



Romance Forever



Marge and Jerry Oxley recently celebrated 67 years of marriage and are closing in on 68 years. Valentine's Day is a special day for the Oxleys as is every day, they agree.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

High school sweethearts still sweethearts after 67 years

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Valentine's Day is every day for Marge and Jerry Oxley of Blooming Prairie. They became high school sweethearts and have maintained a strong bond through marriage during the ensuing 67 years.

The Oxleys moved from the northern Iowa community of Corwith to Blooming Prairie in 1973. The move was made to expand their farm land. "Land was much cheaper in Minnesota," Jerry says.

This lovely couple farmed east of Blooming Prairie near the Dodge County line for just over 40 years until they moved to their current residence, a town home located on the southwest part of town.

Spend just a few

hours in the Oxleys' comfortable home with them and learn very quickly that these two love birds are truly meant for one another.

"Can I make you some coffee?" Jerry asks. Marge volunteered to make the pot of coffee but Jerry said he had it under control.

The Oxleys were very willing to provide a snapshot of their relationship, which proves to be a perfect example of true love, something many choose to emphasize only on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. Jerry and Marge display their love 24/7.

Not too many couples will talk publicly about their attachment to one another. Jerry and Marge, however, are proud of their strong commitment to one another.

"People take life too seriously," Jerry believes. He is very quick witted and lovingly teases his wife in front of others.

The Oxleys came to the Blooming Prairie area after purchasing a farm from Roy and Stacia Angell. "We bought 162 acres and farmed over 400 acres," Jerry

relates. They raised beef cows and feeder cattle.

Marge worked 33 years for the Mower County Public Health Department, in addition to working on the farm.

The Oxleys could be called the perfect couple but they both admit there have been some bumps in the road. They lost two daughters at young ages, daughter Rebecca Ann Schunke at age 47 to Lupus in 2002 and Kathleen Ditlevsen at age 63 to cancer in 2013.

Jerry and Marge have a grandson Joshua Skalisky of Pine

SEE ROMANCE, A6



A LIFE REMEMBERED

OTILLA ANDERSON - 107



Centenarian never wanted to be the oldest person

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A centenarian who once proclaimed she did not want to be the oldest person in the world has died.

Otila Anderson, who lived in Blooming Prairie for most of her life and most recently in Mankato, died Jan. 29 at Oaklawn Healthcare Center in Mankato. She was 107 years old.

"I don't want to be the oldest person in the world," Anderson said during an April 2015 interview with the Times when she turned 105.

Two of the world's oldest people reportedly have died within the past year. An Indonesian man died last April at the age of 146. Another person among the world's oldest was a Jamaican woman, who died last September at 117.

Census Bureau records for 2010 counted Anderson among 1,211 Minnesota centenarians.

Anderson lived independently in a small apartment until May 30, 2015 about a month after her 105th birthday when she took a serious fall, according to her daughter, Margo Brudwick. After the fall, she moved into the nursing home, which became her final move..

Asked about the move to the nursing home, Brudwick said, "It was hard when she first went in. She hated moving out of her apartment. But she realized she had to be in a nursing home."

Brudwick and her sister, Nancy Wooldridge, also of Mankato, made sure they visited their mother every day when she was sick. Otherwise, they were by her side at least four times a week when things were good.

While a resident of the nursing home, Anderson had been "very active," Brudwick said. "She had some balance issues, but she walked with her walker, and she played bingo for at least an hour," Brudwick said.

Even until the end, Anderson had "a pretty quick mind," Brudwick said. On the Friday before her death, Brudwick stopped in to see her mother and had a conversation with her at noon. "When I left I said, 'I love you mom,' and she replied, 'I love

SEE OTILLA, A3



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

State Farm Insurance is still located in Blooming Prairie at 417 Highway Ave. South. State Farm is now managed by the Plemel Insurance Agency of Owatonna. Jenn Trost, left, is office representative in Blooming Prairie. Judy Plemel, right, manages the overall operations in Owatonna and Blooming Prairie.

Plemel continues State Farm Insurance in BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Turn over the State Farm Insurance business card and it reads: "Here to help life go right."

That's one of the messages carried by Plemel

Insurance Agency agents in Owatonna and Blooming Prairie.

State Farm Insurance has had a presence in Blooming Prairie for over 40 years and that will continue at the 417 Highway Ave. South location, the most

SEE PLEMEL, A3

Overwhelming generosity

Benefit raises \$60K for family of business owner who died

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

What was that again?

Numbers tell the success story of a benefit for the Jon Carlson family of Blooming Prairie.

Benefit organizers Hilary Jones and Lauren Lau said more than 700 attended a benefit for the Carlson family last Saturday night at the Cue Company/Pizza Cellar in Blooming Prairie.

More than \$60,000 was raised. "We were hoping for \$50,000 and were just amazed at the results," remarked Jones.

"The crowd was shoulder to shoulder most of the night," said Lau. "It couldn't have gone any better; it just blows me away," she added.

The fundraiser was a Memorial Benefit for Jon Carlson, who passed

SEE BENEFIT, A6



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele received the Peace Officer of the Year award Friday morning from the Exchange Club of Steele County. Club member Bruce Kubicek, center, and club president Mike Brown presented the top honor to Thiele.

HOMETOWN HERO

Sheriff awarded Peace Officer of the Year honor by Exchange Club

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

The Exchange Club of Steele County pulled a fast one on the county's top law enforcer.

Instead of having Sheriff Lon Thiele suggest one of his officers as the

top peace officer for the year, which typically happens most years, the club surprised Thiele by picking him for the honor. Club officials decided it was time to thank the head guy.

The club presented Thiele with its top honor for Peace Officer of the Year

SEE HERO, A3



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AREA DEATHS

Otila Anderson, 107
Sharon Seedorf, 76
Eugene D. Trom, 89

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and Steele County
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OUR VIEW

A well-deserved honor for area's top cop

In some ways the tables got turned on Steele County's top law enforcement officer last week. Sheriff Lon Thiele typically works with the Exchange Club of Steele County to identify a deputy deserving of the organization's Peace Officer of the Year award. The top honor always goes to a sheriff's deputy with the exception of one time in 2016 when it went to Jacob Peterson, a Blooming Prairie officer.

But this year was different. The Exchange Club lured the sheriff to a breakfast under the guise of offering him to speak at the breakfast only to surprise him with the top honor.

We couldn't agree more that the sheriff is deserving of this honor. Thiele has led the sheriff's office under some extraordinary ordeals over the past few years. In 2016, the sheriff's office unraveled a mystery of a man shot to death outside of Owatonna. Thiele found a way for the county to get reimbursed through the state for \$10,000 of costs associated with investigating the homicide.

In January 2017 chaos became the new norm at the Steele County Courthouse when a pipe burst, flooding the entire building and forcing its closure for 13 months. The sheriff's office scrambled during that time to provide security in multiple locations around town so that court trials and hearings could continue. Things are finally getting back to normal as the courthouse fully reopened just this week.

Through all the turmoil with crime and other disasters, Thiele always finds a way to keep his office under budget. "I want to be the best steward for the taxpayer dollar," he said.

We think one of his greatest ideas came in 2014 when Thiele found a Thompson sub-machine gun collecting dust in a storage area at the sheriff's office, and he turned around to sell it for \$37,500. The proceeds went to purchase a new squad car for his office.

In our book, Sheriff Thiele is definitely a hometown hero who deserves a fitting honor like Peace Officer of the Year. Congratulations, sheriff!

YOUR VIEW

Feb. 14 is more than just Valentines' Day

To-the-Editor:
February 14th is best known as Valentine's Day, but did you know it is also recognized as National Donor Day? National Donor Day aims to raise awareness of the lifesaving benefits of organ, eye and tissue donation while reminding us of the importance of having the conversation with your loved ones. More than 100,000 people are awaiting the gift of a lifesaving transplant in the U.S. today.

One meaningful way to spread the love is to designate your personal decision by taking two minutes to register as a donor at www.registerme.org. Your decision today could help save lives!

*Jackie Rasmusson
Rochester*

Conservative Coalition to offer forum

To-the-Editor:
"Our Time in History-How Your View of History Affects Your Present-Day Worldview" will be the theme of the next forum sponsored by the Conservative Coalition of Owatonna.

It will be held on Feb. 20 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Owatonna Public Library's Gainey Room. Presenter Rene Couture is a conservative radio co-host and has given educational tours of America's historic East Coast for more than 20 years. She gives inspiring narratives at monuments, memorials and other historically-significant locations. Rene is passionate about stirring the hearts and minds of people of all ages to broaden their worldview and to impact the world around them in our time of history.

The Conservative Coalition of Owatonna is a group of local community members who are committed to energize, educate and engage people in navigating cultural issues through "Shining the Light on Culture" forums.

This event is free and open to the public, and you are welcome to attend.

*Joan Young
Owatonna*



Centenarian enjoys life's chapter to the very end

One of my most memorable assignments in covering the news came nearly three years ago when I ventured to North Mankato to meet a woman celebrating a big birthday.

Oh, but this was no ordinary birthday.

At the time, Otilla Anderson was already a centenarian and getting ready to celebrate her 105th birthday. As she began closing in on the oldest verified person to have ever lived of 122 years, Anderson clearly told me, "I don't want to be the oldest person in the world."

Anderson's wish came true. She died Jan. 29 at the age of 107.



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

The oldest confirmed person as of 2018 is NabiTajima of Japan. She is 117 years old.

There is no doubt Anderson was a part of an elite club. Census Bureau records for 2010 counted Anderson among 1,211 Minnesota centenarians.

I found some other interesting tidbits in my research about centenarians. A December 2012 Minnpost article examined the national and state statistics gathered for the report.

Of the 53,364 people age 100 and older in the United States that year, most were female. The ratio was 100 centenarian women to about 20 centenarian men.

Anderson lived alone in a country home west of Blooming Prairie for most of her life. Her and her husband, Ormond, built a new house in 1935 for \$1,400. He died in 1983.

She lived there until she was 90 at which time she moved to North Mankato to be closer to her daughters. Anderson shared about how at the time she moved she thought it would be short lived.

"I didn't think I would live very long anymore," Anderson said. "I thought it was time to die."

But she hung in there. For almost 18 years more.

Anderson was a fighter. She was a cancer survivor of more than 30 years. Shortly after her husband died, she came down with colon cancer. She beat it. And besides a little slip-up in which she broke



FILE PHOTO

Up until 2015, Otilla Anderson still cooked for herself with a microwave, rather than a stove at her apartment in North Mankato. She moved into a nursing home in May 2015 where she remained until she died Jan. 29 at the age of 107.

her hip and had a hip replacement in the late 1980s, she has been as healthy as can be.

What impressed me the most when I interviewed Anderson in 2015 was how she, even at 105 years old, still lived independently in her own apartment. She still cooked for herself, though it was with a microwave. "They won't let me use a stove anymore," she said at the time.

Anderson had been a faithful subscriber of the Times for many years up until about seven years ago. The only reason she stopped was because she simply couldn't read the small print any longer.

When I asked her in 2015 how many more years she hopes to be around, she replied, "I'm ready whenever."

Her only regret at that time was that she couldn't see or hear very well. But she display quick humor to get past what she didn't have. "Sometimes it's all right to not be able to hear," she said with a chuckle.

Reading was one of Anderson's passions. She kept her mind sharp by reading. Even with failing eyesight, she read large-print books. She loved novels, especially mysteries.

There is no question that Anderson lived a good life, far surpassing the years many of us will live to.

I just hope Anderson will be able to go in hot pursuit of resting in peace now that she has ended her life chapter after a century and more.

GUEST COLUMN

A renewed understanding that God is love

Last week, as the Westboro Baptist members demonstrated outside our church, we were reading from the Gospel of St. Mark about the healing ministry of Jesus. The portion assigned for that Sunday began with Jesus healing the mother-in-law of Peter and continued with the whole town gathering outside the door of the house. The response of Jesus was to cure many and to cast out many demons.

What a contrast this portrait of a loving and compassionate Jesus is with the message of those from Westboro who seem more interested in identifying who God hates than in discovering the nature of Jesus as the loving face of a loving Father.

To be sure, Jesus called those

of his day, and he calls us, to conversion and repentance. But this call comes from a place of pure love and a desire that we respond to the call to holiness. I love the way that St. John puts it in his Gospel, "I have come that you might have life and have it to the fullest." And how many signs were extended inside the U.S. Bank Stadium with the words, "John 3:16"?



FATHER
JOHN SAUER

In the end, the cold weather limited the impact of the presence of these demonstrators. Even the signs they carried were not the more incendiary that we have seen in pictures and on television. But I believe it gave us an opportunity to reflect on our understanding of Jesus and his message. I hope that we came away with a renewed understanding that God is love. I pray that we will allow this love of Jesus to penetrate our hearts and to respond as Jesus did to the sick, the suffering and the sinner.

Father John Sauer is pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Owatonna and Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Litomysl.

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.

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Snow week in Blooming Prairie



Students at Blooming Prairie High School had a little mid-winter fun last week when they celebrated Snow Week. At top: A large group of kids gathered to show off their jammies during Pajama Day on Feb. 5. Other special days throughout the week included: Twin Day (find a friend) on Tuesday, Sport Day on Wednesday, John Deere (green) vs. International (red) Day on Thursday and College Day on Friday. Bottom left: Even though it was Twin Day on Tuesday, guess what? Triplets were found, too. Julia Worke, Jillian Wigham and Baylee Sorensen dressed up in “Thing 1, 2 and 3” T-shirts. Bottom center: Cameron Kubista and Riauna Bishop were curly-haired twins for Twin Day. Bottom right: A pair of Blossom blondes, Ayren Ingvalson and McKenna Hein, paired up to enjoy the festivities during Snow Week.

STAFF PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD

HERO: Sheriff awarded

FROM PAGE A1

Friday morning in Owatonna. Thiele was born in Steele County, and spent his time as an officer in South Dakota before returning back to his home state. According to Thiele, when the job for Steele County Sheriff opened up, he knew the time was right to return home and protect the community he loves.

Mike Brown, this year’s Exchange Club president, honored Sheriff Thiele by thanking him for his service to the community and bestowing the Club’s award upon him.

At the podium Thiele thanked his force and the men and women serving within his office before moving on to thank the Exchange Club members, and friends and family. Thiele’s wife and two daughters were looking on proudly.

The sheriff also talked about the importance of his past experiences in other departments, and concluded by admitting that serving as Steele County’s sheriff has been a tremendous opportunity for him.

Although the office is a four-year term, Thiele said he feels that he “runs for office every day, and not just every four years.” It’s this attitude that’s earned the stalwart sheriff his well-deserved recognition.

“I love being sheriff,” Thiele said. “I feel I’m able to put my ideas and goals forward.” Afterwards he remarked upon how humbling it felt to be chosen for the award, also reiterating this humility as it pertains to his election as

sheriff.

Despite his modesty, Thiele was all smiles at the podium. “Coincidentally this is an election year,” he said, “and I plan on being sheriff as long as I can.”

He finished by expressing his pride in the fact that the sheriff’s office has continued to operate under budget for his duration while serving under the title. Thiele said he feels that “it’s important to make sure the dollars are spent how they need to be spent.”

This economic philosophy comes at a time when the sheriff’s office has experienced several unexpected budget items, including a couple of murders within the county lines, and an armed robbery. Thiele reported that he felt it was his duty to pursue grant money from the Department of Public Safety, which helped ease the financial burden incurred by those unexpected items.

The sheriff also briefly described the difficulty in refitting some of the county’s portable radios, and mentioned that his office has 500 of the devices for which they are responsible. The job, it would seem, is not without its hurdles.

Thiele said that he wants to always be prepared, even for serious events that one may not normally plan for. He finished his speech by thanking everyone in attendance, his force, and his family again, saying that “I couldn’t do this without my family.”

With 120 people who answer to him directly or indirectly, Thiele later commented that “surrounding myself with a good team helps to

make me better.”

A crucial member of that team, Scott Hanson, chief deputy, says that “we wholeheartedly believe in him, and we want him to reach the goals he’s set for the community.”

Hanson also appreciated the support from the community members within the Exchange Club. “It’s amazing how the community embraces us and lets us know they believe in us.” He explained the vital importance of working closely with community members by saying “we each have two eyes, and we can’t be everywhere, so the more eyes we have that trust us, the more we feel we can help.”

Brown, the club’s president, feels that the work of officers like Hanson and Thiele is “extremely valuable, and they need and deserve all the support they can get.”

Brown thinks that Thiele’s “interaction with the community tells us that he’s done a wonderful job.”

Of the work law enforcement does, Brown said that “I wouldn’t necessarily call it a thankless job, but it doesn’t hurt to remind them we appreciate all their hard work and dedication.”

Thiele’s message to the community is simple, but true. “We don’t make the laws, we only enforce them, and we want to do our best,” Thiele said.

Despite the recognition, Sheriff Thiele says he is still learning how to better serve the community and those under him.

For now Thiele knows the community appreciates all the effort.

OTILLA: A life remembered

FROM PAGE A1

you, too,” Brudwick said.

Anderson died peacefully in her sleep on the following Monday.

Brudwick will always remember her mother as a teacher even though she was not directly involved in education. “She certainly was a teacher in our home where she expected us to do well in school,” Brudwick said. “Education was important to her.”

Anderson lived most of her life a few miles outside of Blooming Prairie along Highway 30. She and her late husband, Ormond, operated a service station for many years. Ormond died in 1983.

She remained active in the Blooming Prairie area until 2000 at 90 years old when she gave up the country life and moved near her daughters in Mankato. At the same time she gave up driving.

In the 2015 interview, Anderson joked about moving at 90 because she didn’t think she had very long to live anymore. “I thought it was time to die,” she said. She lived for another 17 years.

When asked about her secrets to longevity, Anderson didn’t think long by replying, “I never smoked, I never drank, and I ate whatever I wanted whenever I wanted.”

Family genes may have also played a key role, according to Brudwick. Anderson’s sister, Elsie, lived to be 104. Many others in her family of 11 siblings lived into their 90s. “They were long lived,” Brudwick said.

Friends and family used to joke around with Anderson about her longevity. Brudwick said one time they told her, “Otilla, you’re just too mean. God doesn’t want you.”

Faith also played a key role throughout Anderson’s life. She was a lifelong member of Community Lutheran Church in Geneva. “Her faith was a driving force in her life,” Brudwick said. “You could never skip church, that’s for sure.”

In her later years, Anderson religiously listened to “Peace and Power” on KAAL-TV every Sunday morning. Brudwick laughed about how her mother made sure they had the remote control configured with tape so she could get find the telecast.

Brudwick will always remember her mother as a kind person. She often performed good deeds for others like one Christmas when she delivered a big box of apples for a family who didn’t have any money.

In her spare time, Anderson enjoyed making decorative eggs, baking and sewing. She also had a garden in her earlier years.

When her daughters wanted to go shopping for clothes or other materials, Anderson quickly put a stop to it. “I can make it for half the price,” she told her daughters.

Anderson revealed a family secret during the 2015 interview. She vividly remembered the moonshine days around Blooming Prairie when many families made booze illegally. Her mother stored some of the brew on their home place for \$50 per month.

“The Feds got a little nosy,” Anderson said during the interview. “We didn’t want mom to go to jail, so we had to quit.”

A funeral service was held at Community Lutheran in Geneva on Feb. 5. Anderson was buried at the Danish Baptist Cemetery.

PLEMEL: State Farm Insurance

FROM PAGE A1

recent office of Dale Borchert. Borchert retired on Dec. 31, 2017 after logging more than 40 years with State Farm Insurance in Blooming Prairie.

Jenn Trostem of Blooming Prairie will manage the BP office. She is the daughter of Judy and Joe Plemel of the Plemel Insurance Agency located at 920 Hoffman Drive, Suite 1 in Owatonna.

Judy Plemel became a State Farm

agent in Tennessee in 1994. She has kept the connection with State Farm ever since and has made it a family operation with Jenn and Joe being part of the business.

Originally from the Avon area near St. Cloud, Judy and her husband moved to a suburb of Nashville and spent 15 years there. Joe owned a tool and die company.

The Plemels moved back to Minnesota in 1999 and continued the insurance connection with State Farm.

The Plemel Agency will maintain

all of Dale’s accounts. “He was very dedicated to the customer and very trustworthy,” Judy said in saluting Borchert. “You can’t ask for anything more, doing what is right for the client,” she added.

Relationships are important with State Farm agents and customers, says Judy. “We have a store front and people can walk in, mail in, call or click in,” Judy said.

The Blooming Prairie State Farm office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 12:30 to 4:30 on

Wednesdays. After hours, agents can be reached by appointment.

“When people have questions, they want to see an agent. Dale was always committed to the customer and it’s our customers who will determine our path,” Judy said.

State Farm has banking resources and offers all kinds of insurance: auto, home, renters, life, commercial and farm insurance.

Judy said she is fortunate to have her husband Joe specialize in the commercial and farm/ranch areas. Judy specializes in financial services

and personal lines of insurance.

Plemel Insurance has six licensed State Farm agents: Judy Plemel, Joe Plemel, Crystal Wencil, Brandi Calmer, Jennifer Sorensen and Jenn Trostem.

Jenn and Adam and their two children, Zander, 7 and Blair, 3, reside in rural Blooming Prairie.

“We’re excited to be here and love our location,” remarked Judy.

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OBITUARIES

Eugene D. Trom, 89



Eugene D. Trom, 89, of Blooming Prairie, passed away at his home Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018.

Eugene D. Trom was born on March 14, 1928 in rural Blooming Prairie on the family farm in Westfield Township (Dodge County) to Elmer and Marie (Wilson) Trom. He attended Westfield Country School and graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1948.

On Nov. 29, 1952, he married Mary Distad. Their marriage was blessed with three sons. They enjoyed 65 years of marriage together.

Eugene farmed for 15 years before moving in 1966 to Owatonna where he worked for Von Ruden Manufacturing as a sales person. In 1977, the family moved

to Salt Lake City, Utah where Eugene worked as a sales manager for Lester Prairie Manufacturing. He later worked for a company in Canada.

Eugene loved sales and his travels took him all over the United States as well as Canada. He also traveled with his wife to Italy for a farm show.

Eugene moved back to Minnesota in 2000. He and his son, Greg, started and operated a plastics manufacturing company in Hayfield for five years.

Eugene was an inventor and had a couple of patents. The Level-Air Grain Spreader was his most successful.

Community was important to Eugene as he served on the Blooming Prairie City Council for two years.

He was a faithful member of Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church in Owatonna. Eugene loved his family, his eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. They also loved him.

Survivors include his wife of 65

years, Mary Trom of Blooming Prairie, three sons, Michael (Janel) Trom of Minneapolis, Greg (Tammy) Trom of Hayfield and Scott (Lisa) Trom of Houston, Texas; eight grandchildren, Holly and Peter, Christopher, Megan and Emily and Kelly, Anna and Ben; six great-grandchildren; step grandchildren and step great-grandchildren; brothers, Lowell Trom of Blooming Prairie and Kenny Trom of Austin; sister, Darlene Schmidt of Owatonna.

Eugene is preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Marie Trom; brothers, Richard, Ralph, Charles and Lloyd; sisters, Bernice and Verna.

