated first half. Riley Olson scored 13 points for the Cardinals, but Royston managed just 6 points for the game. BP got 17 points from Kaden Thomas, 14 from Trent Swenson and 10 from Karson Vigeland. “We knew Hungerholt would get his points,” Piller said. “We just knuckled down defensively to limit his chances. We built that big lead, but one never feels comfortable in tourney play. It was a great effort by our defense, and it enabled us to extend our season for at least one more game.”

Besides the team effort on defense, credit goes to Jake Ressler for his work. He scored just 4 points, but he controlled the paint area, pulling down 16 rebounds and blocking 6 shot attempts. His work allowed the local an edge in total rebounds. “It was good to come here and get a win,” Ressler said. “We had a good following of fans, and that was nice. We have lost several tough games that we could have won, so this was our chance to start a new season.” The team record improved to 13-10 with the win and it gave the boys a shot at the No. 1 seed in the section.

BEA ends Panther season

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Blue Earth Area took a low-scoring 17-10 lead into the halftime break and then hung on to defeat the Panthers 52-45 at St. Peter on Friday, March 2. The loss in second round action of the Section 2A tournament ended the season for the Panthers. NRHEG'S Betsy Schoenrock was held to a season-low 12 points in the loss. Kelly Harden led the team in scoring with 13 points. Schoenrock did manage a double-double with 11 rebounds to go along with her 12 points. Harden pulled down 6 rebounds and Olivia Christopherson had eight points and three steals. Sophie Stork also had eight points, five rebounds and four assists. “We battled back in the second half to tie the score,” said NRHEG coach Onika Peterson. “But we weren't able to pull away at all. I am proud of what the team accomplished this season, as the girls got stronger every week. We will sorely

mss our seniors- Harden, Erin Van Wilgen, Gabby Muri and Schoenrock.” NRHEG finished the season with a 17-10 record and a second consecutive Gopher conference title. **NRHEG GIRLS WIN OPENJER** The defending section 2A champion NRHEG basketball opened their playoff run with a 58-48 victory over visiting Waterville-Elysaian-Morrstown Tuesday, Feb. 27 The Panthers trailed by four at halftime 38-34, but outscored the Bucs 24-10 after the break to take and keep the lead. “It was great to get that first win in the playoffs,” Peterson said. “I am excited for this group to get to play at Mankato East in the second round of the tournament.” Schoenrock led the winners again with 22 points and 12 rebounds for a double-double. Harden had 10 points and pulled down eight rebounds and four assists. Stork added eight points, four rebounds and three assists.

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Awesome Blossom girls did everything but win the game on Monday, Feb. 26, at Rochester's Mayo Center. Hayfield outscored the Blossoms 6-2 in the second overtime to sneak out a 67-63 victory in quarterfinal action of the Section 1A tournament and advance to the semi-finals against Goodhue. Hayfield, the No. 2 seed in the section and ranked third in the state, defeated BP by 30 points just two weeks ago, but this game had an entirely different tone. The Blossoms came out aggressively and took control early as the Vikings had trouble connecting on their shot attempts. BP marched to a seven-point lead at one point midway through the first half, but Hayfield fought back to trail just 25-23 at the break. All the excitement was saved for the last minutes of the game. “Two weeks ago, we played Hayfield and lost 75-45,” BP coach John Bruns said. “Our girls came out and battled the No. 3 ranked team in the state for 36 minutes of regulation

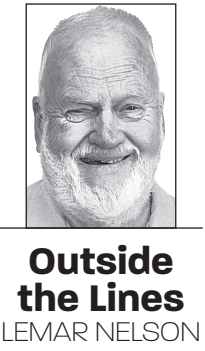
and two overtimes before the game was decided. It took a buzzer beater from the Vikings to end regulation and a free throw to send the game into the second overtime. Foul trouble eventually led to the downfall.” The Blossoms clung to a five-point lead with a little more than four minutes to play in the game, but Olivia Matti swished a 3-pointer at the buzzer to send the game into overtime. With five seconds left in the extra period Megan Oswald put BP up by a point, but a Maggie Streightliff free throw tied the game 61-61 to force a second extra period. Both Sam Wurst and McKenna Hein fouled out in the second overtime, and Hayfield hung on for the emotional victory. The Blossoms shot 36 percent from the field for the game on 24-of-66 attempts, while the Vikings made only 27 percent on 21-of-77 tries. Matti led all scorers in the game with 21 points for the Vikings. Streightliff and Carrie Rutledge added 15 and 14 points. Freshman Oswald led the Blossoms with 15 points, but Bobbie Bruns counted 14 points and both Wurst and Hein added 13. As Vikings co-head coach Kasey Krekling commented, “We are just

happy to be moving on. BP played a very good game with their aggressive defense.” From Bruns, “It was just a case of persuading the girls that they could play at this level, and they certainly did that.” Wurst and Oswald both added a double-double to their record, with Wurst pulling down 14 rebounds and Oswald adding 11. BP had an edge in rebounding 48-38, but the locals also had 34 turnovers to 24 for the winners. The game will rank as one of the most thrilling contests for the Blossoms in several years, and they need not hang their heads for this loss. Bruns concluded, “I can't say enough how proud I am of these girls and what they have accomplished this year. We finish the season at 17-9 and a second place in the Gopher Conference. We lose three seniors who will be sorely missed next year: Ayren Ingvalson, McKenna Hein and Sam Wurst. Their contributions to the program, both on and off the court, have been phenomenal over the past three years. The success of the team is credited to those three exceptional leaders.”

A VALIANT EFFORT

I have admired the Blooming Prairie basketball girls from a distance all season for their team play, determination and their ability to succeed above anyone's expectations. My admiration grew this past week with the effort and accomplishment of the team in the section playoff game. They didn't win the game, although from all reports, they outplayed Hayfield in this one. Sometimes, it can be a success, even though the outcome culminated in a loss rather than a victory. This was one of those times, for sure. After losing to the Vikings by 30 points just two weeks earlier, the team's play this time around provided many thrills and a lot of excitement. As is true of any overtime contest, the game could have gone either way. Fate gave Hayfield the nod this time. I don't think any Blossom fans or I can find fault with the season's end. The team loses three seniors in Ayren Ingvalson, McKenna Hein and Sam Wurst. All three have been great leaders the past two seasons. Several underclassmen return, and it is hoped that this year of experience will make the Blossoms a formidable foe next year. A great big tip of the hat goes this week to the Awesome Blossoms and the coaches for an admirable job and an unforgettable season. Now the basketball boys find themselves in the same situation. They met another section favorite on Thursday night at Rochester, and they earned that because of their fine play in the win over LeRoy-Ostrander. As is often the case in tournament play, the team defense against the Cardinals proved to be the key to

victory. BP has been quite inconsistent in the play this season, but maybe the team can come together for a complete effort against Rushford-Peterson. If the boys can match the effort of the girls, everyone will be satisfied, I am sure. Go Blossoms We must give credit also to the Razorback wrestlers. To send five to the state warranted praise, and their success at the state earned them more acknowledgment for an excellent tournament. Colton Krell took second at 160 pounds, Mitchell Oswald and Ethan Arett placed fourth, and Morgan Moreno finished fifth. Dylan Nirk lost his only bout at the state. Krell is just a sophomore, while Arett, Moreno and Oswald all finished their high school careers at the state tournament. A big tip of the hat this week goes to the Westfield Razorbacks for the fine showing at state and their excellent dual meet records over the past season.



Outside the Lines
LEMAR NELSON

EVENTS NOTED

Two events over the weekend caught my attention. The first was the second annual Speakeasy tour here in Blooming Prairie, and my neighborhood spies reported that it rated five stars and an unqualified success. That event marked an inventive project sponsored by the BP Chamber of Commerce, and it proved enough of a success that it is anticipated to be an annual event.

The actual stops, the creativity of some of the costumes, and the socializing that prevailed during the Saturday evening all combined to make the occasion a most interesting and informative one. Kudos to the chamber for its sponsorship. I imagine that a sizeable segment of the local population tuned in to the annual Oscar Awards Ceremony on Sunday night. I have been a lifelong movie buff, but I am probably one of the very few who did not see a single one of the nominated pictures. It still interested me, however, and I enjoyed many of the other awards for actors, supporting actors, as well as the winning song and director wins. With my dependence on Direct TV for my movie watching, I assume that sometime in the next couple of years, will be able to catch up with the nominated and winning movies. As they say, better late than never. About the time we think winter is finally over, we get a drop in temperature or a little sleet and snow to remind us that we can expect the unexpected at any time. All we can do regarding the weather, I guess, is to ride with the punches Mother Nature throws at us and think that spring will come eventually. It doesn't even seem possible, but in the next couple of weeks, the staff here at the Times will be scrambling to get information from the area coaches for our annual spring sports tab. Provided we get the usual good cooperation from the various coached, the spring sports tab will be found in the April 3 issue of the paper. I hope readers will look forward to that annual publication. Keep looking forward to spring, and we'll talk again.

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by Kim

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- Owatonna**
Fifth place: Blake West, 106
- Westfield**
Runner-up: Colton Krell, 160
Fourth place: Ethan Arett, 106 and Mitchell Oswald, 285
Fifth place: Morgen Moreno, 195
- Medford**
Runner-up: Charley Elwood, 106
Third place: Willie Von Ruden, 138

Great job on your athletic accomplishments this season!



Cade King, 182, Owatonna



Peyton Robb, 160, Owatonna

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Cyber expert promotes safe internet habits

Former detective reminds people online activity is trackable

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

“As a detective I have a super-power,” retired Cybercrimes Investigator Rich Wistocki explained in front of an audience of eighth graders last Thursday. “And it’s called a subpoena.”

The former detective came to Owatonna Schools giving four presentations on cyber safety. He described the effectiveness of subpoenas on internet service providers, reminding students of a tried and true adage on digital permanence: that what you do online is easily accessible and trackable.

Rich Wistocki spent 30 years as a police officer, with 22 of those years finishing in the field of cybercrimes investigations. After retiring he began giving talks on cyber safety in the town of Naperville, Ill., where he had formerly served. Two years ago the National Exchange Club decided that Wistocki’s expertise could easily translate to a national effort.

At Thursday’s presentation he went over safe internet strategies for young people. These include knowing with a certainty who they are interacting with online, the importance of understanding one’s digital footprint, and relating how to counteract the impact that cyberbullying can have on young people.

“An internet predator has roughly 250 victims in a lifetime.”

Rich Wistocki
Retired Detective

According to Wistocki, people need to verify who it is they are interacting with online. He presented four things one should know about who they are speaking with online. These criteria are to know the person’s full name, their telephone number, their address, and where they go to school or work. As the detective said, “If you cannot answer these four things about who it is your speaking with online, then you don’t really know them, do you?”

Owatonna Middle School Principal Julie Sullivan feels it’s never too early for students to receive this crucial information. “It’s critical for young people to be aware of their digital footprint,” she said. Sullivan also sees an important message in Wistocki’s presentation for parents. “It’s absolutely vital for parents to stay educated on cyber safety.”

With the widening pervasiveness of technology, Sullivan



Retired police detective Rich Wistocki gives a presentation on the importance of cyber safety and digital awareness to local eighth graders at the Owatonna Middle School last Thursday. He gave four seminars throughout the day, including one in the evening for parents.

thinks educators can likewise benefit from such discussion. “Yeah, educators for sure, I think sometimes we need to hear about these things because we deal with some of these matters from day to day,” she said. After all, as Sullivan notes, “It’s our job to educate the kids, and so any knowledge on technology can go a long way.”

Sullivan said that issues such as cyberbullying have

increased in prevalence as young people are consumed more and more with their digital lives. “It leaks into school,” she explained, “and so we do see a lot of it.”

The presentation also had important information for parents. “Parents don’t always look at their child’s phone, but they

SEE **CYBER, C3**

March is Women’s History Month

As recently as the 1970s, women’s history was virtually an unknown topic in our public schools or in general public consciousness. During the month of March the Steele County Historical Society will be celebrating the contributions women have made and continue to make.

On March 15 at 7 p.m. at the Steele County History Center, Marti Micks, MN League of Women Voters, will lead a discussion on Voting Rights Yesterday and Today. Marti will trace the evolution of women’s voting rights from the colonial era to achieving the right to vote in the U.S. in 1920, along with background stories of several leaders in the suffrage movement. She will also discuss World War I’s effect on the suffrage movement, as well as the creation of the League of Women Voters.

Marti currently serves as First Vice President of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. She is a retired Social Studies teacher, having taught early U.S. history for 21 years.



Steele Talkin’
STEPHANIE KIBLER

This presentation ties in to a current exhibit, Over Here, Over There: The Great War 100, which features Steele County women and the contribution they made back in 1917.

Girl’s Rock: The Healing Power of Girlfriends will be presented on March 29 at 7 p.m. at the Steele County Historical Society. The presenters will examine the role of friendships in our lives is terribly under-estimated. Researchers are paying attention to the importance of friendships and social networks in our overall health. Stick with your girlfriends and stay healthier. In honor of Women’s History Month, SCHS celebrates the impact women have on one another throughout history. This presentation is suitable for women of all ages, including tweens and teens. Presenters: Lori Syverson, and special guest Meg Chiodo.

Lori Syverson is an inspirational keynote speaker, author, successful entrepreneur and businesswoman. She is known for connecting the dots and engaging individuals and organizations. She empowers audiences with innovative concepts and tools to appreciate nurture and bring peace to important relationships in life.

