



# STEELE COUNTY Times

**FAIR LOVE** B1**ELLENDALE DAYS** B10

www.steeldodgenews.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019

Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

## Vets court aims to save lives

BY ALEX MALM  
STAFF WRITER

In 2013, officials in the Third Judicial District like Olmsted County Attorney Mark Ostrem began talking about creating a veterans court.

In March that dream finally became a reality when the first hearing of the veteran's court pilot program was held.

While there is a lot of work that goes into creating specialty courts like a veterans court, the reality is that many people in the district realize it's something that's needed from probation officers to judges and everyone in between.

Judge Ross Leuning of Owatonna, who serves on the bench in Freeborn County, is one of the leading forces behind creating the court. With a 37-year career in the military, including 31 years of active duty in the Navy, Leuning explained that by creating the veterans court, they aren't only helping veterans. He said that when someone gets in trouble, it affects many people, including loved ones, children and the community in general.

Whether it's a child not having a parent at home, or a spouse not having their wife or husband at home, it often causes many problems, Leuning said. He added often times the people they see in court are those people who are affected.

Through the veterans court, Leuning and others are confident that recidivism rates for veterans will go down and will help save their lives by getting them the help they need, and in return will help many people.

"If a person gets in trouble, it's ripple effect. Their

SEE VETS COURT, A3



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Some history lovers look over some memorabilia from long ago in Steele County. A history tour was part of Ellendale Days last Saturday.

## Lerberg chosen "Unsung Hero"



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Andy Lerberg, former owner of Lerberg's grocery store, was named "Unsung Hero" by the Ellendale Community Action Group. His selection was announced during Ellendale Days last weekend.

## History stories also told during Ellendale Days

BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
STAFF WRITER

It was a special four-day celebration in Ellendale and one where an "unsung hero" was honored and some tales of Ellendale were spun.

The person honored last Friday night as the 2019 Ellendale Unsung Hero was Andy Lerberg, former owner of Lerberg's grocery store and still an active businessman in Ellendale. Lerberg currently owns Lerberg Fitness, the Car Wash and the Laundromat.

Lerberg, 76, has been a very active community supporter over the years and

continues to promote Ellendale as a "great place to live."

The award is given out each year by the Ellendale Community Action Group.

"I knew I was in trouble when my daughter Wendy (Schultz) talked me into playing BINGO; I don't like to play the game," said Lerberg. Following the BINGO party, Lerberg's selection was announced.

Lerberg is a native of Ellendale, first living on the hill just west of where he resides currently with his wife Mary.

Lerberg's grandfather started the Lerberg's store in

SEE UNSUNG HERO, A5

## Bee friendly Owatonna celebrates Pollinator Day

BY CHRIS BALDWIN  
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, June 29 as farmers and residents circled Owatonna's Central Park during the weekend's farmer's market, they got the chance to learn a little more about pollinators and the city's recent push to become a pollinator friendly city.

In March, the Owatonna City Council passed a resolution to become a pollinator friendly city, joining more than 30 other municipalities throughout the state that are aiming to protect and prosper pollinators.

During Saturday's event, there was face painting and coloring books for children as well as an opportunity to raise awareness for both children and adults on the benefits of pollinators and what can be done to help steady their numbers.

The event was hosted by the Steele County Master Gardeners and the Bee Friendly Environmental Alliance of Steele County. The farmer's market made for a perfect venue to help get the message out.

"Plant more plants," Deb Arlt, coordinator for Master Gardeners said of the first step to helping pollinators. "Those poor little bees and butterflies have a long way to go between plants so the more gardens we get, it's better for them."

A big part of the celebration was raising awareness. "We're providing habitat and plants, but we're also trying to educate people on pesticides, because there's a few pesticides that are so detrimental to the bees, like neonicotinoids," Arlt said.

"At the end of the season, don't clear out everything in the garden, leave some of the stems and cut them back 18 inches because there's a lot

SEE BEE FRIENDLY, A3

## ZED Summer Academy brings out gifted students from area

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN  
COUNTY WRITER

Students from all Zumbro Education District schools got together at Byron High School recently to take part in the ZED Summer Academy.

The Summer Academy is a one-week, half-day opportunity for gifted and talented students who have completed grades 3-6. Students are recommended by staff from their local districts in order to attend.

This year's session included 360 students from Blooming Prairie, Byron, Hayfield, Kasson-Mantorville, Pine Island, Stewartville and Triton, said Becky Remmle, special projects coordinator for the district.

There were two sessions each morning and students could choose two classes. Classes covered a wide variety of topics and areas of interest including Adventures in Cartooning, Beginner Machine Sewing, Drones, Exploring Forensic Science, Gardening Fun, Healthy Snacks, History Buff's Guide to the Civil War, Hogwarts for Muggles, Lego Robotics, Myth Busting, Natural Disasters and Weather and STEM Activity Challenges. In all there were 34 classes to choose from.

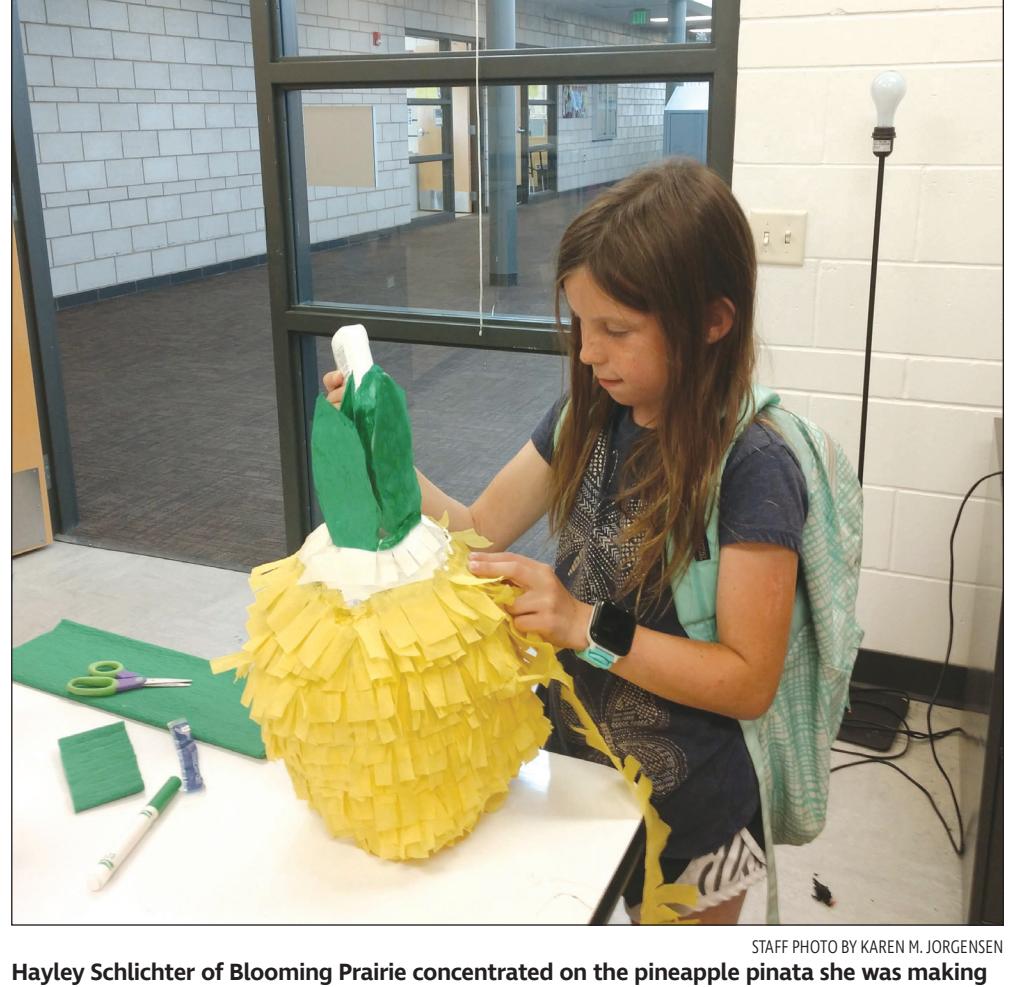
David Sklenicka and his wife, Heather, were leading a class in learning about Dungeons and Dragons. He teaches physics at Stewartville High School, and she teaches chemistry at RCTC.

Most of the students in the first session, he said, were newcomers to the game while the second session had older students who already knew the basics.

Character design is an integral part of the game, he said, and creativity is the key. Many actors and writers have said the game helps them become more creative.

Historically, Sklenicka said, Dungeons and Dragons was played mostly "by nerdy boys in the basement." But now the appeal has broadened and the ZED group included almost equal numbers of boys and girls. The game is based on "Lord of the Rings" and is played around a table with

SEE ZED SUMMER ACADEMY, A8



Hayley Schlichter of Blooming Prairie concentrated on the pineapple piñata she was making in the Exploring Spanish & Pinata Making Class during the ZED Summer Academy held in Byron last week.

**AREA DEATHS**

John Dean Bernard Olson, 92, BP  
Roger L. Dulas, 88, Ellendale

Serving  
Blooming Prairie  
and Steele County  
since 1893

\$1.00 | Volume 127, No. 49



507-583-4431 | bptimes@frontiernet.net

**INSIDE**

Opinions.....A2  
Public Safety.....A4  
History.....A6  
Obituaries.....A8

Faith.....A9  
Hometown Living.....B1

Steele Fair Countdown.....B3  
Owatonna Honor Roll.....B4

Community Calendar.....B5  
Farm Living.....B6  
Sports.....B7  
Public Notices.....B8

OUR VIEW

## Vets court will be a huge asset for area counties

For about six years, different members of the criminal justice system throughout the Third Judicial District, which encompasses Steele, Dodge, Freeborn and Mower counties, have been working hard on implementing a veterans court.

After volunteering many hours to make it happen, it is finally here.

The unfortunate reality is that many veterans come home from war struggling with many different issues, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. And more than people wish, it leads veterans into the criminal justice system, sometimes facing very serious charges.

While they will still have to answer to the different charges they face, having a veterans court will allow them to get the help that they need, and go through the criminal justice system, likely once instead of multiple times that is often seen when people don't truly get the help they need.

Saving lives is the most important part about having this type of specialty court. It will also save counties significant amounts of money by not having to house these people in jails. Instead they will be getting the help they need and can be housed at home with their families, which is a win for everyone.

Having a veterans court will without a doubt help many men and women who gave up their lives by putting themselves in harms way all around the world to keep us all safe and giving us the freedoms that we have living in the U.S.

Creating a district wide veterans court is a small way we can say thanks for all of those who served.

We want to applaud the efforts of the Honorable Ross Leuning of Owatonna and others for their tireless work in bringing this specialized court to reality. It will officially get underway in a few months. Our judicial system has taken another step to making itself a full service institution to help all people.

Thank you to those who went above and beyond by making this great thing happen, and a huge thank you goes to the men and women who have and are currently serving our country!

## It was old home week in Ellendale

It was like Old Home Week in Ellendale last weekend as I rekindled some old acquaintances at Ellendale Days.

Ellendale was the small southern Minnesota community that gave me my wife of almost 52 years.

Last weekend, one of my assignments was to cover some of the many fun activities arranged by the movers and shakers of the Ellendale community.

What a fantastic job business people and town supporters did in sponsoring the annual Ellendale Days celebration. Much of the credit for a successful celebration goes to the Ellendale Commercial Club and to the Ellendale Community Action Group.

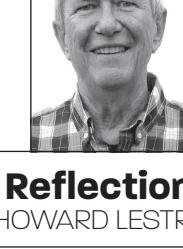
Lots of loyal volunteers invested their time to provide some fun for Ellendale locals and visitors.

Andy Lerberg was rightfully saluted as an "Unsung Hero." He is constantly promoting Ellendale and its business community.

Hats off, too, to Mayor Russ Goette who participated in the 42-unit parade with Pat. Donnavan Eaker is president of the Community Action Group and is always coming up with a new promotion for Ellendale.

Ross Sletten of Lerberg's said he was grateful to the boat load of customers that came into his store while visiting Ellendale Days. Sletten's store supplied the pork chops for the Pork Chop Feed on Saturday night.

Barbara Mrotz, president of the Ellendale Area Heritage Society, helped organize an Ellendale Area History Tour anchored at City Park. Three topics were addressed: Truth Tool, the



### Reflections

HOWARD LESTRUD



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
The welcome mat was provided visitors to Ellendale last weekend in the form of the American flag, hoisted high above by the Ellendale Fire Department.

YOUR VIEW

## Appreciates hometown coverage

To-the-Editor:

Stories like the recent articles that you printed in the Steele County Times regarding the grand marshal in the parade during Medford's Straight River Days is what a hometown newspaper is all about.

The folks here in Medford all know C.J. Just while shopping at C.J.'s grocery store over his 37 years in business. His health was a concern for all the

community so to see him honored as the grand marshal of the parade was heartwarming.

From his comment in the interview, he made it sound as if the stress and uncertainty of the heart transplant was rewarded by the honor bestowed on him June 14. Thank you!

Luella Helm  
Medford

## STEELE COUNTY Times

Founded in 1893  
Bussler Publishing, Inc.  
[www.steeledodgegenews.com](http://www.steeledodgegenews.com)  
Email: [bptimes@frontiernet.net](mailto:bptimes@frontiernet.net)

USPS 058-340  
Published weekly on  
Wednesdays  
Postmaster: Send address  
changes to:

Steele County Times  
P.O. Box 247  
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917  
Phone: 507-583-4431

**ETHICS:** The Steele County Times editorial staff strives to present the news in a fair and accurate manner. Please bring any grievances against the Steele County Times to the attention of the Managing Editor.