A memorial service will take place on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018 at 11 a.m. at Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church in Owatonna. Visitation will be before the service from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the church. Burial will be private at a later date.

The family requests memorials to be given to a charity of choice.

Sharon Seedorf, 76



Sharon Kaye (Larson) Seedorf, 76, of Woodbury, formerly of Albert Lea died unexpectedly Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018 while at her winter home in Lake Havasu, Ariz.

Sharon was born at home in Freeborn County on April 26, 1941. She graduated from Albert Lea High School in 1958. Sharon married Gary Seedorf in 1963 at Grace Lutheran Church and they lived outside of Alden until moving to Barstow, Calif. in 1965.

After living a few years in California, Gary and Sharon moved back to Albert Lea with Brian and Ann. In 1974, they moved to Blooming Prairie after purchasing a hobby farm to fulfill their dream of living in the country and farming. Sharon also worked at Hometown Insurance Agency in Blooming Prairie and State Farm in Albert Lea.

In 2000, she purchased an Allstate Agency, which she ran independently until her retirement. After retirement Sharon and Gary enjoyed spending time with their children and grandchildren, family and friends.

They also enjoyed spending the winter months at their home in Lake Havasu, Ariz., and having family and friends visit. Sharon took great pleasure in her flowers, volunteering, shopping, entertaining, and spending time with her grandchildren.

Sharon is preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Gary who passed away in May 2017. She was also preceded in death by her parents Harland and Stella (Honsey) Larson and one grandson, Tyler Behnken.

Sharon is survived by her son, Brian (Julie) Seedorf of Savage; daughter, Ann (Jay) Behnken of Woodbury; one granddaughter, Hannah Behnken; four grandsons, Jack and Griffin Seedorf and Jacob (Emily) and Adam Behnken. Sharon is also survived by one brother, Roger (Gabina) Larson and one sister, Becky (Jim) Cox and several nieces and

nephews.

Celebration of life and faith services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17 at Grace Lutheran Church, 918 Garfield Ave, Albert Lea. Pastor Paul Dean from Resurrection Lutheran Church in Woodbury will officiate. Visitation will begin at 12 noon. Family and friends are invited to stay for a comforting Norwegian meal and fellowship following the Celebration of Life service. Bonnerup Funeral Service in Albert Lea, 507-373-2461, is handling the arrangements.

The family would like to thank the staff of Lietz-Fraze Funeral Home in Lake Havasu for their service and thank Grace Lutheran Church for hosting Sharon's service. If desired, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be given to the Minnesota Alzheimer's Association www.alz.org/mnnd/, the American Cancer Society of Minnesota [<https://www.cancer.org/about-us/local/Minnesota.html>] or the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association, USA [<http://www.pwsausa.org>].

Otilla Anderson, 107



Otilla Anderson, 107, lifelong resident of Blooming Prairie and currently of Mankato, died Monday, Jan. 29, 2018 at Oaklawn Healthcare Center in Mankato.

Funeral service was held Monday, Feb. 5, 2018 at Community Lutheran Church in Geneva. Burial was held at the Danish Baptist Cemetery.

Memorials are preferred to either the Community Lutheran Church or Mayo Clinic Health System Hospice. Please share a memory of Otilla with her family at www.mankatomortuary.com.

Otilla was born April 13, 1910 in Blooming Prairie to Wencil and Josephine (Blazek) Haberman. She was united in marriage to Ormond Anderson on Sept. 5, 1935 in St. Paul. Together, they owned and operated Anderson Garage and Service Station in Blooming Prairie. In addition, they raised two daughters, Margo and Nancy. Otilla was an active member of Community Lutheran Church in Geneva. She enjoyed painting homemade greeting cards and decorative eggs, gardening, sewing, and baking cinnamon rolls.

Otilla is survived by her daughters, Margo (Dean) Brudwick of Mankato and Nancy Wooldridge of Mankato; grandchildren, Jody (David) Schlichte of North Mankato, Julie (Steve) Kjellgren of St. Peter, Jeffrey (Becky) Brudwick of North Mankato, Anton (Jeanette) Wooldridge of Mapleton, and Brad (Tina) Wooldridge of Fairmont; great-grandchildren, Matthew Kjellgren, Bethany (Ben) Whittier, Grace Kjellgren, Jay Schlichte, Ryan Schlichte, Macey (Conor) Wanderscheid, Kellen Brudwick, Errin Brudwick, Tanner Wooldridge, Nicholas Wooldridge, Zachary Wooldridge, Tessa Zarn, Tahlija Wooldridge, and Dominic Wooldridge; great-great-grandson, Micah Whittier.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ormond in 1983; six sisters; four brothers; and grandson, Dija Wooldridge.

ENGAGEMENT



Macal-Harber plan wedding

Gary and Deb Macal of Ellendale and Steve and Lynn Harber of Austin proudly announce the engagement of their daughter and son, Mallory Macal and Mark Harber.

Mallory graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 2006, from the University of Wisconsin at River Falls in 2011, and completed her Master's Degree from St. Mary's University in 2016. Mallory is a third grade teacher at Banfield Elementary in Austin.

Mark graduated from Austin High School in 2009 and from St. Scholastica in Duluth in 2013. Mark partners with father in the family business, City Concrete Company in Austin.

A July 14th, 2018, wedding is planned at First United Methodist Church in Austin.

SCHOOL MENUS A6

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.

Direction with dignity from Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna.



Cory Michaelson

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Direction With Dignity
www.michaelsonfuneral.com
507-451-7943

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 13
Bobbie Bruns
Judy Remker
Jim Trotman, Jr.
Will Hinzman
Laura Mans

Feb. 14
Haley Ryks
Jim Severtson
Jon Peterson
Rita Goodnature
Janis Haberman
Owen Braaten

Harley Haley
Doug Krell

Feb. 15
Raylee Barber
Elvin Bud Alwes
Emily Iversen
Steve Glynn
Raylee Miner
Elijah Peterson

Feb. 16
Mark Swenson
Maveda Peterson
Sophia Johnson
Jerry Ingvalson
Bernadine Peterson
Mary Jo Wallace

Eloise Yvonne Jenzen

Feb. 17
Blake Christianson
Derek Ingvalson
Thomas Farr
Dawn Gross
Brandy Munson
Jeff Schieck
Garret Farr

Feb. 18
Amy Snider
Maynard Johnson
Rod Koster
Carly Jo Iversen
Holly Ann Olson

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THANK YOU

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to our friends and neighbors for flowers, food, cards of sympathy and memorials sent at the time of Allen's passing. A special thanks for the Prairie Manor staff, the Mayo Hospice, Pastors Heidi, Hegal and Fennel, Dr. Kleis, Worlein Funeral Home and the church ladies that served the food. It is so comforting to know that so many share our loss.

Family of Allen Johnson

SEMCAC Senior Menu

All meals subject to change

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Bean-Lentil Soup, Tuna Salad on Bun, Alt: Cheese on Bun, Citrus Fruit Cup, Starburst Cake

Thursday, Feb. 15

Baked Ham, Alt: Ground Beef Patty, Fresh Sweet Potatoes, Scalloped Corn, Fresh Fruit

Friday, Feb. 16

Taco Casserole OR Enchilada Casserole, Lettuce Salad, Parslied Carrots, Chocolate Cherry Bar

Monday, Feb. 19

Ham/Scalloped Potatoes, Alt: Chicken Breast, Oriental Blend Vegetables, Coleslaw, Fruit Cup

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Vegetable Soup, Crackers, Shredded Turkey / Bun, Molded Mandarin Orange Salad, Gingerbread

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Coke 7.5oz 6 Packs 2/\$5	

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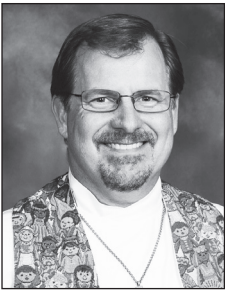
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PASTOR'S CORNER

The Spirit gives us abilities



PASTOR PAUL HAUSCHILD
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH HAYFIELD

The Apostle Paul writes this as he shares with his people about spiritual gifts. We all have them! God has given you a gift or talent for you to use, enjoy, and share. With these abilities you glorify the one Spirit who gave it to you. What do you have a passion for? What gives you life and energy and joy? Whatever this ability is, don't just keep it to yourself. Find ways to help others with it. We each have spiritual gifts and this leads us to part of our purpose here on earth. Some of us have been figuring out what our gifts are for years! That's OK.

I love acting in plays. I always have. When I rehearse and act on stage, a creative energy and sense of joy flows

receive my joy. I give God the glory whenever I act on stage. I couldn't find fulfillment without His grace.

“All these (abilities) are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.”

1 Corinthians 12:11

through me. The best part is it's easily share with others and I know they

Right now I am in a show called: “How To Talk Minnesotan” at the

Mantorville Opera House. This gift of mine doesn't come easy, though. I am continually stretching myself and stepping out of the box whenever I use it. This musical comedy is light hearted, but I've put a lot of sweat into it, and have had to go way out of my comfort zone. That's what spiritual gifts and abilities are all about. What are your gifts and abilities? Is God calling you to step out of your comfort zone to glorify him or serve someone else? The Spirit has given you a passion. Find it and share it!

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., Sergeant
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
5881 SE 118th St.,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Stephanie Wood
507-676-5696
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
(First Sunday of the month)

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Rev. Todd Buegler, Senior
Pastor
Rev. Dean Smith,
Associate Pastor
Rev. Amanda Weinkauff,
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 Hauschaer
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.

CATHOLIC
CHRIST THE KING
203 Second Ave. NW., Medford
507-451-6353
Father Kevin Connolly
Deacon Patrick Fagan
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
Monday Mass: 9 a.m.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 SW First St., New Richland
Father Raul Silva
Fr. Adam McMillan,
Parochial Vicar
507-465-8217
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
Father John Sauer
Fr. Jose Morales, Weekend
Presider
507-451-1588
www.litomysl.webs.com
Reconciliation: 8:45 a.m.
1st & 3rd Sundays
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Children's Church for
Preschool – 1st Grade
began Sept. 24
Faith Formation for
Kindergarten
– Confirmation: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays
Adult Study: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St., Hayfield
Father Thomas Niehaus
507-477-2256
Mass: 8 a.m. Sun.
& 8:30 a.m. Thursday
Reconciliation: 7:30 a.m. Sun.

SACRED HEART PARISH
810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna

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

PENTECOSTAL
FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL
230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Eliazar Talamantes
507-363-2240
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.;
6:30 p.m. Wednesday

METHODIST
BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST
43089 180th St., Medford
(Seven miles west of
Medford on CR 23)
Pastors JJ & Stefanie Morgan
507-835-8726
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST
200 Sixth St. NW., Ellendale
Pastor Randy Cirksema
507-684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

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.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
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 S. Main St., Medford
Pastor Louise Bender
507-451-4596
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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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ROMANCE: *High school sweethearts*

FROM PAGE A1

Island.

“We are very fortunate we don’t know what is ahead of us,” Jerry says. “Life is often a mystery to us,” he added.

Fielding personal questions about their time together, Jerry muses, “You’re still with the same man.” Adding some homemade brownies to the table, Marge replies: “Well, ya.”

Marge said Jerry usually gets her a card for Valentine’s Day and sometimes even brings flowers. “I’ve done that a time or two whenever she paid for it,” Jerry jokes. “You’ve got to have some fun,” he chuckles.

How did the Oxleys meet in that small town of Corwith, population 309?

Marge recalls the circumstances of how she and Jerry met. “He asked my best friend if she would ask me to go to a roller skating party near Algona, Iowa with him,” Marge remembers. “I was a very shy person,” Jerry grins.

Did Marge and Jerry go on that roller skating date? Yes, they did and it started a romance that has continued for 67 years, Jerry says. “Oh, come on,” Marge laughs with embarrassment.

Jerry served one year in the U.S. Air Force before the couple was married. “You gave me a ring before you left for service,” Marge reminds Jerry.

After his military service, which included a 10-day commitment to fighting a forest fire in Helena, Mont., Jerry returned home in Iowa to resume farming “and to chase my lovely girl friend.” Marge worked at a bank at that time.

With coffee and brownies on the table, the Oxleys continued to tell their love story to this writer and his wife of 50 years.

Marge and Jerry were joined in marriage on Nov. 8, 1950 at the St. Benedict’s Catholic Church in St. Benedict, Iowa. Both worked hard on the farm during some changing times, Jerry and Marge agree.

“I’ll keep you,” Marge affirmed as she traced their years together.

Marge is 88, one year older than Jerry, 87. “She robbed the cradle,” Jerry says.

“He used to have such nice, thick hair when I married him,” Marge reveals. “What happened to it?” Jerry asks. “It fell out,” Marge says truthfully.

Jerry said their farming days were done together, with Marge helping with farm chores. She also loves to garden and last summer, she raised 15 tomato plants that provided some tomatoes for the neighbors. Marge also took a box of tomatoes to the

BP Senior Center.

Both Marge and Jerry strongly endorse living on a farm. Farm life gives couples a chance to see what Mother Nature has put on the Earth, Jerry remarks.

The sanctity of marriage is very important to Jerry and Marge. They believe couples should be married rather than engage in a freestyle relationship.

Marge and Jerry said their marriage has not been absent of some lively disagreements. “I let her tell her story and if I don’t like it, I will tell her,” Jerry says with honesty.

Has the bond of marriage gotten stronger with the Oxleys over the years? “That’s a good question,” Jerry pondered. “I’ve got to hear your answer,” Marge responded.

“Yes, it’s getting stronger,” Jerry said with conviction. “I wouldn’t look at another man,” Marge promises.

Asked what advice they would give to young people

in love, Jerry said he would tell couples to get married, be sincere and trust one another. “Don’t abuse that trust,” Jerry said. “You need to talk things over before making a decision,” Marge suggested.

The Oxleys totally enjoy living in a small community. “We feel secure here,” Jerry said. “You get to know your neighbors,” Marge added.

What did the Oxleys plan to do this year for Valentine’s Day. “We’re going to the Valentine Dinner (Saturday, Feb. 10) at Litomysl,” Jerry said.

The Oxleys have a promise they have kept to one another and that is “to live life to the fullest,” Jerry said. Speaking of their mortality, Jerry says, “We have our tickets for the bus ride when it comes.”

Any parting comments from the Oxleys? “It’s nothing but the Gospel,” Jerry volunteers. “It’s the truth and Happy Valentine’s Day,” Marge adds.

BENEFIT: *Overwhelming generosity*



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

More than \$60,000 was raised at a special benefit at the Cue Company/Pizza Cellar on Saturday, Feb. 10 for the Jon Carlson family of Blooming Prairie. Carlson died Dec. 23, 2017 following a massive heart attack. Shown above at the benefit are son Brody Carlson, Angie Carlson and daughter Lila Carlson.

FROM PAGE A1

away on Dec. 23, 2017, due to a heart arrest and oxygen loss to the brain. The heart arrest occurred because of a genetic heart defect.

Carlson was part owner of the Geneva Lumber Company with Tait Ingvaldson. Ingvaldson announced recently that he will keep the lumber store open.

This benefit will help Angie Carlson pay for funeral and medical costs, as Jon was between health insurances, and did not have life insurance.

This benefit included a free will donation taco supper and a silent auction. A live auction and silent auction were also held. An estimated 250 items were donated for both auctions.

Kevin Hart served as master of ceremonies and Steve Seykora was the auctioneer.

Since Jon was an avid hunter, fisherman and camper, some auction baskets were tailored to the outdoors.

A Colorado trip to the Rocky Mountains, good for 10-15 people, was won on an auction by Matt Kittelson. Other unique live auction items included a pheasant hunt to North Dakota; Jon’s fishing pole and some venison that Jon had gotten on a recent hunt. A \$1,000 gift card to Cabela’s was also auctioned.

Such an event could not be successful without workers and all the donations, said Jones and Lau. Both said when they asked for help, people were eager and ready to help out in any way they could.

Angie Carlson, a teacher at the Blooming Prairie Elementary School, and her children, Brody and Lila, all expressed thanks for the support shown by the community.

HARVEST OF THE MONTH
Mango, Okra, Cayenne

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, Feb. 14
CC: Macaroni & Cheese, Roasted Broccoli DC: BBQ Rib Sandwich CS: Sweet & Sour Chicken

Thursday, Feb. 15
CC: Chicken Alfredo w/Pasta, Gumdrops Sugar Cookie DC: Crispy Chicken Tenders PP: Ham and Cheese Calzone CS: Build Your Own Baked Potato

Friday, Feb. 16
No School

Monday, Feb. 19
No School

Tuesday, Feb. 20
CC: Roast Turkey & Gravy, Cinnamon, Sweet-Apples, Mashed Potatoes, Cornbread DC: Cheeseburger on Bun GG: PP: Pepperoni Pizza CS: Taco Bar

Wednesday, Feb. 21
CC: Philly Flatbread, Calico Bean Bake, Homemade Brownie DC: Chicken Patty on Whole Grain Bun CS: Pasta Bar

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

HARVEST OF THE MONTH
Mango, Okra, Cayenne

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, Feb. 14

Breakfast: Mini Donut, Choice of Cereal

Lunch: Macaroni & Cheese, Sloppy Joe on a Bun, Roasted Broccoli

Thursday, Feb. 15

Breakfast: Blueberry Loaf, Choice of Cereal

Lunch: BBQ Pulled Pork on Ciabatta, Corn Dog, Cole Slaw, Gumdrops Sugar Cookie

Friday, Feb. 16

No School

Monday, Feb. 19

No School

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Breakfast: Brekkie, Graham Crackers

Lunch: Pancakes, Blueberry topping, Cheese Stick, Biscuits & Gravy, Breakfast Potatoes, Grandmas Apple Pie, Smoothie

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Breakfast: Long John, Choice of Cereal, Graham Crackers

Lunch: Roast Pork & Gravy, Turkey Deli Sandwich, Cinnamon Sweet-Apples, Whole Grain Dinner Roll, Mashed Potatoes

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.

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

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CARQUEST

IRS offers help for taxpayers

The IRS reminds taxpayers they have a variety of options to get help filing and preparing their tax return on IRS.gov, the official IRS website. Taxpayers can find answers to their tax questions and resolve tax issues online. The Let Us Help You page helps answer most tax questions, and the IRS Services Guide links to these and other IRS services.

Taxpayers can go to IRS.gov/account to securely access information about their federal tax account. They can view the amount they owe, pay online or set up an online payment agreement; access their tax records online; review the past 18 months of payment history; and view key tax return information for the current year as filed. Visit IRS.gov/secureaccess to review the required identity authentication process.

In addition, 70 percent of the nation’s taxpayers are eligible for IRS Free File. Commercial partners of the IRS offer free brand-name software to about 100 million individuals and families with incomes of \$66,000 or less.

The online fillable forms provide electronic versions of IRS paper forms to all taxpayers regardless of income that can be prepared and filed by people comfortable with completing their own returns.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) offer free tax help to people who qualify. Go to IRS.gov and enter “free tax prep” in the search box to learn more and find a nearby VITA or TCE site, or download the IRS2Go smartphone app to find a free tax prep provider. If eligible, taxpayers can also locate help from a community volunteer. Go to IRS.gov and click on the Filing tab for more information.

The IRS also reminds taxpayers that a trusted tax professional can provide helpful information and advice. Tips for choosing a return preparer and details about national tax professional groups are available on IRS.gov.

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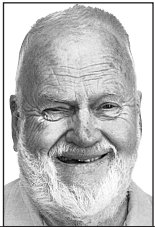
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Hometown Sports

LAST WEEK IN SPORTS



Outside the Lines

LEMAR NELSON

It proved a hectic week for the Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossom girls' basketball team with three games on the schedule. Unfortunately, it ended with a very tough loss to NRHEG on Friday, which flipped the conference first place to the Panthers. NRHEG has a 9-2 record, with one conference game still to play, while the Blossoms have finished conference play with a 9-3 record.

BP took over the first spot temporarily, when the team defeated Maple River a week ago, and they continued on top with a makeup win over Medford. The loss to NRHEG changed all that, but I give the girls a ton of credit for their season play. It would be nice to have a 6-foot-5-inch player like the Panthers do with Betsy Schoenrock, but the locals take a back seat no one when it comes to rebounding the basketball. Sam Wurst, McKenna Hein and Megan Oswald have consistently beaten the opponents on the boards, and all three have great leaping ability.

With their leadership, plus Ayren Ingvalson as the other senior on the team,

SEE OTL, B4

WRESTLING

Huskies maul Falcons for Big 9 crown

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Owatonna wrestling team capped off the regular with a 42-18 victory over Faribault (16-4, 8-2) on Thursday at home.

"We came out aggressive, looking to score points," Owatonna coach Adam Woitalla said. "We were kind of able to take it to Faribault in those first few weight classes, which really got the momentum going for us. Overall, we wrestled very well."

The Huskies finished the regular season with an overall record of 19-6 and a 10-0 record against Big 9 Conference foes.

"It's really rewarding to see everything the kids have been able to accomplish this season," Woitalla said. "That's why I coach, is to work and help these kids develop a love for wrestling. You can really see that with this team. Hands down, that's the most rewarding thing about doing my job."

Woitalla said it means a lot to him to win the conference championship in his first season as the "solo" Huskies head coach.

Woitalla, who's in his second season at Owatonna, served as a co-head coach alongside Scott Seykora for the 2016-17 season.

"It's always the plan that I would take over the program," Woitalla said. "It came a little sooner than expected, but here in Owatonna we have tradition of wrestling tough and going out there and competing for conference titles.

"My goal is to carry on that tradition and getting the kids to believe," he continued. "It's really the kids that made it all possible by buying into what myself and the coaching staff have been teaching."

The Huskies will take on the winner of Rochester Century (3-15, 1-9) and Winona (2-15, 2-8) on Thursday at home in the section tournament.

The winner of that match will likely face Northfield or Farmington on Saturday.

"Those are two great teams," Woitalla said. "They are both up-and-coming and young teams that can give us some challenges.

"If we are fortunate enough to make it to the finals, we will probably face Albert Lea again," he continued. "That could be another dog fight. We really will need all 19 guys on our section roster to step up and wrestle for the team and fight for every point."

Full Results

Owatonna 42, Faribault 18

106: Blake West (OWAT) over Aiden Tobin (FARI) (MD 17-4). 113: Gael Ramirez (FARI) over Michael Bobo (OWAT) (Dec 8-2). 120: Kaden Nelson (OWAT) over Sam LaCanne (FARI) (MD 13-5). 126: Chase Dallman (OWAT) over Alex Hoy (FARI) (Fall 2:53). 132: Landon Johnson (OWAT) over Bryce Nolen (FARI) (Fall 4:25). 138: Riley Becker (OWAT) over Cain Van Ryn (FARI) (SV-1 10-8). 145: Josh Oathoudt (FARI) over Jerez Autridge (OWAT) (Dec 4-1). 152: Cameron Roberts (OWAT) over Riley Reistad (FARI) (Fall 1:53). 160: Austin Underdahl (FARI) over Parker Westphal (OWAT) (SV-1 6-4). 170: Peyton Robb (OWAT) over Dylan Lippert (FARI) (Fall 1:12). 182: Cade King (OWAT) over Josh Heyda (FARI) (MD 23-9). 195: Nick Staska (OWAT) over Ethan Erickson (FARI) (Dec 5-1). 220: Austin Rendler (FARI) over Isaiah Noeldner (OWAT) (Fall 3:49). 285: Dillon McEachran (FARI) over Parker Holton (OWAT) (Dec 6-4).