In 2015 Syverson was awarded the prestigious A. Barry Rand Fellowship sponsored by AARP and Life Reimagined to help develop innovative solutions to help people live with meaning and purpose. Her hospice research laid the foundation for her well-received Tedx talk, ‘What the Dying Taught Me about Living’ and her current research project focuses on the regrets of the dying across culture.

Syverson has 25 years of experience, actively engaging both large and small size audiences, on radio, television and in personal appearances. Lori is a member of the Screen Writers Guild (Upper Midwest) and is host of an award-winning local television show.

Through inspiration, education and coaching Syverson motivates audiences to start a revolution, pay it forward and live a happy and healthy life through our relationships.

Syverson has an undergraduate degree in journalism and a master’s degree in business administration. Her background includes print journalism, media relations, marketing and public relations. She lives in St. Paul.

The presentations are FREE for SCHS members; \$5 for nonmembers. Membership in the society starts as low as \$20 annually and offers free admission to lectures, panel presentations and the exhibit hall, as well as discounted tickets to events like History Uncorked, Americana Showcase and more.

Both presentations will be held at the Steele County History Center located at 1700 Austin Road, Owatonna. The History Center is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and, Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Stephanie Kibler is the meetings and events manager at the Steele County History Center. Steele Talkin’ is a weekly column featuring authors representing various groups and organizations in Steele County.



It may be several months before the fair, but the fair’s mascots, Steely and Stella, came out to support former fair Jim Gleason, next to Stella, and give him a thumbs up Saturday night at Gleason’s benefit at Retrofit in Owatonna. Newly appointed fair manager Scott Kozelka also joined in to offer his support.

Community comes out strong for Jim Gleason Benefit

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

There were cars parked around the side of the building, and the lot was filled to the brim. They were all there to see one man: Jim Gleason.

Gleason served as fair manager since 2012, helping to mobilize and organize the Steele County Free Fair in Owatonna, the largest county fair in Minnesota. This past year Gleason was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer.

On Saturday the community showed up in force at the Retrofit Building in Owatonna for his benefit, which included a live and silent auction and get together, with live music and friends and family there to share stories and support the man they love.

“It’s just awesome, it’s a great turnout,” Scott Kozelka said while admiring the crowds, “this is what our community is all about.” Kozelka was recently announced as the new fair manager, but during

SEE **GLEASON, C3**

Council debates public works opening

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

The Medford City Council is uncertain how to fill the recent departure of a public works employee.

During their regular meeting Feb. 26, council members debated what should be done with the public works position of Tony Jelen, who recently left the city. The council weighed its options, with council member Chad Merritt questioning whether they need to fill the vacancy with a full-time employee or not, and whether they could seek outside help with that position.

Andy Welti, Medford city administrator, explained the need for a full-time position, telling the council that the current Public Works employees have their hands full. “In the world of public works,” Welti said, “it’s rare for things to happen smoothly.”

Council member Keith Maas chimed in by suggesting that they might want to consider raising the pay in the future in order to attract more takers. “We’ve had some turnover,” he said, describing the debilitating effect fresh personnel can have on the city. “I understand that, but at some point they’re not new anymore.”

Welti agreed with this estimation that the frequent turnover has had an effect on the city, describing how Medford is often put in a hard position

SEE **COUNCIL, C3**

BP hires new EDA coordinator

BY RICHARD JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Stephanie Lawson has begun work as Economic Development Authority coordinator for the City of Blooming Prairie.

The Racine native is a community and business development specialist for Chatfield-based Community and Economic Development Associates, a non-profit corporation which offers community support, small business assistance, grant writing and management services, administration services, and community planning and development (see www.cedausa.com).

She succeeds Tom Monson, who is now employed by Citizens State Bank in Mantorville.

“I’m very excited,” Lawson said. “Being able to give back to small

communities like the one I grew up in, I feel like I found my purpose in that, and it’s exciting for me to be able to contribute and see our communities grow and thrive.

“It’s just something that I’m really looking forward to,” she said. “I’m going to get to meet a lot of great people.”



Lawson

Lawson previously worked as an agricultural and commercial loan assistant and consumer mortgage lender for First Farmers and Merchants Bank in Stewartville.

She will help Blooming Prairie reach its economic development goals, provide support for county and community members working on specified projects, and help obtain grant funding.

She also is a liaison for the county and the state Department of Employment and Economic Development, regarding city projects.

Lawson said her duties depend on the city’s needs. She also has joined Dodge County as its new EDA coordinator.

“I’m very fortunate that they are very similar in how they want my role to be implemented,” she said. “Anything that they have come through that they need my assistance for, I am there.”

Her finance background will help Blooming Prairie, said City Administrator Mike Jones, who serves as treasurer for CEDA.

“She just adds a different outlook on it, being she’s coming from the banking industry,” he said. “We’re going to get some youthful energy here.”

Blooming Prairie Honor Guard preserves dignity to veterans

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

It's a long-standing tradition designed to preserve the dignity of our American veterans.

That's a description of the Blooming Prairie Honor Guard, which consists of American Legion Post 52 and VFW Post 878 members. It is about 35 strong.

The Honor Guard serves a purpose of providing military rites at a veteran's funeral.

Blooming Prairie Honor Guard members are easily recognized at funerals of local veterans. The Honor Guard members are dressed in a blue blazer, gray slacks, an American Legion tie, a Legion hat and white gloves.

The Honor Guard includes a Color Guard and a Firing Squad. It was started in 1919 with the birth of the American Legion on a national basis. The VFW later became part of the Honor Guard.

Ken Trom, Honor Guard member and organizer with Burt Knutson and Tom Walters, said the Honor Guard "nearly disappeared" in the early 1990s. "Our bugler didn't show up at one of our funerals and Bud Miller pinch hit for us," recalls Trom.

"Our feeling at that time was to either disband the group or reorganize and put a more solid group together," says Trom.

Reorganize, the Honor Guard did in the early 1990s. Trom, Knutson and Walters remember meeting in the basement of the F & M State Bank to save the Honor Guard. "We wanted something to be proud of," Trom said in the successful effort to reorganize the Honor Guard.

After receiving some donations from the community, the Honor

Guard was saved and a uniform began to develop. "I remember buying blue blazers from the Salvation Army," Knutson said.

The Honor Guard, newly organized, purchased trousers and parkas which are worn outdoors in colder weather. Worlein Funeral Home of Austin and Blooming Prairie donated to the parka purchases.

"I remember the first time we marched, all wearing white shirts, dark pants, a hat and a tie," remarked Trom. He said the uniform was not consistent and he recalls the group marching in a parade in Hayfield with temperatures reaching 106 degrees.

The Honor Guard always goes along with the family's wishes for the military rites. A veteran does not need to be a Legion or VFW member to qualify for a military funeral, says Walters.

On the day of a funeral for a veteran, the Honor Guard meets at a central location, sometimes the church, and marches in with the Legion or VFW cap draped on their right forearm. The Honor Guard is then seated as a group in the church.

Following the church service, the Honor Guard lines up as an escort for the departed and family at the church. The Honor Guard then travels to the cemetery for the burial and escorts the veteran to the grave site.

A firing squad then fires a salute. A 5 by 8 foot flag is presented to the family. Trom said he has presented over 200 flags to veterans families since 1988. The flags are provided by the United States Government.

The Honor Guard concludes its duties with the playing of TAPS. Paul Habermannn is typically the bugler. Jim Zwiener has also played TAPS as



TIMES PHOTO

Members of the Blooming Prairie American Legion and VFW posts make up the Blooming Prairie Honor Guard. Members of the Honor Guard include: front row (left to right): Bob Prokopec, Ken Trom, Jim Prokopec, Jack Noble and LeRoy Schroeder; back row: Howard Lestrud, Gary Hansen, Ken Vermilyea, Doug Johnson, Steve Wencel, Gary Thorson, Don Glynn, Tom Peterson, Ken Esplan, Karl Lieuken, Paul Nelson, Maynard Johnson, Keith Holman, Tom Walters, Joe Wacek and Paul Stender. Not pictured are: Burt Knutson, Bob Ingvalson, Ron Nelson, Kurt Blome, Jim Johns, Harlan Hinzman, Ron Janning, Cletus Glynn, Joe Prokopec, Merle McNutt, Herman Clausen, Mike Hoffman and Burnell Hanson.

have high school band members.

"The Honor Guard has been well received with the veterans' families really appreciating the military honors," said Walters.

Following the death of a veteran, a funeral home contacts Walters and he then calls Trom, Knutson, Gary Thorson and Bob Prokopec who make calls to Honor Guard members telling them of the funeral particulars.

Members of the Honor Guard include Bob Prokopec, Ken Trom, Jim Prokopec, Jack Noble, LeRoy Schroeder, Howard Lestrud, Gary Hansen; Ken Vermilyea, Doug Johnson, Steve Wencel, Gary Thorson, Don Glynn, Tom Peterson, Ken Esplan; Karl Lieuken, Paul Nelson, Maynard Johnson, Keith Holman, Tom Walters, Joe Wacek,

Paul Stender; Burt Knutson, Bob Ingvalson, Ron Nelson, Kurt Blome, Ken Winzenburg, Jim Johns, Harlan Hinzman; Ron Janning, Cletus Glynn, Joe Prokopec, Merle McNutt, Herman Clausen, Mike Hoffman and Burnell Hanson.

"It's nice to see the tradition continue," concluded Trom.

Winter load increases end while spring weight restrictions begin

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has ended winter load increases in the south, southeast and metro frost zones and started spring truck weight restrictions in those same zones on Monday.

Road restriction maps showing the locations of weight-restricted routes and those state highways open to maximum 10-ton axle weights are listed at mndot.gov/loadlimits. Click on "seasonal load limits," and then "spring load restrictions."

Overweight permits for more than 80,000 pound gross vehicle weight will continue and new permits will be issued if all axle and group weights are legal.

Full-summer overweight permits can be issued during the spring load restriction period only on interstate through movements.

Middle-range overweight permits become available within each frost zone when spring load restrictions are lifted. Full-summer overweight permits become available two to three weeks after spring load restrictions are lifted.

Ending dates for spring load restrictions are variable and based on how weather is affecting roadway strength.

MnDOT will report start and end dates on its 24-hour automated message center at 1-800-723-6543 for the U.S. and Canada, and locally at 651-366-5400 for the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

GENEVA TWP / FREEBORN COUNTY, MN

LAND AUCTION

550 ACRES+/- • 5 TRACTS

SALE TO BE HELD AT THE GENEVA COMMUNITY CENTER, 1ST AVE, GENEVA, MN

FRI., MARCH 23 @ 10 A.M.

#1620 JACOB & JEANETTE BROUWER TRUST

- Mr. Brouwer lives in California and has decided to sell his Minnesota farm land at public auction on March 23, 2018.
- This Highly productive land is in close proximity but will be selling in five separate tracts. Two of these tracts have irrigation wells and pivots.
- Online Bidding Available

Tract 1: 152.27 Deeded acres / 148.77 Tillable acres / CPI - 67.9 / Sec. 20 • Tract 2: 141.79 Deeded acres / 132.5 Tillable acres / CPI - 65.4 / Sec. 29 • Tract 3: 95.23 Deeded acres / 89.9 Tillable acres / CPI - 70 / Sec. 21 • Tract 4: 40 Deeded acres / 37.49 Tillable acres / CPI - 70.8 / Sec. 29 • Tract 5: 120 Deeded acres / 118.01 Tillable acres / CPI - 70.1 / Sec. 29 • Terms: \$50,000 down on each Tract the day of the sale, remainder due on or about May 5, 2018. 2% Buyer's Fee will apply.

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Jon Herron

Sierra Larson

BLOSSOMS OF THE MONTH

Blooming Prairie High School

Jon Herron- Senior

The senior high student of the month is Jon Herron, who is a senior. His favorite class is band as it is a family generation activity. Herron likes to work reading music and turning it into sounds.

Some comments from his teachers include:

- "Jon is a problem-solver who enjoys tackling tough issues and current events. He has a knack for persuasion and critical thinking, often pointing out exceptions to rules and making "what if" statements. He is a great asset in class when he's engaged, as his ideas can really launch good discussions."
- "Jon is a leader amongst his peers and actively looks for ways to help his friends and classmates without teacher direction. He also displays leadership on trips, always looking out for other people, and checking for clarity on anything that comes up. He's also one of the most dedicated and hard-working students in band this year."

Herron's special interests are computer technology, coding and robotics. He has two younger siblings, Aiden and Gavin and a pet dog.

Sierra Larson- 7th Grade

The junior high student of the month is Sierra Larson, who is a seventh grader. Her favorite class is math, and she likes Mrs. Luick.

Some comments from her teachers include:

- "Sierra is very deserving as she is a hard-working students who excels on her assignments. She puts in the extra effort to make sure everything she does is done well. She is a kind, respectful young lady."
- "Sierra is a conscientious student who does her best work."
- "Sierra is an extremely hard-working and intelligent student. She actively participates in class and is a very kind and respectful person."

Larson has been active in academic triathlon for three years and does well with the gifted and talented event, according to her teachers.

Her special interests include riding horse, sewing and playing sports. She has two siblings, Marissa and Jarrett. She also has two dogs and three cats.

Congratulations, Jon and Sierra, on your awesome classroom accomplishments!