Publisher ..... Rick Bussler  
Advertising Director ..... Annie Anderson  
Staff Writer ..... Howard Lestrud  
Staff Writer ..... LeMar Nelson  
County Writer ..... Chris Baldwin

**DEADLINES**  
News: Noon Fridays.  
Web: 11 p.m. (Daily)  
Advertising: 4 p.m.  
Thursdays.

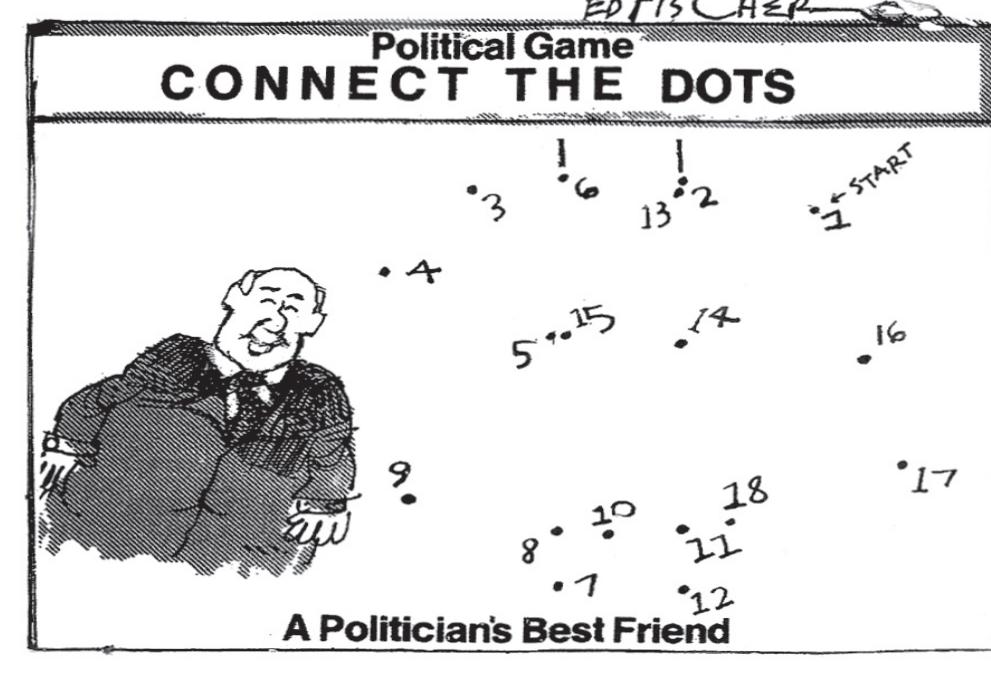
**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
Steele, Dodge,  
Freeborn & Mower ..... \$46  
Elsewhere .....  
in Minnesota ..... \$49  
Out of state ..... \$52

A state and national award winning weekly

### MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

2019—7 state awards  
2018—6 state and  
4 national awards  
2017—2 state and  
3 national awards  
2016—8 state and  
6 national awards  
2015—7 state and  
4 national awards  
2014—3 state and  
3 national awards  
2013—7 state and  
2 national awards  
2012—2 state awards  
2011—4 national awards

(Awards presented by the Minnesota Newspaper Association and the National Newspaper Association)



## A real head scratcher

The Minnesota Twins got shafted.

How can the second best team in baseball only end up with two players on the American All-Star Team? How can the team that has racked up 156 home runs end up with only one batter represented in the All-Star game?

Quite frankly, the Twins got snubbed like none other. For me, it's a real head scratcher trying to understand how this could happen.

Jorge Polanco is the only Twins batter representing the American League, while Jake Odorizzi is a reserve pitcher. Polanco will be the starting shortstop. Polanco is the first all-star starter for the Twins since 2013.

It was expected that more Twins, do think for obvious reasons, would be named as reserves Sunday afternoon.

But nope, didn't happen. The reserve batters don't include Nelson Cruz, Byron Buxton, Mitch Garver, Eddie Rosario, CJ Cron and perhaps most glaringly of all, Max Kepler.

Here's my point: Kepler has an OPS of .892 with 21 home runs, 53 RBIs and a 2.9 WAR (wins above replacement). Austin Meadows of the Rays, who made it into the outfield ahead of Kepler has an .888 OPS with 12 home runs, 41 RBIs and a WAR of 1.8. Need I say any more?

This year the pitchers and reserves for both teams were determined through a combination of player ballot choices and selections made by the commissioner's office.



### Hot Pursuit

RICK BUSSLER

I may be partial to the Twins since it's the team I have fallen in love with for my entire life, but come on, really only one starting All-Star. Shocking, disappointing and short-changed are just a few terms that I'm confident all Twins fans are making a part of their vocabulary this week.

The Twins are headed for having perhaps the best team ever in their franchise history. It just boils me that other

fans and baseball gurus can't acknowledge their success by giving them a couple more spots on the all-star team.

Minnesota is playing exceptional baseball this season. It's exciting to see such a young group of guys winning as much as they have been. We certainly don't want to get ahead of ourselves, but let's hope the momentum continues into the post-season, and the Twins can earn a berth in the World Series and just maybe repeat what they did in 1987 and 1991.

I'll never forget those memorable seasons, especially in 1991. I was a rookie reporter for KAAL in Austin and remember doing a live remote at a bar in Albert Lea when the Twins were in the World Series. I honestly couldn't even hear myself during the live report because the noise was beyond wild. I have no clue what I even said. I just remember holding the microphone out and allowing fans to go crazy on live TV.

Just maybe we can try to repeat some of those wild and crazy times again this fall.

All-stars or not, I'll bet the Twins will be in hot pursuit of a World Series title in October. Go Twins!

GUEST COLUMN

## Sex ed should not be mandated by government

BY PEGGY BENNETT

Last week, I had an in-depth interview with Betsy Singer of KAAL-TV concerning the recent push in the Minnesota legislature for mandated K-12 comprehensive sex education (CSE) in our public schools. It is an interesting topic to say the least.

I am VERY concerned about this issue after having studied it extensively, including identifying the groups that are behind this push, what those groups consider "appropriate" sex education for our children, and what is happening in other states that have passed legislation like this.

I disagree greatly with the legislators who are promoting this. It is NOT in the best interest of our children. It is dangerous. I believe there is an appropriate place for sex education in our schools, but it is imperative that this subject remains under local control and not mandated by the government.

The push for mandated CSE will return, and parents, grandparents, and those who love our children need to be aware.

MDA DAIRY PROGRAM

Last week I received word from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) that it is rolling out its new Dairy Assistance, Investment and Relief Initiative (DAIRI) program to provide financial assistance for dairy producers who enroll for five years of coverage in the USDA Farm Service Agency's Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program.

Applications to the program are being accepted now through Oct. 1. In order to qualify, farmers must have produced less than 160,000 cwt (hundredweight) of milk in 2018 and have signed up for five years of coverage through the DMC program.

during its current enrollment period between June 17 and Sept. 20.

According to the MDA, the department will issue payments on a rolling basis. Producers can expect to receive their first payments roughly two to four weeks after successfully applying. They will be paid based on production levels, up to 50,000 cwt of milk produced in 2018.

An application form, a W9, a copy of their DMC enrollment form, and a statement from their processor(s) detailing the amount of milk produced in 2018 are required to complete an application.

Producers may receive a second payment this fall after the application period has ended, depending on remaining available funds.

SEX TRAFFICKING

I had the opportunity to attend a very informative breakfast in Albert Lea recently about human sex trafficking. Speaker Jeremiah Witt of Breaking Free ministries in St. Paul told us about the realities of sex trafficking (even in our area) and how this ministry is helping reduce the demand for prostitution by helping men break free from their addictive and incredibly harmful habit of purchasing sex. Thank you to Tracy Muhlenbeck of the Five Sisters Project in Wells for organizing this event.

The Five Sisters Project is one of our very own local ministries that operates out of Wells and rescues women in crises who are being sexually exploited, abused domestically, and more.

Peggy Bennett is a state representative for District 27A, which includes the City of Blooming Prairie, most of Freeborn County and southern Dodge County.

A state and national award winning weekly

### MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

2019—7 state awards  
2018—6 state and  
4 national awards  
2017—2 state and  
3 national awards  
2016—8 state and  
6 national awards  
2015—7 state and  
4 national awards  
2014—3 state and  
3 national awards  
2013—7 state and  
2 national awards  
2012—2 state awards  
2011—4 national awards

(Awards presented by the Minnesota Newspaper Association and the National Newspaper Association)

# Judge details plans for vets court to Steele Board

BY CHRIS BALDWIN  
STAFF WRITER

At last week's regular county board session, Judge Ross Leuning of the Third Judicial District gave a presentation and updated the board on the success of the district's Veterans Treatment Court pilot program.

The court serves the counties of Steele, Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha, Waseca and Winona. The program offers a collaborative, judicially supervised, mentor-oriented, treatment regime for veterans within the criminal justice system.

After completing the program, those within it are able to graduate in a similar manner to drug court programs around the area. Steele and Fillmore counties serve as locations for the program. Steele serves Rice, Waseca, Steele, Freeborn, Mower and Dodge counties.

"Steele County has really led this entire judicial district in this program," Leuning said after thanking the county and its board. "County Attorney Dan McIntosh has been instrumental, his knowledge from his work with the

Steele-Waseca Treatment Court has been awesome, and he worked on our implementation committee giving us advice."

There are 460 veteran's treatment programs across the United States, the earliest beginning in 2007. The goal of the programs is to enhance public safety by stabilizing, rehabilitating, and reintegrating dependence-free veterans back within the community by utilizing federal and community resources.

"It works as sort of a blend between court supervision and probation supervision," Leuning explained. He likened the program to those such as the Steele-Waseca Treatment Program, but instead focused on veterans. "We want to help people get rehabilitated and get back into the community and contribute."

Leuning is himself a Navy veteran and understands the importance of mentorship in his fellow veterans' lives. "The reason we do this is simple, veterans courts have proven to be successful, very successful with veterans," he said. "Nine out of 10 people who participate in the program succeed and complete it and don't reoffend."

fend, and that's valuable all by itself. It's good for them, it's good for their family, and it's good for your community."

"The ripple effect is huge, and the savings for the counties is huge because you're not incarcerating and you're lowering the number of people involved in the system and you're lowering the future involvement of these people," Leuning explained.

A representative of the Veterans Administration assists with the program and helps to coordinate care for the veterans involved in the program. "Most of them need substance abuse treatment and consoling and they get it through the VA, so the county doesn't have to pay for it," Leuning said of further savings the program brings. "Whatever part of the county would pick up that tab for any other individual, you don't have to worry about it."

"Another thing I do like to point out, and it's important to understand, that it's not just the money, and it's not just the dollars," he added. "It's the people, it's the lives we save. Not just the veterans, not just their families, but the community."

Leuning also explained that through the program they can quantify the lives that are being saved. "Right now, every day, 20 veterans commit suicide," he said. "Yesterday, today, tomorrow. It used to be 23, and it's down. If you look at the veterans who commit suicide, 70% of them have had zero contact with the VA. That's zero opportunity for us to intervene and get them care and get them some assistance and direction and save a life."

"The courts see these people all the time, but unfortunately can't help them, however a veteran-oriented treatment court with the VA involved can be highly successful in catching these people early before it really gets too bad," Leuning said. "It's really a very important thing."

All those on the council were supportive and receptive to Leuning's presentation, having seen the benefit that the drug court has brought to the local judicial system and community. He explained that the reason Fillmore and Steele were chosen as the designated court location was due to the fact that they have the court space available and were willing to help out.

"We expect to be up and running full by the first of October," Leuning informed the board. "We will have the federal grant by then if we get approved and then we'll start operating in both locations." Currently Steele has served as a part of the pilot program. "It's going great, it's really, really a cool session," Leuning said.

According to Leuning, they are always trying to recruit more volunteers and mentors for the program.

"If you know any veterans who want to be involved and who have some time, and who have a passion for this, please share our news with them and invite them to come and watch," he said.

"The people who are involved are really passionate, and I get a chill every time I go to the session," Leuning said of the program's volunteers. "It's a good thing to see, and it's a good thing we can do for our veterans."

One out of every six veterans who return from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars come back with some form of PTSD, depression, or anxiety. One out of five come back with some sort of substance abuse. "They fit right into a treatment

court model," Leuning said.

During the meeting, the board also received an update on the Cedarview/Park Place sale. "We've been in the due diligence period and engaged with a potential buyer on this property and the due diligence period was extended 15 days and we're actually outside of that now," County Administrator Scott Golberg explained. "We just received yesterday a draft purchase agreement from the buyer's attorney."

"Since it's pretty fresh it will take some time for Dan (County Attorney McIntosh) to look at that, and I think to keep the process moving forward it might be a good idea that the board appoint two members," Golberg said. "What their role would be is working with Dan and I in kind of looking at this purchase agreement and then bring it back to the board."

Commissioners Greg Krueger and Rick Gremi were willing to be appointed to the purchase agreement. Both had worked in that capacity in the past. The regular meeting of the Steele County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, July 9 at 5 p.m.

## GUEST COLUMN

# Responding to the needs of entrepreneurs

BY TIM PENNY

At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF), one of the three program areas that we focus on is Economic Development. Since our founding in 1986, we have worked to catalyze entrepreneurial activity in our 20-county region by providing early-stage investments, traditional loans, micro loans, technical assistance and mentoring of entrepreneurs. Each year we invest around \$1.8 million in economic development initiatives.

Just within the past few months, we closed loans with a food truck called Peppered Cow in Albert Lea, Jessica's Daycare in Austin, Fiddlehead Coffee Company in Rochester, and a vegetable farm called Pearson Organics in Oronoco. We also recently awarded SEED investments to Easy Living Solutions in Rochester and Busy Baby in Oronoco, two start-up businesses that need capital to develop their products. It's always exciting to see entrepreneurs turning their innovative ideas into reality.

We also know that entrepreneurs need support in other ways besides financing, which is why we fund organizations and communities through our Economic Development Grant Program. Last summer, Faribault Diversity Coalition received a grant to promote economic growth in downtown Faribault by providing a co-working space for start-up entrepreneurs and small businesses. A few weeks ago, they had a grand opening to showcase the space, and they already have quite a few desks being rented by local entrepreneurs. Another organization, The Garage Cowork Space in Winona, received a grant to provide a series of training sessions and resources for current and aspiring entrepreneurs.