ATHLETICS



STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Owatonna athletes (back row, left to right) Zach Mensink, Ben Stelter, Braeden Meier, Peyton Robb, Jacob Dub, Terrell Conner, Tucker Alstead, (front row) Margo Achterkirch, Jamie Davison, Sophie Amundson, Kenna West, Sarah Spears, Sydney Schultz and Jenna Zeman stand for a photo after signing their Letters of Intent on Wednesday, Feb. 7.

Husky athletes sign to play sports in college

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Friends and family gathered to view as 14 Owatonna student-athletes took turns putting pen to paper and signed their National Letters of Intent on Wednesday, Feb. 7, at a ceremony in the school's commons area.

Owatonna Director of Activities Ryan Swanson said the school's largest class in his tenure.

"We have had a couple classes where there has been six to eight signees," he said. "But I don't think we have ever had this many. There are 14 and we still have five or six more kids who will have some opportunities to play but are still undecided."

Swanson said the overall talent of class in strong and widespread with an athlete from nearly every sport signing with school.

"We have a lot of depth and talent in all sports in the this class," he said, adding the unusually high number of signees can be attributed to a combination of things.

"I think it's just good athletes

coming from good families, that teach them the value of having good character," he said. "Then, our coaches do about as good as a job as any coaching group that I have seen. They really prepare our athletes for their best."

Swanson said other things such as the community's youth groups, the parks and recreation programs and the schools weight program help to develop well-rounded athletes.

"We have a lot of good things going for our kids, so our athletes have a lot of opportunities to succeed here," he said. "In this class, specifically, we just had a lot of talent, but there is a lot of hard work and drive in all these kids.

"You don't see any quit with any of these kids," Swanson continued. "We have seen them in the some pretty tough situations too and their character prevails."

SYDNEY SCHULTZ

Signed to play women's basketball at Concordia University in Saint Paul.

Schultz said she chose Concordia because she fell in love with the way they play the game.

"I went to game and watched," she said. "I liked their style and the way they played. The coach is really nice and I'm going to be playing where I want to be, which is important to me."

Schultz said she will play primarily at small forward for the Cobbers.

She said has some friends who already attend the university and she really enjoyed the campus atmosphere.

Schultz is the Owatonna girls basketball program's all-time leading scorers with more than 1,600 career points.

She said she is excited to see what the future holds.

"I'm going to be working a lot in the offseason to make sure that I am faster, stronger and a better shooter and ball handler," Schultz said. "It's going to be cool to see where I can go from here."

JENNA ZEMAN

Signed to play women's basketball at Wisconsin-River Falls.

Zeman said UW-RF was the right choice for her by how she felt when she visited the campus.

"River Falls just gave me that at-home feel," she said. "I probably went to like nine campus tours and I just felt at-home and I loved the coaching staff and school."

Zeman said she also has family members who attended the university and they really enjoyed their time in River Falls.

Another big factor in her decision making was the fact that the Huskies and Falcons have similar offensive and defensive philosophies.

"It's a lot of set plays," she said. "The point guard runs the offense. I'll still able to score too like I do in [Owatonna's] offense, but my main focus will be to facilitate my teammates on floor."

Zeman said that the distance from home was another reason she liked River Falls.

"It's only an hour and half," she said. "I can come home whenever I want.

"I'm just looking forward to getting a new perspective," Zeman continued. "I'm excited to start a new journey. It should be fun."

SEE HUSKY, B2

BASKETBALL

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Medford basketball girls came to Blooming Prairie on Thursday, Feb. 8, after winning 11 consecutive games. The Tigers returned home with their seventh loss of the season, as the Awesome Blossoms captured a 58-39 conference victory.

The Blossom defense can take a lot of credit for this win. The tight zone defense made it difficult for the Tigers to get good looks at the basket all night. The one exception came when Medford's Emma Kniefel triggered a late first half surge to draw the visitors within two points at the break 27-25. Any hopes for the Tigers disappeared in the first minutes of the second half, when the Blossoms opened the action on a 17-2 run.

"Our defense really starred tonight," BP coach John Bruns. "We made it real tough for the Tigers to get good looks at the basket. After going down by just two points at the break, the visitors managed just 14 points in the second half, while the Blossom offense went on the scoring spurge.

"Medford got within eight points with over five minutes left in the game," he continued. "But we took good care of the ball and made some late free throws to pull away again."

Hein drove the lane for the first points of the game and BP used a balanced offense to establish a good margin. Near the end of the half, Kniefel hit four 3-pointers to cut the margin, but that proved the only lapse in the



STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Blooming Prairie's McKenna Hein drives to the basket against NRHEG on Friday in the Blossoms' 66-55 loss to the Panthers.

stifling Blossom defense. Before the Medford rally, Bobbie Bruns had banked in a 3-pointer and Sam Wurst had fed Ayren Ingvalson for a backdoor basket.

BP shot 35 percent from the field on 19-of-53 attempts, while holding the visitors to just 22 percent on 13-of-58 tries. Kniefel led all scorers in the game with 17 points, but Wurst counted 16 points for BP and Megan Oswald and McKenna Hein each added 12. Oswald had another double-double with 10 rebounds.

The Blossoms turned the ball over 22 times,

but they bothered Medford into even more mistakes, including 18 steals. Free throw shooting was a disappointment, but the girls made several when they counted late in the game.

Maggie Bruns made a 3-pointer with five seconds left in the game to give the JV team a 31-30 win over visiting Medford. The locals trailed by 10 points early, but they battled back and made some big defensive stops late in the game to give bruns her chance to shine.

In probably the biggest win of the season, the Awesome Blossom girls outlasted Maple River 51-47 on the home court Monday, Feb.5. The win avenged an earlier loss to the Eagles.

"This was a very big conference win for us," Bruns said. " We built two separate 10-point leads in the first half, but MR fought back to take a two-point lead at the break. The second half went our way late, and we got excellent balance in our scoring to pull out victory."

A solid defense kept the visitors to just 24 percent shooting on 17-of-69 attempts. BP didn't fare much better from the field, as the Blossoms made just 26 percent on 17-of-63 tries. Wurst led a balanced attack with 12 points. Oswald and Hein each counted 10. Ingvalson had a career night in rebounding with 11 boards and she added seven points and made two steals in the game. Maple River had a slight edge in rebounding, but they also had more turnovers in this game.

The win temporarily put the Blossoms atop the Gopher Conference. However, BP finished second in the conference after suffering a loss to NRHEG at home on Friday.

SCOREBOOK

BIG 9 CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Boys' Basketball	Conf.	Overall
Austin	15-1	19-1
Mankato East	14-2	18-2
Rochester John Marshall	14-2	18-2
Owatonna	13-2	15-4
Northfield	14-5	11-4
Mankato West	8-9	11-10
Rochester Mayo	7-9	9-11
Rochester Century	5-11	5-15
Red Wing	4-11	5-14
Winona	2-13	5-14
Faribault	2-15	4-16
Albert Lea	0-16	0-18

Monday, Feb. 5
Owatonna 90, Rochester Century 54
Thursday, Feb. 8
Owatonna 73, Saint Michael-Albertville 59
Tuesday, Feb. 13
Rochester Mayo at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 16
Owatonna at Red Wing, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 17
Owatonna at Rochester John Marshall, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 20
Owatonna at Faribault, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 23
Austin at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.

Girls' Basketball	Conf.	Overall
Northfield	17-1	19-3
Owatonna	15-3	16-6
Red Wing	13-4	17-4
Mankato West	12-6	15-7
Austin	10-7	11-9
Faribault	10-8	11-10
Rochester John Marshall	10-8	11-11
Rochester Mayo	9-9	11-11
Mankato East	5-13	5-16
Rochester Century	3-15	5-17
Albert Lea	1-16	2-19
Winona	1-16	1-20

Monday, Feb. 5
Owatonna 78, Rochester Century 61
Friday, Feb. 9
Owatonna 69, Rochester John Marshall 49
Tuesday, Feb. 13
Owatonna at Rochester Mayo, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 16
Red Wing at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 20
Faribault at Owatonna, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 23
Owatonna at Austin, 7:30 p.m.
END OF REGULAR SEASON

Boys' Hockey	Conf.	Overall	Pts.
Northfield	13-3-0	17-5-1	34
Rochester Century	11-1-1	18-4-1	32
Mankato East	8-2-1	12-9-2	28
Albert Lea	11-4-2	15-5-2	25
Owatonna	7-4-2	10-11-2	25
Rochester Mayo	6-6-1	11-11-1	21
Red Wing	5-5-2	5-14-2	15
Rochester John Marshall	3-8-2	5-14-3	13
Faribault	4-8-2	8-12-2	12
Mankato West	4-9-0	8-15-0	10
Austin	2-10-1	5-15-1	5
Winona	0-13-0	2-19-0	0

Monday, Feb. 5
Rochester Mayo 2, Owatonna 2
Thursday, Feb. 8
Mahtomedi 5, Owatonna 1
Saturday, Feb. 10
Rochester Century 5, Owatonna 1
Monday, Feb. 12
South Saint Paul at Owatonna, 7:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 13
Mankato West at Owatonna, 7:15 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 17
Owatonna at Winona, 3 p.m.
END OF REGULAR SEASON

Girls' Hockey	Conf.	Overall
Pts.		
Red Wing	12-1-0	21-4-0
Northfield	10-2-0	15-8-2
Rochester Mayo	14-4-0	20-5-0
Owatonna	11-5-0	15-8-0
Faribault	11-6-0	15-10-0
Mankato East	9-7-0	12-13-0
Mankato West	7-8-0	13-11-1
Austin	6-12-0	8-15-0
Rochester John Marshall	4-13-0	7-18-0
Albert Lea	2-13-0	6-18-0
Rochester Century	1-16-0	3-21-0

Section 1AA Tournament
First Round
Wednesday, Feb. 7
Owatonna 3, Rochester Mayo 2
Second Round
Saturday, Feb. 10
Lakeville South 7, Owatonna 0
Owatonna eliminated from the postseason

Wrestling	Conf.	Overall
Owatonna	10-0	19-6
Albert Lea	9-1	21-3
Faribault	8-2	16-4
Northfield	7-3	9-3
Mankato West	6-4	15-8
Rochester Mayo	5-5	8-11
Mankato East	4-6	14-8
Austin	3-7	3-7
Winona	2-8	2-15
Rochester Century	1-9	3-15
Rochester John Marshall	0-10	0-10

Thursday, Feb. 8
Owatonna 42, Faribault 18
END OF REGULAR SEASON
Section 1AA Tournament
Friday, Feb. 16
Rochester Century/Winona winner at Owatonna, 5 p.m.

FROM PAGE B1

the Blossoms have put up great numbers in their games. It has been really a fun team to watch and the season is not over yet. Playoffs begin in just over a week.

The basketball boys had a down week also, losing twice to good teams. NRHEG continues undefeated in the conference, and it looks as if the team will be one of the favorites in their section, once the playoffs begin in a week or two.

The wrestling team had just one match last week, but it proved an easy victory over United South Central. The Razorbacks still have five wrestlers ranked in the top five of the area, according to the Rochester paper.

WEATHER WOES

Although temperatures are expected to rise some this week, it still has been a few weeks of cold weather and slippery streets. I think many readers are aware that slippery areas are the bane of my existence. Since my latest bout with lymphoma, my physical health has been fine, but my balance has deserted me to a good extent. Thus, the cold weather and slippery streets have led to enforced periods of homebound isolation.

I don't mind the alone time, as I have plenty of reading and faithful friends to check on me. Yet, I will be happy when I can again meet the outside world without fear of slipping and taking a fall.

AROUND THE AREA

Former BPHS student and athletic star Madison Worke found herself the focus of a feature article in a recent issue of the neighboring Austin Daily Herald. The piece did a good job of describing Worke's transition from an outstanding leader in three sports at her former high school to having to work really hard to make the team in one sport at Winona State University, which she now attends.

Husky: Sports in college

FROM PAGE B1

JACOB DUB

Signed to play men's lacrosse at University of Northwestern in Saint Paul.

The defenseman led the Huskies' lacrosse team with 15 takeaways this past season. Dub also plays goalie for Owatonna's boys hockey team. He has made 191 saves on 219 shots on goal this season for a save percentage of 87 percent.

Dub said he received a few other offers, but he knew Northwestern was the place for him once the school hired new lacrosse coach Jay Mayes this past June.

"I knew that they were a newer program and I went and watched them play," he said. "I toured the school and fell in love with it. It has definitely always been my top choice while I looked at other options.

"I'm really excited for the future," he continued. "I'm so looking forward to the Christian atmosphere of the school. Everyone there loves to play lacrosse, but we are all playing for God as well."

BRAEDEN MEIER

Signed to play lacrosse at Wittenburg College in Springfield, Ohio.

Meier said his decision to attend Wittenburg was a culmination of a couple of things.

"First of all, the campus is really pretty," he said. "The city is pretty nice. It is around 100,000 people, so too big, not too small."

Meier said the opportunity to play for Wittenburg coach Jay Owen was another reason he decided on the Tigers.

"Coach Owens is an amazing guy," he said. "I have heard a lot of compliments and positive feedback about him from other coaches, and he's been great throughout the process. They are really building a program there and I'm excited about that."

Meier also plays hockey for the Huskies, he said he's been leaning towards playing college lacrosse over hockey since the summer of his junior year.

"I've been traveling a lot and playing on club team," he said. "We have been all over the country and that's what kind of led me to making that decision."

Meier said he feels like lacrosse is a sport he can excel at in college, but getting to know his teammates is what he's looking forward to most.

"All of them were really nice when I went out there for visit," Meier said. "I didn't have any trouble talking to any of them. We had a good time and I'm just really excited to start making those bonds with my teammates."

TUCKER ALSTEAD

Signed to play baseball at Saint Cloud State University.

Alstead is a catcher and outfielder. He also played American Legion baseball for Owatonna Post 77.

Alstead said he's looking forward to getting to know his teammates and coaches better.

"I've met some of them and they're really cool, good guys," he said. "it should be fun."

Alstead father, Jason, also played baseball at SCSU, as well as professionally with the Baltimore Orioles organization.

"We would also go watch baseball games and other sports," he said. "It just felt like the right place for me, kind of like home."

Alstead attends to major in criminal justice.

KENNA WEST

Signed to play soccer at Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter.

The 5-foot-2-inch outside midfielder said she knew Gustavus Adolphus was the right place for her based on how she felt when she visited the campus.

"I knew that I didn't want something too big like the [University of Minnesota] and kind of feel like I was drowning," she said. "But Gustavus is small school and they made it feel big, which was really cool.

"It had my major and I liked the

coaches," West continued. "I think it was a good decision for me."

West led the Huskies in assists her sophomore and junior seasons. She was also named as an All-Big 9 performer her junior year.

"I'm really excited to move on to the collegiate level and that speed of play," she said. "I'm also looking forward to the experiences I've have with meeting people and stuff. That will be real exciting."

SARAH SPEARS

Signed to play soccer at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall.

Spears will transition to playing some defense after almost exclusively playing midfield for the Huskies.

"They're going to start me out on defense because they just lost some defensivemen," she said. "The coaches said they are going to fluctuate me back and forth between midfielder and defense."

Spears said she knew SWMSU was the right place for her when she first visited the campus.

"When I went for my visit everyone was so welcoming," she said. "I hung out with the soccer girls there and they made me feel like that was where I wanted to spend the next four years."

MARGO ACHTERKIRCH

Signed to play women's soccer and track at College of Saint Benedict in Collegeville.

Achterkirch said the most important reason she wanted to attend Saint Benedicts was because of the school's strong academics.

"They have a really good nursing program," she said. "Athletics kind of came second, but I really liked the coaches and everything that they stand for. It is exactly what I needed."

Achterkirch has also been a standout for Owatonna's girls hockey team since her eighth grade year.

She led the Huskies in goals her freshman, sophomore and senior seasons and in assists for the past four years.

"I just have greater passion for soccer," she said. "Plus, hockey is a longer season and with going into nursing I think playing soccer will be easier."

Achterkirch competed in the 100-meter, 200, long jump, 400 relay and 800 relay this past season for the Huskies track team.

SOPHIE AMUNDSON

Signed to play soccer at the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse.

Amundson said her interest peaked in Lacrosse after it's coach came and watched her play in the All-Star game.

It just seemed like the right place to be," she said. "I'm just looking forward to having a good time playing the sport the love and making new memories."

Amundson was selected second team All-State after she helped lead the Huskies to a 12-3-1 record this past season.

She said she really liked the size of the Lacrosse campus.

"It isn't too big or small," Amundson said. "It was just right."

Amundson is one of three Owatonna athletes that will attend Lacrosse, along with Zack Mensink and Ben Stelter.

"We have been friends to a while," she said. "It will be nice to have a familiar face in stands I can look for, and just know that we will be cheering each other on throughout our whole college careers.

ZACH MENSINK

Signed to play football at the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse.

Mensink said he chose Lacrosse for multiple reasons.

"Just the coaches and the great atmosphere," he said. "It's great city. Everything about it, I just got good vibes and I liked it there so I committed."

The 6-foot, 225-pound linebacker was a

Among the bits of information about the work that one has to put in to become a team member was also a bit of advice for younger students. She urged those athletes to play more than one sport, as she indicated that her own experience in playing three sports has made her a more well rounded athlete and a better person. The article highlighted her talent and provided interesting reading, for sure.

Jessica Kruckeberg, a BPHS graduate, has been nominated for a distinguished faculty award in Colorado. She teaches academic and clinical courses at Regis University in Denver and is a finalist for the distinguished 2018 Ruekert-Hartman College for Health Professions Affiliate Faculty Award.

The purpose of the award is to recognize an exemplary faculty member for contributions to the Regis community. The award recipient will be announced at a ceremony on Tuesday, Mar. 27.

Just a reminder to all of you readers who have significant others that Valentine's Day is tomorrow. That would be a good time for someone special to get that little extra item to show your feelings. I know that we should do little things of thanks every day, but this would be a good time for that little something extra.

A reminder again that the second annual Speakeasy event is coming up fast on Saturday, Mar. 3. The first one last year proved to be a success, and even more interest has been generated this year. Patrons of that historical period are urged to become a part of the establishment tour.

Besides the Speakeasy, the KC's offer their annual fish fry at the Servicemen's Club on Thursday, Feb. 15, and the monthly Chamber of Commerce meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb 21, this month at the Dairy Queen.

Finally, this past week celebrated the annual snow week at the local high school, and all reports indicated that students really entered into the spirit of the week. It culminated in a dance on Saturday night and proved once again that school spirit really is alive and well in Blooming Prairie. A tip of the hat goes to the staff and the students for joining in the festivities, and we'll talk again.

captain for the Huskies' state championship team this past season. Mensink finished as the Huskies second leading tackler. He had 54 solo and 29 assisted tackles to go along with four sacks.

"I'm excited to be a part of the program up there," he said. "I'm just looking forward to meeting all the guys and getting back into the grove of things."

TERRELL CONNER

Signed to play football at the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

"When I visited they were very welcoming and coaching staff is something else," Conner said. "But also the school has a good business program and is located in a real nice community."

The 6-foot-5-inch, 250-pound offensive tackle helped power a Huskies offense that rushed for 3,229 yards and passed for 3,232 in route to winning the Minnesota 5A State Championship this past season.

He said he is looking forward to meeting new people and starting the next chapter of his life.

PEYTON ROBB

Signed to wrestle at South Dakota State University

The two-time Minnesota state champion said there were multiple reasons he chose to attend the SDSU, including the campus, the coaches and the opportunity to be teammates with some good friends.

"Everything is going up hill there," he said. "They just got a new health center and a football stadium and they're getting new wrestling rooms. It's a really exciting time to be part of the program."

Robb is also a multi-time national champion and All-American.

The Jackrabbits, a Big 12 Conference member, are currently ranked No. 12 in the latest USA Today/NWCA Division I Coaches Poll.

Robb said he is excited for his next challenge.

"I think its the college wrestling atmosphere compared to high wrestling atmosphere that I'm looking forward to most," Robb said. "In high school you get those kids in the room that don't really want to work as hard or aren't full committed to it, but next year when I am at SDSU in the wrestling room, everyone is going to be just as committed because all of them chose to be there."

JAMIE DAVISON

Signed to play women's hockey at the University of Wisconsin-Superior.

Davison said the her future teammates were a pivotal factor in her decision to commit.

"They made me feel at home and included when I met them for the first time," she said. "I knew that where I wanted to be and that's the kind of team I wanted to be a part of."

"They wanted me there," she continued. "It made me feel really included and like part of the team already. That's what made me decide I wanted to be there."

UW-Superior is a Division III school that competes in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in men's and women's hockey.

Davison, who's primarily a defenseman, scored seven goals and dished out 10 assists this past season for the Huskies.

"I'm just looking forward to playing at that next level," she said. "I'm also excited to play with new people and to gain that next level of understanding for the game."

BEN STELTER

Signed to swim at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Stelter was a captain for the Huskies' swimming team this past season.

He plans to major in biochemistry at River Falls.

BASKETBALL

Huskies roll over Panthers

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Owatonna girls' basketball team picked up another Big 9 Conference victory on Friday when they defeated the Rochester John Marshall Rockets 69-49 at home.

"The girls are playing really well," Owatonna coach Lindsey Hugstad-Vaa said. "They're clicking and moving the ball. Everyone is getting involved and our defense has really picked it up a notch.

"That's been awesome to see because that's what sparks our offense," she continued. "I'm just really proud of them. All 10 girls have been contributing, which is really rare for varsity team. All of them are doing a great job."

Hugstad-Vaa said the Huskies (16-6, 15-3) were able to control the game against the Rockets (11-11, 10-8) with their stifling defense.

"We have a lot of experience," she said. "They have a lot of young talent, but we knew we needed come out and show who's court this is and play our best game. Our girls did a great work of working on the things they needed to work on and everyone got a lot of minutes."

The Huskies have nine seniors on this year's squad. "Our defense was really good tonight," senior Alexa Summers said. "That's what really got us scoring, was our defense."

Summers said the team communicated well on court which led to causing turnovers on defense and getting easy buckets on the offense end.

"I thought we awesome tonight," senior Hannah Gebur said. "We were very together as a team. We made quick decisions moving the ball that led to a lot of open looks."

Gebur said the Huskies had a great night shooting the ball. "We made a lot of 3-pointer," she said. "That just helped the offense in general."

The Huskies have just four remaining regular season



Owatonna's Jenna Zeman starts a fast break against Rochester John Marshall on Friday.

games before the start of the section tournament. Owatonna could faced Rochester John Marshall in the opening round.

I don't think it's really sunk in yet that we only have four regular season games left.

"We just want to come strong, win and have momentum going into the section games," Gebur said. "But, one of our goals in to definitely to make it to the section finals.