HOMESTEAD HOSPICE HOUSE

SUITS & SNEAKERS

Basketball Fundraiser Event

for the Patient Care Fund

Sunday

March 18, 2018

2:00 p.m. | O.H.S. Gym

Adults: \$10

18 & under: \$6

6 & under: Free

CONCESSIONS

HALF TIME EVENTS

RAFFLE ITEMS

Purchase tickets at Kottke Jewelers or day of the game.

Come out and cheer for community celebrities that have stepped out of the winter shadows to play their hearts out for the Patient Care Fund.

Community supporters include: Allina Health, B.B.B.S., Cashwise, Ecumen CountrySide/Brooks, Fame Award Signs & Specialties, Fareway Foods, Federated Insurance, Hy-Vee, Krause Feeds and Supplies, Local and State Government, Mayo Clinic Health System, Owatonna City Council, Owatonna Mayor, Owatonna People's Press, Owatonna School District 761, Owatonna Shoe, Plaza Morena, Salon-e-clips, Southern MN Construction Co., Steele County Sheriff Dept., Trinity Lutheran Church and Viracon.

EVENT SPONSORS

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\$5.00 Cost with \$2.00 donated to the Patient Care Fund

Go to OwatonnaLive.com and Click On Live Events

** All Donations Are Tax Deductible **

Homestead Hospice House 2350 NW 26th St., Owatonna, MN 55060

GLEASON: *Community shows support*

FROM PAGE C1

Saturday’s benefit, his focus was on his good friend Jim. He was proud of all the community support. “This is Steele County. Everyone pitches in,” Kozelka expressed as he explained the wave of donations and volunteers they’ve seen recently. “We didn’t have to ask for any donations. They just all came in, and everyone was ready to help out,” he said. “There was no solicitation, all of this was done just out of kindness,” he added.

Kozelka sees something special in the way the community has thrown themselves behind Gleason, who has been a stalwart member of Steele County for decades. “Everyone wants to see Jim,” he said, “just look at all the lives he touched.”

At the event Gleason was there catching up with old acquaintances, and smiling with his friends. “We’re taking it one day at a time,” Gleason explained, “I feel really good.” He will start his second round of chemo in mid-March, but before

“We’re taking it one day at a time. I feel really good.”

Jim Gleason
Battling Cancer

Kozelka said, has been outstanding with volunteers, friends and family helping out however they can. “They made a big difference,” he said, “taking him to treatment, or helping when they can.”

Dan Deml, president of the fair, understands all the support Gleason’s received. “It shows how people appreciate what he’s done for the county and for the fair, and what the fair means to the region,” he said, adding he expected up to 1,000 people at the event.

“I think we just all really realize how much we miss him,” Deml said. “Look at everyone here. It isn’t just the fair board, we have the Knights of Columbus helping out, his kids and family and Team Gleason, as well as all kinds of volunteers, and we’ve received donations from Tom Thumb and Godfathers.”

Deml, too, was moved by all the support. “It’s tremendous. It’s a whole community effort,” he said. Deml feels that this community response is due to Gleason’s good standing in the community. “He was in such a highly visible position, and that’s part of it, but it was who he is, you can’t separate him from that.”

“It’s overwhelming,” Gleason’s daughter Natalie said. “I knew my dad affected so many people, but I didn’t realize how many. It’s quite amazing.”

She was grateful for all the volunteers and donations. “Everyone banded together to support my dad, and in a pretty short amount of time,” Natalie said that her father is doing well. “I think things like this help him move forward,” she said.

The idea for the benefit first began when a few of the Fair Board members and their wives were in Las Vegas for a convention. Some of the wives thought it would be a good idea to do something for Gleason and his family, and Kozelka and the board agreed. “We jumped right on that idea,” he recalled.

With friends and family and people from all over the region coming to show their love for the man of the hour, it was a terrific display of community togetherness.

Proceeds from the benefit will help pay for a portion of Gleason’s medical costs. A GoFundMe campaign has also been established at www.gofundme.com/a7c2x-jims-medical-fund.

COUNCIL: *Debates opening*

FROM PAGE C1

to find employees based on its location between two larger communities, Owatonna and Faribault.

Mayor Lois Nelson also added her two cents on the topic. “We’re a good community to work for, but right now the bigger cities have more draw,” she said.

Other items on the agenda included a resolution aimed at improving the city’s streets, and the consideration of a new contract for the Medford Fire Department.

Rick Hagar, Medford fire chief, was on hand to discuss and decide on contract possibilities. He suggested two options of entering into a 3-year contract with Medford Township and Deerfield Township with an increase of 8, 10, or 12 percent or a 1-year contract

with those townships at an increase of 8, 10, or 12 percent.

In the end, the council opted to renew the contract for one year at a 10 percent increase. This option will give the city time to determine a longer term contract for the future while also providing a temporary salary increase for Medford’s Fire Department.

The possible for sale of land near the Medford Public School was also weighed upon, with consideration for the prospect of retaining the land in anticipation for additional athletic usage in the future. “Who knows, we might need it for a lacrosse field,” Merritt said.

A project that will have a wide impact on the entire community later this year is street improvements. The council considered a resolution aimed at widening several streets within the city limits, restoring pavement damage, and attending to additional roadway improvements around town.

CYBER: *Expert talks safety*

FROM PAGE C1

should be checking it on a regular basis,” Sullivan recommended, much in line with Wistocki’s own opinion. “They also need to discuss cyber safety with their kids, and make them aware that there are predators out there,” Sullivan said.

She reports that prior to the trio of local exchange clubs reaching out to the school, they had been in talks with an FBI agent in the Twin Cities for a similar presentation. But with Wistocki’s expertise on hand, she was grateful for the exchange clubs’ offer. “He knows his stuff, and he knows what he’s doing.”

Exchange Club of Steele County Board Director and President-Elect Randy Sobrack recalls that he first heard Wistocki’s presentation last July at an Exchange Club Convention in Jacksonville, Fla. He mentioned to the club how he was moved by the detective’s message, and they decided to see if they could bring him here.

Bringing Wistocki to Owatonna was a group effort, Sobrack said. “The Moonlighter’s Youth Club worked on it,” he said,” it came together really quickly, and the Moonlighter’s Exchange Club did the organization while the other two clubs helped out.”

Sobrack feels the message is a timely one. “There’s been an explosion of smartphones and people being active on social media, so I think it’s vital for parents and teachers to be on top of this technology and the dangers it poses.”

He says that, although young people have a head start with technology, schools and parents are catching up, which means they’re able to better monitor their children and students. “It’s important for parents to keep tabs on who their kids are interacting with online,” Sobrack explained.

“Technology is a great means of communicating, and can be very convenient, but it also opens up avenues for predators and criminals,” he says, “so we need to practice safe methods with our technology.” Sobrack feels that adults can also

benefit from Wistocki’s presentation. “People need to know not to put critical information out there on the internet, and I think even some adults could definitely learn from this.”

Detective Wistocki knows firsthand the dangers that the internet can present. “An internet predator has roughly 250 victims in a lifetime,” he said, adding that awareness can go a long way.

“We need to empower our kids so we can help them,” Wistocki explains, “but parents too, they need to understand that they are responsible for everything their kids do before the age of 18, and so they need to stay involved and pay close attention to their child’s online activity.”

Wistocki says it’s absolutely imperative that parents confiscate their kids’ smartphones and online devices when it’s time to go to bed, which will limit their exposure to these dangers and teach healthy sleeping habits.

He also sees much heartbreak in the trend of cyberbullying, “I’m sick and tired of kids hurting themselves from online bullying.” The detective explained that they have a word for the sort of anonymous nerve that online interactions can result in. “We call it keyboard courage.”

Now retired, Wistocki spends his time delivering this message to offices and schools around the country in hopes that it will help to counteract the growing problems cybercrimes pose to our young people. “If parents are educated on these issues, it’s possible to cut the rate of exploited kids in half, so I would say that’s a key element in these discussions,” Wistocki said.

The presentations were delivered to grades 6-8, with a special evening presentation at Trinity Lutheran Church for parents. Wistocki suggests that parents and educators who want to stay on top of these issues should visit both The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children’s website, as well as their Facebook page. “There’s a lot of good resources out there,” he said.

Wistocki is currently employed by Be Sure Consulting, and recently gave a TEDx talk concerned with these topics. Those who wish to view Wistocki’s TEDx presentation should visit www.tedxnaperville.com/talks/richard-wistocki.

Cancer Corner



Blossoming Prairie Cancer Group

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD



Daffodils will be for sale from A Touch of Charm of Blossoming Prairie from March 12-18. Daffodils are available in bunches of 10 for \$10. All proceeds go to the Blossoming Prairie Cancer Group's Community Fund.

Leanne Hanson, left, presents 2017 sales to Cheri Krejci, BP Cancer Group treasurer.

Sponsored by

Krejci



A hint of spring comes with daffodil sales

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

A hint of spring is in the air as daffodil sales are again being coordinated by Leanne Hanson of A Touch of Charm to benefit the Blossoming Prairie Cancer Group's Community Fund. The flowers usually available in early March represent a first sign of spring, says Hanson. Buy your daffodils March 12-18.

The daffodils will be available for the fourth consecutive year at A Touch of Charm at 330 East Main Street in bunches of 10 for \$10. A Touch of Charm sold 90 bunches last year and ordered 90 bunches again for this year. The sale of daffodils was formerly a project of the

American Cancer Society. Many organizations sold the flowers to benefit the Cancer Society.

Since the American Cancer Society discontinued its project, Hanson thought she would continue the project on a local level.

Hanson said she admires the efforts of the BP Cancer Group and wanted to help in any way she could.

Daffodils are hardy perennials that grow in most areas of North America, except southern Florida. Daffodil bulbs can be planted in the fall and will bloom in late winter or early spring.

If you don't plant your own daffodils, the next best bet is to order from A Touch of Charm at 507-583-7637. Stop by the store between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

NRHEG



Panther of the Week



AVARY

Sponsored by:



NRHEG Elementary- Ellendale

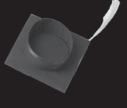
This week's Panther of the Week is Avery Riskedahl. She is the daughter of Jade and Ashley Riskedahl, and they reside in Hartland.

Avary is in Mr. Beynon's second grade class. Ava shows great respect and integrity in school. She leads by example and is always the first one to lend a helping hand to a friend in need. Her positive attitude is infectious to all who are around her.

Avary loves to do cartwheels and gymnastics. She loves all movies, her favorite books are the Magic Tree House series, and her favorite food is macaroni and cheese.

Keep up the great work Avary!

MARCH 17TH



9 AM-1 PM

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BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

Blotter Spotlight: Suspicion: On Feb. 24, deputies received a report of a suspicious vehicle sitting in a yard in the 12400 block of 700th St. in Blooming Prairie at 9:37 p.m.

Rose to seek another term as Dodge sheriff

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Acknowledging that the Dodge County Sheriff’s Office was a “broken” agency four years ago, Sheriff Scott Rose has focused on repairing the damage during his first term as the county’s top law enforcer.

It proved to be a painful transition for Rose, as he walked into a department struggling to trust the administration, reeling from the on-duty death of a captain, and grappling with overall morale issues. And to top things off they had just experienced a “very stressful,” as Rose called it, election year, pitting an incumbent sheriff against Rose, a veteran of the sheriff’s office.

“It affects everything,” Rose said during a candid interview last week. “Productivity, morale and work performance. A stressful election year becomes such a distraction to the department, and it concerns me that the distraction can cause safety issues.”

In announcing his bid for re-election this fall, Rose said he is hoping for a much smoother campaign this time around. He is hoping residents will see what positive changes his team has implemented over the past four years and know that the sheriff’s office is no longer broken like it was in 2014.

The sheriff smiles these days as many of his counterparts in other police jurisdictions often chide him about how rosy things are in Dodge County.

“It has been a good run,” Rose says. “We’ve accomplished a lot in the last four years.”

Rose said one of the keys to his success over the past four years has been surrounding himself with good leaders.

Just after he took office, Rose reinstated Mike Leonhardt as chief deputy. The previous sheriff had fired Leonhardt over concerns of loyalty.

“To me that was huge for his experience and for his leadership to help build the morale back up in the office,” Rose said of bringing back Leonhardt.

Teamwork is another important characteristic that Rose has leaned on during his tenure to turn things around.

“We have created an environment where everyone can work together,” he said. “We’re pulling from everyone’s strengths and having them work together. Everyone has stepped up and done a great job.”

Rose prides himself on providing his staff with the tools and training to see them grow and develop into leaders.

“To me it’s a reward just to see the growth,” he said. “I enjoy the leadership aspect of the job. Leadership to me is about developing future leaders.”

Over the past four years Rose has focused on developing



As Dodge County Sheriff Scott Rose announced his plans for re-election last week, he reflected back on the past four years in reshaping an office that he called “broken” when he took over as the county’s top law enforcer in 2014. All 87 sheriffs in Minnesota are up for re-election this year. Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele announced two weeks ago that he is also seeking re-election.

supportive.” He also wants the sheriff’s office to be a family environment.

“We’ve developed an atmosphere where people want to stay,” he said, noting he has hardly any turnover with his full time staff. He often jokes about how his employees don’t stick around because of the money, as many surrounding agencies pay significantly more than Dodge County.

A few of the most significant changes within the office since 2014 have been the upgrading of the dispatch center and court security improvements.

Rose referred to the 911 center as “very antiquated” when he took over. He said the improvements made within dispatch have brought it up to the level of any other center in the region.