More recently, a grant was awarded to the City of Spring Grove to develop an "entrepreneurial toolkit." They are using the toolkit to equip local entrepreneurs with resources that will help them address common business challenges. This

dovetails nicely with the fact that Spring Grove is one of our Rural Entrepreneurial Venture (REV) communities that we have been working with over the past year and a half. REV is another economic development initiative that currently supports six small towns in our region by focusing on developing processes and systems for sustainable economic growth.

Youth entrepreneurs have also been supported through these economic development grants. Community and Economic Development Associates (CEDA) is using their grant to engage youth in an exploration of entrepreneurial career opportunities in Houston, Fillmore and Winona Counties. MSU-Mankato is using their grant for a design workshop to equip college students to develop solutions to real-world problems. If we can encourage our youngest entrepreneurs to put their ideas to practice, they might just want to stay and open their businesses here in southern Minnesota.

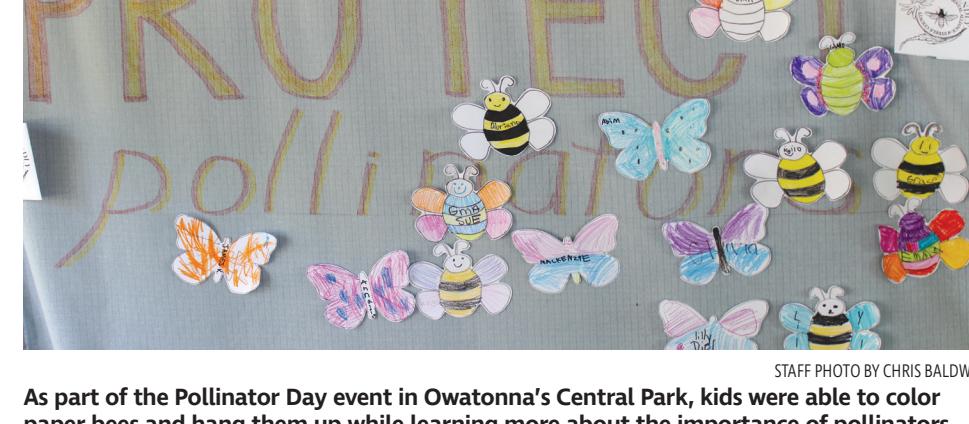
Economic development happens in many forms – a co-working space or trainings for entrepreneurs might be the right answer for some communities. Economic development also happens through the arts and tourism initiatives, among many other things. SMIF's grants are designed to support the dynamic needs of this region.

We are currently seeking applications for this grant program, now called Economic Impact Grants. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pam Bishop, Vice President of Economic Development, at [pamb@smifoundation.org](mailto:pamb@smifoundation.org) or 507-214-7013.

As always, I welcome your comments and questions. You can reach me at [tmp@smifoundation.org](mailto:tmp@smifoundation.org) or 507-455-3215.

**Tim Penny is president and CEO of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation in Owatonna. He represented Minnesota's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1982-1994.**

## BEE FRIENDLY: FROM A1



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

As part of the Pollinator Day event in Owatonna's Central Park, kids were able to color paper bees and hang them up while learning more about the importance of pollinators and what can be done to protect them and keep them flourishing.

"Plant more plants... the more gardens we get, it's better for them (bees)."

**Deb Arlt**  
Master Gardeners Coordinator

pollinators with the nectar they need and help them to flourish. "There's a wide variety," Arlt said.

"Some people think that they don't want bees in their yard, but they really are something that you don't want to be afraid of, they're solitary insects that don't bother us," Arlt said.

"The bees have had a lot of trouble because of certain chemicals, it affects their nervous system and their navigation capabilities, and so bees are dying out, plus the habitat is disappearing."

While bees are often the most recognizable pollinators zipping through the garden, there are many others, including butterflies, humming birds, and bats.

"It's not just bees either, there's a lot of other pollinators out there, and native pollinators do a better job of pollinating," Arlt explained.

By adopting the resolution to become a pollinator friendly city, Owatonna has already helped bring to light the plight of native pollinators. "I think it helps raise awareness for the city and the city employees, so I think the more awareness we have the more effect it will have," Harsma said. "The city has been doing a lot of good things."

"People can stop using insecticides and pesticides in their yard and can plant a garden with native plants for the pollinators," Harsma said of what folks can do around their house to help pollinators. "One good resource for getting native plants is Steele County Soil and Water Conservation, you can actually order a pack of plants through them by each February so you do have to think about it quite early."

## VETS COURT AIMS: to save lives FROM A1

spouses, loved ones and children lives are harder," Leuning said.

Leuning also pointed to the fact that the highest cost for counties when it comes to criminal justice is housing of inmates. By keeping veterans out of jail and in the community, it is good for everyone, he said.

"By having these people as productive members of society, it's better for everyone," Leuning said.

The judge explained that because of how intense the probation is in veterans court, it often works better than regular probation.

By having the veterans court in the district, it will likely help many veterans and counties in general because of the large amount of veterans that have been involved in the criminal justice system. Those num-

bers were pointed out in the district's summary on the veterans court.

According to the Minnesota State Court Administration Office in 2016 and 2017, there were 3,156 and 3,212 veteran involved criminal cases filed respectively in the Third Judicial District. This number is likely under reported as many men and women do not identify themselves as veterans when they enter the justice system.

In 2017, the most serious charged offenses included Drug (1,050 filing, 34%), Person (664, 21%), Property (515, 17%), Felony Domestic Assault (391, 13%), Other Felony (285, 9%), Sex Crimes (126, 4%), Felony DWI (73, 2%), and Murder (17, 1%).

Another thing that was pointed out is the fact that

having veterans court has the potential to help reduce suicide rates among veterans.

According to the district court's summary about veterans court, the rate of Minnesota veteran suicide is very high.

In 2014, the Minnesota veteran suicide rate was reported at 35.0 per 100,000, twice as high as the Midwestern Region, and National general population suicide rates, according to the summary. It went on to say Minnesota veterans ages 18-34 were 4.4 times more likely to commit suicide than any of the other general populations (U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs, 2014). The Minnesota National Guard has had more of its service members die by suicide in the past five

years (2011-2016) than all but one state, Pennsylvania. Once the veterans court is operational, it will target screening, identifying, and addressing veterans at high risk for self-harm.

By having a Veteran's Court in the district, it is believed that they can help reduce suicide rates.

In addition to an opportunity to reduce veteran recidivism and potential costs of incarceration to the community, the Department of Defense views veterans courts as an option to reduce potential suicides.

Leuning explained that one of the most important aspects of the specialty court is that it's a joint effort between the court and the VA. For example, every hearing a representative known as a Veteran Justice

Outreach Officer, from the VA who is tasked with helping the veteran get through the "red tape" of the VA, and help them get benefits that can help them significantly.

The process to officially create a veterans court began in 2017, with an implementation study and included things like different trainings, visiting different veterans courts among other things.

The final step in the process is waiting to find out if they will receive federal funding of \$500,000 over the course of four years, which would pay for a variety of different things. They are expected to find out the results of the award this summer.

After examining different things like court space, and drive times, it was

determined that Fillmore County will be the host for the veterans court for eastern counties and Steele County will be the host for western counties.

The district court includes Steele, Dodge, Rice, Waseca, Freeborn, Mower, Olmsted, Fillmore, Wabasha, Winona and Houston.

Currently, the veterans court pilot program is helping eight veterans. On Sept. 20, there will be a ribbon cutting to officially kick off the specialty court in the district. Although the court will officially begin on Oct. 1, that date was picked in honor of POW/MIA day.

For more information about veterans court or to volunteer as a peer mentor, contact David Wulff at 507-377-5143 or email him at [David.Wulff@co.freedom.mn.us](mailto:David.Wulff@co.freedom.mn.us).

## BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

**BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT: At 12:18 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 1600 block of Cedar Ave. S.**

# Don't get taken by ambulance chasers



**Dodge Sheriff**  
SCOTT ROSE

I've always been a proponent of shopping locally. We are so blessed in this community to have great people providing goods and services to local residents. Anytime we have a repair issue at our place, whether its plumbing, heating, electrical, vehicle repairs, etc., we always have a handful of great local service providers to choose from. Most are local folks who grew up here and chose to stay and raise their families here – great people that care about this community! Having trustworthy local people to count on when you need the help is easy to take for granted if that's all you've known. All three of our sons live out-of-state and have struggled at one time or another finding good trustworthy contractors.

Since the big hail storm we dealt with here a few weeks ago, we've seen all sorts of people showing up in our communities looking to take advantage of the damage so many suffered because of the storms. Many residents have complained about the constant knocking on doors, high pressure sales pitches, shady behavior, and less than ethical practices.

Many of these so called contractors were simply looking to make a quick buck, providing sub-par work (if any) with no intentions of maintaining any kind of a relationship with you or warranty on their services. We call them ambulance chasers. Some we discovered were knocking on doors to see what valuables you have inside, or to see which vehicles and buildings aren't secured. We call them criminals.

When you've got a repair that you need help with, look to our local vendors. Do your homework. What local businesses are advertising in the local paper? Ask your neighbors and friends who they would recommend, who they've used for their repairs. Ask your neighborhood deputy

or officer who he/she might recommend – cops tend to be ultra-critical and cautious by nature. Try and get more than one bid to help insure you get the best price possible.

Long story short, there are so many good people in this community that can help you with anything you may need, from goods and services to great meals and entertainment! With all of us doing our part supporting local businesses, we can continue to help keep Dodge County a great place to live and raise our families.

Your Sheriff,  
Scott

*Scott Rose is in his second term as Dodge County Sheriff. He writes regularly for this newspaper.*

# No charges yet in chase involving woman in BP

The woman arrested in a police chase through Blooming Prairie on June 22 has been released from jail without charges, at least for now.

The Steele County Attorney's Office has not charged the woman yet as it has requested additional information from the Blooming Prairie Police Depart-

ment prior to making a decision on charges.

At about 6:25 p.m. on June 22, police pursued a vehicle in the area of 1<sup>st</sup> Street

NE and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE. Officers arrested a female driver and booked her into the Steele County Detention Center on multiple charges.

## COURT NEWS

Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 17 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding: Hannah J. Anderson, 19, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony aid and abet motor vehicle theft. She was sentenced to \$989.81, 58 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, attend AA, maintain employment, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, no contact with victim and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 17 with Judge Joseph F. Wieners presiding: Jose Hernandez Jr., 36, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of marijuana. The defendant was sentenced to 30 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, 32 hours of community service and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 17 – 23:

## BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thomas J. Haberman, 45, Blooming Prairie, revoked license, \$281; Scott M.

Hofius, 49, Blooming Prairie, brakes violation, \$281;

Keisha M. Laganiere, 22, Grand Meadow, possession of marijuana, stay of adjudication, \$181 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Say L. Paw, 27, St. Paul, invalid license, \$181; Arnulfo Torres Olvera, 38, Austin, invalid license, \$181.

## MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Salvador Aguilar, 40, Coon Rapids, speeding, \$121; Derek T. Autry, 18, Elk River, speeding, \$221; Spencer A. Beseman, 29, St. Paul, revoked license, \$281; Andre C. Bissainthe, 20, Brunswick, GA, speeding, \$281; Juan O. Bravo, 49, Pompano Beach, FL, speeding, \$131; Bryant Browne, 29, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$141; Noah T. Earl McClure, 23, Ankeny, IA, seat belt, \$106; Abbigail A. Ehrhardt, 19, Otley, IA, speeding, \$141; Tiffany M. Gilbertson, 22, Medford, seat belt, \$106; Brandon A. Goff, 34, Blooming Prairie, driving through barricade, \$121; Amanda R. Haskell, 19, Mankato, speeding, \$141; George T. Hill, 53, Brook Park, speeding and suspended license, \$341; Cassandra E. Holmes, 33, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$121; Tracy K. Humbert, 46, Superior, WI, suspended license, \$281; Torrey J. Hunt, 24, Medford, speeding, \$121; Todd W. Huseby, 57, Claremont, seat belt, \$106; Benjamin A. Jandro, 21, Faribault, speeding, \$141; Charles B. Johnson, 47, Byron, seat belt, \$106; Andrew T. Jorgenson, 30, New Berlin, WI, speeding, \$131; Caleb E. McClure, 25, Ankeny, IA, speeding, \$141; Christina M. Paul, 42, Shakopee, speeding, \$131; Antony P. Peveto, 28, Kandiyohi, seat belt, \$106; Christopher W. Randall, 35, Waseca, speeding, \$141; Michelle A. Sanchez, 42, St. Paul, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$95 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Rebecca M. Sorenson, 33, St. Paul, open bottle, \$181; Nikkia C. Taylor, 36, Crystal, suspended license and no child passenger restraint system, \$331; Melanie L. Teske, 46, Faribault, speeding, \$131; Andrew J. Thorson, 34, Austin, seat belt, \$106; Ryan T. Thorson, 39, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Lamar T. Wilson, 27, Mankato, revoked license, \$281.

## OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Amy K. Arnold, 23, New Hope, suspended license, \$281; Gerald A. Anderson, 59, Albert Lea, disorderly conduct, \$689 and 3 days in county jail; Jessica L. Armstrong, 31, Albert Lea, failure to stop for traffic control signal, \$131; Dustin E. Ball, 29, Hayfield,

violation of no contact order, \$381, 60 days in county jail, domestic abuse evaluation, no possession of firearms, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain permission to leave the state and 2 years of supervised probation; Daniel D. Berg, 34, Owatonna, lights violation, \$131; Malichi A. Carlson, 17, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Juan R. Carrasco, 41, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Mohamed M. Churiye, 58, Minneapolis, invalid license; Ruwaida A. Farah, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Oliver J. Fleming, 20, Owatonna, expired tabs, \$111; Jacob D. Goerdt, 19, Owatonna, no front plate and window tint violation, \$161; Ashley A. Hernandez, 40, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Justin W. Keller, 46, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Esteban A. Maldonado Rincon, 39, Maplewood, invalid license, \$181; Michael J. McClatchey, 45, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Ashley L. Myers, 28, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Nicole C. Nelson, 33, Chaska, speeding, \$141; Spencer N. Noble, 25, Dodge Center, speeding, \$121; David E. Palmer, 64, Mounds View, driving without Ignition Interlock, \$132; Cody J. Parkos, 22, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; George A. Perez, 32, Wells, domestic assault, stay of adjudication, \$100, domestic abuse evaluation and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Amanda K. Preble, 23, Owatonna, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Nyamuoch P. Puot, 27, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Adam S. Rehman, 19, Faribault, expired tabs, \$111; Keith T. Richards, 36, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, substance abuse subtle screening inventory and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Abdulkadir N. Said, 49, Owatonna, failure to stop for traffic control signal, \$131; Jerome E. Spindler, 62, Medford, liquor sale to minor, stay of adjudication, \$50 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Madilyn R. Trupe, 16, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Amber R. Ubl, 19, Faribault, speeding, \$131; Gary C. Walter, 58,

Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Nicholas W. Whitbeck, 21, Owatonna, theft, \$131.

## STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jamie L. Avery, 41, West Concord, speeding and invalid license, \$181; Jacob P. Banks, 26, Faribault, give peace officer false information, \$131 and 4 days in county jail; Noah A. Bremer, 36, Waseca, speeding and revoked license, \$331; Patti J. Chiarini, 47, Claremont, speeding, \$221; Diana Deloza, 35, Downey, CA, speeding, \$121; Cameron F. Demi, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Hernan M. Garcia, 23, West Concord, invalid license, \$181; Sean E. Hukriede, 51, Medford, littering, \$181; Andrew J. Hunt, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Robert L. Iverson, 47, Clarks Grove, speeding, \$221; James W. Johns, 43, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$141; Troy A. Krenz, 51, Faribault, speeding, \$131; Celena I. Krusznicki, 37, Waseca, speeding, \$141; Steven J. Lewis, 30, New Richland, speeding, \$121; Serena R. Lucky-Lewis, 34, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Robert M. Menard, 38, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$900, 2 days in county jail and 2 years of supervised probation; Raymond C. Northway, 40, Brownsdale, speeding, \$121; Joshua A. Porter, 27, Chatfield, seat belt, \$106; Chao C. Xiong, 36, Brooklyn Park, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$125 and 6 months of unsupervised probation.

## POLICE BLOTTER

Steele County

## BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE

June 22

**Pursuit:** At 6:25 p.m., police arrested a subject following a pursuit at 1<sup>st</sup> St. NE and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NE.

**June 24**

**Vandalism:** Property damage was reported in the 100 block of 4<sup>th</sup> St. NE at 12:25 p.m.

**Restraining Order:**

Officers responded to a restraining order violation in the 100 block of 8<sup>th</sup> St. NW at 7:08 p.m.

**June 25**

**Fraud:** Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the

300 block of 8<sup>th</sup> St. NW at 10:59 a.m.

## OWATONNA POLICE

June 21

**Suspicion:** Police responded to suspicious activity in the 1200 block of Frontage Rd. E. at 9:31 a.m.

**Criminal Sexual Conduct:**

Police began an

investigation of criminal sexual conduct at 12:16 p.m.

**DWI:** At 12:55 p.m., police arrested a motorist for

driving while intoxicated at 26<sup>th</sup> St. NW and Frontage Rd. W.

**Warrants:** Police made

warrant arrests in the 200

block of 12<sup>th</sup> St. NE at 1:15

p.m. and the 900 block of Elm Ave. S. at 8:48 p.m.

**Vandalism:** Property

damage was reported in

the 200 block of 13<sup>th</sup> St. NE at 4:41 p.m.

**Restraining Order:** At 6:50 p.m., a restraining order violation occurred in the 200 block of Pearl St. E.

**Child Protection:** Police received a child protection

report from Grove Ave. S. and University St. SE at

8:17 p.m.

**Domestic:** Officers

responded to a domestic

disturbance in the 100

block of McKinley St. SW at 9:44 p.m.

**June 22**

**Assault:** Officers

responded to an assault at

Lincoln Ave. S. and Main St. E. at 10:14 a.m.

**Child Protection:** Police

received a child protection

report from the 1300 block

of Linn Ave. SW at 10:17 a.m.

**Animal:** At 9:23 p.m., an

animal bite occurred in the

600 block of Cedar Ave. S.

**June 23**

**Restraining Order:**

Officers responded to a

restraining order violation in the 500

block of State Ave. NW at 12:17 a.m.

**DWI:** Officer made a DWI

arrest at Cedar Ave. S. and 18<sup>th</sup> St. SW at 12:31 a.m.

**Weapons:** Police

responded to a weapons-

related incident in the 400

block of Mineral Springs Rd. NE at 6:37 p.m.

**Suspicion:** Police

responded to suspicious

activity in the 100 block of

Allan Ave. SW at 10:57 p.m.

**June 24**

**Warrants:** Officers made

warrant arrests in the 100

block of Landmark Dr. NE at

9:03 a.m. and the 2200 block

of 26<sup>th</sup> St. NW at 1:04 p.m.

**June 25**

**Thefts:** Police took theft

reports in the 200 block of

12<sup>th</sup> St. NE at 6:38 a.m. and

## CRIME BRIEF

### POLICE NAB A FLEEING CYCLIST

# ZED Zorros excels during first year

BY ALEX MALM  
STAFF WRITER

As the Hayfield activities director, Chris Pack is tasked with finding and maintaining different sports and activities for students of all skill levels.

That's why he knew it was so important to create an opportunity for students with disabilities like his son Seth, a fifth grader at Hayfield, who has Down Syndrome.

That opportunity came about this year after money was raised through the Seth Pack Golf Fundraiser and all the pieces fell into place. This year students with disabilities from Hayfield, Blooming Prairie and Kasson-Mantorville were able to participate in adaptive bowling, becoming known as the ZED Zorros.

"Our son Seth has Down Syndrome and is in fifth grade this year. We wanted something in place for when he was old enough to compete in seventh grade. Plus, as an AD, I had heard how rewarding this program was and thought it would be great for our kids that qualify for it," Pack said. Over the course of the last few months, Pack saw how much joy it brought to the team and realized it was everything he was hoping it would be.

"It turned out to be everything I was hoping for and more! Our coaches and paras were fantastic with the kids and the kids did great," Pack added.

In May, 12 of the 13 members of the team were able to compete in the State Championship, including their ASD coming in first, after qualifying for the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the ZED Zorros included: sitting/kneeling, from left: Shannon Johnson (K-M), Kate Woslager (Hayfield), and Bethany Bauer (Hayfield); standing in front: Joe Schiefert (Blooming Prairie), Rose Miller (Hayfield), Bradan Klauer (Hayfield), Hannah Kinny (Blooming Prairie) and Justice Barnes (Hayfield); standing in the back: David Lomker (Hayfield), manager Christopher Thompson (Hayfield), Carter Thaldorf (K-M), Cohyn Crable (K-M), Rylee Johnson (Hayfield), and Alex Saunders (Hayfield).

tournament during a state qualifier.

Pack explained that seeing the team accomplishment is something that means a lot to his family and him.

"It means a lot. I was able to attend both the qualifier in Lake City and the state tournament in Brooklyn Park, and it is an unbelievable experience for our kids," said Pack. "There is so much joy and cheering for each other, it is refreshing to see," he added.

Anna Passe, one of the coaches of the greatest parts of the team, is seeing them gain self confidence throughout the season.

"I think the greatest part is seeing the bowlers

self confidence, self esteem, and pride enhance through this process. The bowlers not only bowled but made friends and practiced a variety of other skills like teamwork," Passe said.

Like Pack, Passe also agrees that having an opportunity for students with different disabilities is something that is extremely important, and she is glad that they were able to offer the opportunity to students this year and going forward.

"I think it is important for kids to have teams and opportunities like this because they learn so many skills from being part of a team besides just the sport. The kids were able to develop relation-

ships, and enhance their social communication skills," Passe said. "They learned how to work as a team, they learned how to support others and many other skills. Many of the bowlers have never been part of a team before so this opportunity is so important as they learn those important team skills and helps build themselves up in many ways. This is such a great opportunity for the students," she added.

"The bowlers excitement and positivity through the whole season is inspiring," Passe said. "They all did such an amazing job this season. We are all so proud of them, and I cannot wait for next season!"

## LERBERG CHOSEN: "Unsung Hero" FROM A1

1901 and ran it until 1929. His uncle Irwin then took over the store and operated it from 1929-39.

Andy's father, Arthur Lerberg, was the store proprietor from 1939-72. Andy and Mary took over the ownership in 1972 and ran the store until 2007 when they sold it to current owner Ross Sletten.

Andy is continually seen around Ellendale doing "odd jobs" to help out a community he dearly loves.

Lerberg admits to being part of the history of this small southeastern Minnesota community.

That history was expanded on Saturday with the Ellendale Area Heritage Society sponsoring Ellendale Area History Tour. Barbara Mrotz, Heritage Society president and Lloyd Kaplan, Heritage Society treasurer, chaired the event.

In the past, the Heritage Society invited interested persons to ride a hay wagon and tour the history of Ellendale. This year, Mrotz explained, the Society brought the venue to the park and chose three historical subjects:

- Gold Mine
- Ellendale Tool Co.
- Kermie's Supper Club

Ken Hendrickson even brought his pick axe with him to illustrate the historical story about hunting for gold in Ellendale many years ago.

The story has it that in the late 1880s, Morris Patterson was good to go

to Minnesota to purchase a piece of land and dig in a certain place to find gold. Patterson sent his father, Robert, and uncle John Platt to the prescribed place and they bought the farm located northeast of Ellendale.

Morris' brother Wallace and his wife Alice and their two children joined him in this adventure.

Gold was never found and Patterson's family moved back to New Jersey and never returned to Ellendale.

Frank McNulty of Owatonna was next on the history tour docket, talking about vintage Owatonna Tool Company and Truth Tools. He was a salesman for Truth.

In the early 1900s, Arthur Cowden ran a small blacksmith shop in Ellendale. In his spare time, he made chisels and punches. In 1919, 100 years ago, he moved his business to Mankato. Automobiles then became more common and agriculture changed from horses to tractors.

Cowden found himself making more tools, and thus, Truth Tool Co. was born. Reub Kaplan, founder of Owatonna Tool and a former Truth Tool employee, bought the company and merged it with Owatonna Tool.

The third segment of the tour centered around Kermie's Supper Club located one mile east of Ellendale.

This part of the program attracted most of the attention because many

people remember patronizing Luella (Lu) and Alvin "Kermie" Jensen.

Lu and Kermie worked in Kermie's mother's cafe (Johanna's Cafe) in downtown Ellendale (present site of Judy's Cafe). In 1947, they bought a couple of acres of land east of Ellendale and made plans to build a supper club, 24 by 70 feet. It had 20 booths, a dance floor and the latest lighting and kitchen equipment.

Waitresses Amanda Beach and Kathy Born, former bouncer Whitey Hagen and former building owner Dan Carroll took part in a panel discussion about Kermie's history.

Beach said she first worked at Johanna's Cafe and was sold along with Kermie and Lu when they started the supper club east of Ellendale. "I was an indentured servant," Beach laughed. She started at Kermie's when she was in high school. "I stayed there a long time but was also fired many times," she continued.

Whitey Hagen, known for his involvement in cancer auctions in Geneva, worked at Kermie's as a bouncer. "Kermie's was where food was king," he said.

"It wasn't a bad place," Hagen said, but he said he did have to keep peace with customers. He related one story where customers began fighting on the dance floor. Whitey's father was also a bouncer and told Whitey to "take two at a time" when evict-

ing some customers who got out of hand.

"It seems like it was so long ago," Beach remarked.

Kathy Born remembers selling steaks for \$3 each.

Carroll told about his days of remodeling the supper club into a living residence. "I am too young to tell Kermie's stories," he related. Carroll said it was quite a challenge to renovate the building, which totaled 8,000 square feet and had been closed for some time.

"Speak up with your memories and tell 'em what you know," Mrotz encouraged people in the audience at the park. Joyce Wayne told about her mother being responsible for a barbecue rib recipe that attracted many to the supper club.

Kermie's later became the Whispering Pines Supper Club. The club brought in some big name entertainers including Boxcar Willie and Louise Mandrell.

Marlene Arndt, 70, Owatonna, Aug. 1.

Beverly Berg, 77, Medford, Aug. 3.

Leo Skalicky, 98, Owatonna, Aug. 3.

Richard Sorenson, 78, Owatonna, Aug. 6.

Lorraine Kniebel, 93, Owatonna, Aug. 8.

Richard Sandte, 61, Blooming Prairie, Aug. 9.

Jose Olivo, 61, Blooming Prairie, Aug. 11.

Joan Broughten, 85, Owatonna, Aug. 12.

Carroll Janke, 89, Owatonna, Aug. 12.

Laura Marik, 88, Owatonna, Aug. 12.