"We are such a tight knit group that has been playing with each other fourth and fifth grade," she continued. "It's really been showing these past few weeks."

Gebur said the Huskies have to practice hard everyday if the teams want to accomplish its goals.

"We have to keep up the intensity and have hard

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL



Owatonna's Stephanie Liebl drives to the basket in the Huckies' 69-49 home win over Rochester John Marshall on Friday.

practices," she said. "We have to keep our shots falling and box out. Our fundamentals are what will get us to the next level."

Sydney Schultz led the Huskies in scoring with 23 points, Jenna Zeman added 15,

Lexi Falken had seven, Gebur and Stephanie Liebl each scored six, Bria Wachowoiak and Ahnna Stelter each contributed four points and Summers and Julie Haarstad each had two points.

STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL

BASKETBALL

Eagles soar over Blossoms

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Maple River boys' basketball team knocked down

too many easy shots early in the game and went on to hand the Awesome Blossoms (10-10) a 74-60 loss at Mapleton on Monday, Feb. 5. The Eagles (13-8) raced to a 44-25 halftime advantage on the strength of 3-point shooting and a wide edge at the free throw line.

"We let Maple River get too many looks early," BP coach Nathan Piller said. "When we did contest the shots, we ended up fouling them.

"We came back to get within five points with about five minutes to play," he continued. "But we spent too much energy to do it. We knew what was coming, but the Eagles came out gunning to set the tone early."

Justin Cowen led all scorers in the game with 21 points for the home team. Ethan Sendelie had 18 points and Mason Sohre added 10.

Kaden Thomas and Gabe Hagen each had 17 to lead the Blossoms. Karson Vigeland and Cameron Kubista each added 10 points. Maple River had an edge at the free throw line by making 70 percent on 19-of-29 attempts. Rebounds were fairly even, but the locals had more turnovers in the game.

Blooming Prairie took on Hayfield at home on Monday and the Blossoms travel to Medford on Tuesday.

SCOREBOOK

GOPHER CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Boys' Basketball		
	Conf.	Overall
New Richland-H-E-G	9-0	18-1
Bethlehem Academy	6-3	13-9
Blooming Prairie	5-4	10-8
Maple River	4-3	9-6
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	3-5	6-11
United South Central	3-6	6-12
Medford	0-9	2-15

Monday, Feb. 5

Maple River 74, Blooming Prairie 60
NRHEG 49, WEM 43
Saint Clair 63, Medford 50

Thursday, Feb. 8

JWP 71, Medford 64

Friday, Feb. 9

NRHEG 77, Blooming Prairie 55
Bethlehem Academy 71, Medford 53

Monday, Feb. 12

Medford at Jordan, 7:30 p.m.
Hayfield at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Maple River at NRHEG, 7:15 p.m.
Blooming Prairie at Medford, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Lyle-Pacelli at Medford, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 16

NRHEG at United South Central, 7:15 p.m.
Medford at Waterville-Elysian-Morristown, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 17

NRHEG at Redwood Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Girls' Basketball		
	Conf.	Overall
Maple River	9-2	14-4
Blooming Prairie	9-3	15-6
Maple River	9-4	12-6
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	6-5	10-12
Medford	5-6	14-7
Bethlehem Academy	2-9	2-21
United South Central	0-10	2-16

Monday, Feb. 5

Medford 42, Fairmont 40
NRHEG 50, WEM 41
Blooming Prairie 51, Maple River 47

Thursday, Feb. 8

Blooming Prairie 58, Medford 39

Friday, Feb. 9

Medford 56, Bethlehem Academy 28
NRHEG 66, Blooming Prairie 55

Saturday, Feb. 10

NRHEG 61, Maple River 54

Monday, Feb. 12

Jordan at Medford, 7:15 p.m.
Blooming Prairie at Hayfield, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

NRHEG at Waseca, 7:15 p.m.
Blooming Prairie at Randolph, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Kingsland at Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 16

WEM at Medford, 7:15 p.m.
United South Central at NRHEG, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 19

Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton at Medford, 7:15 p.m.
NRHEG at Blue Earth, 7:15 p.m.

END OF REGULAR SEASON

Wrestling		
	Conf.	Overall
Maple River	13-2	13-2
Medford	3-1	7-2
United South Central	2-2	7-7
W-E-M/J-W-P	1-3	4-5
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	0-0	2-7
Westfield	0-1	1-3
New Richland	0-4	0-6

Thursday, Feb. 1

Medford 42, NRHEG 30
Westfield 42, WEM/JWP 34

Thursday, Feb. 8

Maple River 56, NRHEG 22
Medford 51, WEM/JWP 21

END OF REGULAR SEASON

Section Tournament

First Round

Thursday, Feb. 15

Medford at Westfield., 6 p.m.
NRHEG at Kenyon-Wanamingo, 6 p.m.

LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE

RESULTS WEEK EIGHTEEN

FEB. 7, 2018

Team Standings	Won	Lost
1. Kosters' Kar Corner	15.5	4.5
2. F & M Bank	10	10
2. Epic Contracting	10	10
4. Bunkie's Lanes & Grill	9	11
5. J & H/Dairy Queen	8	14
6. B to Z Hardware	7.5	12.5

High Team Game –Scratch

F & M Bank 617

High Team Game- Handicap

Bunkie's Lanes and Grill 611

High Team Series- Scratch

F & M Bank 1743

High team Series- Handicap

Bunkie's Lanes and Grill 1797

High Game Individual

1. Jo Ann Nielson	195
2. Jo Ann Nielson	174
High Series Individual	
1. Jo Ann Nielson	527
2. Nancy Dean	457

★ STARS OF STEELE ★



Brady Agrimson

BOYS

NHREG boys' basketball player Brady Agrimson scored 19 points and was the game's leading scorers in the Panther's 77-55 victory over Blooming Prairie on Friday.



Becca Olson

GIRLS

Owatonna gymnast Becca Olson finished in the top 10 of each event at the Big 9 Conference meet. She helped led the Huskies to their third consecutive conference Title.

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FORECLOSURE

11-073286

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: May 1, 2003
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$89,000.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Paula L. Aldrich and Raymond P. Aldrich, wife and husband
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 6, 2003, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A 310176
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:
Commencing at a point 2 rods East and 12 rods and 2 links South of the NW corner of E1/4 of SE1/4 of SE1/4 of Section 3-107-20; running thence East 127.60 feet; thence South 66 feet; thence West 127.60 feet; thence North 66 feet to the point of beginning
AND
The E1/2 of the following described property: Commencing at a point 2 rods East and 12 rods and 2 links South of the NW corner of E1/4 of SE1/4 of SE1/4 of Section 3-107-20; thence East to a point 2 rods West of the East boundary of said SE1/4 of said SE1/4; thence South 66 feet; thence West to a point 2 rods East of the West boundary line of said E1/4 of SE1/4 of SE1/4; thence North 66 feet to point of beginning
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1315 Bigelow Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17.003.2207
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$77,766.35
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: February 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.

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.

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 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
2/6, 2/13, 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: September 8, 2014
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$99,170.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Cindy K. Rogness, a married person
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation, as nominee for Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co., N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on September 9, 2014 as Document Number A000398644 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on October 17, 2017 as Document Number A000415345 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 1314 N CEDAR AVENUE, OWATONNA, MN 55060
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE

DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$97,390.07
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.,
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co., N.A.
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-157-0103
TRANSACTION AGENT’S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100031200012152291

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 20, 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 20, 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.

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: January 24, 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
(17-1292-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
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

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

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-18-179

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

In Re: Estate of Jon Harlan Carlson Decedent

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the March 19, 2018 at 2:45 pm, a hearing will be held in the above named Court at Owatonna, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship and for the appointment of Angela Carlson whose address is 111 E. Main St., Owatonna, Minnesota as Personal Representative of the estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised administration, and any objection thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, said personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the estate. Upon completion of the administration, the representative shall file a statement to close the estate and shall distribute the estate to the persons thereunto entitled as ordered by the Court.

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

Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court
1-26-2018
Dated

Jason J. Iacovino, Attorney at Law
P O Box 818; 415 E. Main Street
Blooming Prairie MN 55917
Telephone Number: 507-583-6663
Attorney Registration Number: 0386770
2/6, 2/13

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

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number: 74-PR-17-2335

AMENDED NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR DESCENT OF PROPERTY

In Re: Estate of Howard Laverne Moe, a/k/a Howard L. Moe, Decedent

A Petition for Determination of Descent has been filed with this Court. The Petition represents that the Decedent died more than three years ago, leaving property in Minnesota and requests the probate of Decedent’s last Will (if any), and the descent of such property be determined and assigned by this Court to the persons entitled to the property.

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

IT IS ORDERED and Notice is further given, that the Petition will be heard on March 5, 2018, at 3:00 p.m., by this Court at 111 E. Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota.
1. Notice shall be given to all interested persons (MINN. STAT. § 524.1-401) and persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-204.
2. Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by: Mailing a copy of this Notice and Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing date.
Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court
2-5-2018
Dated

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

2/13, 2/20

Baby Boomers Finding Companionship Online



THE SAVVY SENIOR

Brought to you by:

Prairie Manor Care Center & Heather Haus

220 3rd St. NW,
Bloomington Prairie
583-4434

Dear Savvy Senior,
What can you tell me about online dating for baby boomers? I'm 57 and recently divorced, and would like to find a new friend to spend time with.

Lonely Linda
Dear Linda,
Whether you're interested in dating again or just looking for a friend to spend time with, online dating sites have become a very popular and effective way for baby boomers to meet new single people.

Making new friends can be challenging as we get older, which is why online dating sites are an excellent option for baby boomers. They provide an easy and convenient way to meet dozens of new people, without ever having to leave home. And, to make things even easier, many sites today use matchmaking algorithms that factor in your interests and preferences so they can steer you to matches that are best suited for you. Here are some other tips to help you get started.

Choose a site or two: There are literally hundreds of different matchmaking websites and apps available, so choosing can be a bit confusing. Costs typically range between \$15 and \$20 per month, however some dating sites are completely free to use. Depending on your preferences here are some popular options to look into.

If you don't want to spend any money, free sites like OKCupid.com and PlentyofFish.com are good places to start, but these sites have a lot of advertising. There are also free apps like Tinder (GoTinder.com) and Bumble.com, but these tend to be geared toward younger adults looking for casual romance.

If you're interested in lots of choices consider Match.com, which has a huge membership in all demographics. Or checkout eHarmony.com, which is also very large but

more targeted for people who want to take things slow.

Or, if you are looking to find a specific type of person, there are hundreds of niche sites like: OurTime.com, SeniorPeopleMeet.com and 50more.com for those 50 and older; EliteSingles.com for professionals; DateMyPet.com for animal lovers; VeggieDate.org for vegetarians; JDate.com for Jewish singles; BlackPeopleMeet.com for African Americans; and ChristianMingle.com for Christians.

Create a profile: When you join a matchmaking site you'll need to create a personality profile that reflects who you are, including recent photos, hobbies, interests, favorite activities and more. If you need some help, sites like ProfileHelper.com can write one for you for a fee.

Use caution: When you register with a site you remain anonymous. No one gets access to your personal contact information until you decide to give it out, so be prudent whom you give it to. Before meeting, you should chat on the phone or video chat a few times, and when you do meet in person for the first time, meet in a public place or bring a friend along. And if someone asks for money, don't send it. Online dating/sweetheart scams are out there so be aware. If you want to be extra cautious, you can even do a quick background check on your date at MyMatchChecker.com.

Don't be naive: In an effort to get more responses, many people will exaggerate or flat out lie in their profiles, or post pictures that are 10 years old or 20 pounds lighter. So don't believe everything you see or read.

Make an effort: A lot of times, people – especially women – sit back and let others come to them. Don't be afraid to make the first move. When you find someone you like, send a short note that says, "I really enjoyed your profile. I think we have some things in common." Keep it simple.

Don't get discouraged: If you don't get a response from someone, don't let it bother you. Just move on. There are many others that will be interested in you and it only takes one person to make online dating worthwhile.

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

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago Feb. 12, 2008

Dan Evans, Publisher
Awesome Blossom wide receiver and all-time state record holder for receiving yards in Minnesota, Elliot Herdina, is heading to Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter to continue his football career. The Blossoms' star wide receiver will be getting scholarships from Gustavus that will defer about 80 percent of tuition costs.

Linda Kaplan was presented with an award for her years of service to the Boys and Girls Club at the organization's 2008 fundraising dinner Saturday night.

Two Blooming Prairie graduates are gearing up for their upcoming roles in "Of Mice and Men" set to hit the stage in Austin at Bridges Theatre. Bob Johnson is one of two leads in the show. Alex Johnson is also participating in the play.

20 Years Ago Feb. 10, 1998

Elsie Slinger, Publisher
A child playing with a lighter ignited a couch in a Bixby home, seriously damaging one room and causing smoke damage to the rest of the house. The Blooming Prairie and Owatonna fire departments were called out at 12:35 p.m. Friday to the home of Elmer Neuman. The 3-year-old child was being babysat by his grandfather.

Prairie Manor Nursing Home will have a new administrator starting March 2. Mark Robinson of Blue Earth will take over the administrative position following the resignation of Michele Gemmel, who left in November.

These days Tim Penny refers to himself as a recovering politician. Penny, the former U.S. Representative from the First District, was the lead speaker in the 1998 Farm Forum held Feb. 5 at the Servicemen's Club. A packed house listened to Penny's remarks about the future of farming.

50 Years Ago Feb. 8, 1968

Victor, Vernon & Vryle Krejci, Publishers
Ed Basness of Blooming Prairie won a new RCA color television set at BP Super Valu store. He won the set playing the game, "Crosswood."

Ed Munsch was appointed as village assessor for 1968 by Blooming Prairie's council at a special meeting on Jan. 10. He will replace H.B. Rockne, who resigned recently after serving as assessor for a number of years.

A garage and car, together with other contents in the building, were destroyed by fire late Monday afternoon of this week on the Everett Miner farm, six miles southeast of Blooming Prairie. The farm is occupied by Roger Miner.

75 Years Ago Feb. 11, 1943

Frank Krejci, Publisher
Blooming Prairie has joined the nationwide tin can drive. Every grocery store here will be a collection station where empty cans may be deposited, and when a sufficient number of pounds of this vital metal has accumulated, the committee in charge will ship it to the proper place.

The Minnesota War Savings staff has just announced through L.R. Humes, Steele County chairman, January sales of war bonds and savings stamps. To Steele County again goes the honor of over-subscribing its quota by \$32,721. Blooming Prairie was second in the county with Owatonna taking first.

Clifford Peterson is a prisoner of Japs in the Philippines. He is the son of rural letter carrier Geo J. Peterson of Blooming Prairie. Clifford enlisted in the U.S. Army five years ago at Bismarck, N.D.

Arrest made in Eagles Club theft of cancer donations

**BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER**

A man has been arrested in connection with a theft at the Eagles Club in Owatonna in which a large amount of cash was taken.

Capt. Eric Rethemeier of Owatonna Police said a man was arrested on probable cause burglary and theft Saturday by Mounds View Police and transported to the Steele County Detention Center. As of Monday afternoon when this edition went to press, Rethemeier said a charging decision was expected by the Steele County Attorney's Office on Tuesday morning.

Rethemeier said about \$7,000 of cash and checks were stolen from the Eagles Club with some of it being earmarked as donations from the recent Eagles Cancer Auction, which was held at the club Feb. 2 and 3.

The cash was reported missing to police from the safe in the Eagle's Club early Feb. 6. There were no signs of forced entry. None of the missing funds has been recovered at this time, Rethemeier said.

The Eagles raised \$42,500 at the fundraiser for cancer research.

During the fundraiser, a live auction was held both nights with people bidding on items with the express intent of seeing their donations go to a good cause.

Solutions on B3

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS
1. Methaqualone pill (slang)
5. Religious service
9. Woodland gods (Greek myth.)
11. "Where Is My Mind?" rockers
13. Deliberately contrary states of affairs
15. Inflection of the voice
16. "Great Expectations" character
17. Becomes a butterfly
19. Spoke
21. Tennis player Sharapova
22. Midway between north-east and east
23. Afrikaans
25. No instruction set computing
26. Pacific Standard Time
27. Relaxing places
29. Confiscates
31. Gladys Knight's fellow performers
33. Witnesses
34. Taking place in a series
36. Satisfy
38. Freshwater fish of N. America
39. Laments
41. "Girls" creator Dunham

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13								14				
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39						40				41	42	43
44					45					46		
47				48						49		
50				51				52	53	54		
55			56					57				
58								59				

CLUES DOWN
1. Rope used to lasso
2. Idyllic places
3. Field force unit
4. Guitar great Clapton
5. Slang for type of skirt
6. Figure skating jump
7. Innocent
8. Mathematical ratio
9. Slowly drinks
10. Line where edges meet
11. Offices of the pope
12. Dry or withered
14. " — the Man" Musical
15. Difficult situations
18. Greek goddess of discord
20. Marked by smartness in dress and manners
24. Habitat
26. Annoy constantly
28. Full of life
30. Great energy
32. BBQ and soy are two
34. Virtuous
35. Not fatty
37. Foes
38. Merchandiser
40. Dishonest scheme
42. Repents
43. Protective crust
45. Native American people
47. Any place of bliss or delight
49. Bring up
50. Birds
51. Geological times
55. Consumed

CLUES DOWN
43. Indian title of respect
44. Cocoa plum
46. Network of nerve cells
48. Link together in a chain
52. Cool 70s crew "The ___ Squad"
53. Persons engaging in energetic pursuits
54. Accumulation of glacial debris
56. Fastened
57. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
58. Whiskey and bread are two
59. Scottish tax

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Jennifer Walsh
507-438-6676
email: jenwalsh@kw.com
web: jenwalsh.kw.com



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Certified Public Accountant Tamzen R. Johnson
319 East Main Street, Bloomington Prairie | 888-933-6828 | Fax: 507-583-2389

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GYMNASTICS

Huskies win third straight Big 9 gymnastics title

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite having no individuals champions, great depth propelled the Owatonna gymnastics team to its third consecutive Big 9 Conference Championship at Rochester John Marshall High School on Saturday.

“It’s an incredible feeling coaching a team like this,” Owatonna coach Tom Smith said. “They make it easy to be coach when they work so hard and are so focused on what they want.”

The Huskies finished the with 146.6 points. Northfield (142.175) and Austin (139.825) rounded out the podium.

Becca Olson, Sydney Kretlow, Lindsay Bangs and Ali An were named All-Big 9 performers, while Lucy Macius was named as a honorable mention selection.

It took all five girls to this win together,” Smith said. “We are very fortunate right now that our talent is very deep. We could go down to our sixth or seventh person and almost not lose any points, but we just have the five [Olson, An, Kretlow, Bangs and Macius] compete at the meet.”

An was the Huskies top finisher in the uneven bars, floor exercise and all-around competition. She placed second in the uneven bars (9.4) and floor exercise (9.6), and she was third in all-around (37.275).

Kretlow was the top Husky in the vault. She finished second with a score of 9.525.

“The girls are amazing,” Smith said. “They are one big family. They push each other and help each other out. They root for each other...They all just want to make the team better. When you have a team like that, you can consistently grow and get better.”

The Huskies will have to win the 1AA Section at Rochester John Marshall on Friday in order to advance to state meet at the University of Minnesota Sports Pavilion on Friday, Feb. 23 and Saturday, Feb. 24.

Owatonna finished sixth at state in 2016 and third a season ago.

Smith said the team will have to clean up their routines a little and focus on



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM SMITH

The Owatonna gymnastics team after winning its third consecutive Big 9 Conference Championship on Saturday.

doing the little things rights if they want to improve their finish this season.

Full Results

Team Results: Owatonna 146.600; Northfield 142.175; Austin 139.825; Mankato West 138.250; Rochester Century 135.650; Winona 132.950; Red Wing 129.400; Mankato East 128.500; Rochester Mayo 127.975; Faribault 123.500; Rochester John Marshall 91.975.

All Around: 1, Jennifer Boyle (Austin) 37.575; 3, Ali An (Owatonna) 37.275; 4, Becca Olson (Owatonna) 36.975; 7, Lindsay Bangs (Owatonna) 36.150; 9, Sydney Kretlow (Owatonna) 35.625; t-11, Lucy Macius (Owatonna) 35.400.

Uneven Parallel Bars: 1, Jennifer Boyle (Austin) 9.425; 2, Ali An (Owatonna) 9.400; 4, Becca Olson (Owatonna) 9.050; 9, Lindsay

Bangs (Owatonna) 8.600; 10, Sydney Kretlow (Owatonna) 8.425; t-11, Lucy Macius (Owatonna) 8.175.

Balance Beam: 1, Taryn Sellner (Mankato West) 9.500; 6, Becca Olson (Owatonna) 9.175; 9, Ali An (Owatonna) 9.100; t-10, Lindsay Bangs (Owatonna) 8.950; t-11, Lucy Macius (Owatonna) 8.900; 19, Sydney Kretlow (Owatonna) 8.400.

Floor Exercise: 1, Taryn Sellner (Mankato West) 9.700; 2, Ali An (Owatonna) 9.600; 4, Becca Olson 9.475; t-8, Sydney Kretlow (Owatonna) 9.275; 10, Lucy Macius (Owatonna) 9.225; 13, Lindsay Bangs (Owatonna) 9.150.

Vault: 1, Taryn Sellner (Mankato West) 9.550; 2, Sydney Kretlow (Owatonna) 9.525; 3, Lindsay Bangs (Owatonna) 9.450; 8, Becca Olson (Owatonna) 9.275; 10, Ali An (Owatonna) 9.175; 11, Lucy Macius (Owatonna) 9.100.

BASKETBALL

Panthers power past Blossoms for Gopher Conference Title

Schoenrock scores 1,000th career point

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

Betsy Schoenrock does it all for the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva girls’ basketball team and she was “Miss Do-Everything” on Friday as she led the Panthers to a 66-55 win at Blooming Prairie.

The 6-foot-5-inch Schoenrock proved to be the difference in the game. She scored 33 points, grabbed 12 rebounds, altered Blossom shots and held BP’s leading scorer, Sam Wurst, to just three points.

“A slow start ultimately spelled our loss tonight,” BP coach John Bruns said. “It was a highly competitive game, but Schoenrock proved the difference at both ends of the floor. We trailed big at the half, but we came out aggressively and got back within six points several times. Unfortunately, each time we made a run, the Panthers answered with Schoenrock.”

The game was stopped momentarily in the first half to recognize Schoenrock for scoring her 1,000th career point for NRHEG.

The win moved NRHEG (14-4, 9-2) past BP (15-6, 9-3) to the top of the Gopher Conference and relegated the Blossoms to second.

“I was very proud of how our girls played,” Bruns said. “This was the third game of the week, with big wins over Maple River and Medford leading up to this conference-deciding contest. We



STAFF PHOTOS BY DENNIS MARSHALL

Top: NRHEG’s Betsey Schoenrock posts up against a Blooming Prairie defender on Friday. Bottom: NRHEG’s Sidney Schultz grabs a steal away from a Blooming Prairie ball handler on Friday.

finish the season at 9-3 in the conference, while the Panthers still have to battle the [Maple River] Eagles.”