The security enhancements, Rose said, have been huge in protecting everyone who comes into the courthouse.

“We have a court security system in place that the state has recognized as a model for other counties,” he said. “That’s quite a compliment for a small county like ours.”

Rose complimented county officials with helping him restructure the sheriff’s office in recent years.

“The county board is open and receptive to recognizing the needs of our office,” he said. “We are very fortunate to have a good relationship (with the board).”

Within the past few months, Rose initiated a chaplaincy program for the county involving nine area clergy members. He is excited about growing the program even more in the coming years.

adjudication, \$75 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Isaac A. Nystuen, 23, Faribault, theft, \$131; Fernando R. Silva Rodriguez, 19, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Hong G. Trieu, 42, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$131; Ashley I. Von Ruden, 30, Owatonna, revoked license and stop sign, \$331; Trenton J. Weide, 19, Owatonna, possession of marijuana and underage possession of alcohol, \$331; Michelle B. Wencil, 37, Owatonna, texting while driving, \$131.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Kin H. Ahmed, 37, Faribault, failure to drive in single lane, \$131; Chelsie L. Bath, 20, Green Bay, WI, speeding, \$141; Thor J. Berg, 44, Austin, speeding, \$121; James B. Jacobson, 59, Ellendale, speeding, \$221; Craig T. Knight, 65, Leroy, speeding, \$121; Jane C. Koch-Moore, 40, Waukesha, WI, speeding, \$121; Michael J. McClatchey, 44, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Kevin C. Olson, 23, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Cordell M. Peterson, 20, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Ira S. Shepherd, 21, Albert Lea, DWI, \$606, 3 days in county jail, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Dylan R. Watson, 25, Faribault, no insurance, \$131 and 3 days in county jail; Clint D. Williams, 38, Geneva, speeding, \$141; Rayce M. Witt, 19, Waseca, speeding, \$131; Glen M. Wolf, 59, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Nyapak T. Wuol, 36, Mankato, no license and prohibited passing, \$231.

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE

Feb. 23

Hit and Run: At 7:35 a.m., a hit and run crash resulting in property damage occurred in the 400 block of 14th St. NE.

Feb. 26

Crash: At 8:56 a.m., officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at Holly St. SW and Linn Ave. SW. They issued a citation to one of the drivers. **Hit and Run:** At 4:01 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 100 block of Cedar Ave. N.

Feb. 28

Suspicion: Officers responded to suspicious activity in the 1000 block of 10th Ave. NE at 3:01 a.m.

March 1

Suspicion: At 12:36 a.m., police responded to suspicious activity in the 1000 block of Hoffman Dr. NW. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Accident: Police issued a citation to a motorist who caused a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage in the 600 block of 18th St. SE at 3:55 p.m.

Threats: Police responded to a subject making threats in the 1100 block of School St. E. at 5:38 p.m.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Feb. 24

Crash: At 6:07 p.m., a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 100 block of Highway 218 in Aurora Township.

Feb. 27

Suspicion: Suspicious activity was reported in the 10400 block of County Road 3 in Somerset Township at 5:37 a.m. and the 16600 block of County Road 3 in Summit Township at 6:29 a.m.

Criminal Sexual Conduct: Deputies began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct on 34th Ave. SE in Somerset Township at 4:28 p.m.

ARREST Steele County

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE
Charity Ann Braulik, 38, arrested at 1:54 a.m. Feb. 26, probation violation warrant arrest, body only.

OWATONNA POLICE
Christopher Robert Tripp, 42, arrested at 12:03 a.m. Feb. 25, DWI, held for court.

Katherine Jean Davis, 33, arrested at 3:32 p.m. Feb. 26, felony drug court apprehension and detention, probation violation and controlled substance possession, held for court.

Dustin lee Laroque, 24, arrested at 7:50 p.m. Feb. 26, probation violation, held for court.

Kylen Gordon Engbard, 34, arrested at 12:44 a.m. March 1, cancelled license, held for court.
Jacob Peter Banks, 25, arrested at 4:20 p.m. March 1, warrants arrest, body only.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF
Cuyler James Cummings, 32, arrested at 4:05 p.m. Feb. 23, probation violation warrant

arrest, body only.

Alize Lyn Johnson, 19, arrested at 3:46 p.m. Feb. 27, felony violation of conditions of release, held for court.

Jesse Alan Sexter, 39, arrested at 9:30 p.m. Feb. 27, felony controlled substance crime, held for court.

Nathan Lyn Vigil, 22, arrested Feb. 27, felony motor vehicle theft and false information, held for court.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following case was heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Feb. 19 with Judge Kurt J. Marben presiding:

Renee L. Bell, 34, Zumbro Falls, previously appeared and was convicted of felony store meth paraphernalia in the presence of child or vulnerable adult and misdemeanor revoked license. Bell was sentenced to \$205, 60 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, forfeit property seized by law enforcement, 30 day revocation of driver's license, 5 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following case was heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Feb. 19 with Judge Jodi L. Williamson presiding:

Jacob K. Schandorff, 20, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony financial transaction card fraud and felony burglary. He was sentenced to \$500, 84 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, cognitive skill training, mental health screening, 100 hours of community service and 10 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Feb. 19 – 26:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Marshall A. Ahrens, 52, Owatonna, parking violation, \$32; Jeffery J. Alexander Jr., 26, Rochester, revoked license, \$280; Michael W. Churchill, 22, Austin, suspended license and no insurance, \$480; Cole J. Cohorst, 19, Green Bay, WI, speeding, \$140; Douglas E. Dahl, 39, Claremont, revoked license and speeding, \$480; Jacob A. Davidson, 27, Kasson, controlled substance crime,

to just take him to jail,” police said.

Tripp failed field sobriety tests administered by the officer, police said. He later provided a breath test, which showed his alcohol level at .21, nearly three times the legal limit to drive.

Tripp has been charged with two counts of gross misdemeanor DWI.

Even though Rose grew up in a law enforcement family, as his father was a deputy, he said he had no intentions of being a cop and certainly never envisioned being the sheriff.

Rose had a radio and music career focused on sales and marketing for several years before switching to police work. He has found a lot of parallels between his previous career and law enforcement.

“The skills I learned in the business world have helped me now on the administrative side,” he said. He added the skills of customer service and budgeting he previously learned are especially beneficial in his present job.

Rose said he wants the public to view his office as approachable, community-oriented and family-oriented. But perhaps mostly he wants citizens to be trusting of the sheriff’s office.

“I hope people will trust the work we do,” he said, noting how his staff members are dedicated to the office and the community they serve. “They take ownership in their community. To them it’s not a job.”

With Dodge County projected to grow by 20 percent in the next 20 years, Rose said his office is positioned well for future growth.

“Dodge County is a great place to live, and it’s a safe place to live,” he said, adding his office will be as proactive as possible to keep crime at a minimum.

Rose has set up a website at www.roseforsheriff.com for this year’s campaign.

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of Feb. 19 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding:

William M. Douglas, 48, Blue Earth, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of 10 grams or more of a narcotic drug other than heroin. He was sentenced to \$131 and 71 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

Skylar A. Guggisberg, 24, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony receiving stolen property. Guggisberg was sentenced to \$381, 1 day in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain and maintain employment, no contact with victim, obtain permission to leave the state and 3 years of supervised probation.

Angela R. Herplinck, 35, Clarks Grove, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana and felony offering a forged check. The defendant was sentenced to \$968.41, 104 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain employment, enter drug court, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation and 5 years of supervised probation.

John T. McGuire, 37, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. He was sentenced to \$1,081, 110 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, psychological evaluation and 5 years of supervised probation.

Chris M. Winegar, 29, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony burglary. The defendant was sentenced to \$1,081, 210 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, no contact with victim, psychological evaluation, no possession of firearms, obtain permission to leave the state and 7 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Feb. 19 – 23:

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

“warning, welcoming and warm.”
Samantha K. Abbe, 20, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$131; Sydney H. Basness, 21, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$106; Michael L. Byro, 59, Hanska, following vehicle too closely, \$131; Matthew D. Clark, 24, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Carol S. Daley, 48, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Todd A. Deboer, 52, Geneva, speeding, \$131; Eileen F. Delaske, 57, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Jessica L. Disrud, 39, Bloomington, speeding, \$141; Martin L. Eberling Jr., 18, Waseca, seat belt, \$106; Daryk R. Efta, 18, Le Center, seat belt, \$106; Jacob V. Emerfohl, 25, Coon Rapids, revoked license, \$281; John L. Higgins, 45, Eden Prairie, speeding, \$141; Michela C. Infantino, 26, Eagle River, AK, speeding, \$141; Kyle P. Martin, 29, Stillwater, failure to deliver title, \$281; Nicholas J. Paulson, 22, Rochester, speeding, \$121; Geovanni S. Santos, 24, Phoenix, AZ, no license, \$181; Mohammed A. Sharrif, 47, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Jesse R. Skelly, 35, Rochester, no license and fictitious information, stay of adjudication, \$75, diversion program and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without adjudication; Daniel G. Willert, 50, Geneva, revoked license, \$281; Diana G. Zambrano, 48, Owatonna, speeding, \$281.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jay K. Copp, 51, Owatonna, failure to stop for accident, \$181 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Christina M. Cordova, 19, Owatonna, permit violation and no insurance, \$331; Steven A. Dausey, 54, Owatonna, theft, \$128.45 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Cedric L. Davis, 51, Roseville, theft, \$131; David Deluna, 40, Bricelyn, damage to property, \$181, 1 day in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Samantha T. Edmison, 31, Farmington, revoked license, \$281; Nicole E. Erickson, 20, Owatonna, collision with unattended vehicle, \$181 and 30 days of unsupervised probation; Maryan S. Hussein, 25, Owatonna, permit violation, \$131; Dustin J. Jensen, 24, Platte City, MO, speeding, \$221; Andrew J. Kramer, 29, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$181; Susan J. Kraus, 56, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Joshua A. Lee, 28, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Michael D. Maas, 55, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Maggie L. Marks, 16, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$131; Danny T. Mendez-Patterson, 37, Winterset, IA, careless driving, stay of

stay of adjudication, \$975, 29 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 90 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Travis J. Hahn, 27, Elgin, stop sign, \$130; Jason L. Iverson, 41, Dodge Center, possession of marijuana, \$205, 40 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, no possession of firearms, mental health screening, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation; Lora K. Johnson, 47, Dodge Center, barking dog, \$100; Alicia L. Klancher, 48, Claremont, parking violation, \$32; Felicia M. McAndrews, 19, Hayfield, parking violation, \$32; Jeremy L. Otterbein, 46, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Daniel S. Raimann, 60, Wells, parking violation, \$32; Cory L. Rasmussen, 39, Hayfield, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; Christian G. Skjeveland, 48, Claremont, solid waste facility delivery violation, \$580; John T. Thomforde, 38, Stewartville, cancelled license and speeding, \$330; Brandon R. Utech, 21, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Janice M. Blanchard, 55, Waltham, parking violation, \$32; Jacob A. Davidson, 27, Kasson, possession of marijuana and fleeing a peace officer, \$75, 29 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, 90 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Michael D. Rahlf, 33, Kasson, parking violation, \$32.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Sharon D. Aarsvold, 61, Mankato, seat belt, \$105; Timothy L. Bilyeu, 35, Kasson, stop sign, \$130; Haile M. Lemke, 25, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120; Linda R. Maloy, 59, Waseca, unsecure load, \$140; McKayla M. Myer, 24, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$120; Isiah Y. Perez, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$120; Jonathan A. Timm, 28, Kasson, revoked license, \$280; Catherine D. Vague, 47, Faribault, speeding, \$120; Jasen W. Wilburn, 34, Rochester, speeding and suspended license, \$330.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Shannon W. Callahan, 46, West Concord, stop sign, \$130; Jorge D. Rivera Vazquez, 31, West Concord, revoked license, \$280.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

MARCH 7 10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library	MARCH 13 10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library 2:30 p.m. – BPPU Meeting 4:30 p.m. – Fire Commission Meeting 7 p.m. – Planning & Zoning Meeting
MARCH 8 4 p.m. – Police Commission Meeting	MARCH 14 4:30 p.m. – Economic Development Authority Meeting
MARCH 9 1 p.m. – 7 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, BPHS	MARCH 20 5:30 p.m. – Ambulance Commission Meeting
MARCH 12 7 p.m. – City Council Meeting	



Dr. Deborah J. Lien
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST
DCL, MBA

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ELLENDALE/GENEVA/HOPE

MARCH 8 3:15 p.m. – 4-H After School Adventures, Ellendale Cafeteria 7:30 p.m. – Ellendale City Council Meeting, Ellendale Community Building	7 p.m. – Berlin Township Meeting
MARCH 12 3:30 p.m. – Com Ed – Easter Wreath & Edible Nests treats, Ellendale Cafeteria 5 p.m. – 55+ Driver Improvement Eight-Hour First Time Course, NRHEG High School	MARCH 13 5 p.m. – 55+ Driver Improvement Eight-Hour First Time Course, NRHEG High School 6:15 p.m. – ECFE Classes, Ellendale Preschool Room 6:30 p.m. – Karate, Ellendale Elementary Gym North 7:30 p.m. – NRHEG HS Choir Concert, NRHEG HS Gym



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

MARCH 7 Noon – 6 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, St. Joseph's Church	MARCH 12 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, Ag Power Enterprises
MARCH 8 Noon – 6 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, St. Joseph's Church 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. – Movies at the Library, Owatonna Library 5 p.m. – Airport Commission Meeting, Airport Lounge 6:30 p.m. – Family Storytime, Owatonna Library	MARCH 13 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – It's Tale Time, Owatonna Library 1 p.m. – So Many Books... So Little Time, Owatonna Library 1 p.m. – SCDIU Tactical Team Meeting, Owatonna Law Enforcement Center 2:30 p.m. – Steele County Board Meeting, County Admin Building 4 p.m. – Kid's Korner Kindergarten Open House, Kid's Korner 4:30 p.m. – Healing Arts Reception, Owatonna Hospital 5:30 p.m. – Owatonna Planning Commission Meeting, City Admin Building 5:30 p.m. – Owatonna Human Rights Commission Meeting, City Admin Building 7 p.m. – Growing Up HAPA or Half Chinese, Owatonna Arts Center 7 p.m. – Veteran's Open Roundtable, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
MARCH 9 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, St. Joseph's Church 6 p.m. – Woman of Achievement Annual Scholarship Awards, Jeff's Hall – Pillsbury Campus	
MARCH 10 11 a.m. – Steele County Humane Society Volunteer Expo, Spare Time Entertainment 5 p.m. – Little Black Dress Event, Owatonna County Club	



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THE BOLD LOOK OF
KOHLER.