## PUBLIC RECORD

### STEELE COUNTY BIRTHS AUGUST 2018

Cole Richard Johnson, Parents: Hilary and Marty, Aug. 3. Adaline Lynn Lee, Parents: Jennifer and Rick, Aug. 5. Emmett Lance Vandenhemel, Parents: Kelsey and Lance, Aug. 6. Carson Allen Fossum, Parents: Britt and Roderick, Aug. 7. Daphne Orisa Ebeling, Parents: Zella and Aaron, Aug. 8. Thea Claire Steuck, Parents: Bethany and Kevin, Aug. 9. Hudson Loren Spitzack, Parents: Michele Nelson and Michael Spitzack, Aug. 10. Javari Redale Israel, Parents: Deajanae Collins and Gregory Israel, Aug. 11. Isabelle Ann Johnson, Parents: Mackenzie Rihill and Tristin Johnson, Aug. 11. Simeon Mesick Lamb, Parents: Miranda and Stephen, Aug. 11. Kacie Jo Racek, Parents: Whitney and Cole, Aug. 12. Quinn Charlotte Esse, Parents: Hailey and Jake, Aug. 14. Scout Marie Rigge, Parents: Honey and Corey, Aug. 14. Kymber Jo Sexter, Parents: Holly and Justin, Aug. 14. Asher Timothy Wiersma, Parents: Breauna and Chad, Aug. 14. Otto Thomas Bushlack, Parents: Kari and Coleman, Aug. 15. Chloe Madelyn Knutson, Parents: Heidi and Brian, Aug. 15. Adelaide Nkaujib Lee, Parents: Tina and Sheng, Aug. 16. Phil Schroeder, Parents: Ashley and Dane, Aug. 17. Amelia Grace Frie, Parents: Alysha and Graham, Aug. 19. Sebastian Lee Kennedy, Parents: Roxana and Jesse, Aug. 20. Brooks Ryan Franko, Parents: Andrea and Chris, Aug. 22. William Kenneth Pittman, Parents: Traci and Marc, Aug. 23. Mohamed Zakarie Yusuf, Parents: Muhim and Zakarie, Aug. 23. Landon Lee Moody, Parents: Lauren and Kevin, Aug. 24. Clayton Daryl Bradley Schwartz, Parents: Sydney Miller and Cohl Schwartz, Aug. 25. Lauren Olivia Bissen, Parents: Amy and Raymond, Aug. 28. Gianna Rose Lopez, Parents: Jennifer and Ruben, Aug. 31. Jade Marie Weisbrod, Parents: Shannon and Jonathan, Aug. 31.

Carrie Ann Schmidt and Nathan Andrew Fast, Aug. 3. Jessy William Grove and Amber Ann Eigenberg, Aug. 4. Bradley David Vogt and Angela Anne Iverson, Aug. 4. Mitchell James Kusick and Jessica Irene Ellis, Aug. 4. Adelaide Nkaujib Lee, Parents: Tina and Sheng, Aug. 16. Phil Schroeder, Parents: Ashley and Dane, Aug. 17. Samantha Jo Stahl and Justin Michael Kidder, Aug. 10. Fabiola Lisset Mendoza Lopez and William Robert Swenson, Aug. 11. Andy Josue Silva and Madalyn Ann Simon, Aug. 11. Keith Thomas Snorek and Maria Elvira Oveido, Aug. 11. Katie Jo Kubista and Jeremy Eugene Borgstahl, Aug. 11. Trevor David Barber and Virginia Ann Peterson, Aug. 11. Te'a Micael Corbett and Edwin Paul Friesen, Aug. 14. Oliver James Fleming and Briana Marie Baca Billings, Aug. 18. Scott Anthony Roy and Jenika Jo Jongbloedt, Aug. 18. Chad Allen Olson and Dana Marie Schmidt, Aug. 18. Arnaldo Jesus Esquivel Cruz and Lisa Marie Johnson, Aug. 19. Cynthia Yvette Travis and Mathew Jon Blazek, Aug. 22. Peter Alan Woollard and Lorna May Chapman, Aug. 24. Joseph Anthony Ernste and Lynde Jo Schlichter, Aug. 25. Mark Richard Carver and Teresa Marie Pratt, Aug. 25. William Kenneth Crowley and Samantha Marie Fransen, Aug. 25. David John Joachim and Lori Lynn Haberman, Aug. 25. John Maxwell Broton-Anderson and Baylyn Jilayne Pangerl, Aug. 25. Daymond Lowell Ramsey and Lisa Marie Deyo, Aug. 28. Nathan William Quast and Emily Anne Wagner, Aug. 31.

### STEELE COUNTY MARRIAGES AUGUST 2018

Carrie Ann Schmidt and Nathan Andrew Fast, Aug. 3. Jessy William Grove and Amber Ann Eigenberg, Aug. 4. Bradley David Vogt and Angela Anne Iverson, Aug. 4. Mitchell James Kusick and Jessica Irene Ellis, Aug. 4. Adelaide Nkaujib Lee, Parents: Tina and Sheng, Aug. 16. Craig Matthew Heiden and Allison Lynn Hyland, Aug. 4. Eduardo Valle Martinez and Dana Marie Bay, Aug. 10. Samantha Jo Stahl and Justin Michael Kidder, Aug. 10. Fabiola Lisset Mendoza Lopez and William Robert Swenson, Aug. 11. Andy Josue Silva and Madalyn Ann Simon, Aug. 11. Keith Thomas Snorek and Maria Elvira Oveido, Aug. 11. Katie Jo Kubista and Jeremy Eugene Borgstahl, Aug. 11. Trevor David Barber and Virginia Ann Peterson, Aug. 11. Te'a Micael Corbett and Edwin Paul Friesen, Aug. 14. Oliver James Fleming and Briana Marie Baca Billings, Aug. 18. Scott Anthony Roy and Jenika Jo Jongbloedt, Aug. 18. Chad Allen Olson and Dana Marie Schmidt, Aug. 18. Arnaldo Jesus Esquivel Cruz and Lisa Marie Johnson, Aug. 19. Cynthia Yvette Travis and Mathew Jon Blazek, Aug. 22. Peter Alan Woollard and Lorna May Chapman, Aug. 24. Joseph Anthony Ernste and Lynde Jo Schlichter, Aug. 25. Mark Richard Carver and Teresa Marie Pratt, Aug. 25. William Kenneth Crowley and Samantha Marie Fransen, Aug. 25. David John Joachim and Lori Lynn Haberman, Aug. 25. John Maxwell Broton-Anderson and Baylyn Jilayne Pangerl, Aug. 25. Daymond Lowell Ramsey and Lisa Marie Deyo, Aug. 28. Nathan William Quast and Emily Anne Wagner, Aug. 31.

### STEELE COUNTY DEATHS AUGUST 2018

Marlene Arndt, 70, Owatonna, Aug. 1. Beverly Berg, 77, Medford, Aug. 3. Leo Skalicky, 98, Owatonna, Aug. 3. Richard Sorenson, 78, Owatonna, Aug. 6. Loraine Kniebel, 93, Owatonna, Aug. 8. Richard Sandte, 61, Blooming Prairie, Aug. 9. Jose Olivo, 61, Blooming Prairie, Aug. 11. Joan Broughten, 85, Owatonna, Aug. 12. Carroll Janke, 89, Owatonna, Aug. 12. Laura Marik, 88, Owatonna, Aug. 12.

John Maxwell Broton-Anderson and Baylyn Jilayne Pangerl, Aug. 25.

Ryan William Voight and Jade Allycia Bongers, Aug. 25.

Daymond Lowell Ramsey and Lisa Marie Deyo, Aug. 28.

Nathan William Quast and Emily Anne Wagner, Aug. 31.

### STEELE COUNTY DIVORCES AUGUST 2018

Caren Marie Skov and Kyle Aaron Skov. William Paul Dublin and Kristin Ann Dublin. Nicole Marie VanRavenhorst and Mathew Donald VanRavenhorst. Barry Dale Benjamin and Ginger Benjamin. Krystal Ann Louks and Brian David Louks.

SEE PUBLIC RECORD, A8

#### EMPLOYMENT

SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE SEEKS Associate Dentist because of increase in patient volume. Potential earnings \$300K plus. Includes benefits. Email drb@friendlysmilesfargo.com

#### HELP WANTED - DRIVERS

LINSMEIER TRANSPORT A MN based company is now hiring Owner Operators to pull hopper bottom in the upper Midwest. Home weekends. Call 320/905-4506

#### MISCELLANEOUS

DISH TV \$59.99 for 190 channels. Add high speed internet for only \$14.95/month. Best technology. Best value. Smart HD DVR included. Free installation. Some restrictions apply. Call 855/562-4309

#### MISCELLANEOUS

A PLACE FOR MOM The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is free, no obligation. Call 844/347-2104

#### MISCELLANEOUS

SAVE BIG ON MEDICATIONS Up To 90% Savings from 90DAYMEDS! Over 3,500 Medications available! Prescriptions req'd. Pharmacy checker approved. Call today for Your free quote 844/209-2877

#### MISCELLANEOUS

NEXT PRESCRIPTION World Health Link. Price match guarantee! Prescriptions required. CIPA certified. Over 1,500 medications available. Call today for a free price quote. 866/237-5131 Call now!

#### MISCELLANEOUS

DONATE YOUR CAR truck or boat to Heritage For The Blind. Free 3-day vacation, tax deductible, free towing, all paperwork taken care of 844/220-9501

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Classified Advertising that is Easy! THE MINNESOTA CLASSIFIED AD NETWORK

Make an impact with your advertising dollar with classified advertising that reaches over 2.5 million readers!

MCAN STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Your newspaper representative can provide complete details.

The Zx4 Network is a program of the MNA, phone 800-279-2879

#### MISCELLANEOUS

# Hiring an In-Home Caregiver



Dear Savvy Senior,  
I need to locate a good in-home caregiver for my 83-year-old mother. What's the best way to find and hire one?

Looking for Care

Dear Looking,  
Finding a good in-home caregiver for an elderly parent can be challenging. How can you find one that's reliable and trustworthy, as well as someone your parent likes and is comfortable with? Here are some tips that can help.

## KNOW YOUR NEEDS

Before you start the task of looking for an in-home caregiver, your first step is to determine the level of care your mom needs. This can pinpoint the type of help she'll need. For example, if she only needs help with daily living tasks like shopping, cooking, doing laundry, bathing or dressing, a "homemaker" or "personal care aide" will do.

But, if she needs health care services, there are "home health aides" that may do all the things a homemaker does, plus they also have training in administering medications, changing wound dressings and other medically related duties. Home health aides often work under a nurse's supervision.

Once you settle on a level of care, you then need to decide how many hours of assistance she'll need. For example, does your mom need someone to come in just a few mornings a week to help her cook, clean, run errands or perhaps bathe? Or does she need more continuous care that requires daily visits or a full-time aide?

After you determine her needs, there are two ways in which you can go about hiring someone. Either through an agency, or you can hire someone directly on your own.

## HIRING THROUGH AN AGENCY

Hiring a personal care or home health aide through an agency is the safest and easiest option, but it's more expensive. Costs typically run anywhere between \$14 and \$25 an hour depending on where you live and the qualification of the aide.

How it works is you pay the agency, and they handle everything including an assessment of your mom's needs, assigning appropriately trained and pre-screened staff to care for her, and finding a fill-in on days her aide cannot come.

Some of the drawbacks, however, are that you may not have much input into the selection of the caregiver, and the caregivers may change or alternate, which can cause a disruption.

To find a home-care agency in your mom's area ask for referrals through friends, family or doctor's offices, or use the home-care locator service tool at [PayingForSeniorCare.com](http://PayingForSeniorCare.com) – click on "Find Quality, Affordable Care." In addition, Medicare offers a home health compare tool at [Medicare.gov/HomeHealthCompare](http://Medicare.gov/HomeHealthCompare) to help you find and compare home health care agencies.

You also need to be aware that original Medicare does not cover in-home caregiving services unless your mom is receiving doctor's ordered skilled nursing or therapy services at home too. But, if your mom is in a certain Medicare Advantage plan, or is low-income and qualifies for Medicaid, she may be eligible for some coverage.

## HIRING DIRECTLY

Hiring an independent caregiver on your own is the other option, and it's less expensive. Costs typically range between \$12 and \$20 per hour. Hiring directly also gives you more control over who you hire so you can choose someone who you feel is right for your mom.

But, be aware that if you do hire someone on your own, you become the employer so there's no agency support to fall back on if a problem occurs or if the aide doesn't show up. You're also responsible for paying payroll taxes and any worker-related injuries that may happen. If you choose this option make sure you check the aide's references thoroughly, and do a criminal background check, which you can do sites like [eNannySource.com](http://eNannySource.com).

To find someone, ask for referrals or try elder-care-matching services like [Care.com](http://Care.com) or [CareLinx.com](http://CareLinx.com). Or, for a fee, an aging life care expert (see [AgIngLifeCare.org](http://AgIngLifeCare.org)) can help you find someone.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit [SavvySenior.org](http://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

June 30, 2009

DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

Sherrie Hansen of St. Ansgar, Iowa recently had a book published with a Blooming Prairie twist. Hansen remembers visiting her great-grandma, Matilda Paulson, and great-uncle, Bud Paulson's farm just outside of Blooming Prairie on Highway 30 when she was a child. The fictional book is titled, "Night & Day," and begins in Blooming Prairie at a bonfire on the Paulson farm.

Scott Archer is a father and a caring member of the community. Sue Zweiner approached Archer knowing about his construction prowess and asked him about building a playhouse/potting shed for the Education Foundation Auction. Archer is excited to build the hobby shed because the foundation has helped his children.

## 20 Years Ago

June 29, 1999

ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

An 85-year-old Ellendale man was killed June 23 when the car he was driving collided with a grain truck on Highway 218 in Blooming Prairie. Steele County Sheriff Bill Hildebrandt said Edwin Radke's car was coming off First Street NE and pulled onto Highway 218. His car was struck on the driver's side by a grain truck driven by Aaron Anderson, 18, of rural Blooming Prairie. The grain truck was loaded with corn.

Frank Wencl of rural Blooming Prairie made an ox yoke recently and shared it by displaying at the Blooming Prairie Library. Call it a labor of love or a hobby, but either way Wencl's unique pastime has provided many a comment about our nation's past. He took a pattern his wife Judy had picked out years ago and made a ox yoke. It provided a challenge and a trip back to what our forefathers went through for travel.

## 50 Years Ago

June 25, 1969

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

Plans were unveiled the past week for a new private-owned 159-bed care center to be constructed in Owatonna by the Constant Care Foundation, providing the county abandons plans for erecting public facilities.

Workmen for Lysne Construction, Inc., removed the large chimney-smoke stack on the creamery building in Blooming Prairie last week. The bricks were salvaged for use in another part of the building being remodeled.

Larry Krell, 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Krell of Blooming Prairie was the winner of the heifer calf given away at a drawing by the First National Bank last Friday night. President Allan C. Peterson reported that "there wasn't even standing room in the bank's lobby when the lucky name was drawn."

Ordination services for Ordean Grant, former resident of the Corning area, will be held next Sunday at Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church. After farming for 12 years, Mr. Grant will enter the ministry of the American Lutheran Church. He is a 1950 graduate of Austin High School.