BP shot only 29 percent from the field on 24-of-82 attempts, mainly because of Schoenrock dominance on the defensive end. McKenna Hein scored 19 points to lead the Blossoms and Megan Oswald had 18 points and 11 rebounds. Julia Worke nailed three 3-pointers and finished with 11. Ayren Ingvalson grabbed 10 steals.

NRHEG made 42 percent of it’s shot by going 25-of-59. The Panthers also outshot the Blossoms at the free throw line, 21-7, and dominated the rebounding 49-32. The Panthers JV team ran past the Blossoms. Bobbie Bruns and Allison Bohnberg each had five points.

WRESTLING

Westfield Razorbacks rout USC Rebels

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Westfield won four of the first six bouts to take an 18-12 lead over United South Central at Hayfield Thursday, Feb. 8, and went ahead 30-18 after 10 bouts. The Razorbacks then blanked the Rebels the rest of the match for a 57-18 Gopher Conference wrestling victory. That was the only match of the week for the Razorbacks

Bryce Sonnek pinned Bronson Keegan in 57 seconds for a Rebel lead, but Westfield won the next four bouts to give the Razorbacks an 18-6 margin. Alex Phenix decisioned Ethan Elvebak of USC 6-2 at 113. Ethan Arett moved up to 120 and still won by forfeit. Cael Becker won a wild 10-4 verdict over USC’s Matt Beyer at 126 and Cole Christianson won his 132 bout by forfeit.

Blake Legred narrowed the lead to 18-12 with a pin over Joe Pirkil in 1:10 at 138, but Simon Payton restored a 24-12 advantage with a forfeit win at 145. Seth Peterson took just 41 seconds to pin Joe Bonsacker of USC at 152. The Rebels got their final points of the match when Hunter Johnson pinned Westfield’s Dylan Ehmke at the 1:59 point at 160.

The Razorbacks won the final five bouts to coast home with the victory. At 170 Isaac Fernandez won a major 9-0 decision over Jacob Cory. Colton Krell moved up to 182 and won by technical fall over Masyn Elvebak 18-2 and Morgan Moreno pinned Jacob Billings in 46 seconds at 195. Dylan Nirk won the 220 bout by a forfeit and Mitch Oswald closed out the match by pinning David Garza of USC at 2:01 of the heavyweight.

BASKETBALL

Panthers offense too much for Blossoms

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

In a game of prolific scoring, the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva boys’ basketball team used an offensive explosion to soar past the Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossoms, 77-55, on Friday at NRHEG.

“We have had games where we really struggled to score, especially in the first half,” NRHEG coach Pat Churchill said. “Tonight our kids came out and really were aggressive on offense. We ran the floor extremely well tonight and had a lot of easy looks because of our transition.”

It was a close game for much of the first half, in fact, the Blossoms (10-10) took an early six point lead, but the Panthers (18-1) battled back. NRHEG pushed out to a six-point lead of its own with about seven minutes to go until halftime.

The Panthers shot 13-of-21 in the paint in first half and took a 11 point advantage into the half.

“If we are disciplined and aggressive enough to get the ball [into the post], we can make shots and we did tonight,” Churchill said.

NRHEG extended it’s lead to 20 points early in the second half and played with that margin for the rest of the game.

“We played really good defensively as well tonight,” Churchill said. “I thought we made things tough for them most of the night. We shared the ball as well as I’ve seen us share the ball all season.

NRHEG’s Brady Agrimson was the game’s leading scorer with 19 points. Benji Lundberg had 15, Jacob Shuller scored 14, Jerrett Utpadal added eight, Ryan Hannegrefs had seven, Nathaniel Techau contributed six, Lonnie Wilson had four and Blake Ihrke scored two to round out the scoring for the Panthers.

The win kept the Panthers atop the Gopher Conference at 9-0.

“NRHEG played like well-oiled machine in this one,” BP coach Nathan Piller said. “They made open shots, rebounded the ball well and then dribble penetrated to set up a lot of easy scoring.”

BP dropped to 5-5 in conference play.

Gabe Hagen was the only Blossom to reach double digits with 13. Karson Vigeland scored nine, Jake Ressler added seven, Kaden Thomas and Max Romeo had six, Trent Swenson had four, Timothy Wolf had three, Zach Archer, Brad Staska and Cameron Kubista scored two and Cory Wagaman had one for the Blossoms.

BASKETBALL

BP junior high teams drop Maple River

BY LEMAR NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Blooming Prairie junior high girls teams played twice in the past week, winning over Maple River on Monday, Feb. 5, but then dropping two games in their last home contest to strong NRHEG teams. The junior high record is now 12-15, with one doubleheader left at Southland.

The seventh grade team held the Eagles to just one point in the second half by using a pressure defense to good advantage and won 32-10. Sierra Larson, Haven Carlson and Anna Pauly each had eight points for the Awesome Blossoms. The eighth grade team made some great plays in the first half to score 24 points and finished the game 38-18. Larson counted 11 points, Schammel scored nine and Emily Miller added eight points.

On Thursday, Feb. 8, the seventh grade team played NRHEG close in the first half, but couldn’t keep up with the athletic ability of the Panthers and lost 42-15. The eighth grade used a zone defense to trail by just five points at the half, but again NRHEG had more athletic players and pulled away in the second half for a 34-20 victory. Lauren Schammel scored six points for the Blossoms.

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James Lundgren, the new executive director of the Steele County Historical Society, stands next to a Ford Model T truck, one of the historical artifacts currently featured at the History Center in Owatonna. He just wrapped up a consulting project in Freeborn County before joining SCHS.

STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

'Good position to move forward'

New director ready to lead historical society into the future

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

A history buff with a variety of experience with history centers has taken on the role of leading the Steele County Historical Society.

James Lundgren, a Minnesota native with experience in both this state, and Ohio, where he worked for the National Museum of the Great Lakes, is excited to get started as executive director of SCHS.

Lundgren is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and holds a master's degree in non-profit administration from Regis College. According to Lundgren, he was just wrapping up a consulting project with Freeborn County before switching his focus to his new position as executive director of the Steele County Historical Society.

"There are lots of similarities between non-profits," Lundgren says. "It's a common fabric but at the same time each one is unique."

When asked what excites Lundgren about his new position, he said, "I'm very enthusiastic about the new facility we have here. There's a lot of meeting space and there's a lot of program space, so that should be very beneficial."

He relishes the chance to introduce area residents and visitors to the rich local history. "Our history is important because people of each county have their own unique history and I think that learning about our immediate history is very crucial in understanding where we live and how history has shaped it."

Although he is educated with a background in history, Lundgren said his skills are also on the administrative side.

Right now his priorities are to try and identify the areas he feels the organization can reach out in, including developing a stronger donor base and attracting more visitors. "County historical societies are a good place for people to come learn more about what surrounds them," Lundgren said.

The new director sees many strengths in Steele County's Historical Society. "It's a very high quality historical organization, and it's in a good position to move forward." He also is appreciative of all the help the society receives. "We have a lot of great volunteers and a very good board of directors too," he added.

Having graduated with a dual degree in both History and

Native American studies, Lundgren's acumen is particularly tailored to middle and late 19th century history. As a student of the past, he understands that "it's important to know our own history."

Lundgren said, "It's also important to know where people have come from, and to know about the history of our county and how it came to be." By comprehending history through an accurate lens, he believes that "one can understand the growth and opportunities of our past, and see them reflected now or in the possible future."

As a non-profit organization, SCHS depends on community involvement. "Without volunteers this organization would not

"It's a very high quality historical organization, and it's in a good position to move forward."

James Lundgren
SCHS Director

be where it is today, and the foundations built by our volunteers and donors earlier on is what moves it forward," Lundgren said. Despite such a robust foundation, Lundgren knows that volunteers, visitors, and community donations will be vital for the future.

"We can get them involved in lots of different capacities," Lundgren says of prospective volunteers. "There's the planning side but there's also more hands-on roles."

Lundgren feels that having a strong donor base is paramount to the success of SCHS. "I want to continue to build upon what they have already done," he said. "I think we can carry on the level of quality and move forward while continuing to provide such excellent programing."

"I think it's important to have a strong operation so that members of the community continue to support to us," Lundgren said.

The current exhibits, which rotate every few years, are titled "Over Here, Over There: The Great War" and "Autos and Roads." The Great War program features historical exhibits on Steele County's involvement in World War I, while the Autos and Roads programs feature an exhibit of historical roadsters, including a Ford Model T truck, and details about the areas transportation history.

Political season kicks off with caucuses

Steele County's straw vote for governor mirrors state results

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

In what has been deemed as the grassroots of the political process, the local political parties held their precinct caucuses and identified support for the upcoming Minnesota governor's race.

Steele County held its caucuses Feb. 7 with the DFLers meeting at Owatonna Middle School and the GOP camp at Owatonna High School. Residents from across the county came to cast their straw votes and debate the current direction of their associated party.

The DFL reported around 102 votes tallied, topping the same number from the GOP Caucus this year. In off years like this one, representatives from both political parties reported a substantially quieter turnout, but stressed the importance of continued involvement, even between election cycles.

The big winner of the night was Jeff



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

Republican voters exit the Owatonna High School's auditorium and make their way to their assigned rooms to discuss their options, and cast their votes at the precinct caucus Feb. 6. Jeff Johnson, commissioner with Hennepin County, came away as the winner in the Republican straw vote.

Johnson, Hennepin County commissioner and former state representative, who totaled 33 votes and carried the GOP straw poll. U.S. Representative Tim Walz, whose support included 68 of the 102 votes cast at the DFL Caucus, was the DFL winner. Both parties will be angling to get their chosen ticket in the governor's

seat in November.

Behind Johnson, the final count for the Republican straw poll stood at 10 for Keith Downey, 7 in favor of Phillip Parrish, and 6 for Mary Guiliani, with 10 voters still undecided.

SEE CAUCUS, C2



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

The Steele County Courthouse in Owatonna fully reopened Monday after being shutdown for 13 months because of a water pipe burst that flooded the historic building. Court administrator Robin Hoesley shows off Courtroom A, which has been expanded and improved during the renovation. There are now three functional courtrooms.

COURT BACK IN SESSION

Courthouse fully reopens after 13-month shutdown

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Court is fully back in session at the Steele County Courthouse in Owatonna after being shutdown for more than a year.

On Monday, the historic courthouse became fully operational again with three functional courtrooms. It comes with a heavy sigh of comfort for Robin Hoesley, who as court administrator coordinates a staff of 17 court personnel. "This is a huge sense of relief," she said. "This is a fresh start and a new beginning."

Ever since a water pipe burst forcing the closure of the entire structure 13 months ago, court hearings and trials have been scattered around Owatonna in various places. Many of the court proceedings took place in a makeshift courtroom on the third floor of the Owatonna Fire Station located across the street from the courthouse.

Hoesley said the upheaval of being displaced from the courthouse created a logistical nightmare for court personnel. "It was chaotic and unpredictable,"

SEE COURT, C2

February is National Children's Dental Health Month

Celebrating its 77th year, the American Dental Association continues to promote good oral health care for children. It is exciting to see every year thousands of dental professionals and healthcare providers working together to bring awareness to the importance of good oral health.

As important as it is to stress healthy eating, proper oral care, as well as regular dental visits, I'd like to briefly discuss another critical topic. Every year, thousands of children and teens receive some type of facial injury while playing sports, biking, or other activities. This also means that far too many teeth are unnecessarily being damaged or even lost. Statistics show that more than 60% of children and teens fail to wear a simple protective mouthguard while performing activities. While collision sports are higher risk, recent studies



Steele Talkin'
SHANNON KRUCKEBERG

also show more and more non-contact activities having oral injuries as well. The American Dental Association encourages the widespread use of properly fitting mouthguards in all types of sporting activities. The fit and comfort of a mouthguard is not only important, it will make it more likely your child/teen athlete will agree to wear it during their activity.

There are three types of mouthguards available. The most inexpensive is the ready-made mouthguard. While it's least expensive, it is also usually the least comfortable and doesn't always have a proper fit. The second type is the boil and bite mouthguard. This type seems to be a better fit; however it tends to be a bit bulky. The third type is the custom made. This mouthguard is made in the dental office and is designed specifically for your athlete. Although this option is a bit more expensive, most agree that it is definitely worth it. The superior fit and comfort will make your athlete much more likely to wear it. After all, compliance is the key.

A mouthguard is one of the least expensive pieces of protective gear you will probably ever purchase. When you think about repairing broken or lost teeth for your children, I think you will agree that this simple preventive measure is worth it.

Please feel free to contact me at Steele County Public Health if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment. We provide preventive services for children and offer help finding a Dentist that meets your needs. Public health's number is 507-444-7650.

Shannon Kruckeberg is the executive director and CEO of Healthy Smiles, Inc. through Steele County Public Health. Steele Talkin' is a regular column featuring authors representing various groups and organizations throughout Steele County.

Valentine sweethearts go out to dinner



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud
Sister Franchon Pirkl applies a colorful Valentine on the cheek of Joe Wacek, one of the many sweethearts attending the Fourth Annual Valentine Dinner in Litomysl Saturday night, Feb. 10. Joe's sweetheart, wife Vikki, is at right.

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

It was a sweetheart type of night at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Litomysl Saturday night, Feb. 10.

The Litomysl Women's Council for the fourth consecutive year sponsored a night for sweethearts, a special dinner.

Event organizers said they sold 170 tickets for the delicious meal.

Mary Ann Rysavy and Janet Miller chaired the popular event, which featured a Windsor pork chop (cherries on top), baked potato, carrots and a salad. "We ordered 185 chops, 180 potatoes and 40 bags of carrots for our crowd," commented Miller.

Homemade cupcakes topped off the night for dessert.

The dinner was a benefit for replacing the floor covering in the church basement. "We want our floor back," remarked worker Carol Prokopec. She said additional monies over the Valentine Dinner take will be

needed to replace the floor.

The previous Valentine dinners provided funds for church kitchen renovation. The renovation included new cabinets, new counter tops and new faucets.

Miller estimated 20 workers helped out at this special event.

Lucas Arndt provided music during the evening. Wine was also served at the event.

Sister Franchon Pirkl greeted guests as they entered and applied colorful hearts on their cheeks. "We can't thank Sr. Franchon enough for her contributions," said Rysavy.

Following the dinner, prizes were given including lots of Valentine candy and other munchies. As guests entered, they were asked to guess how many pieces of candy were in a jar. The winners guessed 74 pieces.

The Litomysl Church was built in 1940 and the kitchen was done shortly after that. "This area needed to be changed for safety purposes as well as convenience for the kitchen workers," Prokopec said.

COURT: Fully reopens

FROM PAGE C1

she admitted. "It was a challenging year. We were unsure where we were going to conduct certain hearings," she added.

Security also became a big concern during the displacement. "It was a strain on the sheriff's office to provide security to multiple locations," Hoesley said. "A lot of credit goes to my team, the judges and bailiffs. They were extraordinarily patient and adaptable."

The yearlong renovation has allowed the courthouse to be reconfigured into a "more functional and secure" facility, Hoesley said.

Judge Karen Duncan will preside in Courtroom A on the second level while Judge Joseph Bueltel will be in Courtroom B on the third level. A third courtroom has also been added on the third level for visiting judges. Caseload in Steele County currently requires the need for 2.4 judges, which

"This is a huge sense of relief. This is a fresh start and a new beginning."

Robin Hoesley
Court Administrator

is down slightly from a few years ago, according to Hoesley.

Significant changes were made in Courtroom A where more seating has been added for the public, improved audio visual system and more space to reconfigure how court personnel operate. "The judge will be able to have a full view of the courtroom and a better sight line in the courtroom," Hoesley said. "It will be more safe for the judge and court personnel," she noted.

The court administration office is now located on the lower level of the courthouse. Probation has moved out of the building and into its own facility in the downtown area.

Hoesley said the renovation should carry the county well into the future. "It will make it a better courthouse for the next 10-15 years without adding on or building new," she said, noting they were able to convince the county board that it was a good time to make the investment.

She reminds the public that full screening has returned at the courthouse. Big coats, backpacks and large purses are not allowed into the courthouse.

Hoesley also hopes citizens find the heating and cooling systems more comfortable than what they had been in the past.

"We're all going to feel good about working in this space," Hoesley said. "We hope people will feel well served."

A rededication of the courthouse is planned for May 1 with state, county and city dignitaries. More details will come out closer to the event.



CAUCUS: Political season kicks off

FROM PAGE C1



Staff photo by Chris Baldwin
DFL Chairman Buddy Ricker delivers opening remarks at the Steele County precinct caucus Feb. 6 in Owatonna. U.S. Representative Tim Walz was the big DFL winner in the straw poll for the governor's race.

Walz ran away with the DFL straw poll. Other totals included: State Auditor Rebecca Otto with 18, former St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman with four, Erin Murphy, one time leader of the Minnesota House of Representatives also with four, Representative Tina Liebling with one vote, and a write-in. There were 10 undecided votes counted as well.

The local trends continued at the state level. With 17,655 DFL votes cast statewide, Walz was the front runner with 31 percent of the vote, followed by State Auditor Rebecca Otto with 20 percent.

With the current political climate being as divided as it's been, Buddy Ricker of the Steele County DFL Caucus and Pam Seaser of the local GOP Caucus understand the importance of events like this one. "These discussions help to determine how we will steer the local party moving forward," Ricker said.

Seaser said that with all the ubiquitous political discussion, the precinct caucus is the best place to share one's voice. "It's a proper platform, with like-minded people, and it allows you to see what your neighbors might be thinking," she said.

Both events drew residents and showcased the candidates' surrogates, a straw poll, and some words from county leadership. Ricker explained the process as "really just a gathering of people, your neighbors, your friends, and those of a like mind."

Ricker said, "We like to get together and talk about the direction of our party." He described the event as "the grassiest of the roots." Ricker says that occasions like this one, despite often being overlooked in the political calendar, are "extremely important, not just during these times, but any time."

Across town, Seaser described the caucus as "critical," explaining that "we have two special elections coming up next Monday."

"In 2016 we tried something new," Seaser recalls. "We met in the gymnasium and tried to fit as many of the attendants as we could, it didn't work out as well as we hoped, so this year we went back to the old style of doing things." The attendance was also lower this year, with only around 70 people coming out and submitting their votes for the GOP Caucus.

Still, it's the high amount of participation during 2016 that excites Seaser. "We had a lot of people show up who had never been to a caucus." Seaser feels that, in events like this one, participation is key.

"Anybody who turns 18 by Election Day can and should come here," she said, clarifying that they should decide which party their views align with before choosing their associated caucus site. "It's a great place to start if you want to get involved," she added.

"Young people who are concerned with getting their voice out there should get involved with the process more if they want to be heard," Ricker said. He added, "If your message isn't being heard, you're just not squeaking the wheel loud enough."

With the governor's race nearing this fall, the numbers from the state's precinct caucuses may indicate an early inclination for a DFL victory. Though with roughly nine months to go, the winner is anybody's guess.

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Tennessee Williams classic to be performed at the Little Theatre of Owatonna

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

The Little Theatre of Owatonna is set to stage a production of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire."

Williams is regarded as one of the most important American playwrights of the past century and the play is considered one of his finest. It will be presented by the Little Theatre of Owatonna in conjunction through an arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.

The play is an adult drama which focuses on the story of Blanche DuBois, a southern belle who is taken in by her sister Stella and her husband, Stanley Kowalski. Stanley is a domineering husband, and Blanche's presence stokes trouble for his and Stella's already strained marriage.

An additional character, Stanley's friend from work Mitch, is also featured. Mitch is a counterpart to Stanley, and initially finds himself smitten with the penniless Blanche. But complications involving Blanche's personal history, and her sister's husband create conflict.

Williams' play was famously adapted into a film in 1951. The film, which featured Marlon Brando, Vivian Leigh, Kim Hunter, and Karl Malden, was directed by the late Elia Kazan and received high praise.

The Little Theatre of Owatonna's production of the play is directed by Jeffrey Jackson with technical direction by Kristi Westergaard. It stars Courtney Kryzer as Stella, Heather Burke as Blanche DuBois, Patrick McColley as Stanley Kowalski, and Cody Jensen as Mitch. Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 16, 17, 23, 24, and a special 2 p.m. matinee on both Feb. 18 and 20 at the Little Theatre of Owatonna.

Tickets and further information are available at LittleTheatreofOwatonna.org.

Recipe corner

Makes 8 servings

2	tablespoons unsalted butter
3	carrots, finely diced
2	leeks, white and light green parts, finely diced
2	celery stalks, finely diced

Heat the butter in a soup pot over medium heat. Add the carrots, leeks and celery. Cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Reduce the heat to low, add the flour, and stir well. Cook gently, about 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Add the broth gradually, whisking well with each addition to eliminate flour lumps. Bring to a simmer. Add the wild rice and salt. Continue to simmer until the rice is tender but still somewhat chewy, about 45 minutes. Stir in the heated cream and sherry. Season with salt. Serve in heated bowls, garnished with chives and parsley.

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Minnesota Wild Rice Soup

1/4	cup all-purpose flour
2	quarts Chicken Broth
3/4	cup wild rice
1/2	teaspoon salt, or to taste
3/4	cup heavy cream, hot
3	tablespoons dry sherry
1/4	cup minced chives
3	tablespoons chopped parsley

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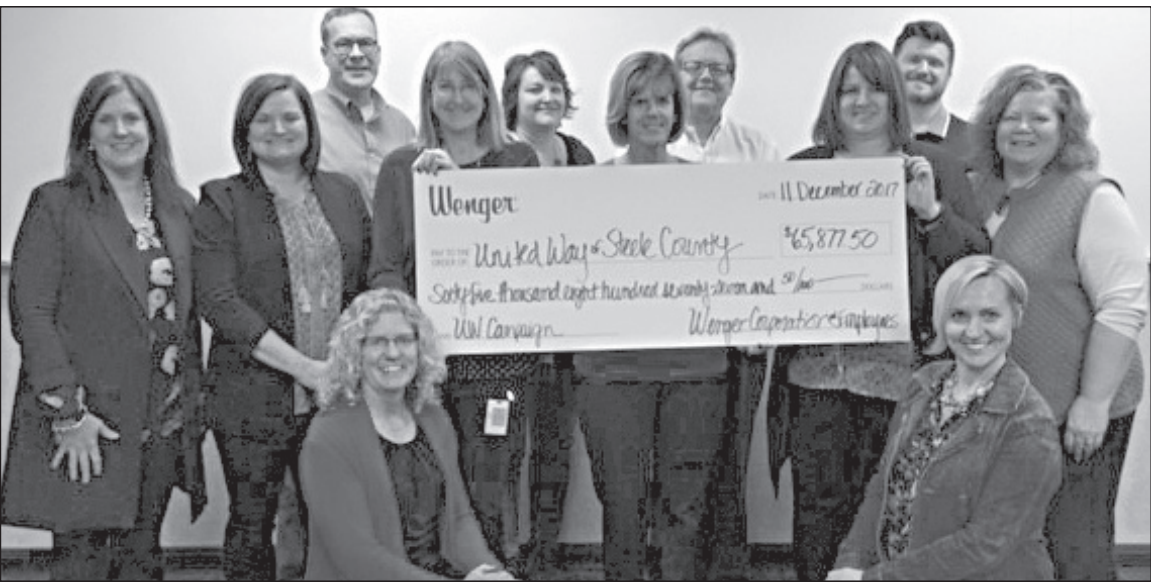
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Wenger employees have donated \$46,000 to the United Way of Steele County. In addition, the company threw in another \$20,000. Some of the employees include (left to right): Vanessa Jensen, Sarah Korbel, Dan Culhane, Deb Lindquist, Teresa Nelson, Katharine Riewe, Jeff Jollay, Brenda DeVinnay, Robert McMullen, Deb Goette and kneeling Patty Kulla and Tricia Herz.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Wenger Donates \$66K to United Way

Employees of Wenger in Owatonna made generous donations over \$46,000 to the United Way of Steele County 2017 campaign.