Bloomington veterans quilt raffle tickets available

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The drawing for the winner of the Bloomington Veterans Memorial Quilt Raffle will be on Memorial Day, May 28 at the BP Servicemen's Club. Raffle tickets cost \$5 each. Three prizes will be given: first prize, the quilt; second prize is \$100 and third prize is \$50. Need not be present to win. All proceeds from the quilt raffle will be donated to the BP Veterans Memorial. The raffle tickets are being sold at the Servicemen's Club Foxhole, Sportstitch, A Touch of Charm, BP Area Chamber of Commerce, BP Veterans

Memorial Committee and corporation members and Servicemen's Club members from the VFW, American Legion, Sons of the American Legion and Legion and VFW auxiliaries. Contact any of the following for tickets: Marilyn Meshke, Sandy Jones, Doug Miner, Tom Peterson, Fred Vokoun, Tom Walters, Ken Vermilyea, Keith Holman, Jackie Schlichter or Kurt Blome. The patriotic quilt is named Stars and Bars. The patriotic quilt was sewn by Marilyn Meshke and quilted by Calico Hutch in Hayward. The quilt measures 86 by 102 inches.

AAUW Owatonna sets March meeting

Members of the American Association of University Women Owatonna invite interested guests and potential members to attend their meeting on March 13 at 7 p.m. at the Owatonna Arts Center. The program for the evening will feature Sheila Morris, co-executive director of the Waseca County Historical

Society and Museum. She will discuss growing up "half and half" with a Chinese father and an American mother and the impact the Chinese Exclusion Laws had on her family. A \$5 fee will be charged at the door with the net proceeds benefitting the Owatonna Arts Center.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP OFFERED IN ALBERT LEA
A NAMI Connection peer support group for adults recovering from a mental illness meets on Wednesdays from 5 - 6:30 p.m., at Next Step Clubhouse, 216 S. Washington Ave. in Albert Lea. Trained facilitators who are also in recovery lead NAMI Connection groups. The free group is sponsored by NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness). For information, contact Sara at 507-377-5483 or 1-888-NAMI-Helps.

CELEBRATE RED CROSS MONTH BY GIVING BLOOD IN MARCH
During Red Cross Month in March, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to join in its lifesaving mission by giving blood. Since 1943, every U.S. president has designated March as Red Cross Month to recognize how the Red Cross helps people across the country and around the world. Red Cross Month is a celebration of supporters, who are the face of the Red Cross in their communities and bring hope to people facing emergencies. The Red Cross depends on blood donor heroes across the nation to collect enough blood to meet the needs of patients at approximately 2,600 hospitals nationwide. Donors of all blood types, especially type O, are needed to help those rely on blood products. Make an appointment to become a hero to patients in need by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Upcoming blood donation opportunities include: Albert Lea – 1 p.m. – 7 p.m. March 12, United Methodist Church Albert Lea – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. March 22, National Guard Armory Austin – Noon – 6 p.m. March 8, Our Saviors Lutheran Church Austin – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. March 22, Primrose Retirement Communities Austin – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. March 23, Mayo Clinic Bloomington – 1 p.m. – 7 p.m. March 9, Bloomington

HEALING ARTS RECEPTION TO BE HELD MARCH 13 AT OWATONNA HOSPITAL

The community is invited to a special Owatonna Hospital Healing Arts Program reception where you can meet the artists Tuesday, March 13 from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Owatonna Hospital, 2250 NW 26th Street. The Healing Arts Program is a collaboration between Owatonna Hospital and the Owatonna Arts Center to bring the visual arts, natural light, images and elements of nature to lessen stress and promote healing while in the Hospital. The new artwork is on view March through the end of June. The works of William Gillis, photography; Michelle Kaisersatt, clay; Gail Thompson, watercolor; and Annie Young, painting will be on display. This exhibit is underwritten by the Owatonna Hospital Foundation. The Owatonna Arts Center serves as the curator for this series.

FUNDRAISERS TO HELP AREA YOUTH

Two great fundraisers will take place at the Owatonna Eagle's on Saturday, March 17. The 6th Annual Mike Hanson Memorial Washer Board Tournament will begin at 9 a.m. and proceeds will benefit the Owatonna Parks and Recreation Youth Scholarship fund. The We All Play Silent Auction will begin at 3 p.m. and proceeds will go to the We All Play organization, which is raising funds to build an all-inclusive playground in Owatonna. For more information on the We All Play organization, please visit its website: http://www.weallplayowatonna.com/.

MOWER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTING ANNUAL MEETING
The Mower County Historical Society is making plans for its "Annual Meeting & Volunteer Appreciation" Event which will be held on Thursday, March 22 in The Pioneer Building on the grounds of the Mower County Historical Society in Austin. The event kicks off at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour and dinner. The Annual Meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. followed by Guest Speaker, Dick Punchard, who will talk about "The G.A.R. in Minnesota." All members of the Mower County Historical Society and volunteers invited to attend. Items on the agenda for the Annual Meeting include the following:

- Voting to change the date of the Annual Meeting.
 - Election of NEW Board Trustees to the Board of Directors.
 - Awards & Volunteer Recognition.
 - Looking ahead to what the Historical Society has planned for 2018.
- Executive Director for the Society, Randal J. Forster encourages all members to attend. "I am especially looking forward to the Annual Meeting & Volunteer Appreciation event this year because it will be my first! This will be an excellent opportunity for members of the Mower County Historical Society to celebrate the past

Homestead Hospice House to hold basketball fundraiser

The second annual Suits and Sneakers Basketball Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, March 18 at 2 p.m. at the Owatonna High School Gym. Bring the entire family for a fun-filled afternoon to cheer on some of your local celebrities from Allina Health, city and state government, law enforcement, local retailers, Mayo Clinic Health System, Owatonna School District, local industry and businesses and more! The event will include concessions, half-time games and raffle items. All proceeds will benefit the Homestead Hospice House – Patient Care Fund. The Fund provides assistance to approximately 30 percent of patients cared for at the Hospice House, according to Pat Buretta, clinical manager of Allina Health Owatonna-Faribault Area Hospice and Home Care and Homestead House. Last year's Event raised more than \$2,600 and provided approximately 10 days of financial worry-free end of life patient care. The corporate sponsors for the event are Ameriprise Financial-Dufresne, Wayne & Associates, Bremer Bank, Brick-Meger Funeral Home, Court Sports, Federated Insurance, Hy-Vee, Michaelson Funeral Home, Msgr Henry Speck Assembly-Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Tri M Graphics, and Wenger. Without their corporate support this event would not be possible. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$6 for children 7-18, and children 6 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased at Kottke Jewelers or at the door the day of the Event. If unable to attend the event, no problem, because OwatonnaLive.com will be Livestreaming the game. Watch the game live and listen to the play by play of the game from anywhere in the world. The cost to watch the game online will be \$5 with \$2 being donated to the Homestead Hospice House – Patient Care fund. To watch the game, go to OwatonnaLive.com and Click on Live Events.

year and look towards the future." Barb Lewis, current President of the Mower County Historical Society will serve as the official Host for the event along with all of the Officers and Board Trustees of the Society. "We really hope that members will join us and see what the Historical Society has been up to lately." Members & Volunteers of the Society are encouraged to RSVP by calling (507) 437-6082 during our regular business hours between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday or via email director@mowercountyhistory.org.

EXPLORE EMIGRATION THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY AT VESTERHEIM MUSEUM EVENT

Why do some people leave their homes in search of a better life? Join Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum in Owatonna to explore that question through the stunning black and white photography of Norwegian Knud Knudsen from the late 1800s. This program and luncheon is on March 24 from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. at the Steele County Historical Society. It will include the program "Rocks and Hard Places—Emigration through the Lens of Knud Knudsen" by Chris Johnson, Vesterheim's President/CEO. Everyone is welcome. Tickets are \$30 for museum members and \$35 for non-members. Reservations are required by March 16 and can be made by contacting Vesterheim's Development Events Coordinator Karla Brown at 563-382-9681, x107, or kbrown@vesterheim.org. The program is connected to the exhibit "Rocks and Hard Places—Emigration through the Lens of Knud Knudsen" on view at Vesterheim now through September 23. Considered one of Norway's most important photographers, Knudsen (1832-1915) was born in Odda, Hardanger, and he established one of the first photography businesses in the city of Bergen in 1864. Despite the idyllic landscape, Knudsen's work vividly shows why the ever-present threat of rockslides and avalanches, lack of arable land, lack of economic opportunity, and savage beauty of life on the fjord led to some of the highest rates of emigration per capita in Norway. The exhibition is sponsored by Gerald and Mary Jo Boman, The Broadway Group in memory of Eva Alsaker, David and Kirsten Heine, The Family Care Clinic, and The Perfect Edge, with additional support.

Through 33,000 objects and 12 historic buildings, Vesterheim, the national Norwegian-American museum and heritage center in Decorah, Iowa, shares the most comprehensive collection of Norwegian-American artifacts in the world and is a national center for folk-art classes. For complete schedules of events, exhibitions, and classes, and more information about ways to donate, check out Vesterheim online at vesterheim.org.



J&H LIQUOR

- **BAR BINGO:** Monday, 6:30 p.m.
- **BLOOMIN' GRAPEVINE WINE CLUB:** Meets Tuesdays at J&H Liquor from 7 to 8:30 p.m. On these dates: Jan. 30, Feb. 20, March. 20, April 17 and May 8th/Season Finalē. Benefits the BP Youth Club.

2018 EVENTS

- **APRIL 7:** Customer appreciation day "32" years of business
- **JUNE 23:** Cruise for Cancer ride
- **JULY 3:** Street dance (21 and over only)
- **JULY 4:** Open 9 a.m. to close
- **JULY 21:** B.O.B. ride: "Toys for Tots"

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Cross-training for young minds



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A team of fifth and sixth graders from Blooming Prairie competed in the U.S. Academic Triathlon recently in Stewartville. The team took second place and will now compete in the big Regional Meet in Byron Friday. Members of the Challenger team include (left to right): Kolby Vigeland, Madilyn Madsen, Jaylee Schleicher, Jaxon Harberts, and Catelyn Bartlett.



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Are you looking for an alternative to traditional Kindergarten offerings in Owatonna?

Please join us for our Kid's Korner Kindergarten Open House

on Tuesday, March 13th, 2018

From 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

600 Florence Avenue ~ Owatonna, MN ~ 507-451-0312

Highlights to our program include:

- A complete educational day, from 8:00am to 3:00pm.
- Guided reading program, everyday math, science, social studies, history, music, art, physical fitness, Spanish as a foreign language, and Character Education.
- Tuition includes before and after school care.
- All supplies and meals are included.
- A maximum of 15 students in the class.

Area women compete for top achievement honor

Four area women are competing for the Woman of Achievement award Friday night in Owatonna. The scholarship awards and fundraiser celebration takes place at Jefts Hall on the Pillsbury Campus beginning with a social hour and silent auction at 6:15 p.m. The program announcing the award winners will begin at 7:30 p.m. The keynote speaker for the event will be Cheri Krejci of Blooming Prairie. She was the 2017 Woman of Achievement winner. Competing for this year's top honor will be Beth Fondell, Jolayne Mohs, Laura Resler and Janet Simon.



Woman of Achievement Nominee

BETH FONDELL

Beth Fondell is the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for Owatonna Public Utilities and has held this role since 2011. She is responsible for overseeing several departments and prepares and administers the budget, long-term financial forecasts and accounting reports. Fondell has an active C.P.A. license and a B.S. in Accounting from Minnesota State University, Mankato. She was formerly an internal auditor for the Minnesota State Colleges and the vice president of Finance and Facilities at Riverland Community College. She is a graduate of Leadership Owatonna, a member of American Public Power Association, the Minnesota Government Finance Officers Association and the United Way Women's Leadership Council. She was the chairperson for the Owatonna Chamber Ambassadors and was on the Board of Directors for the Owatonna Area Business Development Center and the Owatonna Rotary. She was formerly a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Minnesota Society of CPAs and the Owatonna Business Women. Fondell was inducted into the Valley National Entertainment and Amusements of Hall of Fame in 2013. She was nominated for being a "great financial steward and lead for our local utility company" as well as for her "outstanding commitment to our community and its growth."