## 75 Years Ago

June 29, 1944

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

In the nearly 35 years of its existence, Farmers Cooperative elevator association closed one of the most successful years in its history with its fiscal year ending June 1. The total amount of business reached the high peak of \$226,777. The net profit for the year was \$5,698. The elevator is an asset to Blooming Prairie.

Considerable "heat" has been turned on the village solons for their laxity in enforcing state laws pertaining to card playing on Sundays in public places and also permitting minors to become habitués of pool halls in Blooming Prairie. The village fathers held several meetings the past two weeks and rather than have state officials come to Blooming Prairie to enforce the law, decided to have the local officials handle the manner which they feel will be done in a more understanding manner between all concerned.

A heavy down-pour of rain, accompanied by a severe hail storm, struck the Bixby community Sunday night around 12 o'clock. The storm was accompanied by considerable wind. Many windows located on the south side of buildings were broken by the hail, many of which were the size of hen's eggs. Ray Krell lost two valuable milk cows during the storm when lightning struck a cotton tree in the barnyard under which the animals were sheltered.

## BLOTTER: FROM A4

### STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

June 22

**Suspicion:** Deputies responded to suspicious activity at 38th St. SE and Highway 218 in Owatonna Township at 7:13 a.m.

**Restraining Order:** Deputies responded to a restraining order violation in the 6200 block of Kenyon Road in Merton Township at 3:44 p.m.

June 23

**Crash:** At 5:43 a.m., paramedics and deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries on 72nd Ave. SW in Berlin Township.

June 24

**Theft:** Deputy took a theft report in the 300 block of 8th Ave. E. in Ellendale at 8:41 p.m.

**Crash:** At 11:02 p.m., paramedics and deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries at 34th Ave. SE and 118th St. SE in Blooming Prairie Township. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.

June 25

**Arrest:** Deputies arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Interstate 35 and Hoffman Dr. NW in Owatonna at 4:12 a.m.

**Drugs:** Drug activity was reported in the 4100 block of 66th St. NW in Medford Township at 10:36 p.m.

June 26

**Restraining Order:** Deputies responded to a restraining order violation in the 6200 block of Kenyon Road in Merton Township at 2:36 p.m.

**Warrant:** Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 6:57 p.m.

June 27

**Crash:** At 3:08 p.m., a motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred in the 100 block of Riverview Court in Medford.

## ARRESTS

Steele County

### STEELE ARRESTS

#### OWATONNA POLICE

David Jesse Beraza, 26, arrested at 10:54 a.m. June 25, apprehension and detention arrest, held for court.

### KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Craig B. Aarsvold, 17, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105; Parker M. Andrist, 18, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105; Dalton M. Clouse, 23, Glencoe, DWI, \$505, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Cristina M. Fernandez, 34, Mantorville, texting while driving, \$130; Daniel L. Fuller, 38, Austin, suspended license, \$280; Keri J. Ginder, 41, Dodge Center, texting while driving, \$130; Mark A. Hansen, 56, Mantorville, no insurance, \$280; Glenn E. Hanson, 80, West Concord, seat belt, \$105; Brodi L. Hernandez, 25, Brownsdale, texting while driving, \$130; Tiffany L. Kleckley, 25, Rosenberg, TX, speeding and no insurance, \$340; Tanner A. Klemm, 24, Byron, revoked license, \$280; Joshua J. Kuehl, 29, Pine Island, driving without Ignition Interlock, stay of adjudication, 6 months of unsupervised probation; Lydia A. Mindermann, 16, Kasson, speeding, \$140; Gregory O. Moen Englund, 37, Mantorville, seat belt, \$105; Najuan M. Mullins, 24, Red Wing, permit violation, \$130; Judith A. Peterson, 57, Owatonna, speeding, \$130; Michael D. Schneekloth, 53, Mantorville, speeding, \$130; Riley T. Thompson, 18, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Todd A. Thompson, 58, Hayfield, seat belt, \$105.

### MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Jared G. Guse, 39, Owatonna, seat belt, \$105; Ashley H. Masching, 31, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$140; James S. Mora, 31, La Crosse, WI, revoked license, \$280; Samantha Murrieta, 20, Dodge Center, speeding, \$220; Trace D. Naatz, 18, Mantorville, speeding, \$280; Brenda L. Newell, 48, Dodge Center, speeding, \$130; Mai T. Nguyen, 47, Brooklyn Park, stop sign, \$130; Isaac C. Olson, 30, Dodge Center, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$200 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Pablo Serrano Jr., 27, Oak Forest, IL, speeding, \$120.

### WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Tanner A. Hart, 20, West Concord, obstruct physically disabled parking space, \$280.



# Area counties given emergency funds

The Minnesota State Set-Aside Committee for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) has recommended funds be awarded to several area counties, including Steele, Dodge and Mower.

These federal funds are awarded through the Department of Homeless Security-FEMA and used for people in need of emergency food and shelter. The local board is made up of food shelves, Salvation Army, Human Services, local housing agencies, Women's Resources, Veteran Services, Semcac, and other interested organizations.

The local board determines how the funds are to be distributed among emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations in the area. Under the terms of the grant from the Nation-

al Board, local governmental or private voluntary organizations chosen to receive funds must:

- 1) be non-profit
- 2) have a checking account and accounting system
- 3) practice non-discrimination
- 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and
- 5) have a voluntary board if private, not-for-profit. Qualifying organizations may apply by July 22.

Anyone wishing more information about the Emergency Food and Shelter Program and how to apply for funding should contact Wendy Todd, Semcac, P.O. Box 549, Rushford, MN 55971-0549, 507-864-7741.

## ZED: Summer Academy FROM A1

up to seven players and a Dungeon Master at each table. The Sklenicka's acted as dungeon masters for the two tables of players.

Down the hall from the Dungeon and Dragons players another group of students was attempting to bust a few myths. In the course of the week they wanted to know can you create your own compass (yes), can you pull iron out of cereal (yes), can you walk a straight line while blindfolded (no) and can you fold a sheet of paper in half more than eight times (yes, but it's not easy).

Drones were occupying the attention of students in a class conducted by Stewartville STEAM teacher Kelly Schrandt. The drones used in the class, he explained, were not radio controlled but rather it was up to the students to use the computer to program what the drones to fly. In addition to helping the students learn about programming, he said, it also helped them learn to work together.

Students interested in healthy snacks were learning new recipes with the help of Kasson-Mantorville's Megan Dugrood. By the time the week was over they had made sesame potato chips, tuxedo olives, apple quesadillas, fruit smoothies, pretzel melts and more.

This was the 15th year for the popular program, Remmeli said. The program alternates each year between the participating ZED schools.

## PUBLIC RECORD: FROM A5

Andrew Shawn Lobe and Lisa Mae Lobe.  
John Raymond Prondzinski and Robyn M. Prondzinski.  
Jeremy Ford Johnson and Hannah Laura Johnson.

Tami Lee Jensen and Michael John Jensen.  
Katy Ann McMasters and Mark William McMasters.  
Denise Ann Gardner and Rodney George Gardner.  
Michelle Susan Horness and Sean Richard Horness.



**Jensen**  
Heating, A/C,  
& Plumbing

24 hour service for all your  
plumbing & heating needs

We'll treat your home as  
if it were our own.

THE BOLD LOOK  
OF KOHLER

Registered Showroom

256-4712  
Geneva, MN

## Recipe Corner

### CHOCOLATE REVEL BARS

#### INGREDIENTS:

1 cup butter  
2 cups brown sugar  
2 eggs  
2 tsp. vanilla  
2 1/4 cups flour  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. salt  
3 cups oatmeal

#### DIRECTIONS

Cream butter and sugar. Mix in eggs and vanilla. Sift together flour, soda and salt. Stir in oatmeal. Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture and set aside.

#### FILLING:

12 oz. pkg. chocolate chips  
13 oz. can sweetened condensed milk

2 Tbsp. butter

1/2 tsp. salt

1 cup chopped nuts

2 tsp. vanilla

#### DIRECTIONS

Mix chocolate chips, milk, butter and salt together and melt. When smooth, add nuts and vanilla. Spread 2/3 of the oatmeal mixture in the bottom of a 9x13" pan. Cover with chocolate mixture. Dot with remaining oatmeal mixture and bake at 350° for 25 minutes.

Sponsored by

**Krejci Ford**

15th Presidents Award Winner

Blooming Prairie, 583-2046

## OBITUARIES

### Roger L. Dulas, 88, Ellendale

Roger Lee Dulas, age 88, passed away on Saturday, June 29, 2019, at his home in rural Ellendale.

He was born on Nov. 19, 1930, in Wells. His parents were Julius and Hedwig (Goraczowski) Dulas. Roger attended country school in rural Wells until the 8th grade. After school, he worked on the family farm with his father.

He was united in marriage to Nadeane F. Burnett on Nov. 24, 1951, at St. Casimir Catholic Church in Wells. This union blessed him with three children. They moved to Ellendale from Wells in 1960 where he was involved with his love of farming to the end. Roger was a dairy farmer and crop farmer along with his wife and daughter, Julie.



He enjoyed dancing and listening to old time music, watching polka shows and sports on TV and enjoyed many family pets through the years. He especially enjoyed time that he spent with his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends. Roger will be deeply missed.

Roger is survived by his children, Dale (Vivian) Dulas of Morristown, Marie (Wayne) Dobberstein and Julie Dulas of Ellendale; grandchildren, Tracy (Robert) Davis of Mankato, Mark (Tira) Dobberstein of North Mankato, Dawn (Ted Tiller) Dulas of Peoria, Ill., and Brent (Jessica) Dobberstein of Ellendale; great-grandchildren, Gretchen Davis and Derek Dobberstein; step-great-grandchildren, Jasmine and Trae Hancock of North Mankato; sister, Mildred Sette-Dulas of Rochester and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Julius and Hedwig; wife, Nadeane; brothers and sisters-in-law, Clement (Dorothy) Dulas, Rapheal (Evelyn) Dulas, Adrian (Evelyn) Dulas, Cornelius (Betty) Dulas, Richard McFarland, Ray Hunt, Glen Sette and Donald (Pat) Burnett.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at Michaelson Funeral Home in Owatonna. Interment was in St. Ansgar Cemetery, rural Ellendale.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred.

A special thank you to the St. Croix Hospice for your care and kindness.

## BOOK NOOK

### Local authors featured at the library



NANCY  
VAILLANCOURT

While Blooming Prairie may not have a large population, there have been many intelligent and creative people who have grown up and lived here. Here at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library, we have several books written by local residents. I would like to introduce you to three of the books written by local authors.

Linda L. Christianson wrote the biography *All the Steps I Have Taken: Then and Now*. It describes Linda's journey coping with polio in her early years and the effects it has had on her life up to the present. Photographs and the telling of her story make the book very compelling.

Dr. John R. Fischer, a longtime physician in Blooming Prairie, wrote the book *Prairie Doctor*. It tells of his experiences living and working here and gives a glimpse of what medicine was like in earlier days. Those who have lived in Blooming Prairie all their lives may be able to guess who his patients were. In these days of HIPA, a book like this would probably never get written!

Finally, we have a new book written Kathy Thorson Grunn. Kathy already had two books in the library: *My Baby Compass*, manuals that help parents teach their children age appropriate skills. Her newest book is titled *Drug Tested for Being Happy*. It is a collection of humorous stories from Kathy's life, including a section about growing up in Blooming Prairie, where she learned to tell stories. As she writes, "What else was there to do for entertainment in tiny Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, where we didn't even have a movie theatre? Not even a stoplight. We were responsible for our own entertainment."

If you would like to find your own entertainment and read these (and other) books, come see us at the library!

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

JULY 3:  
BENTON PROUTY, MARK NOBLE,  
HILARY JONES, ASHLEY VALEK,  
ASHTON CHASE GREENE AND  
LUKE LARKOSKI

JULY 4:  
JEAN SHAW, SHEILA WIESE,  
KELLI NAATZ, JAY BRAATEN AND  
BERNICE STENDER

JULY 5:  
BRENNA PETERSON, JOHN HINES  
AND MIKENNA BOENKE

JULY 6:  
SARAH ESPLAN, MICALYN  
TRIHUS, ANTHONY NELSON,  
RACHEL KLEMMENSEN,  
BREANNA KOSTER, NICK  
SCHIEFERT AND ORENE DENNIS

JULY 7:  
JILL TROTMAN, DAWSON HEUER,  
TYLER BRUGGEMAN, DEREK  
LEVNO AND NICOLE SCHABERT

JULY 8:  
TIM AMBERG

JULY 9:  
LIZ HEIBER AND RENEE WORKE

### ANNIVERSARIES

JULY 6:  
BOB & LORETTA INGVALSON

JULY 8:  
DERRICK & WENDY SCHEWE

JULY 9:  
JAKE & CALISTA LEMBKE AND JEFF  
& SUZY KRAMER

Sponsored by

**Best kept secret!**

Deli Sandwiches Daily Specials  
ALL COME WITH A COOKIE & CHIPS

Tuesday - Ham  
Wednesday - Turkey  
Thursday - Your Choice  
Friday - Beef

The Bakery  
Main Street • Blooming Prairie • 583-4433

24 hour service for all your  
plumbing & heating needs

We'll treat your home as  
if it were our own.

THE BOLD LOOK  
OF KOHLER

### John Dean Bernard Olson, 92, Blooming Prairie

John Dean Bernard Olson, age 92 of Blooming Prairie, passed away Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at Mayo Clinic Health System Austin.



John Dean was born April 12, 1927, to John Alfred and Helma (Siblerud) Olson of Hartland. He graduated from Freeborn High School in 1945 and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in April of 1945. He was discharged with an honorable discharge in August of 1946.

On June 9, 1951, he married Jacqueline Ann Oliver of Waseca. He was employed as a finish carpenter with Blowers Construction, Waterville. In 1962, he moved to Blooming Prairie and was employed by Lysne Construction Company until his retirement in 1989. After retirement, he worked summers at the Blooming Prairie Country Club.