A generous corporate gift of \$20,000 brings the total contribution up to \$66,043 – an 8 percent increase over last year’s gift to United Way. This was on top of a 14 percent increase prior year. This year employees increased their giving by 16 percent.

Katharine Riewe, Wenger’s workplace campaign leader, and her enthusiastic committee

led a fun campaign for her co-workers with the theme of “Live United Under the Big Top.” Campaign activities included a dunk tank where supervisors would be dunked in a tank of water and many fun activities and competitions. Wenger finished third in United Way of Steele County’s 2017 Top 20 Most Generous Workplaces.

“Wenger employees enthusiastically demonstrate their commitment to our community through their generosity,” said Kim Schaufembuel, director of United Way. “They certainly know how

to have fun while carrying out an important community service. We are proud to count them among our most loyal and consistent partners.”

The mission of the United Way is to change lives by mobilizing and optimizing the caring power of our community. This year’s raised funds of \$745,122 will fund 24 critically needed programs operated by local nonprofit agencies. To make a contribution go to www.unitedwaysteelecounty.org or mail a check or pledge to United Way, Box 32, Owatonna, MN 55060.

MnDOT starts installing truck parking technology at rest areas

Work is underway by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to install technology at seven rest areas in the state that will help truck drivers find safe parking along high-volume freight corridors.

Minnesota is working with seven other states to implement the Regional Truck Parking Information and Management System that will collect and broadcast real-time parking availability on dynamic message signs. In Minnesota the signs will be posted along the I-35 and I-94 corridors and on MnDOT’s 511 traveler information website. The network will become operational in January 2019 however some states, including Minnesota, could become operational sooner.

Heath Creek, which is located along northbound I-35 south of the Northfield exit, is one of the seven rest areas that will be getting the technology. Other rest areas include: Lake Lakota, Big Spunk Lake, Enfield, Elm Creek, St. Croix and Forest Lake.

“Truck drivers sometimes spend 30 minutes or more looking for parking spots. We want to help them find safe, reliable parking so they don’t waste time looking, which decreases their downtime, and so they can move their products faster,” said Dan Rowe, state project manager.

“There will also be less fuel consumption and reduced emissions.”

The technology includes in-pavement sensors that detect the presence of the truck above it and send the information to MnDOT’s Regional Transportation Management Center. The RTMC technology interprets the data and sends the appropriate number of available parking spaces to the dynamic message signs.

Trucking companies’ dispatchers can also access the information on the 511 truckers’ page and relay the availability to their drivers.

Other states participating in the project are Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Truckers are required to comply with hours-of-service rules that limit how many hours they can drive. Fatigued driving is a major cause of preventable truck crashes.

“Rest areas fill up at night and truckers often park on exit ramps, which are unauthorized spots,” Rowe said. “This is a safety concern and when we provide safe parking for truckers, we also save lives by getting fatigued drivers off the road.”

Project funding comes from a \$25 million U.S. DOT TIGER grant and the states. In Minnesota, the project will cost \$1.4 million. MnDOT contributed \$177,500.

MnDOT and the other participating states first proposed the project when truck parking became a national safety concern following the 2009 murder of a trucker in South Carolina. Federal legislation, called Jason’s Law, put a national spotlight on addressing the shortage of long-term parking.

NRHEG

Panther of the Week

AARON

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NRHEG Elementary- Ellendale

This week’s panther of the week is Aaron Merritt. Aaron lives outside of Waldorf with his parents, Larry and Glee. He has one sister Alicia and three brothers Alex, Avery, and Aiden. Aaron is in Ms. Beenken’s second grade class.

Aaron is a wonderful role model and is always showing his Panther pride both in and outside of school. He is extremely respectful to his teachers and classmates. Aaron always gets to work right away and is very dedicated to doing his best! He has a very kind heart and is a wonderful friend. He can always be counted on.

Aaron’s favorite book is the Bad Guys and his favorite show is Henry Danger. He loves to play with his cousins and spend time with family. Aaron also loves tacos. Animals are very important to Aaron and he loves taking care of his piglets and baby cow. Keep up the great work Aaron!

LIBRARY BOOK NOOK

Award-winning author coming to library

NANCY VAILLANCOURT

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. author Shawn Otto will be discussing his book, “The War on Science,” at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library.

This event is made possible through South East Libraries Cooperating (SELCO), the Minnesota Library Legacy program, and the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment.

Otto’s book won the 2017 General Non-Fiction Minnesota Book Award. The MNBA program described The War on Science as follows:

“Otto’s provocative book investigates the reasons for why and how evidence-based politics are in decline and authoritarian politics are once again on the rise, and offers a vision, an argument, and compelling solutions to bring us to our collective senses, before it’s too late. Otto is an award-winning science advocate, educator, and speaker, and a previous Minnesota Book Award winner.”

Otto is married to Rebecca Otto, the current Minnesota state auditor and gubernatorial candidate. The author has been instrumental in establishing U.S. presidential science debates.

Come with questions and ideas to share. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Library.

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Governor appoints new judge to Rice County



Submitted photo
District Judge Jeffrey Johnson

An attorney with connections to a local drug court is Minnesota’s newest district court judge.

On Friday, Gov. Mark Dayton appointed Jeffrey Johnson to serve as judge in the Third Judicial District. He will be chambered in Rice County where he will replace the Honorable Thomas M. Neuville, who has retired from the bench.

Johnson has served on the steering committee for the Steele-Waseca Drug Court as well as the Olmsted Treatment Court.

“Mr. Johnson will bring a breadth of public and private sector experience to the bench,” Gov. Dayton said. “I thank Mr. Johnson for his continued service to the people of Minnesota.”

The newly appointed judge has been the chief public defender in the Third Judicial District where he is responsible for the effective delivery of public defender services to 11 counties. He earned his bachelor’s degree

“Mr. Johnson will bring a breadth of public and private sector experience to the bench. “I thank Mr. Johnson for his continued service to the people of Minnesota.”

Gov. Mark Dayton

from Gustavus Adolophus College and his law degree from William Mitchell College of Law. Besides Rice County, the Third Judicial District also consists of Steele, Dodge, Waseca, Fillmore, Freeborn, Mower, Olmsted, Wabasha, Houston and Winona counties.

CRIME BRIEF

Laundry room produces more than the wash

The laundry room at a local apartment building ended up having a little more going on than just laundry.

On Feb. 4, Owatonna Police responded to the Downtowner Apartments on North Cedar Avenue for a man sleeping in the laundry room. Police found a man sleeping under a sink between a washer and dryer with a pipe lying on the ground directly in front of the man.

Officers tested the pipe, which tested positive for methamphetamine.

Once the man was arrested, officers searched him and found an uncovered plastic baggie

with .40 grams of meth, 2.45 grams of marijuana and a pill bottle that contained a mixture of pills.

Daniel J. Stockwell, 30, of Waseca

has been charged with fifth-degree possession of a controlled substance and small amount of marijuana.



Stockwell

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of Jan. 29 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Heather M. Krumrie, 29, Brooklyn Center, previously appeared and was convicted of felony violation of harassment restraining order. She was sentenced to \$131, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain permission to leave the state and 5 years of supervised probation.

Dennis W. Wimer Sr., 60, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony DWI. Wimer was sentenced to \$381, 9 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain permission to leave the state, complete Steele-Waseca Drug Court and 7 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Jan. 29 – Feb. 2:

MN State Patrol ROCHESTER

Elizabeth M. Becerra, 20, Arlington, speeding, \$121; Ryan J. Berggren, 40, Caldwell, NJ, DWI, \$381, attend MADD impact panel, 30 hours of community service and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Charles D. Burk, 21, Golden Valley, speeding, \$121; John A. Curran, 48, Madison Lake, failure to use designated lane, \$131; Bradyn T. Ellingson, 22, Faribault, DWI, \$131, 180 days in county jail; Patrick J. Holling, 34, Waseca, speeding, \$121; John H. Kalfayan, 66, Madison, WI, speeding, \$121; James F. Klecker, 73, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Catherine P. Kuo, 43, Dakota Dunes, SD, speeding, \$141; Mohamed A. Mohamed, 35, Faribault, weaving over lane lines, stay of adjudication, \$111 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Marvin L. Monroe, 68, Waterloo, IA, DWI, \$406, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Lance W. Nunnikhoven, 36, Pella, IA, speeding, \$121; Fnu Obaidullah, 28, Gwinner, ND, speeding, \$121; Htoo W. Say, 42, St. Paul, unsafe lane usage, stay of adjudication, \$100 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Tyler R. Schiller, 34, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Haili J. Smith, 25, North Liberty, IA, speeding, \$121; Adrian E. Taylor, 32, Burnsville, speeding, \$281; Melissa A. Wilson, 53, Chaska, speeding, \$131.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Nuradin H. Abdi, 21,

Faribault, speeding, \$100 and 6 months of supervised probation; Klayton R. Ament, 36, Owatonna, controlled substance crime and assault, stay of adjudication, \$381, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, chemical dependency evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, no contact with victim and 3 years of supervised probation; Spencer S. Anderson, 37, St. Paul, revoked license, \$281; Sean D. Benz, 34, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Levell D. Booth, 24, Rochester, theft and revoked license, \$131, 2 days in county jail; Isaiah D. Brownlee, 26, Owatonna, DWI, \$606, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 2 years of supervised probation; Anthony J. Christiansen, 25, West St. Paul, theft, \$202.78 and 10 days in county jail; Randal A. Daher, 45, Fridley, theft, \$131 and 210 days in county jail; Aana E. Garner, 31, Owatonna, violation of order for protection, \$281, 4 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of supervised probation; Hanna B. Hughes, 19, Owatonna, theft, fleeing a peace officer and controlled substance crime, \$557.48, 35 days in county jail, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, no contact with victim, no trespassing at Wal-Mart, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of supervised probation; Brandon J. Karsten, 37, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Heather M. Krumrie, 29, Brooklyn Center, possession of marijuana, \$131, 42 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Joshua A. Lee, 28, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Virgil A. Olson, 76, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$281; Matthew T. Pates, 32, no insurance, revoked license, invalid license endorsement and registration violation, \$681; Andrew M. Popp, 42, Fairmont, no insurance, \$181, 7 days in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Isidro Reyna, 67, Kingston, WA, no insurance, \$281; Linda Santibanez, 31, Owatonna, domestic assault, stay of adjudication, unsupervised monitoring without conviction for indeterminate amount of time; Daniel S. Schoeneman, 17, Owatonna, irregular driving, \$121; William D. Schwartz, 41, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Lamar C. Sears, 28, Faribault, DWI, \$381, 1 day in county jail, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; David F. Shemanek, 48, Owatonna, theft (2), \$181 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Rolando Velazquez Cruz, 41, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$1,125.20, 1 day in county jail and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Kevin

W. Webster, 28, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$131, 4 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, domestic abuse evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of supervised probation; William R. Wheeler, 30, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Shawn M. Wierson, 44, theft, \$131 and 7 days in county jail; Nathan A. Wiles, 39, Owatonna, domestic assault, \$381, 2 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, no possession of firearms, domestic abuse evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of supervised probation; Carnell D. Williamson, 38, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$181, 8 days in county jail and 2 years of supervised probation.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dennis M. Bishop, 29, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Michael P. Cutway, 38, Owatonna, stop sign, \$81; Jose M. Dominguez, 28, Waseca, speeding, \$131; Denise M. Dupont-Almen, 50, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Christopher E. Fellom, 48, Hudson, WI, speeding, \$121; Jamie L. Kimball, 39, Medford, speeding, \$121; Brian J. Kosel, 68, Owatonna, violations of harassment restraining order (3), \$2,881, 2 days in county jail, no contact with victim, psychological evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state, do not interfere with property fence line and 1 year of supervised probation; Jared A. Krippner, 44, Rochester, violation of order for protection, \$131 and 75 days in county jail; Taylor P. Madden, 20, speeding, \$131; Claudiaeth A. Mendoza, 35, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Colton D. Olson, 23, Waseca, speeding, \$131; Gregory C. Olson, 67, Mankato, speeding, \$131; Rudy S. Perez, 51, Blooming Prairie, DWI, \$381, 1 day in county jail, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Matthew A. Reiter, 30, Ellendale, revoked license, \$281; Drew D. Roemhildt, 22, Faribault, stop sign, \$131; Carrie L. Wallin, 38, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Eric P. Wandersee, 46, Owatonna, speeding, \$151; Matthew D. Wiese, 41, Austin, speeding, \$121; Kevin M. Willis, 38, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481.

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE

Feb. 4

Crash: Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage in the 300 block of Highway Ave. S. at 9:33 a.m.
Threats: At 10:30 a.m., police responded to a subject making threats in the 300 block of 2nd St. SE.

OWATONNA POLICE

Feb. 2

Warrant: Police made a warrant arrest in the 600 block of Mound St. SW at 7:37 a.m.
Criminal Sexual Conduct: Police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 500 block of 15th St. NE at 4:39 p.m.
Theft: At 10:01 p.m., officer took a theft report in the 700 block of 16th St. SE.
Arrest: Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Oak Ave. N. and North St. W. at 10:07 p.m.

Feb. 3

DWI: Officers made a DWI arrest at McKinley St. W. and Linn Ave. SW at 1:04 a.m.
Arrest: At 10:37 a.m., police assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 700 block of State Ave. NW.
Welfare: Police arrested a subject during a welfare check in the 2200 block of 46th St. NW at 8:21 p.m.

Feb. 5

Truancy: Officers responded to a truancy incident in the 300 block of School St. E. at 9:50 a.m.
Hit and Run: At 1:55 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 200 block of 12th St. NE.
Shoplifting: A shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 8:40 p.m.

Feb. 6

Burglary: At 7:18 a.m., police began a burglary investigation in the 100 block of Rose St. E.
Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 1200 block of 21st Ave. NW at 1:07 p.m.
Shoplifting: At 7:36 p.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW.

Feb. 7

Assault: Officers responded to an assault in the 600 block of Hazel Lane at 10:07 a.m.
Drugs: Police issued a citation for drug activity in the 600 block of Florence Ave. NW at 5:13 p.m.
Shoplifting: At 6:24 p.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.
Harassment: Officers responded to a harassment incident on 3rd Ave. NE at 10:59 p.m.

Feb. 8

Arrest: Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Vine St. E. and Elm Ave. N. at 8:20 a.m.
Harassment: At 9:18 a.m., police responded to a harassment incident in the 300 block of School St. E.
Trespassing: Officers arrested a subject for trespassing in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 2:24 p.m.
Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 300 block of State Ave. NW at 6:08 p.m.
Shoplifting: At 9:26 p.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 100 block of Landmark Dr. NE.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Feb. 2

DWI: Deputies arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated in the 400 block of Hoffman Dr. NW in Owatonna at 12:50 p.m.

Feb. 3

Harassment: Deputies responded to a harassment incident in the 41000 block of 66th St. NW in Medford Township at 12:51 a.m.
Fraud: Deputy took a report of a fraud incident in the 2600 block of Kenyon Road in Clinton Falls Township at 4:35 p.m.

Feb. 4

Crash: Deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at Highway 218 and 38th St. SE in Owatonna Township at 10:49 a.m. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.

Feb. 5

Theft: Deputy took a theft report in the 33000 block of 54th Ave. NE in Merton Township at 9:57 a.m.
Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest in the 100 block of Main St. E. in Owatonna at 10:25 a.m.

Feb. 6

Warrant: Deputy arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 100 block of Main St. E. in Owatonna at 4:07 p.m.

Feb. 8

Warrant: At 5:06 a.m., deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center.
Child Protection: Deputies received a child protection report from the 700 block of 2nd Ave. SE in Medford Township.
Domestic: Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Central Ave. W. in Medford at 7:23 p.m.
Crash: Deputies received information regarding a vehicle hitting a deer at Cedar Ave. and 69th St. NE in Medford at 11:56 p.m.

ARREST

Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE

April Marie Ortler, 64, arrested at 2:07 a.m. Feb. 3, cancelled license, held for court.

Zachary Scott Ruzska, 29, arrested at 1:56 a.m. Feb. 3, DWI, held for court.

Daniel James Stockwell, 30, arrested at 7:50 a.m. Feb. 4, possession, held for court.

Laura Leigh Drake, 39, arrested at 7:55 p.m. Feb. 6, theft, held for court.

Ethan Eugene Jen0, 26, arrested Feb. 7, probation violation warrant arrest, held for court.

Peter Russell Caudillo, 25, arrested at 9:27 a.m. Feb. 8, felony drugs, held for court.

Hanna Berlyn Lea Hughes, 19, arrested at 3:54 p.m. Feb. 8, trespassing, held for court.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Angela Rose Herplinck, 35, arrested at 2:14 p.m. Feb. 5, controlled substance warrant arrest, body only.
Jarod James Fuller, 19, arrested at 5:05 p.m. Feb. 5, warrants arrest, \$75,000 bail and body only.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Jan. 29 – Feb. 5:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Allen M. Armstrong, 27, Hayfield, motor vehicle registration – intent to escape tax, \$460; Carissa M. Easton, 21, Blooming Prairie, possession of paraphernalia and speeding, \$170; Micah Hinck, 20, Stewartville, fleeing a peace officer, reckless driving, failure to stop for collision, driving without endorsement and speeding, \$380 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Dane B. Jensen, 18, Dodge Center, obscure plate, no license in possession and seat belt, \$155; Dena S. Keefe, 44, Kasson, speeding, \$120; Siobhan M. McKee, 25, Kasson, invalid license, \$180; Jack D. Mosinger, 64, St. Louis, MO, speeding, \$120; Katie E. Ranvek, 35, Kasson, parking violation, \$32.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Danielle E. Hukriede, 22, Kasson, parking violation, \$32; Jake T. Mindrup, 26, Hayfield, DWI, \$1,010, 90 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical assessment, 90 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation; Michael G. Poppler, 43, Belle Plaine, parking violation, \$32; Jeffery M. Siegele, 51, Kasson, seat belt, \$105.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Riley S. Krebs, 22, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Justin D. Nelson, 35, Austin, seat belt, \$105.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
Katie M. Martin, 38, Faribault, parking violation, \$32.



STEELE COUNTY Times

WARRANTS: The following individuals have active warrants in Steele County. The Sheriff provides this information as a public service

1. Rey Diaz – escape tax - \$5,499 bail
2. Trae Diaz – card fraud - \$1,000 bail
3. Tina Disher – assault - \$1,000 bail
4. Katrina Doig – false name - \$2,000 bail
5. Panfilo Dominguez – DWI - \$6,000 bail
6. Eric Doran – weapons - \$6,000 bail
7. Loretta Dorsey – trespassing - \$2,500 bail

8. John Douthit – cancelled license - \$3,000 bail
9. Richard Doyens – deprive parental rights – no bail
10. Brady Dubose – theft, shoplifting - \$1,000 bail
11. Scott Dungey – DWI - \$3,000 bail
12. Lindsey Dupraz – drugs - \$10,000 bail
13. Angel Duran – assault – no bail
14. William Durham – domestic assault - \$2,000 bail

15. Rosa Dusbabek – controlled substance - \$30,000 bail
16. Douglas Eckerman – DWI – no bail
17. David Ecklund – DWI - \$500 bail
18. Glenn Ellison – forged check - \$1,000 bail
19. Ramiro Esquivel – false information - \$2,000 bail
20. Lance Evans – DWI - \$12,000 bail

Disclosing active warrants promotes public safety and aids in the identification and apprehension of wanted individuals

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

FEB. 14 10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library	BP Library 7 p.m. – Shawn Otto Author Visit, BP Library
FEB. 15 6:30 p.m. – Family Fun Night, BP Library	FEB. 21 6 p.m. – Chamber Meeting, Dairy Queen
FEB. 16 KC Fish Fry, Servicemen's Club	FEB. 22 9:30 a.m. – Veterans Service Officer Outreach Hours, Servicemen's Club
FEB. 20 10:30 a.m. – Storytime,	



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ELLENDALE/GENEVA/HOPE

FEB. 13 6:30 p.m. – Karate, Ellendale Gym North	Kickoff Event, Ellendale Elementary Cafeteria 6:30 p.m. – Karate, Ellendale Elementary Gym North
FEB. 15 6:15 p.m. – Country Heat Live Workout, Ellendale Cafeteria	7 p.m. – Ellendale Council Work Session – Codification Manual
FEB. 16 6:15 p.m. – Daddy/ Daughter Valentine's Day Dance, NRHEG HS Commons Area	FEB. 22 11 a.m. – Veterans Service Officer Outreach Hours, Ellendale Community Building
FEB. 20 6:30 p.m. – ECFE Spring	



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

FEB. 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 5 p.m. – Steele County Commissioners Board Meeting, County Admin Building 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. – Veterans Open Roundtable, Good Shepard Lutheran Church 7 p.m. – Poetry Writers' Group, Owatonna Library	Brewfest, History Center 7:30 p.m. – A Streetcar Named Desire, Little Theatre of Owatonna
FEB. 14 4:30 p.m. – Meet & Greet New SCHS Executive Director, History Center	FEB. 17 7:30 p.m. – A Streetcar Named Desire, Little Theatre of Owatonna
FEB. 15 Noon – Business Boot Camp, Owatonna Library 6:30 p.m. – Family Storytime, Owatonna Library	FEB. 18 2 p.m. – A Streetcar Named Desire, Little Theatre of Owatonna 7 p.m. – LTO Auditions – My Man Godfrey, Little Theatre of Owatonna
FEB. 16 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Red Cross Blood Donation Drive, Owatonna Hospital 5 p.m. – 11 p.m. – Around the World: Food and	FEB. 19 7 p.m. – LTO Auditions – My Man Godfrey, Little Theatre of Owatonna
	FEB. 20 8 a.m. – Steele County Land Use/Records Policy Committee Meeting, County Admin Building 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – It's Tale Time, Owatonna Library Noon – SCHS Genealogy Club – What's New in Family Search, History Center 7 p.m. – AAUW February Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church 7 p.m. – Conservative Coalition of Owatonna Forum, Owatonna Library

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

AAUW SETS FEBRUARY MEETING

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Owatonna members invite interested guests and potential members to attend their meeting on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna.