Woman of Achievement Nominee

LAURA RESLER

Laura Resler is the executive director of the Owatonna Foundation where she coordinates with the 35 trustees, oversees and plans events, processes donations and provides general oversight for the organization. Over the course of her career Resler has also been the executive director of the Steele County Historical Society, a licensed Life and Health Insurance Agent for Northwestern National Life and a Veterinary Technician. She was a dedicated volunteer during the year the History Center was built working alongside other community members to see the History Center project come to fruition. Resler attended post-secondary education for Animal Health Technology and was a graduate of the Blandin Foundation's Leadership in Ethnically Diverse Communities program. She has received an Honorary State Farmer Degree from the Minnesota FFA and an Honorary Chapter Farmer Degree from the Owatonna FFA. Resler was on the Steele County Porkettes Board of Directors, Passing on the Farm Center Board of Directors, and the Minnesota FFA Foundation Board of Directors. She has also participated in the Owatonna Business Partnership, was a Day Leader for Leadership Owatonna, Owatonna Business Women and Noon Rotary Club. Resler was nominated because she is a "determined and dedicated servant leader who loves to carry others forward while leading."



Woman of Achievement Nominee

JOLAYNE MOHS

Jolayne Mohs is the director of community engagement at Mohs Construction overseeing the financial donations to non-profit agencies within the community. She is currently developing an infrastructure within the company to create opportunities for students at all levels to have shadowing, mentorship and internship experiences with staff in a variety of roles. She was a program director at Fernbrook Family Center. Mohs attended the University of St. Thomas for Business Marketing and Communication, was a Leadership Owatonna 2014 graduate, and participated in the Blandin Community Leadership program. Mohs currently serves on the Owatonna School Board, the Owatonna Hospital Foundation Board, Steele County Community Corrections Advisory Board, and the Owatonna Foundation Trustee Board. She has volunteered at the Steele County Clothesline, the Young Life Cake Auction, and the St. Mary's Knight of Knights Auction. She has been active in Trinity Lutheran Church serving on the Nursery School Board, the church council and participated in the hand bell choir. Mohs received two different nominations this year because she is "very involved in the Owatonna community" and because of her work at Fernbrook "helping to establish relationships with children and families, that are impacted by mental health, in order to create positive change."



Woman of Achievement Nominee

JANET SIMON

Janet Simon is a program director at REM Woodvale, Inc. where she has been for 20 years. She started as a direct care and worked her way into her current role where she is responsible for the services care and advocacy for 30 individuals with developmental disabilities. Simon hires, trains, schedules and manages a staff who teach independent living skills to individuals with physical, mental and emotional disabilities. She attended Ritter School of Cosmetology and earned her Certified Nurses' Assistant Certificate. She is active member at Sacred Heart Church and the Catholic Daughters. Simon has previously been active in the community serving as a 4-H Adult leader for 20 years where she served as the adult leaders treasurer and received the Adult Leader Award. She also was a volunteer at St. Mary's school, United Way volunteer, bell ringer for the Salvation Army, a Religious Education instructor, member of MCCL and the La Leche league. Simon was nominated by her children because "she is the essence of a Woman of Achievement...willing to use her motherhood strengths of caring, advocacy, and common sense to not only raise eight children, but to be successful in her career with people with developmental disabilities."

SEMCAC Senior Menu

All meals subject to change

Wednesday, March 7

Sea Shore Tuna Casserole, Marinated Green Beans, Tomato Wedge, Dinner Roll, Coconut Crumb Delight

Thursday, March 8

Beef Tips in Gravy Over Noodles, Parslied Carrots, Tossed Salad/Dressing Wheat Dinner Roll, Spring Dessert

Friday, March 9

Baked Fish/Tartar Sauce, Alt: Porcupine Meatballs, Baked Potato w/Sour Cream, Seasoned Peas, Fresh Fruit Cup

Monday, March 12

BBQ Port on Bun, Coleslaw, Apricots, Strawberry Short Cake w/Whipped Topping

Tuesday, March 13

Salisbury Steak, Confetti Rice, Broccoli, Pineapple/ Peach Crandberry Mold w/Whipped Topping

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Every tractor has a story

Ron Nelson of BP restores old farm machinery

STORY AND PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD

“Humble” is his middle name. When someone recently visited his work shop and complimented him for being quite an artist, he replied, “I don’t think so.” His artwork is done on old farm machinery that he restores through his own business name, Ron Nelson Restoration. He either paints tractors with a sprayer, or hand paints parts on a tractor. His business actually started after he retired from 30 years of service to Owatonna Public Utilities. He was a supervisor for natural gas and water for the city. His wife, Diane, also retired after working many years for the Blooming Prairie School District and then retiring from the Owatonna Parks & Recreation Department. “I had to have something to do and 91 tractors later, I am as busy as can be,” Nelson said. “Every tractor has a story,” says Nelson. Every piece of farm equipment that he restores must pass Ron’s careful inspection and also must get by the critique of Nelson’s wife. “I always have her check out color



Farm machinery restoration artist Ron Nelson of rural Blooming Prairie hand paints parts from a John Deere piece of equipment.



Diane and Ron Nelson of Blooming Prairie work together on recording photos of all the pieces of farm equipment Ron has restored over the years.

“I had to have something to do and 91 tractors later, I am as busy as can be. Every tractor has a story.”

Ron Nelson
Restores Tractors

The Nelsons love Blooming Prairie. “Everybody is friendly, and we all get along,” Nelson attested. Nelson was very active in a local Jaycees chapter, served on the Steele County Fair Board and works closely with Jerry Ingvalson on the Gopher 50 Race in the summer.

schemes and other parts of my work,” Nelson revealed. An early riser at 6 a.m., Ron is also early to bed at 7:30 at night. “It has been a busy life and it takes a lot of patience working on this old stuff,” Nelson admits. Ron and Diane still reside on the 20-acre farm he bought one year before they were married 43 years ago. “I decided a year before I retired that I needed a place to work at my leisure and that’s when I built my own 28 by 30 foot shop,” Nelson said. His first project was to restore a WD45 Allis Chalmers. “I tried painting it and used an airless sprayer. It turned out not too bad so I went on to another challenge, this time working on Victor Fischer’s Super C McCormick.” Next came a McCormick M owned by Diane’s father. As word got around, Nelson’s restoration business began to grow. “All of a sudden, a guy would talk to another guy, and another guy would talk to another guy and my work load grew,” Nelson says. His business circle revolves around Blooming Prairie, Blue Earth, northern Iowa, the Wisconsin border and up to the metropolitan Twin Cities area. “I am very busy,” he confirmed. One of Ron’s most loyal customers is David Spinler of rural Austin. When walking into Nelson’s shop, visitors will quickly see a few of items Spinler is having restored, a two-row John Deere corn planter, a bottle plow and a horse-drawn sickle mower. “David likes his machinery looking good and he has taken some of the restored tractors I did for him to farm shows in Waterloo, Iowa. Spinler recently won a “Show of Excellence” award on a tractor Nelson restored. Much of Nelson’s restoration knowledge has come from hands-on experiences with taking a piece of rusted machinery and bringing it back to sterling condition. “You never want to say you know everything because there is always room to learn more,” Nelson says. In his early restoration days, Nelson said he received pointers from Charlie Kaplan of Kappie’s Restoration. “I told Charlie that my paint was not coming out right. Looking at my operation, he said I was painting way too hot. “I began painting at lower temperatures and it worked well. I also used reducers which tell me how to mix paints. I learned that thinning out the paint too much takes shine out of the paint.” More knowledge was gained by Nelson when another busy restorer visited his shop. He gave Ron some pointers on working with an open shaft 1934 John Deere A. Nelson said he learned that the originality should not be taken away when restoring tractors or other farm implements.

“He told me not to fill in weld marks on the tractor body, leave them original. He said he liked what I was doing.” Through his many experiences in restoration, Ron also learned never to show a tractor under fluorescent lights. It takes away from the original color sheen, he said. Decals are also a big part of the restoration business. Nelson buys his decals from Jorde’s Decal in Rochester. “Some are \$130 a pair and you must get them on perfectly,” Nelson said. Working on Spinler’s corn planter, Nelson discovered a dull image of a John Deere logo. He now has the decal to apply to the planter, which is over 100 years old. Much of the equipment used to restore farm machinery happens to be steel. “Those old timers were pretty smart,” he says. “I enjoy working on old stuff and seeing it work again and looking nice. It’s tough sometimes to see the finished piece go down the road.” Nelson also re-painted his father-in-law’s 1950 Ford F1 pickup truck. He’s still working on restoring a 1956 Oldsmobile. He has put in a new motor and transmission. “I can’t keep up,” Nelson says. “Customers come back to visit and I am able to make new friends,” he added. The after market for collectible machinery is “not that great,” Nelson says. The younger people are not collectors, he pointed out. Much of the restoration he does is motivated by families wanting to preserve a piece of machinery used by their elders. Proving his self assessment wrong about his artistic talents, Nelson said he likes to highlight items on a tractor, for example, a distributor cap or manifold. “This will catch their eyes,” he believes. As a signature, he also paints all the grease zerts gold on farm equipment. John Deere makes two colors, Classic Green for two-cylinder and a lighter green for a four-cylinder. He said he has painted every brand of tractors out there. Asked about his favorite restoration piece, Ron says it is a John Deere D with dual exhausts. It is owned by Spinler. “I work pretty cheap and people tell me I should charge more but not until he is done with their item,” Ron laughs. Ron and Diane have four sons, Nathan, Brad, Anthony and Luke, plus four daughters-in-law and seven grandchildren. “We have a wonderful family, wonderful neighbors and are blessed by good health and blessed by the Good Lord. If I need help, Rick Klemmensen is there to help as are other neighbors including Bob Starman. “I have learned a lot including advice from my uncle Raymond to walk away from a project if it has me stymied and come back later. He said it will then go together. He is right.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Anthony Nelson and his nephew Noah pose with an International M Anthony’s father Ron, Blooming Prairie, restored for a customer.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A favorite tractor restoration done by Ron Nelson was this John Deere D with dual exhausts, It is owned by David Spinler.

How to Get Cash For Your Life Insurance Policy



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Dear Savvy Senior,
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Interested In Selling

Dear Interested,
Selling a life insurance policy, even a term life policy that you don't want or need any longer – a transaction known as a “life settlement” – has become a popular option among retirees in recent years that could use some extra cash. Here's how it works.
A life settlement is the sale of an existing life insurance policy to a third party company for cash. Life settlements are typically best suited for people over age 65 who own a policy with a face value of \$100,000 or more or someone younger who has experienced a significant change in health.
Historically, if an owner of a life insurance policy decided they no longer needed it, they would either let the policy lapse or turn it in for a meager cash surrender value. But now, with the life settlement option, you can actually sell your policy for more than the cash surrender value would be, but less than its net death benefit.
Once you sell it, the life settlement company then becomes the new owner of the policy, pays the future premiums and collects the death benefit.
How much money you can expect to get with a life settlement will depend on your age, health and life expectancy, the type of insurance policy, the premium costs and the cash value of your

policy. You may be able to receive four to eight times more than the policy cash surrender value.
If you're interested in a life settlement here are some things you should know:
Shop around: Because payout can vary, to ensure you get the best price for your policy get quotes from several companies. Also, find out what broker and transaction fees you'll be required to pay. Coventry, the nation's first and largest provider of life settlements, offers some of the highest cash payouts for life insurance policies. To get started, visit CoventryDirect.com or call 888-858-9344. To search for other providers or brokers, the Life Insurance Settlement Association provides a directory at LISA.org.
Be prudent: Life settlements are regulated in most states. Find out from your state insurance commissioner (see NAIC.org for contact information) if the life settlement company you're interested in is properly licensed.
Protect your privacy: When you sell your life insurance policy, you will have to sign a waiver authorizing the release of medical and other personal information so that the buyer can determine how much to offer for your policy. Before accepting any offer, make sure that the company has procedures in place to protect the confidentiality of your information.
Understand the tax implications: The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act recently updated the tax treatment of a life settlement to be treated the same as the surrender of a policy back to the insurance company. This can be complicated, so be sure to consult a tax advisor.
Other Options
If you want to keep your life insurance policy but could use some extra cash, you may have some other options. For example, some life settlement companies may allow you to keep part of the policy's death benefit while eliminating your premium obligations. You can also ask your life insurer if you can borrow against your policy, or if you're in poor health, see if you're eligible for accelerated death benefits. You should also find out if you're able to convert the cash value of your policy into an immediate annuity (through a 1035 Exchange), which would make regular payments to you for a set number of years or for the rest of your life.

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 center reenacts 19th century Steele County murder trial

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday the Steele County Historical Society explored the history of one of the most important trials ever in Steele County. The jury was set, the judge was there to preside over the case, and the defense and prosecution prepared their opening statements.
The trial in question was 1878 State v. Claude Van Alstyne. Van Alstyne had been employed by Isaac Turtelot for nine days before he ran aground of Turtelot's son, Phocion, on Feb. 15, 1878. The two men got into an argument, and in the quarrel Van Alstyne delivered a fatal blow to Phocian's skull with a pike pole. Phocian died seven days later on Feb. 22, attributed to the effects of his injury.
In 1884 the case was brought before a judge and jury, with the Honorable Samuel Lord on the bench. The prosecutors were County Attorney J. M. Burlingame and his assistant A.C. Hickman, a judge, superintendent, and senator. The defense team was comprised of Judge Amos Coggsweil, a one-time state senator, and the Honorable Lewis L. Wheelock, whose career was also distinguished by a run in the state senate.
During the History Center's reenactment, the defense was championed by attorney Ben Cass while attorney Jim Cole played the part of the prosecution. Both men delivered opening statements before a jury of attendants and the Honorable Karen Duncan, who played the part of the trial's judge.