John Dean was a member of the Blooming Prairie Planning and Zoning, as well as Legion Post 52 and St. Columbanus Catholic Church where he served on the parish council and was an active member of the KC's. He enjoyed golfing, playing cards, and visiting with family and friends. His greatest joy was spending time with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

John Dean is survived by his wife Jacqueline Olson of Blooming Prairie; three children, Christine (Rick) Klemmensen, Jon (Gretchen) Olson, and Jan Anderson, all of Blooming Prairie; grandchildren, Tricia (Karl) Steckelberg, Jill (Nathan) Lindeman, Jay (Jamie) Klemmensen, Chad (Tamora) Klemmensen, Ariana (Nathan) Finholdt, Aric Olson, Ryan (Mariah) Foudray, Jennifer (Ryan) Born, Mark (Lisa) Anderson, Christopher (Rena) Anderson, Aaron (Angela) Anderson; great grandchildren, Alexis and Grady Steckelberg, Cole and Isabel Lindeman, Andi, Bergen and Bailee Klemmensen, Trig and Nala Klemmensen, Kaden, Karsen and Libbie Finholdt, Miles, Cedric and Carmella Foudray, Emma and Blake Born, Abigail, Ava and Evan Anderson, Lydia Behringer-Vien, Landon and Everly Anderson; two sisters, Audrene Smith of New Richland, Audrey Bethke of Pinckney, Mich.; two sisters-in-law, Irene Oliver of Waseca, Tommie Sotebeer of Windom.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and one son-in-law, David Anderson.

Memorial services were held on Monday, July 1, 2019 at St. Columbanus Catholic Church in Blooming Prairie, with Father Thomas Niehaus officiating. Interment was in St. Columbanus Catholic Cemetery in Blooming Prairie, with military honors by the Blooming Prairie Honor Guard.

Memorials can be directed to recipient of donor's choice. Worlein Funeral Home in Blooming Prairie is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.worlein.com](http://www.worlein.com).

## 'From Pain Relief to Wellness'



Chad M. Eischens, Doctor of Chiropractic  
Certified Medical Examiner

### WE OFFER A FULL LINE OF SERVICES

Custom Orthotics • Supplements • Rehab Facility • High Speed X-Ray • Exercise Consultations • Pillows • FREE Blood Pressure Checks • Supports/Braces • Spinal Checks  
Sports Physicals, D.O.T. Exams, Drug/Alcohol Testing

We Welcome New Patients • Same Day Cash Discounts

### PRairie FAMILY & SPORTS CHIROPRACTIC, P.A.

Chad M. Eischens, D.C.

344 East Main St. • Downtown Blooming Prairie

583-2271 or toll free 1-866-5Dr-Chad

Visit us at: [www.drchad.org](http://www.drchad.org)

Massage Therapy Available

## Sudoku Corner

									5
7	2	1	4						
5	6			7	3				
9	4	1							
5				7	9				2
						6	9	3	
5				1	3	6			
							6		
4			8		5		2	5	9

Level: Easy

Sponsored By

### VALLEYVIEW ASSISTED LIVING

1212 W Frontage Rd Owatonna, MN

507-451-0

## PASTOR'S COLUMN

**Rev. David Efflandt**

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN KASSON

# Influential scriptures

What passages from Scripture have the greatest influence on your walk of faith?

One of my favorites is II Corinthians 5:13-20. It gets to the very essence of how we're meant to see the world, and then, how we're called to engage it. Really, it all comes down to an understanding of both who and whose we are: children of God.

So, who am I?

The answer begins by remem-

bering that I was created by God in His image, to care for this creation and everything in it. I was created to worship God, and Him alone. And yet, I am a descendant of Adam and Eve, and therefore, I am also a sinner. We all are. But then I read verse 14, and I'm reminded that God sent Jesus to die for us all; taking all our sin to the cross with him, dying with it on the cross, thereby mending our relationship with God. I am

someone worthy of God's love in Christ.

So, how is this supposed to help me live my life?

The answer, though simple, isn't the easiest thing to do. Paul says we're to see in others the same need that we had for God's grace; to recognize their worthiness of God's grace. We're to see ourselves in the other. I am someone worthy of God's love, and so are you.

And, because we have received forgiveness and the reconciliation that it has worked in our relationship with God, we are to do our best to represent God to the world in the same way. We are to use this as a guide when it comes to all our relationships; especially the broken ones. We are called to be the bearers of this grace which brings reconciliation as a sign of God's kingdom come near.

## AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

## LUTHERAN

## AURORA LUTHERAN

6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna  
Pastor Stephanie Wood  
507-676-5696  
Worship: Sunday at 9 a.m.  
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

## FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA

434 First St. SW,  
Blooming Prairie  
Senior Pastor:  
Rev. Heidi Heimgartner  
Associate Pastor:  
Rev. Mike Walerius  
507-583-6621  
firstlutheranbp.com  
Worship Service- 9 a.m.  
Sunday School- 10 a.m.

## 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  
Pastor Greg Schlicker  
Pastor Mark Neumann  
507-451-4125  
goodshepherdowatonna.com  
Worship: 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

## MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA

7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon  
Pastor Nancy Edwarsdon  
507-789-6661  
Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

## PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA

9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale  
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 Brennan  
507-583-2038 or 507-437-3000  
www.roglutheran.org  
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.  
Sunday School  
(Sept. – May): 10:15 a.m.

## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS

4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont  
Pastor Alan Broadwell  
507-528-2404  
Worship: 6 p.m. Saturday;  
10:30 a.m. Sun.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS

28959 630th Ave., Sargeant  
Pastor Collin Duling  
507-251-5568  
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.  
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

## ST. JOHN LUTHERAN – ELCA

1301 Lincoln Ave. Owatonna  
Pastors Dave Klawiter and Jacie  
Richmond  
507-451-7293  
stjohnowatonna.org  
Worship: 5 p.m. Thursday &  
Saturday: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday  
Summer Services: 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Sunday

## 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: Rev. Dean Smith  
507-451-2165  
Worship: 9:30 a.m..

## TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA

609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna  
507-451-4520  
tlcowatonna.org  
Pastors: Todd Buegler & Amanda  
Weinkauf

Deacon: Kris Oppegard  
Worship: 5 p.m. Saturday; 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday  
Sunday School: 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

## TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA

104 First St. SE, Hayfield  
Pastor Paul Hauschild  
507-477-2248  
www.trinityhayfield.org  
Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

## TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS

108 Third Ave. SW, Medford  
Pastor Mark Biebighauser  
507-451-0447  
8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School and  
Adult Bible Study

## 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: Rev. Dean Smith  
Worship: 8:00 a.m.

## CATHOLIC

## CHRIST THE KING

205 Second Ave. NW, Medford  
507-451-6353  
Father James Starasinch  
Deacon Patrick Fagan  
Mass: 5:30 p.m. Sat.

Mass: 9 a.m. Mon. & Fri.

## 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, Pastor  
507-451-1588  
www.litomysl.webs.com  
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.c with

Children's Church  
Reconciliation:

8:45 a.m. - 1st & 3rd Sundays

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.:  
Faith Formation for

K thru Confirmation

Second Sunday of month:  
Family Faith Formation

Litomysl Finance Council:

2nd Thursday

Litomysl Pastoral Council:

2nd Thursday every other month

## 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 James Starasinch

Deacon Patrick Fagan  
507-451-4845

Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m.

Reconciliation: 3:30 p.m. Sat.

Daily Mass:

8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri.

(Communion Service

8 a.m. Thursday)

Adoration Chapel available

Mon. – Fri. 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Key fob required after

hours or weekends

## 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. Sunday;

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 Cirksena

507-684-2731

# Program supports farmers unable to plant

Mower County farmers not able to plant their crops this season due to flooded or wet fields can sign up through mid-July for a federal program that will help them plant cover crops on those acres.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in Minnesota is offering a special Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) signup until July 12 to help farmers plant a cover crop as an alternative to letting their crop fields go fallow and uncovered. The cover crop later could be cut for hay or grazed.

Mower County landowners should contact the USDA-NRCS office in Austin to sign up or for more information on the program.

"Prolonged rain and flooding have resulted in many fields that will go unplanted

this year," said Brian DeVetter, district conservationist for USDA-NRCS in Mower County. "Farmers experiencing this situation need to weigh not only their program and insurance options (prevented planting) but also should assess agronomic options to ensure long-term productivity."

With the program, USDA-NRCS aims to encourage farmers to plant cover crops to increase water quality, suppress weeds and improve soil health on areas not planted to cash crops. Cover crops – which include cereal rye, crimson clover and oilseed radish, among numerous others – capture applied nutrients, fix nitrogen, control erosion and can build considerable yield potential for the following cash crops.

Cover crops also bring soil

vitality by adding nutrients and organic matter. Many fields saturated for a long time face a loss of soil organisms. Cover crop roots reestablish soil health and create pathways for air and water to move through the soil, which is key to restoring it.

Applications for the special EQIP program will be ranked based on environmental benefits. Landowners should coordinate with other USDA farm agencies when participating in related programs.

EQIP is a voluntary program providing financial and technical assistance to ag producers and landowners.

Mower County's USDA-NRCS office is at 1408 21st Ave. N.W. in the same building in Austin as USDA's Farm Service Agency and Mower Soil & Water Conservation District.

## Area dairy farms honored for superior cow care

Two area farms have made the annual list of top Minnesota dairy herds with low somatic cell counts (SCC).

Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen says Nu-Dimension Dairy of Steele County and Lynn Miller of Dodge County are among the top dairy herds in the state. Nu-Dimension processes its milk with Bongards Creamery while Miller utilizes Plainview Milk Products Cooperative.

Somatic cell count is a key indicator of milk quality – a lower SCC is better for cheese production and a longer shelf life for bottled milk. In honor of June Dairy Month, 115 dairy farms are being recognized.

cows. Processors also pay a premium for milk with low counts. A farmer whose herd has a very low count can receive a significantly higher price per hundredweight compared to a farmer whose herd average is high.

For more than 15 years, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and University of Minnesota dairy experts have worked with the state's dairy farmers to lower somatic cell counts. When the initiative began in 2003, the 100 herds honored that year included those with SCC averages as high as 144,000, compared to the current goal of obtaining a SCC under 100,000.



## Fixing the water lines



A 10-inch water main was recently replaced near 3rd Street SW and 1st Avenue SW in Blooming Prairie. Ellingson Companies of West Concord handled the construction work.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

# HERE IS MY CARD

## ACCOUNTING

**Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
ACCOUNTING AND TAX SERVICES FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND INDIVIDUALS

314 East Main St., Blooming Prairie | 507-583-7528 | Fax: 507-583-2389

## AUTOMOBILE

**Mike's REPAIR**  
870 32 Ave. NW  
Owatonna, MN 55060

Complete Truck Parts and Service

507-455-0388  
Fax: 507-455-0486  
After Hours: 507-455-0483  
Tire Service  
AG & Heavy Truck

Mike Hartle  
Owner

## COLLISION

THE ONLY AREA SHOP certified to work on the 2015 Ford Aluminum F150



Collision Specialists Inc  
507.437.2837

## CONSTRUCTION

**Johnson Construction & Tree Service**

Tree & Stump Removal • Trimming & Topping • Tree Moving  
Lot Clearing • Backhoe/Skidloader • Hauling General Construction  
24 Hr. Emergency Services • Year Round Work • Licensed & Insured

KYLE JOHNSON • 507-583-7592  
AUSTIN & BLOOMING PRAIRIE

**J.A. Gwilt Siders, Inc.**

Siding, Windows, Gutters, Roofing & Decks

Call 507-456-1504  
for your FREE  
estimates!

Serving Steele County  
for 20 years.

Known for our exceptional quality of material and labor.

**SEPTIC SYSTEMS**

State License # 1844

Serving the Area  
Over 12 Years

Aggregates • Hauling • Washed Sand • Black Dirt • Fill • Gravel

• Design • Installation  
• Compliance Inspections

**BISHOP BE**

EXCAVATING, INC.

• EXCAVATION • BASEMENTS

• DEMOLITION • DOZER WORK

Commercial & Residential Sitework

507 583-2999

## GARBAGE SERVICE

**SKJELVELAND ENTERPRISES**

YOU CAN COUNT ON US! Sanitation & Recycling Services

Pride in service since 2007

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

• Sanitation & Recycling Services  
• Roll-Offs & Dumpsters  
• Rubbish & Garbage Removal

Contact Skjelveland Enterprises today!

507-528-9900

## ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

Dr. Deborah J. Lien, DDS, MBS  
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

132 2nd Ave. NE  
BLOOMING PRAIRIE

FREE CONSULTATIONS

Building Healthy Smiles!

drdeborahlienorthodontics.com

507.583.6613

## PREPLANNING

You Know You Should,

## PREPLANNING

Why Not Today?

Personalized Pre-arrangement  
Secure & Flexible Prefunding

Purple Cross Plans

SECURE

FLEXIBLE

PEACE OF MIND

Worlein

FUNERAL HOME

1801 4th Street NW

Austin, MN

www.worlein.com

Call  
Mary Kittelson

NFDA Certified  
Preplanning  
Consultant

433-5000

NATIONAL FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

Pursuit of Excellence

AWARD RECIPIENT

2018

## PETS

**Bennett's PET HAVEN CEMETERY, INC.**

"Professional Cremation and Burial Services for your loving pet"  
Larry & Donna Bennett  
4151 N. City Rd. 45  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
(507) 451-2203

Shorty & Sue Schrodt  
857 Mosher Ave.  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
(507) 455-3204

## ROOFING

Contact us for all of your roofing needs

PIEPHO ROOFING, INC.

Unparalleled Service

James Piepho  
5098 SW 18th Street, Owatonna, MN 55060

www.piephoroofing.com

Lic. #BC679096

## LOVE, FAIR STYLE



Kelli Naatz and Andy Jacobson celebrated their wedding at the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna on June 15. They both met at the fair as 4-H members in 2008.



### Couple ties the knot where they met as 4-Hers

BY RICK BUSSLER  
PUBLISHER

They met as 4-H members at the Steele County Fair so it seemed only fitting for them to tie the knot right where their love began.