The program for the evening will feature Carol J. Winter, MD, a general internist in her 30th year of medical practice in Owatonna. For 24 years Dr. Winter was engaged in traditional internal medicine practice and in 2012 switched gears and became a hospitalist. The evening's discussion will focus on the role of physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants in delivering medical care. It will also touch on changes Dr. Winter has observed over her years of practice.

'DOWN ON THE FARM' WORKSHOP SET FOR AUSTIN

A workshop designed to help rural professionals tackle mental and emotional concerns in the agriculture industry will take place Wednesday, February 21 in Austin.

The event is called "Down on the Farm: Supporting Farmers in Stressful Times" and it is one of six such gatherings the Minnesota Department of Agriculture is hosting around the state in coming months. The series is geared toward helping rural professionals to identify and address mental and emotional stresses farmers and their families face.

"We all know that the agriculture industry can be very stressful, and these workshops will go to help those who may be struggling

with mental or emotional stress," said Rep. Peggy Bennett, R-Albert Lea.

The MDA indicates agency staff, bankers, veterinarians, crop consultants, clergy, social service and health care professionals, agriculture educators and others who work with farmers are welcome to attend. The workshops are free of charge, last three hours and people can choose to attend sessions at either 9 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

The Austin event will take place at Riverland College (1900 8th Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912) Registration is now open at www.mdadownonthefarm.eventbrite.com. Visit www.mda.state.mn.us or call the MDA at (651) 201-6012 for more information.

DONORS URGED TO HELP THE RED CROSS MAINTAIN BLOOD SUPPLY

Winter storms and the flu don't just mean a lot of people are missing work and school – it also means they can't keep their American Red Cross blood donation appointments. The Red Cross is urging healthy donors of all blood types to roll up a sleeve to help maintain the blood supply for patients in need.

In 2018, severe winter weather forced about 600 blood drives to cancel, resulting in more than 17,500 uncollected blood donations. And, widespread flu across the U.S. has resulted in lower turnout at blood drives.

Blood donations are needed in the coming days to help replenish the blood supply and ensure patients continue to receive lifesaving treatments. Donors can help even more patients when they invite a loved one, friend or co-worker

to give with them.

Make an appointment to donate this winter by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Upcoming donation opportunities include:

Albert Lea – 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Feb. 16, First Lutheran Church
Albert Lea – 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Feb. 22, Riverland Community College
Albert Lea – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Feb. 23, Mayo Clinic Health System
Albert Lea – 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Feb. 28, National Guard Armory
Austin – Noon – 6 p.m. Feb. 21, St. Edwards Catholic Church
Hollandale – 1 p.m. – 6 p.m. Feb. 19, Hollandale Reformed Church
Owatonna – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Feb. 16, Owatonna Hospital
Owatonna – 11 a.m. – 5p.m. Feb. 21, Lowe's
Owatonna – Noon – 6 p.m. Feb. 26, Our Savior's Lutheran Church
West Concord – 1 p.m. – 7 p.m. Feb. 19, American Legion

AUDITIONS SET AT LITTLE THEATRE

Little Theatre of Owatonna (LTO) is pleased to announce auditions for the comedy by Erik K. Hatach, 'My Man Godfrey' on Feb. 18-19 from 7-9 p.m. at the Little Theatre of Owatonna, 560 Dunnell Dr., Owatonna.

In the depths of the Depression, Godfrey, a "forgotten man," is rescued from his packing-crate home by ditzzy socialite Irene Bullock during the course of a scavenger hunt. Irene offers Godfrey a job as butler to the banking family of Bullocks. Godfrey tolerates their

eccentricities, alcoholism and general nuttiness.

He cures hangovers, dodges missiles thrown by Irene's jealous sister, Cornelia, and charms matronly Angelica Bullock, who sees pixies every morning. Irene and Molly, the pert Irish maid, both fall in love with Godfrey, but for Irene, it's serious-and she's determined to get her man. Falsely accused by Cornelia of stealing the famous Bullock Pearls "de bullock boils" according to the detective on the case), Godfrey uses the opportunity to recover his personal finances and when the Bullocks end up going broke, he rescues them by getting them all (gaspl!) jobs in The Dump, a new nightclub Godfrey has built to provide work for his friends and for the Bullocks, too. Finally, Irene weds her man Godfrey, and it all works out in the end.

Audition packets are available at the Owatonna Public Library or by contacting Mary Butler Fraser at 507-455- 0125. Callbacks, if necessary, will held from 7-9 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

There are 16 roles for both men and women with ages ranging from the 20s on up. Between 5-6 roles need to be 20-30 years old. There are a number of walk-on parts that only require being in 1-2 scenes. This would also be a good production for those interested in non-speaking roles or only a few lines.

The artistic director is Jon Terril and the technical director is Mary Butler Fraser. Performances of 'My Man Godfrey' will be 7:30 p.m. on April 20-21, 27-28. Matinee performances will be 2 p.m. on April 22 and 29.

'My Man Godfrey' is presented in special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.

Little Theater of Owatonna offers scholarship

Little Theatre of Owatonna is proud to announce it is seeking eligible candidates for its 2018 Veta Alexander LTO Scholarship(s).

Graduating high school students who have been accepted at an accredited two or four-year college to begin a full-time course of study and have experience and interest in the performing arts are eligible.

Recipients are selected based on academic record, community involvement, leadership quality, school activities, and theatre involvement.

Details and forms for the application can be found on the Little Theatre of Owatonna website, <http://littletheatreofowatonna.org>, or available here for duplication as needed from their guidance counselor. Two recommendations are also required and should be sent directly to the Scholarship Chairperson at the listed address. All application components should be postmarked by Friday, April 13.

Announcements and notification regarding the scholarship recipients will be made in May. Recipient(s) will be recognized and the scholarship(s) will be presented at awards ceremonies scheduled later in the school year

at the appropriate schools(s) and at the opening night of LTO's summer production, Seussical, Friday, July 12.

Little Theatre of Owatonna is committed to providing opportunities and incentives for youth in the Owatonna area to explore the dramatic arts. Over \$50,000 has been awarded to Steele County high school graduates since the scholarship's inception in 1969. Questions regarding this scholarship should be directed to Gaylene Steckelberg, LTO Scholarship Chairperson, P.O. Box 64, Owatonna, MN 55060.

Scholarships available for nursing students

The Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary and Donald Sanford Fund are sponsoring a number of scholarships for individuals who are currently attending programs in nursing and health-related careers. Recipients of these scholarships will be selected on the basis of need and merit.

The Donald Sanford Nursing Scholarship is for applicants entering their first year or more and majoring in nursing at a college or vocational school. The Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship is for applicants entering their second year or more of school and majoring in a health-related field at a college, medical school or vocational school.

To apply, complete the online scholarship application found at allinahealth.org/owatonnnavolunteer. Click on "Auxiliary" in the left-hand column and complete the online application. Completed applications must be received by Sunday, March 18. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Albrecht, scholarship committee chair, at 507-455-1626 or Sharon Jacobson, volunteer services coordinator, at 507-977-2778.

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.

Veteran's officer coming to area

The monthly outreach hours for the Steele County Veterans Service officer have been announced.

Rene Gilormini, the county's veterans service officer, will be at the Servicemen's Club in Bloomington at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 22.

Gilormini will then travel to Ellendale where he will be at the Community Building at 11 a.m.



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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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ALL EVENT DETAILS AVAILABLE AT J&H LIQUOR

Amateur Radio license class offered in Owatonna

In conjunction with Steele County Emergency Management, the Owatonna Steele County Amateur Radio Club is offering a free Ham Radio license class.

The class will run Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 20-March 15 at the Owatonna Fire Station.

Along with learning about the many facets of ham radio, including its use for emergency communications, volunteer instructors will prepare students to pass the No Code Technician Class license examination.

Class instruction is free. Cost for the study guide is \$30. Check out oscarmn.org and click

on "2018 Technician Class" under general announcements for the latest details.

Students will be able to take the license exam on March 15. The exam session is open to anyone wishing to take one or more exams. All levels of Amateur Radion license examinations will be available at the exam session. The exam fee is \$15.

The class is open to all ages. Children 12 years and under must be accompanied by an adult. To register or for more information call Tom at 507-444-9133 or email to oscarmn@q.com.

COLLEGE NEWS

Area students named to Dean’s List at various colleges

Many area students have been named to the Dean’s List for fall 2017 semester at their respective colleges.

Area students were among the 4,197 at North Dakota State University to be placed on the Dean’s List.

Among those from Steele County are Halea C. Picha of Blooming Prairie in social science education, Mary T. Biegert of Owatonna in architecture and Olivia M. Oland of Owatonna in criminal justice.

A student must earn a 3.50 grade point average or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 class credits to qualify.

Carthage College has named Tiana Moore of Owatonna to its Dean’s list for academic excellence.

Dean’s List honors are accorded to students who achieve 3.5 grade point average and at least 14 credit hours during a semester.

Carthage is a four-year, private liberal arts college in Kenosha, Wis.

Jenna McMains of Owatonna was named to the Wartburg College fall term Dean’s List. She was one of 496 students recognized.

The list honors students who earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above in at least four course credits during the term.

Wartburg is a four-year liberal arts college in Waverly, Iowa.

Several area students have been named to the Dean’s List at Rochester Community and Technical College. They include: Kennedy Chicos, Taylor Peterson and Marnie Reese, all of Blooming Prairie and Tucker Cordle of Waltham.

They were among more than 1,000 students who made the Dean’s List for fall semester, which ended in December.

RCTC is Minnesota’s oldest and one of the nation’s oldest, original community colleges.

Nearly 700 students at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology were named to the Dean’s List for the 2017 fall semester. Among them was Michael Pfeifer of Owatonna.

Students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher and maintain a minimum of 12 credit hours.

SDSMT is a science and engineering research university in Rapid City.

Augustana University in Sioux Falls has announced several area students to the Dean’s List.

They are Haley Benjamin, Kelsey Deason, Cameron Jensen, Benjamin Konold, Grace Valen and Emily Wanous, all of Owatonna.

Students must maintain a GPA of 3.5 or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours.

Augustana is a selective, comprehensive university affiliated with the Lutheran Church.

The College of St. Scholastica of Duluth has named Megan Grubish and Molly Russell of Owatonna to the Dean’s List.

Students must achieve 3.75 GPA or above.

NOTICE

Blooming Prairie Township will hold its annual meeting March 13 at 8:01p.m.

Blooming Prairie Annual Election will be held March 13, 2018.

The polls will be open from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

On the ballot:

- Clerk 2-year term- Missy Anderson
- Supervisor 3-year term – Jerry Wencil

2/13

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File Number:
74-PR-18-207

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

In Re: Estate of
Richard Dale Johnson
Decedent

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.

Karen R. Duncan
Judge of District Court
2-2-2018
Dated

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

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on March 19, 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, January 13, 2009 ("Will"), and for the appointment of Kirk Johnson, whose address is 814 17th Street NE, Owatonna, MN 55060 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

2/13, 2/20

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JUNE 15 - 17, 2018

JUNE 19 - 26, 2018

JUNE 21 - 30, 2018

JULY 7 - 15, 2018

JULY 18 - 20, 2018

JULY 27 - 29, 2018

AUGUST 2 - 17, 2018

AUG. 25 - SEPT. 1, 2018

SEPTEMBER 4 - 9, 2018

SEPTEMBER 7 - 9, 2018

SEPTEMBER 7 - 17, 2018

SEPTEMBER 11 - 17, 2018

SEPTEMBER 19 - 23, 2018

SEPT. 24 - OCT. 11, 2018

SEPT. 29 - OCT. 10, 2018

OCTOBER 13 - 19, 2018

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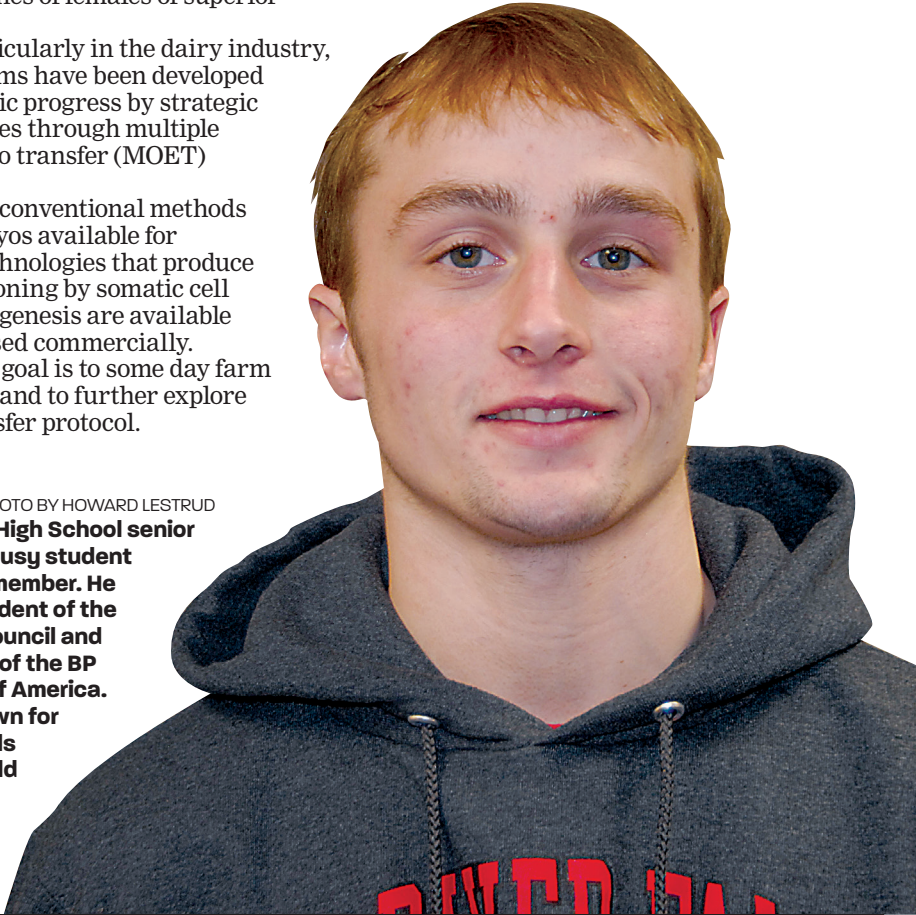
BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Where's Ethan?
He's busy. In fact, he is weighing in preparing for his next wrestling match.
Ethan Arett is a star performer on the Westfield Razorbacks wrestling team, which consists of wrestlers from Blooming Prairie and Hayfield.
When he is not on the wrestling mat, Arett is busy with other school obligations. He is senior class president and also president of the Blooming Prairie Future Farmers of America.
He most recently was welcomed as a new junior member of the American Angus Association. Junior members of the Association are eligible to register cattle in the American Angus Association and can also participate in programs conducted by the National Junior Angus Association.
Arett can also take part in Association-sponsored shows and other national and regional events.
The American Angus Association is the largest beef breed organization in the world, with more than 25,000 active adult and junior members.
Arett plans on showing an Angus animal at the Junior Angus Nationals in July in Madison, Wis.

He lives with his parents on a small hobby farm northeast of Blooming Prairie in Dodge County. The Aretts have 11 head of Simmental cattle and the one Angus.
Arett, a senior at Blooming Prairie High School, has been active in 4-H activities since fourth grade. He has been showing cattle since fourth grade and is still an active member of the 4-H club. "I've won a Minnesota State Fair trip the last six years," he says.
"I enjoy the competition in the show ring and also on the wrestling mat," says Arett who wrestles at 106 pounds. At press time, his record was 24-6. He said he started wrestling at age four.
Arett also plays second base for the Blossom baseball team. He is a member of the National Honor Society.
He has an older brother, Blake, who works at a climate and design company in Owatonna.
School activities take up a considerable amount of time, admits Arett, but he says all activities are "a lot of fun" and make the time go by faster.
He hopes to attend the University of Wisconsin at River Falls next year, majoring in animal science.
Always a goal setter, Arett would like to further study embryo transfer in animals. Embryo transfer has proven to be a powerful technology in genetic improvement of farm animals, he related.
Embryo transfer is used primarily to

propagate the genes of females of superior pedigree.
In cattle, particularly in the dairy industry, breeding programs have been developed to promote genetic progress by strategic use of elite females through multiple ovulation embryo transfer (MOET) programs.
In addition to conventional methods to produce embryos available for transfer, new technologies that produce embryos after cloning by somatic cell transfer or transgenesis are available but not widely used commercially.
Arett said his goal is to some day farm with his brother and to further explore the embryo transfer protocol.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Blooming Prairie High School senior Ethan Arett is a busy student and community member. He is currently president of the BPHS Student Council and is also president of the BP Future Farmers of America. Arett is also known for his wrestling skills with the Westfield Razor Backs.



Are your responders prepared for grain emergencies?

What would happen in your community if someone became engulfed in grain while working in a grain bin?
Dan Neenan, director of the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS), hopes emergency personnel would have the necessary training and equipment to rescue the person or persons in peril.
"Entrapment is a pretty common occurrence when it comes to grain bin accidents," Neenan says. "On average, about 50 percent of rural fire department personnel have completed this type of rescue training and have the necessary rescue equipment."
Grain Bin Safety Week, an annual event sponsored by Nationwide Insurance, holds a "Nominate Your Fire Department Contest" each year to offer free training and the donation of a rescue tube to 16 of the nominated departments. In 2017 the contest, attracted 3,600 nominations from across the nation between January 1 and April. 30.
Nominations find the contest application online at www.nationwide.com/grain-bin-safety-week.jsp.
"As part of the application, the nomination describes how their fire department or emergency rescue team and rural community would benefit from receiving grain entrapment training and a rescue tube," Neenan says. "Individuals, groups or companies who want to support this effort have the opportunity to donate rescue tubes, rescue training or to make a financial contribution."
Fire departments and emergency rescue teams who aren't selected for free training and equipment can still obtain these tools – sometimes without cost – from other resources, including some of the companies selling grain bins.
"There are six different rescue tubes available on the market that fire emergency rescue departments can purchase," Neenan says. "There are also several State Fire Bureaus that can help them get the training."
Several grain bin rescue tube designs are available. One brand, The Great Wall of Rescue, was designed to adapt to a multitude of grain entrapment rescue situations. The tube is lightweight and easily shaped into a wall, a tube or whatever irregular shape is needed at the rescue site.
This particular tube is made of lightweight 6005 T5 aluminum and weighs 20 pounds so it's easily hoisted into position. Several of the tubes, which are 16 inches wide and 5 inches long, can be connected to accommodate a rescue mission.
This company also offers platforms that form a sturdy base for rescuers. A removable pipe can be used as a support handle

for a victim or to remove panels once a rescue is completed. The system fits in a carrying case that can store up to 8 panels.
Other manufacturers include Feldfire's Grain Bin Tube and GSI's Res-Q-Tube.
Entrapment – when an individual is unable to extricate themselves from grain or other agricultural materials – can occur in a silo, grain bin, grain transport vehicle, outdoor pile (avalanche) or bunker silo.
Engulfment occurs when an individual is fully buried in flowable agricultural material such as corn, small grains or feed.
Both engulfment and entrapment can also occur during the use of grain vacuum machines, with outdoor grain piles or in the event of a storage structure failure. Within just 4 or 5 seconds, an individual can be submerged to the point where they're unable to free themselves.
"Within 15 seconds you can be buried in grain up to your waist and completely submerged within 30 seconds," Neenan says.
Children are at greatest risk of entrapment and engulfment in grain transport vehicles, but adults have lost their lives in this kind of event, too. One example OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) offers is when crusted grain stacked on one side of a wagon caused the wagon to become unbalanced and flip the tractor over onto the operator.
OSHA provides numerous online grain handling safety materials. Key points in grain handling safety include:
• The ability to identify hazards associated with confined space work in the grain industry
• Understanding of the process for confined space entry and lock out procedures
• Ability to discuss the confined space housekeeping procedures in grain handling
• Knowing where to look for OSHA references and resources related to confined space entry in the grain industry
"Spring and fall are key times when grain engulfment events occur," Neenan says. "In June and July, farmers are often selling stored grain in anticipation of their fall harvest, and the potential for grain bin entrapment is high."
Neenan recommends that farmers and commercial elevator managers consult their local Extension office for training options. Vocational Ag teachers can also provide curriculum's to help educate youth about grain handling safety procedures and the dangers of working around flowing grain.

- Some tips offered by OSHA include:**
1. The best rescue is one that never happens.
 2. Never enter an emergency situation alone.
 3. Use confined space entry procedures or best practices available.
 4. Conduct a hazard assessment (as a preventive measure)
 5. Remember who is the most important: YOU!
- "The first question to ask before you enter the bin is whether or not you really need to go in," Neenan says. "If the answer is yes, review the safety rules to make sure you're going in safely and you're coming back out."

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Staff photo by Rick Bussler
Matt Ketelsen is the general manager and owner of multiple radio stations across southern Minnesota, including KOWZ and KRUE in Owatonna. He recently took on another challenge of managing an AM-FM combo in Fairmont.

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ON THE AIR

Ketelsen continues to build network of radio stations

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Growing up in western Minnesota, Matt Ketelsen fondly remembers listening to his father doing the farm reports on the radio every morning. Matt's father, Lynn, has been the legendary farm broadcaster for the Linder Farm Network for more than 40 years. Lynn has also owned and operated several radio stations across southern Minnesota for many years. After receiving a business degree, Matt served for five years as regional director for then U.S. Senator Norm Coleman. He became immersed in agricultural and environmental policy. As Matt worked on Coleman's campaign in 2008 (when Coleman lost reelection by 312 votes), Matt became painfully aware of something. "It became politics, and not policy making," Matt said. "That's when I decided to start my business career."

With radio in his blood from an early age, it came as no surprise as to Matt's business path when he joined his father's radio business based in Owatonna in 2008. The Ketelsens own KOWZ-FM and KRUE Country Radio. In addition, they hold interests in about 18 other radio stations, including the recent acquisition of a longtime AM-FM combo in Fairmont.

"He put me in at the bottom of the totem pole," Matt says of his father. Matt worked as a sales representative for about eight months before becoming sales manager for the radio stations. "I believe I have proven myself," he said, adding he still has lots of work to do.

And the move of coming back to join his father is something Matt has never regretted. "I should have done it a lot sooner,"

"We're not just out here to make money. It's about connecting with people."

Matt Ketelsen
Radio Station Owner

he said. "It's just so much fun with the people I work with and I love going around and talking to people."

He has since taken the reigns as general manager of the stations. He is also president of Lakes Media, which owns the Fairmont stations. Other owners include Matt's father, David Legault of West Concord and the JRL Revocable Trust of 2015.

"At the end of the day the buck stops with me," Matt says.

Matt scoffs at the notion of his family and others owning a radio empire. "It has slowly formed over 40 years," Matt said. "Lynn started multiple businesses from nothing," he noted.

In taking on the new acquired station, Matt is excited about the opportunity it presents. "I love climbing mountains and challenges," he said. "I look forward to the opportunity," he added.

"I foresee many challenges that are unforeseen," Matt said. "I'm sure there will be lots of challenges. I just don't know what they will be yet."