Cole summed up his arguments thusly, “It's my job to show that the defendant had an opportunity to get away safely without having to use force.” In his mind, the whole case was really one of self-defense.
Having acted in the past, and having participated in two other History Uncorked events, Cole was a natural choice to play the part of prosecutor, since he carries that title often in real life. There was also his interest in history, specifically local history. “It's amazing all the great the history this little town has,” he said.
Ben Cass, meanwhile, relished his role as defense attorney. “I will be beating him,” he claimed when asked what his strategy for the trial will be, also reiterating that it is a trial of self-defense. “I think this a really cool way to be able to bring the courtroom experience to people while also giving them a taste of our local history,” Cass said. He has participated in the series four other times during past iterations.
When the trial began, Judge Duncan asked the audience members to raise their right hand and then both parties delivered their opening remarks, each receiving objections from the other. During the trial, the audience was to deliberate as tables, with each table counting as a jury member.
“Criminal justice in the 1800s was not how we think of it today,” Stephanie Kibler, meetings and events manager at the Steele County Historical Society, explained to the audience. According to Kibler, the media and local public opinion

had the power to sway a trial based mostly on hearsay as juries then were not sequestered.
Kibler sees the event as not only an educational one, but an enjoyable one as well. “It can be very entertaining, sometimes we get half the tables with one verdict and the other half with another,” she said. “In some cases, certainly,” she expounded, when asked whether the results differ from the historical ruling.
The audience was also eager for the trial. “Their events are always great,” Carole Nilsson said. “I've never been to this one with the trial, but I've heard such good words about it.”
Once the arguments of the trial were over, the tables got down to deliberating, with the result being, two of the tables were hung juries, two found Van Alstyne guilty of manslaughter, and five found him not guilty.
This is much in contrast with the historical trial, which ended with Van Alstyne being found guilty of second-degree manslaughter and receiving life in prison, rather than being hanged. He was pardoned after eight years by the Gov. William R. Merriam.
With its History Uncorked series, the Steele County Historical Society presents Steele County residents, and visitors, with a chance to relive some of the county's greatest trials. The event was sponsored by Smith, Tollefson, Rahrnick, and Cass Law. Information about upcoming events and current exhibitions can be found at www.steelehistorymuseum.org.

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago

MARCH 4, 2008
DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

M&M Towing and Auto is one of the new businesses that has recently opened in Blooming Prairie. Owned by Mike and Matt Madsen, who have been in the old Metal Services building, M&M Towing has been known as a place to work on and build race cars. They will be offering 24 hour tow services.
A grand opening celebration is planned for Wednesday, March 5 at Prairie Café in Blooming Prairie. The café features lunch buffet and daily specials with down home cooking. Nick Kruckelberg is the proud new owner of the café.

50 Years Ago

FEB. 29, 1968
VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

The 1968-69 salary schedule for the Blooming Prairie Public Schools was adopted at a regular meeting of the board of education held on Monday, Feb. 26. The total cost of the salary increases under the new schedule is \$63,961. The average raise for teachers amounts to \$999.
A burglary at the Servicemen's Club in Blooming Prairie sometime after 1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, resulted in the theft of \$85 cash. The money was taken from two cash registers at the club. It was determined someone had undoubtedly hid in the club rooms and after the manager closed up the thief ransacked both cash registers.

20 Years Ago

MARCH 3, 1998
ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

Tom and Chris Butler, area farmers, received two awards in early December at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Association of Conservation Districts. The meeting was held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester where approximately 500 people from around the state attended.
A former Steele County extension educator was found guilty Tuesday, Feb. 24 in his molestation trial in Faribault. Brian Broulik of Blooming Prairie was found guilty of second-degree felony criminal sexual conduct for inappropriate contact with an 8-year-old boy at a Northfield apartment complex in May 1997. This is the second time Broulik has faced the same charges with the same outcome.

75 Years Ago

MARCH 4, 1943
FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

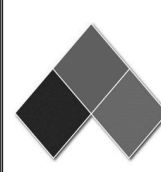
For the second consecutive year the Blooming Prairie Café and Bakery was awarded Minnesota State “cleanliness award and certificate” this week by the State Department of Health. Last year this coveted was held by only 67 restaurants in the state.
Pvt. Thomas C. Peterson arrived in Owatonna Wednesday night of last week where he was met by Dr. J.E. Price, who conveyed him to Blooming Prairie. Peterson was inducted into the U.S. Army about three months ago. He was stationed at Fort Knox, but due to his physical condition, army doctors decided to return him to civilian life.



PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

History buffs got in on the court action of a murder case from the late 1800s last Thursday at the Steele County History Center in Owatonna. Judge Karen Duncan swore in each of the participants in the history event.

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FORECLOSURE

17-107902

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: March 30, 2016
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$100,708.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Jill H. Haubenschild, an unmarried woman
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100273872511026742
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Envoy Mortgage, LTD
SERVICER: PHH Mortgage Corporation
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed April 4, 2016, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000406888
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: PINGORA LOAN SERVICING LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 2 and the West 7 feet of Lot 1, in Hansen's Addition to the Village (now City) of Blooming Prairie
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 116 5th St NW, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-110-0102
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$103,578.53
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: March 22, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on September 22, 2018, or the next business day if September 22, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: January 23, 2018
PINGORA LOAN SERVICING 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
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
2/30, 2/6, 3/13
2/20, 2/27, 3/6

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:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 26, 2010
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$121,042.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Joel R. Garten and Denise M. Karlen-Garten, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on February 2, 2010 as Document Number A000369164 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:

Assigned to: None.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 9, Block 1, Willowbrook Addition No. 2, Steele County, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 630 LEE ST NE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-6221
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$114,153.79
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-500-0109
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: March 27, 2018 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 September 27, 2018.
THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None
Dated: February 1, 2018
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee
THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.
By: /s/ Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq. N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Corbin C. Smith, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee The Academy Professional Building 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (18-0067-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.
2/6, 2/13, 2/20
2/27, 3/6, 3/13

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE 18-108511

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 11, 2014
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$123,469.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Jarad Sikel and Caitlin Sikel, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100867100130181025
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: American Mortgage & Equity Consultants, Inc.
SERVICER: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed April 15, 2014, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000396488
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing on South line of Vine St., 8 rods East of East line of Maple St., & running South parallel with Maple St. 8 rods; thence East 4 rods; North 8 rods; West 4 rods to beginning (Located in Lot 1 in NE ¼ of SW ¼ of Sec. 10-107-20)
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 415 E Vine St, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-010-3108
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$119,522.82

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: March 29, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on September 29, 2018, or the next business day if September 29, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: February 2, 2018
PennyMac Loan Services, 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
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
2/6, 2/13, 2/20
2/27, 3/6, 3/13

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the mortgage dated October 27, 2011, executed by Garrett P. Crosby and Darla Crosby, husband and wife, as mortgagors, to TCF National Bank, a national banking association, as mortgagee, recorded in the office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota, on January 10, 2012, as Document No. A000382304, which mortgage conveyed and mortgaged the following described property, situated in the County of Steele and State of Minnesota, which property has a street address of 405 2nd Avenue Southeast, Medford, Minnesota 55049, and tax identification number 161013601:

Lots 1 and 2, except the West 100 feet, and Lots 7 and 8, except the East 75 feet, in Block 36, in Johnson and Company's Addition to the Village of Medford, Steele County, Minnesota

That the original principal amount secured by said mortgage was \$104,800.00; that there has been compliance with any condition precedent to acceleration of the debt secured by said mortgage and foreclosure of said mortgage required by said mortgage, any note secured thereby, or any statute; that no action or proceeding to recover the debt remaining secured by said mortgage is pending, or any part thereof; that there is claimed to be due upon said mortgage and is due thereon at the date of this notice, the sum of \$99,587.15 in principal and interest.

That as a result of the aforesaid default, and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the said mortgage will be foreclosed by the sale of the above described premises with appurtenances, which said sale will be made by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at the Sheriff's office in the Law Enforcement Center, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, on April 6, 2018, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at public auction to the highest bidder, to pay the amount then due on said mortgage, together with the costs of foreclosure, including attorneys' fees as allowed by law, in accordance with the provisions of said mortgage. The time allowed by law for redemption by the mortgagors, their personal representatives or assigns, is six (6) months

from the date of said sale.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: Darla Crosby.

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.

If the mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. §580.30 or redeemed under Minn. Stat. §580.23, the mortgagor must vacate the mortgaged property by 11:59 p.m. on October 8, 2018, unless the foreclosure is postponed pursuant to Minn. Stat. §580.07, or the redemption period is reduced to five (5) weeks under Minn. Stat. §582.032.

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT BY A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

TCF National Bank
DATED: February 13, 2018
FOLEY & MANSFIELD, P.L.L.P.
By: Karl K. Heinzerling
Atty. No. 142475
Attorneys for Mortgagee
250 Marquette Avenue, Suite 1200
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401
2/13, 2/20, 2/27
3/6, 3/13, 3/20

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:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: August 31, 2010
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$176,912.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Ronald D. Mead and Michelle J. Mead a/k/a Michelle J. Zolnosky, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on September 3, 2010 as Document Number A000373333 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing at the Northwest corner of Northwest Quarter of Northwest Quarter of Northeast Quarter of Section 1, Township 105, Range 21, Steele County, Minnesota, running thence North 89 degrees 53' East (assumed bearing) along the North line of the Northeast Quarter 318.0 feet, thence South 0 degrees 00' West 548.0 feet, thence South 89 degrees 53' West 318.0 feet to the West line of Northeast Quarter, thence North 0 degrees 00' East along West line 548.0 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 4.0 acres more or less Subject to existing public road rights of way on the North. Assessor's Parcel Number: 03-001-1401.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 4683 108TH ST SW, ELLENDALE, MN 56026-2015
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$111,406.41
TRANSACTION AGENT: None
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 03-001-1401
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: April 10, 2018 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 April 10, 2019.

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: February 14, 2018
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/ Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq. N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Corbin C. Smith, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee The Academy Professional Building 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (18-0091-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

2/27, 3/6, 3/13
3/20, 3/27, 4/3

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE 18-108743

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: June 22, 2011
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$65,301.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Derek Denelsbeck, a single person
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed June 30, 2011, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000067413
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot Eleven (11), in Block Two (2), in Northrop's Sunrise Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota
REGISTERED PROPERTY PROPERTY ADDRESS: 730 NE 12th St, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-175-0211 COT# 17932
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$60,309.71
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: April 5, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on October 5, 2018, or the next business day if October 5, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: February 16, 2018
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. 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
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
3/6, 3/13, 3/20
3/27, 4/3, 4/10

(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

2/20, 2/27, 3/6
3/13, 3/20, 3/27

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE 18-108674

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: June 8, 2013
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$96,850.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Judith A. Fonner, a single woman
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100397202862153187
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Nationstar Mortgage, LLC
SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed June 20, 2013, Steele County Registrar of Titles, as Document Number T000070390
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot One, (Except the West 70 Feet), in Block Two in Heger Addition to the City of Owatonna, and that part of Sixth Avenue Southeast as vacated, lying immediately East of the above described Lot and being a Parcel thirty three Feet East and West and 88 Feet North and South, all being in Block Two in Heger Addition to the City of Owatonna.
AND
The North Half of Lot Sixteen (16), Except the West Seventy (70) Feet, Block Two (2), Heger Addition to the City of Owatonna, and also that Portion of Sixth Avenue S.E. lying immediately East of the North Half of said Lot 16 as vacated, the Portion of the Vacated Street herein conveyed being 33 Feet East and West and 44 Feet North and South.

REGISTERED PROPERTY PROPERTY ADDRESS: 553 11th St SE, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-174-0200 COT# 17109
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$92,506.19
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: April 24, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on October 24, 2018, or the next business day if October 24, 2018 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: February 23, 2018
Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper 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
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR
3/6, 3/13, 3/20
3/27, 4/3, 4/10



North American Farm and Power Show

March 15 and 16 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. | March 17 - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Steele County Free Fair • Owatonna



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bptimes@frontiernet.net
411 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number:
74-PR-18-362

NOTICE AND
ORDER OF HEARING
ON PETITION FOR
PROBATE OF WILL
AND APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re: Estate of
Joyce A. Matejcek,
Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on April 16, 2018, at 2:45 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, December 3, 2012, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Curt A. Matejcek, whose address is 550 Murray St., Owatonna, MN, 55060 and Todd C. Matejcek, whose address is 1375 Edinburgh Place NE, Owatonna, MN, 55060 as Personal Representatives of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representatives will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

Joseph A Bueltel
2/23/2018
Judge of District Court

Robin Hoesley
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner
David L. Einhaus
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Avenue
Owatonna, MN, 55060
Attorney License No: 26190
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com

3/6, 3/13

NOTICE

Proposed
City of Blooming Prairie
City Council Meeting Agenda
March 12, 2018
7:00 P.M.

- Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes of February Regular City Council Meeting
Financial Report
- Committee/Commission Reports
1. B.P. Public Utilities
 2. E.D.A. Commission
 3. B.P. Planning & Zoning
 4. B.P. Fire Commission
 5. B.P. Police Commission
 6. B.P. Ambulance Commission
- Business
1. Blooming Prairie Ambulance Commission Annual Report
 2. July 3rd Street Dance
 3. Blooming Prairie Fire Department Retirement Benefit Increase
 4. Application for an Exempt Gambling Permit – Blooming Prairie Veteran's Memorial
 5. Application for a Temporary Liquor License – Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club
- City Administrator's Report
1. APPA Rally Recap
- City Attorney's Report
- Council Members' Reports
Adjourn
- This Agenda is Subject to Change

NOTICE

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT #756
BLOOMING PRAIRIE,
MINNESOTA 55917
MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2018
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER

PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGENDA

6:00 a.m.
Thursday, March 15, 2018 -Regular School Board Work Session –High School Board Room
7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 19, 2018 -Open Public Forum–High School Media Center
7:15 p.m.
Monday, March 19, 2018 -Regular School Board Meeting–High School Media Center

Any person may raise a question to the School Board. The Board will not act on any item presented to them, which is not on the agenda, until the following Board meeting. Also, the Board would like persons to limit themselves to five minutes, with a maximum of 15 minutes per topic. These limitations are needed for us to run a timely and orderly Board meeting. Persons are requested to identify themselves prior to speaking.

- I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON
II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
III. ROLL CALL – CLERK
IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS
VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED

- A. Consent Agenda
Minutes
Bills
Treasurer's Report
Resignations
Donations

- B. Employment
C. Community Expert Position
D. Permanent Transfer

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION
AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY

- A. Committee Reports
B. Enrollment Data
C. Dates to Note

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR
BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

*Agenda may be subject to changes
3/6

NOTICE

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 NAMED:
Lava Burgers

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
36918th Street S.E. Owatonna MN
55060 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S):
Lava Burgers, Inc.
369 18th Street S.E. Owatonna MN
55060 USA

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 date 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 on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY:
Mark R. Carver

MAILING ADDRESS:
None Provided

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES:
josedherrera@msn.com

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

3/6, 3/13, 3/20

3-WEEK SPECIAL: \$32
BUY TWO WEEKS,
GET THE THIRD FREE
UP TO 20 WORDS; 10¢ FOR EACH WORD AFTER

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:
We are a growing company.
We are looking to hire two individual people who are willing to work nights as a Janitor.

BYRON:
HOURS are 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. on
Tuesday and Thursday nights.

MANTORVILLE:
HOURS are Sundays 9:30 p.m. to 11 p.m./11:30 p.m.;
Tuesday through Thursday, 10 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. or
12 a.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 p.m./11:30 p.m.
to 1 a.m./1:30 a.m.

Please leave a message or text
at 507-226-7500
or email: mopsandbuckets@kmtel.com

Resident Assistants Wanted
•PT 10 p.m. - 6 a.m.

Dining Attendants Wanted
•FT position 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
•PT position
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Apply at: www.oxfordmgmt.com/careers • EOE





DODGE COUNTY
911 DISPATCHER

Dodge County is accepting applications for the position of PT 911 Dispatcher. We will also be establishing a list for future PT and FT openings.

Duties include the operation of the public safety answering point. Ability to handle multiple calls and the radio at the same time. Shifts vary including nights, weekends, and holidays.

Visit our website at www.co.dodge.mn.us for application forms or contact Employee Relations at the Dodge County Courthouse at 507-635-6239.

Application deadline:
March 16, 2018 at 4 p.m.

EOE

SERVICES

FOR SALE

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, carbon-less forms, computer stationery. Ask about other items available, 507-634-2661. 33tfc

HAVE YOU TAKEN LN-VOKANA and suffered any serious side effects? Call 507-573-4551 to speak with a lawyer. You may be entitled to compensation. 9tfc

GRAB AND GO BOKAYS for \$9.99. Free Delivery, in town, Owatonna. Call for delivery 507-451-7673. cedarfloraldesignstudio.com email: cedarfloral.com The right arrangement for all occasions. 1tfc

WANTED

CROP LAND TO RENT. Paul & David Stanton Farms are looking to expand existing corn and soybean operation in Hayfield and surrounding area. Call Paul Stanton at 507-951-0914 or David Stanton 507-951-0915. 46tfc

CROP LAND TO RENT, sharecrop, or custom farm. Shamrock Farms: call Tim at 507-259-1169. 47tfc


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Up to 30 words

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Classified ad with photo runs till it sells in four publications and covers 12 communities. You may cancel your advertisement when your item sells, however, there are no refunds for this special. Call: 507-634-7503 or email: dci@kmtel.com and place your ad today. Must be prepaid prior to ad running.

ADvantage

STEELE COUNTY Times

DODGE COUNTY INDEPENDENT

FOR RENT

APARTMENTS FOR RENT, 1, 2 & 3 BR, gas & elec. Included. 507-273-7386. 44tfc
HAYFIELD, 1 BR APT, laundry on-site, off street parking, heat included, must be 62+ or handicapped/disabled, rent based on income, Equal Housing Opportunity, Call 507-477-2316 42tfc
KASSON, 1 BR apt, laundry on-site, off street parking, heat included, must be 62+ or handicapped/disabled, rent based on income, equal housing opportunity, call 507-634-4188. 42tfc
2BR APT. DODGE CENTER, \$600/month, clean facility, laundry on-site, please call 507-398-6899. 9,10c;11nc

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

CALEB'S PET SITTING, Cats and Dogs, please call me at 507- 634 -7907. 33tfc

EMPLOYMENT

EARN \$44K+ AND TRAVEL the county with 12 weeks of training and a paid, four-week internship with Riverland Community College's Truck Driving CDL program. Benefits include direct job pathways with industry partners and training in five specialty areas: flatbed, tanker, van/ refrigeration, doubles/triples, and motor coach. Financial Aid and Workforce Development funding is available to those who qualify. To learn more, call Jonathan at 507-433-0608. 5-10c
TRUCKMOVERS DEPOT IS HIRING! Local/Yard CDL Driver, Home DailyGreat pay and benefits Apply by calling: 844-843-4140 Email: daryl.jibben@truckmoversdepot.com. Stop by: 63531 209th Ave., Dodge Center. 10-11c

DEALS ON WHEELS



2015 28' Shadow Cruiser

w/slide FT excellent condition bunkhouse/ separate room - front queen bedroom, LED lighting, power jack, built-in TV, sensor awning, many extras can email pictures. Call 507-355-1347 after 5.

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THE MINNESOTA CLASSIFIED Ad NETWORK
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190+ channels. Free install. Free hopper HD-DVR. \$49.99/month (24 mos.) Add high speed internet - \$14.95 (where avail.)Call today& save25%!855/562-4309

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TV, Internet & Voice for \$29.99 ea. 60 MB per second speed. No contract or commitment. More Channels. Faster Internet. Unlimited Voice. Call 844/290-5838

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Benefits include health insurance, retirement plan and paid vacation25+ Years in business!

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- Dodge County Advantage
- Dodge County Independent

Your 1x4 ad will run in all four publications for entire month (4 weeks) for only \$60

Contact Annie at 507-319-1549 or email bpannie@frontier.com

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INDEPENDENT Times ADvantage

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Mike (Grand Meadow) 507-754-5125
Mark (St. Charles) 507-932-4830
Troy (Ostrander) 507-657-2234

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BARGAIN finder
SELL IT HERE!
\$5
Item must be priced \$50 or less!
Runs for 4 weeks
Place your ad and reach over 25,000 households in Steele, Dodge, Olmsted, Mower and Freeborn counties.
Up to 20 words

Bargain finder classifieds will run in four publications and covers 12 communities. You may cancel your advertisement when your item sells, however, there are no refunds for this special. Call: 507-634-7503 or email: dci@kmtel.com and place your ad today. Must be prepaid prior to ad running.

ADvantage Steele County Times INDEPENDENT

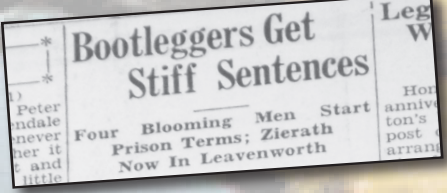
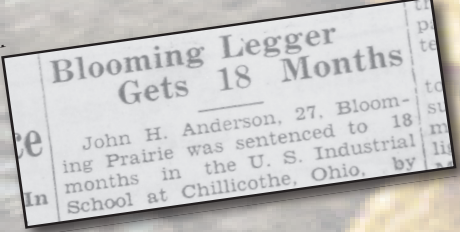
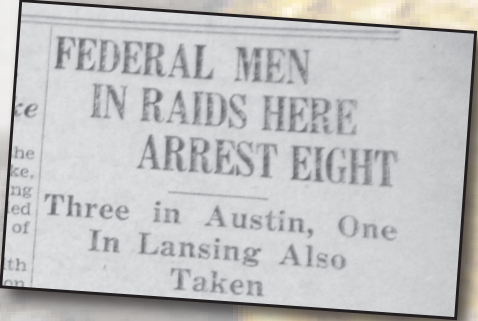
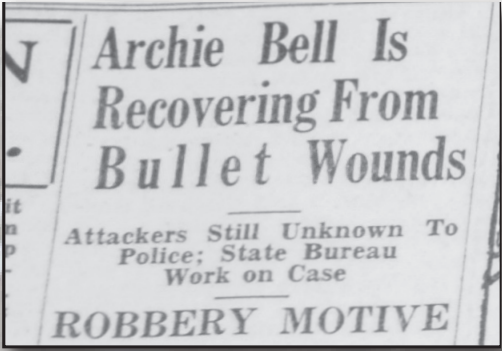
The BOOTLEGGING era of Blooming Prairie

Blooming Prairie 1920's Trivia

See answers in the advertisements below and be sure to support these local businesses:

1. How many trains did the Milwaukee Road run to BP every day?
A. Two
B. Three
C. Five
2. A couple of locals made good money selling what item at the Depot?
A. Shoes
B. Toiletries
C. Suitcases
3. What prominent building led buyers to alcohol purchases?
A. Afdem Egg Market
B. 1st National Bank
C. West Hotel
4. What building did buyers pass to and from alcohol purchases?
A. Police Station
B. Blacksmith
C. Betlach's Grocery
5. What route was Highway 218 part of?
A. Route 66
B. Highway 45
C. Redball Road
6. On New Year's Eve 1929, 18 federal officers raided BP. What particular business was targeted?
A. Coggins Soft Drink Emporium
B. Ruzek Brothers
C. Livery Stable (The Barn)
7. M.L. Harney, state prohibition administrator warned BP residents to quit the alcohol business or he would turn BP drier than?
A. Cotton balls
B. Beef jerky
C. The Sahara Desert
8. A couple of BP fellows ended up in the Owatonna Jail. What did they do on Friday and Saturday nights?
A. Play cards
B. Go to Ziener's and the Monterey
C. Listen to the radio
9. What did kids get for an empty bottle that still had the cork?
A. Pack of gum
B. Nickel
C. Quarter

10. What was the popular night spot on the northern edge of BP?
A. The Lark
B. The Legion Club
C. Blue Hen
11. During the big crackdown on BP, what was going on west of town?
12. What were the main car brands used for the alcohol business?
A. Packard and Ford
B. Chevrolet and Cadillac
C. Buick, Oakland and Whippet
13. To what particular city, did large loads of alcohol go?
A. Chicago
B. Baraboo
C. Minneapolis
14. What close-by community was important to the alcohol business?
A. Geneva
B. Bixby
C. Waltham
15. How many arrests were made following the "big" still raid on Dec. 5, 1932?
A. 12
B. 5
C. 0



SPEAKEASY TIMES

Some exciting action took place in downtown Blooming Prairie on March 3. It was the return of the Speakeasy Night featuring 1920s costumes.

Pictures on this page are from last year's event. Participants learned how prohibition went in Blooming Prairie and experienced some places they had never been before.

Before Prohibition began, Blooming Prairie had a raid that shut down local liquor establishments on July 1, 1918. A special event is being planned to observe the 100th anniversary of the raid.



Dr. Deborah J Lien
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST
DDS, MBS

GIVE THEM EVERY REASON TO SMILE

583.6613

132 2nd Ave NE | Blooming Prairie, MN

Answers to Trivia: 4. A, 5. C, 6. A, 7. C

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Answers to Trivia: 1. B, 2. C, 3. C



DARRICK'S
PREFERRED AUTO

Free winter inspection
Gift cards available

507-583-9994

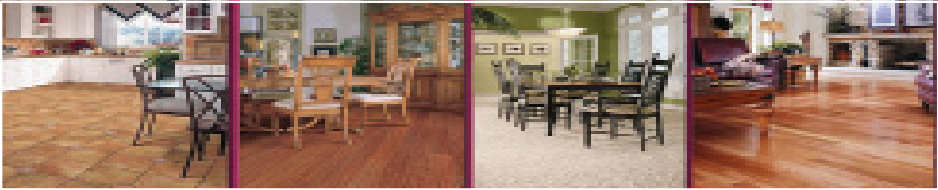
536 Highway 218 S • Blooming Prairie

www.darrickspreferredauto.com

Answers to Trivia: 8. B, 9. B, 10. C.

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Answers to Trivia: 11. B, 12.C, 13. B, 14. A, 15. C