He is looking forward to making new friends in the Martin County area, which coincidentally is the largest hog producing county in Minnesota. Matt figures his strong agricultural background will come in handy. The AM station features "a ton of local agricultural news,"

he said.

"We're not just out here to make money," Matt says. "It's about connecting with people."

One of the greatest challenges Matt has encountered these days is finding good people to work at the radio stations.

Things are going "very good" in the radio industry, Matt said, noting 94 percent of people listen to the radio, which has the highest reach of any media. Matt is confident there will always be a place for local broadcasting in communities like Owatonna, Rochester and elsewhere.

Matt hopes to continue on the path his father has been on for so many years. "Lynn is the leader," Matt said. "He is a remarkable person. I hope to be half as good as Lynn some day."

Early childhood grants awarded by SMIF

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation has approved grants totaling \$124,338 to support asset-based collaborative approaches to meeting the needs of children birth to 5 years old and their families.

SMIF has awarded \$20,000 to the Exchange Center for Family Unity based in Owatonna. The center will focus on increasing the need for an in-home parenting service, which teaches valuable parenting skills, specifically for families with children under 5 years old.

Grants also went to institutions in Rochester, Dover, Lake Crystal, Lanesboro, New Prague and Watonwan County.

"These organizations are doing the critical work of preparing young children for school, supporting the development of social-emotional skills, and educating parents, caregivers and teachers in the region," said SMIF president and CEO Tim Penny. "SMIF's Early Childhood Grants support the Foundation's focus area of investing in the children and families of our 20 county region in southern Minnesota."

Projects are expected to be completed within 12 months of the project start date. The next round for grants opens in fall. For more information on SMIF's grant programs, contact Jennifer Heien, grants coordinator, at 507-214-7040 or jenniferh@smifoundation.org.

SMIF invests for economic growth in the 20 counties of south central and southeastern Minnesota. It is a donor-supported foundation.

United Prairie Bank gains mortgage banker

United Prairie Bank in Owatonna is pleased to announce Corey Samora has joined its lending team as a mortgage banker.

Samora will be assisting clients with home purchases, refinances, as well as construction financing.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to serve the community I live in, and help customers with their mortgage financing needs," Samora said. He brings eight years of banking experience to the job.

He grew up in Owatonna and currently lives in Medford with his wife, Allison, and their three children.

His passion for lacrosse has led him to serve on the Owatonna Lacrosse Association Board. Corey also coaches the Owatonna Boys Varsity Lacrosse team.

United Prairie is headquartered in Mankato and offers a full line of banking, insurance and investment products for personal, agricultural and business needs in 14 locations throughout central and southern Minnesota.



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STEELE-DODGE BUSINESS

Dodge Center man crafts with imagination



Staff photo by ALEX G. NUEHRING
Sebastien Richer, owner of Richer Metal in Dodge Center, pounds a steel tong to shape it into a tool. The France native creates and sells a variety of artistic and decorative metal work for persons wanting something unique around the house.

BY ALEX G. NUEHRING
DCI CORRESPONDENT

There is nothing about Sebastien Richer or his artistic and decorative metalwork that blends into the crowd. The 6-foot 6 French native has been making unique creations in his Dodge Center business, Richer Metal, for the

past 10 years. ‘Unique’ is an apt adjective, because Richer makes everything specifically designed for his clients. The certified master craftsman can mold and shape every kind of metal to make anything his clients can imagine.

“I make everything to fit a certain environment, so every time I have to re-invent myself,” he said. “Everything is a new possibility.”

Architects who work from a catalog can be wary of that unknown quality, but Richer said their uncertainty disappears when they see his work.

He said once he builds a relationship with architects and designers, “They know I will do it right.”

He ensures that everything is done the right way by personally delivering and installing his creations. That way he gets to see his creation in its new home. “Seeing something you create be installed is the best part,” Richer said. He had to invest a lot of hard work during his youth to reach those moments of personal and professional satisfaction. Richer became a member of a French

guild for metalsmiths when he was just 16. The guild is a 900-year-old establishment for metalsmiths that’s basically a free university, with the idea that you will keep the tradition going and pass it onto the next generation by teaching.

Guild members serve as safeguards of the tradition, but he said it’s also important for them to evolve with the times.

He said they were taught to do both of those by incorporating old technology, like forging metal in fire, and new technology, a power hammer, to create metalwork.

He said living, studying, and working with other guild members created a sense of community and inspiration because they were all sharing knowledge.

“That’s the beauty of the guild, it expands your horizons,” Richer said.

His horizons were also literally expanded during his time in the guild. The guild members have to move every year, and by the time he was 20 he had visited all the countries of Europe.

He said moving around so much helped him grow as an individual and develop as a craftsman because through meeting new people he learned new ways of thinking.

“You have to be able to think outside the box,” he said. “That’s why people like my work. It’s new, and I’m not afraid of it (trying new things).”

More great news for his clients is that Richer has no plans of slowing down.

“I will do this as long as I can move because I love it,” he said.

Dodge Center man attends leadership event

Patrick J. Brown, of Dodge Center, a Modern Woodmen of America managing partner, recently attended the Modern Woodmen Leadership Career Institute at Modern Woodmen’s home office in Rock Island, Ill.

Modern Woodmen’s top representatives and managers are invited to attend the event, during which speakers inspire attendees to become better leaders, improve results in their regions, and motivate those they work with. Attendees also can exchange leadership best practices with their colleagues.

Modern Woodmen of America, a fraternal financial services organization founded in 1883, offers financial products and fraternal member benefits to individuals and families throughout the U.S.

Dodge County Dairy Association Looking For Princess Candidates

The Dodge County American Dairy Association is looking for young women to serve as Dodge County Dairy Princesses for 2018. The young women will serve as public relations spokespersons for the dairy industry. To be eligible, girls must be seniors in high school or older, and be daughters of dairy farmers, daughters of employees of dairy farms, or employed by dairy farms themselves.

Princesses will be expected to participate in the state-wide dairy promotion training event in May, where they will learn communication skills to help them be effective spokespersons for the dairy industry.

Any young women interested in being a dairy princess should contact Karen Naatz, Dodge County Dairy Princess Coordinator, at 507-440-2382 by Feb. 18, 2018.

Sophia’s Thrift Store to close

Popular Kasson business opened in 2016

BY RICHARD JOHNSON
DCI MANAGING EDITOR

Sophia Thrift Store and Clothing Bank, 16 1st Ave. NW, Kasson, will close at the end of May, as owners Manny and Delia Guajardo have health problems.

The store, named for the couple’s granddaughter, opened in October, 2016 at 109 W. Main St., and moved last May to 16 1st Ave. NW.

It offers a wide variety of items, including couches, washers, dryers, a baby-bouncer, blankets, jackets, dishes, shoes, toys, books, clothes, art work and knick-knacks.

The Guajardos also have used sales proceeds to help those in need with rent deposits, bills, and thrift store items, and have donated other items to the Kasson Church of Christ.

“I’ve been experiencing some health issues that have kind of forced me to do this,” Manny said. “It’s the last thing I want to do. Unless we can find someone else to run it, it is going to close down. We’ve been blessed to have a lot of people - and a lot of people help us. But we’re hoping somebody can come in and continue to do the work that needs to be done.”

“All we ask is that they continue to help the people out,” Delia said. “And most of all that they continue keeping the children in mind, and hopefully continue the Christmas program (‘Christmas for the Children’, which assisted 181 families this past Christmas) for them.”

Manny said some folks stop by the business just to talk. And it’s especially popular with children.

“They come in here, they look at the toys, they play with the toys - and we give them the toys. And they’re so happy,” he said. “It’s been great.”

“We have a lot of nice people who just come and say hi to us,” Delia said. “Even our cat (Jitterbug) has gotten a lot of attention,” she said. “Just in case a mouse decides to wander in, she takes care of it.”

Delia said she enjoys meeting new

people. Customers have traveled to Kasson from the Twin Cities, Iowa, Wisconsin and Missouri.

She and Manny assisted eight families from Iowa, 11 from Wisconsin, and one from Kansas City over the Christmas holiday, offering \$50 vouchers to shop for necessities in the store.

The customer from Kansas City had just moved to Kasson and needed help for her two children. The Guajardos fixed up a package of toys and clothing for each child.

“I’m kind of shocked and bummed about the whole thing, because that’s something we enjoy doing,” Delia said. “I don’t know what’s going to become of us now, what we’re going to do. I might volunteer if somebody continues it and we’re around here. But I have to have surgeries and I have to take care of that first. And it’s like the doctor said, if you don’t take care of yourself, you’re not going to be able to take care of anybody.”

The site is still property of the City of Kasson. A new public library opened in August, 2016, at 607 1st St. NW.

“We want to fulfill the lease, because the City has been so generous,” Manny said. “If we can find somebody to take over, then they’ll work with the City and continue doing this. I’ll still serve doing something. I don’t know what yet.”

“We do want to thank the people, the support that they gave the store, and those people in need who they helped out,” he said. “Because it wasn’t just done by us, it was done through their support. And it was done not just by the community here, but by several communities. So we’d like to thank them for everything they did to help us keep this going.”

Sophia’s is no longer accepting donations. The store is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, and again Friday from 9 to 6.

Call (507) 271-6137 or see the Sophia Thrift Store Facebook site for more information.

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City of Faribault

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Economic Development Coordinator

Starting Pay Range: \$65,828 to \$82,285 Non-union position

Contact: Kevin Bushard, Human Resources Manager
Telephone: 507-333-0354
Email: kbushard@ci.faribault.mn.us

Application Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2018

This position assists the Community & Economic Development Director in all activities focused on enhancing Faribault's economic vitality. This position is responsible for developing and implementing economic development programs for the City with the goal of proactive business retention and attraction, quality job growth, tax base expansion, and marketing. This position requires frequent public contact with businesses, developers and real estate brokers, and other local and regional economic development partners.

Education and Experience:
Bachelor's degree in Urban/Regional Planning, Business, Economics, or a related field, with a minimum of two (2) years of economic development related experience required. Economic development related experience shall include, but is not limited to, municipal economic development, commercial lending, commercial or industrial real estate development, business management, business assistance, public or private finance, or workforce development.

- Preferred qualifications:**
- Working knowledge of the principles and practices of community development, economic development, redevelopment and public finance;
 - Ability to accurately record and maintain records;
 - Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the business community members, employees, supervisors, other departments, officials and the public;
 - Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing;
 - Proficiency in use of identified computer software.

Application Instructions
Applicants must submit a letter of interest, resume and complete City application packet to be eligible for this position. Application packets are available at www.faribault.org or at Faribault City Hall, 208 NW First Avenue, Faribault, MN 55021. Only original documents will be accepted by mail or by drop off at City Hall.

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City of Faribault

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Building Official

Contact: Kevin Bushard, Human Resources Manager
Telephone: 507-333-0354
Email: kbushard@ci.faribault.mn.us

Application Deadline: Friday, February 16, 2018 or until filled

The City of Faribault has an opening for a Building Official in its Community and Economic Development Department. The Building Official is responsible for the administration, management, and supervision of the Building Code Division, including but not limited to: review of proposed building, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing plans to ensure code compliance, management of the electrical inspection program, oversight of the rental license program, enforcement of property maintenance and other ordinances related to the zoning and occupancy, enforcement and interpretation/application of all building codes adopted by the City. Advises the Department Director and City Administrator on recommended building code updates and amendments.

- QUALIFICATIONS**
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
- ICBO Certificate as a Building Inspector and/or Plans Examiner
 - Certified as a Building Official by the State of Minnesota
 - Must have at least five years of experience in performing inspections or plan review and inspections and the same for fire protection system installations.
 - Must have at least four years of building trade experience in construction work.
 - Must have demonstrated ability to develop and maintain effective working relationship with contractors, architects and the public.
 - Must be knowledgeable with the fire code, electrical plan, city zoning, flood proofing requirements and Independent Sewage treatment systems.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience as a building inspector in a municipal setting. Experience with mechanical and plumbing systems.
- Experience with zoning and land use code enforcement.
- Knowledge of zoning and land use code enforcement principles, practices and methods as applicable to a municipal setting.
- Ability to utilize word processing and database programs on a personal computer.
- Secondary language abilities in Spanish, Somali, or a Southeast Asian language.

Salary
There currently is a review of this classification and pay will be determined on that and qualifications.

Application Instructions
Applicants must submit a resume with letter of interest, with current certifications, and complete a city application packet. Application packets are available at www.faribault.org or at Faribault City Hall, 208 NW First Avenue, Faribault, MN 55021. Only original documents will be accepted by mail or drop off at the address listed above.

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

City of Faribault

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Fire/Property Maintenance Inspector

Contact: Kevin Bushard, Human Resources Manager
Telephone: 507-333-0354
Email: kbushard@ci.faribault.mn.us

Application Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2018 or until filled

The City of Faribault has an opening for a Fire/Property Maintenance Inspector in its Community and Economic Development and Fire Department. The Fire/Property Maintenance Inspector is responsible for the administration and enforcement of adopted state and city codes within the City of Faribault.

- Minimum qualifications:**
- Two-year degree or coursework/vocational training in building construction and inspection, fire science, land use, geography or two years of related experience in a similarly related field.
 - High level of proficiency in Microsoft Office and records management software.
 - Ability to read site plans, blue prints and City Code.
 - Strong written and verbal communication skills.
 - Possession of a Minnesota driver's license or ability to obtain one prior to employment.

- DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**
- Knowledge of relevant fire codes, City ordinances and state laws.
 - State Certification in Fire Inspector I or II.
 - Code enforcement experience in public sector, or municipal planning/inspections.
 - Experience with the Housing Codes, mechanical and plumbing systems, property maintenance codes, zoning and land use code enforcement principles, practices and methods as applicable to a municipal setting.
 - Experience using computers and records management software.

Application Instructions
Applicants must submit a resume with letter of interest, with current certifications, and complete a city application packet. Application packets are available at www.faribault.org or at Faribault City Hall, 208 NW First Avenue, Faribault, MN 55021. Only original documents will be accepted by mail or drop off at the address listed above.

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Affirmative Action Employer
120 Fourth St. NE
Stewartville, MN 55976

City of Faribault

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Light Duty Custodian (Part-time) 20 hours/week

Starting Wage: \$17.20 per hour

Contact: Kevin Bushard, Human Resources Manager
Telephone: 507-333-0354
Email: kbushard@ci.faribault.mn.us

Application Deadline: Friday, February 16, 2018

The City of Faribault has an opening for a Light Duty Custodian. Primary responsibility of this position is responsible for interior and exterior custodial maintenance and light repairs at Buckham Memorial Library, Community Center, Washington Recreation Center, Sr. Center and other City facilities as assigned.

- MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**
1. High School Education or GED plus two consecutive years building maintenance experience.
 2. Clean criminal history as required by applicable state / federal statutes.
 3. Basic knowledge of structural, mechanical, plumbing, heating, and electrical systems with the ability to properly utilize, use and maintain tools and equipment.
 4. Ability to work independently or in a team and organize workload and set priorities.
 5. Good communication skills with the ability to make decisions under pressure and accomplish work within deadlines.

- SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**
1. Valid Minnesota State driver's license or ability to obtain one prior to employment.
 2. Must complete a thorough employment background check, including providing finger printing prior to employment.

Wage:
Starting wage is \$17.20 per hour as specified in the 2017-2018 Agreement between City of Faribault and International Union of Operating Engineers Local 70.

Application Instructions
Applicants must submit a resume, cover letter and complete City application packet to be eligible for this position. Application packets are available at www.faribault.org or at Faribault City Hall, 208 NW First Avenue, Faribault, MN 55021. Only original documents will be accepted by mail or drop off at the address listed above.

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EMPLOYMENT
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City of Faribault

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Position: Library Page
Contact: Kevin Bushard, Human Resources Manager
Telephone: 507-333-0354
Email: kbushard@ci.faribault.mn.us
Schedule: Thursday 9a-1p - Friday 9a-1p - Saturday 9a-2p.
Application Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. or until filled
The City of Faribault is accepting applications for the Library Page position to work 13 hours/week at Buckham Memorial Library. The position focuses on shelving books and other library materials and keeping the library clean and orderly.
Minimum qualifications:
Must be able to read, alphabetize, and put numbers in order (including decimals).
Application Instructions
Applicants must complete City application packet to be eligible for this position. Application packets are available at www.faribault.org or at Faribault City Hall, 208 NW First Avenue, Faribault, MN 55021. Documents will only be accepted through mail or drop off at the above address.
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Please visit our website at www.austinutilities.com for information regarding qualifications and application package for this position. EEO
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FAHI is seeking applicants for Program Coordinator - Full-Time Days, every other weekend

Please apply online at **www.divinehouse.org/fourth-ave/** then click on the orange "Employment" box
For additional information call Mindy (507)429-8962

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More information and application available at www.semcac.org, or by contacting Barb Thompson at 507-864-8202 or barb.thompson@semcac.org
Position open until filled. EOE.

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FAHI is seeking applicants for Human Service Technician - Part-time Various, every other weekend

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For additional information call Mindy (507)429-8962

PART-TIME GRAPHIC DESIGNER
We are a growing newspaper and looking for a part-time graphic designer to create engaging designs according to requirements in a fast-paced environment. We need someone that is flexible, open to change, and deadline oriented. This position has the potential to become full-time. In this role, you should be highly creative and have a sharp eye for visual detail. If you are passionate about design and are eager to learn more through various projects, we'd like to meet you.
RESPONSIBILITIES

- Understand project requirements and concepts
- Prepare work to be accomplished by gathering information and materials. The main focus will be on ads and paginating
- Print shop design including many different types of projects like business cards, letterheads, brochures and so much more (design done for Dodge County Printing which is owned by the publisher) Print shop experience a plus
- Collaborate with team members on various projects
- Use feedback from leaders to improve work

REQUIREMENTS

- Experience with design software (InDesign) and graphics editing tools (Photoshop, Illustrator)
- Familiarity with Google docs/sheets/drive, Word and Excel preferred, knowledge of Adobe Creative Cloud and Mac OS beneficial
- Familiarity with design techniques
- Understanding of visual elements (layout, type and fonts)
- Excellent communication ability
- Teamwork skills
- A keen eye for detail
- Time management and multitasking abilities
- Creativity skills and problem-solving aptitude
- AS/AA in Design or a related field

Send resumé and link to portfolio (if available) to Nichelle Franzen at nichelledci@kmtel.com or call direct 507-634-1483

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7TH & 8TH GRADE A HONOR ROLL



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Front row (left to right): Bobbie Bruns, Xavier Rennie, Ethan Marzolf, Sam PirkI, Stirling Hart and Sam Michaud; back row: Melanie Winzenburg, Olivia Anderson, Asha Lighthizer, Sierra Larson, Ava Krejci and Abi Hefling.

9-12 A HONOR ROLL



Front row (left to right): Rachel Oswald, Jerrin Jax, Ayren Ingvalson, McKenna Hein, Linnea Byers-Sunde, Julia Worke, Maren Forystek and Baylee Sorensen. Middle row: Reese Millam, Megan Oswald, Rachael Riley, Samantha Wurst, Charlie Heimerman and Payton Simon. Back row: Riley Millam, Ethan Arett, Mitchell Oswald, Seth Peterson, William Cardenas and Adam Larson.

A Honor Roll

Grade 7
Olivia Anderson
Stirling Hart
Abigail Hefling
Ava Krejci
Sierra Larson

Ethan Marzolf
Samuel Michaud
Samuel PirkI
Grade 8
Bobbie Bruns
Asha Lighthizer

Xavier Rennie
Melanie Winzenburg
Grade 9
Maren Forystek
Charlie Heimerman
Reese Millam

Megan Oswald
Rachael Riley
Grade 10
Adam Larson
Baylee Sorensen
Julia Worke

Grade 11
William Cardenas
Riley Millam
Rachael Oswald
Seth Peterson
Payton Simon

Grade 12
Ethan Arett
Linnea Byers-Sunde
McKenna Hein
Ayren Ingvalson
Jerrin Jax

Mitchell Oswald
Samantha Wurst



A- Honor Roll

Grade 7
Haven Carlson
Cade Christianson
Micah Donnelly
Trinity Evans
Annika Green
Hailey Hensrud
Jenna Johnson
Madison Lea

Anna Pauly
Anna Reese
Clare Rennie
Joie Ruhter
Lucas Schammel
Samuel Smith
Susan Smith
Alexis Steckelberg
Madelaine Stoen

Madison Thurnau
Jacob Weinberger
Grade 8
Ethan Ehlers
Colin Jordison
Larisa Judy
David Kartes
Parker Kubicek

Josie Lorenz
Marquette Millam
Emily Miller
Gustaof Ogren
Lauren Schammel
Alivia Schneider
Bradley Simon
Isabelle Sunde
Carson Wacek

Grade 9
Ashleigh Alwes
Maggie Bruns
Emily Kubicek
Luke Larkoski
Joseph PirkI
Micalyn Trihus
Wyatt Voss
Isabella White

Grade 10
Kisha Aquino
Riauna Bishop
Gemini Johnson
Jarrett Larson
Alexis Olivo
Luke Rennie
Dondi Stender
Parker Vaith

Viridiana Villarreal
Jillian Wigham
Grade 11
Colin Lerum
Trenton Swenson
Grade 12
Brandon Jimenez
Jake Ressler

B+ Honor Roll

Grade 7
Hosea Baker
Morgan Camery
Brittany Johnson
Tyler Miller
Trista Motl
Alexander Riley
Cyprus Schleicher

Anika Sunde
Leah Thorson
Grade 8
Tyler Archer
Isabella Heiber
Samuel Skillestad
Grade 9

Thomas Donnelly
Brianna Hensrud
Brian Jimenez
Shyane Jorgenson
Jessica Ressler
Christopher Shepard
Halle Strunk
Gretchen Sunde

Rachel Thompson
Taylor Wurst
Grade 10
Zachary Archer
Lila Carlson
Raynee Fawver
Gabriel Hagen

Colton Krell
Maya Lembke
Matthew Pryor
Marti Snider
Mackenna Stadig
Kaden Thomas
Karson Vigeland
Zachary Weber

Grade 11
Jackson Baltazar
Raeann Grundmeier
Caleb Kubista
Timothy Wolf
Grade 12
Jack Abbe

Kyle Bramstedt
Jeremy Hocking
Alec Ille
Talon Kent
Bradley Staska
Asia Thostenson

B Honor Roll

Grade 7
Nevaeh Garcia
Heidi Judy
Zander Peterson
Jayden Schewe
Anna Suchanek
Paul Sunde

Grade 8
Emily Anderson
Lindsey Baltazar
Carson Brennecke
Garret Farr
Tyler Iverson
Graci Svoboda
Adam Walsh

Grade 9
Adrianna Bermea
Abby Braaten
Cole Christianson
Ethan Grant
Cole Graves
Allison Krohnberg
Grace Magnuson

Alexander Miller
Mariah Miller
Christopher Naatz
Kiya Thompson
Grade 10
Slava Kritzer
Hazel Michaud

Heather PirkI
Jayde Wacek
Grade 11
Zachary Haberman
Jaclyn Hyland
Hannah Kinny
Brett Motl

Amy Peterson
Joshua Temple
Ian Wayne
Grade 12
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Emma Christianson
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