SEE LOVE, FAIR STYLE, B2

## Proposed wastewater connection for Medford gets complicated

BY CHRIS BALDWIN  
STAFF WRITER

The potential wastewater connection being discussed between Medford and Faribault got a little more complicated due to the possibility of additional fees. As it currently stands, Faribault is looking to charge a rate 50% higher than its residents pay, meaning that the past estimate of \$310,000 for wastewater rate fees for Medford would be around a \$410,000 annual cost due to the 50% charge.

While a fee was expected, Medford Mayor Lois Nelson and the council felt that there needs to be a bit more negotiation to hammer out what the final amount will be. "I got the word that it was fairly firm at this point," Medford City Administrator Andy Welti said of the possible fee. "But I think our city can have discussions with them in the future."

"I would think that would be fair, I was really surprised," Mayor Nelson said of possible discussions. "We haven't even talked about or gotten our

rate analysis, which we approved last month, plus we should have more conversations with their current administrator and elected officials. So, I would want to believe that the door is open and we can go back and do some negotiations, but we also have to have more ammunition to do just that."

Medford had given Mike Bubany the go ahead to complete a rate analysis to determine future rates for Medford residents, which could be a possible tool for discussion between the municipalities.

However, council member Marie Sexton questioned whether the rate analysis was still necessary at this time.

"I think a rate analysis does no good if they're just setting charges like this," Sexton said. "What good does a rate analysis do for us if we get dictated to by Faribault?"

Mayor Nelson explained that the rate analysis could be an important factor in any future discussions with Faribault. "I think there's a missing

SEE WASTEWATER, B2

## A parade fit for a band



The New Richland Hartland Ellendale Geneva marching band lines up ready to perform during Ellendale Days last Saturday afternoon. Forty-two units were featured in this year's parade. For more photos on Ellendale Days, see page 10B.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

## PUC decision on wind farm delayed

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN  
COUNTY WRITER

Dodge County residents will have to wait another month before they know which of the proposed routes for an electrical transmission line stretching from Steele County to Olmsted County will receive further consideration.

The draft Environmental Statement on the project was originally scheduled to be released by the Public Utilities Commission last Friday. The draft EIS was not completed, however, and on Monday Jim Mortenson, an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings, announced a new schedule for the remainder of the process.

The new schedule calls for the draft EIS to be released on July 29. Mortenson said in his order for the new schedule that Dodge County Wind, the applicant for the project, had agreed to the new schedule.

"I think it's just taking a little more time," Emma Bauer of the Department of Commerce said last Friday. The Department of Commerce, she said, provides the public record for activities of the PUC.

Dodge County Wind has proposed a 170MW wind project with 13 turbines in Steele County and 55 in Dodge County. The Dodge County turbines would primarily be in Ripley and Ashland Townships, she said.

From a substation in Dodge County, the electricity would be transmitted

via transmission lines to a substation in Byron. When Dodge County Wind first applied for the permits they listed two potential routes, designated A and B, for the transmission lines to Byron. Both of these lines were to the south of Dodge Center, primarily over farmland.

After a public meeting on the project was held last October, the Public Utilities Commission told Dodge County Wind that they wanted additional routes included in the project for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. To comply, Dodge County Wind added two additional Routes, C and D, which go through Dodge Center.

The additional routes have raised the concerns of Dodge Center residents whose homes are in the route of the lines.

Dodge Center residents attended a council meeting in June to express their concerns and a representative of Dodge County Wind said the company said had been working for several years to secure agreements with property owners along the original routes and had added the two alternatives at the request of the PUC.

At that meeting the Council directed City Administrator Joshua Tetzlaff to send a letter to the PUC detailing the city's objection to the transmission lines passing through the city. Numerous Dodge Center residents have also sent written comments to the PUC.

SEE PUC DECISION, B2

## Traffic signals on Oak Avenue to be removed

Two traffic signals on Oak Avenue at the intersections of Vine Street and McKinley Street are scheduled to be removed this summer during an upcoming construction project.

To prepare drivers to the upcoming changes, crews installed signs at the signals announcing

the changes on June 24.

Starting July 15, the signals will be placed in an all-way red flash mode. During the all-way red flash mode, all vehicles will be required to come to a stop and follow traffic rules for an all-way stop intersection.

SEE TRAFFIC SIGNALS, B2

## 4-H adventures and day camps

Even though it seems like it's taken forever, summer is finally here! Oh, I do love these summer days but as a parent I do have a hard time hearing "I'm bored" "What is there to do!" Well, folks I have just the answer for you! If you are looking for ways to add some exciting adventures to your youth's summer then you are reading the right article!

Let me tell you about the Steele County 4-H Summer Activities! Youth do not need to be a current 4-H member to participate in any of these camps (we can sign them up). They just need to be a youth looking for some activity this summer!

Does your youth want to express themselves, be creative, or make an im-



**Steele Talkin'**  
TRACY IGNASZEWSKI

pression? Visual Arts is for them! It may be messy, fun, strange, or unique but we will have just the workshop – Creative Arts – Wednesday, July 17 – This day will start at the Owatonna Art Center with a ceramic class and end at the Extension Office with craft projects. And then on July 24, we

SEE 4-H ADVENTURES, B2

## 4-H ADVENTURES: and day camps

FROM B1

will head to the Twin Cities for this fun-filled day with a stop at the Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota then off to a glass fusion class at THE GODDESS OF GLASS.

How about animals? Does your youth enjoy Horses or rabbits? They could have an opportunity to spend three days with horse(s) and everything horse! Youth will not need to bring a horse, they will be partnered with an older 4-H horse member and will work with them and their horse. They will learn the basics about horses and gain a foundation of the project. This camp will take place July 15-17.

Or... The Rabbit Workshop where they will learn all about raising a rabbit. This workshop will give them the opportunity for hands-on learning!

On July 15 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Cheeseburger Anyone! Come and spend the day with 4-H to build your own "real" cheeseburger! From the ground, up we will spend the day meeting farmers and their commodities that help build your burger. Steele County farmers, truckers, processors, and retail workers come together to help provide you a summer time picnic you can enjoy. Join 4-H on July 10 as we spend the day around the county visiting with people in the "field" to know how your picnics go from farm to grill.

The 4-H Park Hop is just that - Outdoor Fun! These park hops will

take place July 9, 11 and 17. Our 4-H summer staff will be at Manthy Park at 12:30-1:30 p.m., Mineral Springs from 2-3 p.m. and Washington Playground from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on all these days. They will come with lots of hands on activities and craft projects.

The 4-H Adventure Club, which is held at the Library in Blooming Prairie at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, July 12 and 19. This Adventure club has lots of neat science experiments taking place.

New this summer is our 4-H Garden Adventure, which is held at the Owatonna Hy-Vee on Thursdays in July at 9:30 a.m. There will be hands-on fun with lots of gardening knowledge.

All of these day camps are open to youth in grades 3 and older. So, call now space is limited. Remember you do not need to be a current 4-H'er to participate in these camps.

For information on these adventurous day camps, please call the Steele County Extension Office at 507-444-7685 or email [steele@extension.umn.edu](mailto:steele@extension.umn.edu). Please pre-register for these events by calling the Extension Office two days before the scheduled camp. Add some adventure to your summer - participate in a 4-H Activity!

Tracy Ignaszewski is the 4-H program coordinator for Steele County. Steele Talkin' is a regular column featuring authors representing various organizations throughout Steele County.

## PUC DECISION: on wind farm delayed

FROM B1

With the delay in the release of the draft EIS, the entire approval process will be set back a month.

The new schedule calls for a public meeting on the draft EIS on Aug. 6. Public comments on the document will be accepted until Aug. 30. A public hearing on the project will be held before an

administrative law judge on Sept. 18 with the public comment closing on Sept. 27. It is now estimated that the final EIS will be released on Nov. 1 with the administrative law judge's report being given to the PUC on Dec. 16.

The exact times and locations of public meetings will be announced at a later date.

## TRAFFIC SIGNALS: on Oak Avenue to be removed

FROM B1

On July 17, the signals will be deactivated and covered. The intersection control will be changed to a two-way stop, with stop signs installed on Vine and McKinley Streets. Traffic on Oak Avenue will be permitted to proceed thru the intersection uncontrolled.

Steele County and the City of Owatonna recently completed a signal justification report for these intersections that concluded the intersections do not have the vehicle and pedestrian traffic volume requirements needed to justify a signal. Once the signal is deactivated, the coun-

ty and city will continue to monitor the vehicle and pedestrian traffic at the intersections to confirm study conclusions before removing the signals during the upcoming construction project later this summer.

Motorists should use extra caution at the intersections once the signals are deactivated to allow for drivers to adjust to the new traffic control.

For updates on this or other Steele County Highway construction projects, visit: [www.co.steele.mn.us/divisions/public\\_works/transportation/construction\\_projects.php](http://www.co.steele.mn.us/divisions/public_works/transportation/construction_projects.php).

## CALL NOW & SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION

Drug Name	Qty (pills)	Price*
Viagra 100mg	16	\$48.00
Cialis 5mg	84	\$150.00
Levitra 20mg	30	\$130.00
Spiriva 18mcg	90	\$190.00
Advair 250mcg/50mcg	180 ds	\$205.00
Premarin 0.625mg	84	\$95.00
Symbicort 160mcg/4.5mcg	360 ds	\$215.00
Januvia 100mg	84	\$260.00



**1-866-237-5131**

All pricing in U.S. dollars and subject to change without notice.

We accept AmeX, Electronic Checking, Personal Check or International Money Order.

\*Prices shown are for the equivalent generic drug if available.\*

Mailing Address: World Health Link  
PO Box 42 Station Main  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2G1 Canada

CODE MC11

## Semcac names new leader

Semcac is pleased to welcome a new executive director, Doug Grout, to the Semcac family.

Grout has dedicated his career to helping people. He has experience working with low-income households, people with disabilities, seniors, immigrants and minorities. Throughout his career, he has had the opportunity to learn and employ techniques in team building and management.

Grout has a strong background of over 25 years experience working in the public and nonprofit sector. This includes significant experience administering successful affordable housing, redevelopment and rehabilitation loan projects. For the past six years, Grout has served as the Administrator for the Housing & Redevelopment Author-

ity (HRA) for the City of Bloomington. Prior to that, he worked as the executive director for the Brainerd HRA, as well as at the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. Additionally, he is very familiar with Semcac, he previously worked for the agency as the Housing Services director and is excited to rejoin the Semcac team.

Grout also serves on the Board of Directors for a nonprofit organization that provides services to homeless and at-risk youth.

"Listening to, working with and advocating for consumers is paramount to achieving an organization's mission," he says.

Grout has a bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of Northern Iowa. He has certification as a National Development Council Economic



**Doug Grout**

Development Finance Professional (EDFP) and as a National Development Council Housing Development Finance Professional (HDFP).

Grout and his wife are residents of Brownsville, Minn. Therefore, he is happy this leadership opportunity is located in the southeastern part of the state. Semcac serves the seven Minnesota counties of Steele, Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston,

Mower and Winona, and provides limited services in the counties of Olmsted, Goodhue, Rice, Wabasha and Waseca.

"I enjoyed my tenure at Semcac, and learned firsthand about the importance of Community Action," Grout stated.

Semcac is a nonprofit, Community Action organization founded in 1966. Semcac's mission is to empower and advocate for people to enhance their self-sufficiency by maximizing community resources.

Semcac operates programs within the departments of Head Start, Senior Services, Outreach & Emergency Services, Community Development, Family Planning and Transportation. Visit [www.semcac.org](http://www.semcac.org) for more information. Follow @ Semcac on social media.

## PROPOSED WASTEWATER CONNECTION: for Medford gets complicated

FROM B1

step, and I would be more comfortable in seeing us get the rate analysis done so that we can have this as a negotiation tool in going back to their leadership," Nelson said.

Sexton also opined that Faribault's similar agreement with Roberds Lake having a lesser charge of 5% might indicate favoritism. "This 5% surcharge to Roberds Lake, and a 50% surcharge to us, just tells me somebody on the council or the city has a second home on Roberds Lake over there," Sexton said. "Somebody was

treating somebody well, and we're sitting here with 50%."

City Administrator Welti suggested that a rate analysis may or may not factor into discussions.

"It might mean they will be more willing to be part of negotiations, but then again maybe not," Welti said. "Faribault is under no obligations to connect Medford to its wastewater system."

In the end, the council was in agreement with continuing the rate analysis in hopes that it could be used as leverage for any poten-

tial discussions between the two communities as well as give more detail to any possible rate fees. "We owe it to our citizenry and our businesses to be able to justify any fees, so that's what the analysis will do," Nelson said.

Medford has another option still on the table as they could update and expand its own wastewater treatment facility for an estimated cost of \$17 million as opposed to the price tag of \$15.4 million of regionalization when accounting for the higher rate fees proposed by

Faribault.

During the meeting, the city also entered into a developer's agreement with Todd Nelson. Nelson will be developing a parcel of land which the city and school district had been shopping for some time. The agreement will only be for the first phase of Nelson's development, which will include the development of a 16-unit apartment and garage structure.

The next regular city council meeting will be held on Monday, July 22 at 7 p.m.

## LOVE: fair style

FROM B1

On June 15, Andy Jacobson and Kelli Naatz held their wedding reception and dance for 350 guests in the Foundation Building on the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna. The actual wedding ceremony took place at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie.

Andy and Kelli first crossed paths as Steele County 4-H members at the fair in 2008. Andy grew up on a farm near Ellendale while Kelli grew up on a farm south of Blooming Prairie. They were both in 4-H for 13 years and showed livestock.

"The fair brought us together back in 2008 when we got to know each other through 4-H," Kelli said. "We spent every fair there and every waking moment at the fair," she added.

Prior to the wedding, the couple spent about a week converting the Foundation Building into a venue for their special day. But it didn't start out without some wonderment of how they were going to pull this off.

"We walked into the building wondering what we would be able to do with it," Kelli said. Together with her parents, Doug and Holli Naatz, they spent the entire week decorating, hanging lights from the ceiling, creating a dance floor and crafting a background for the head table.

"We appreciate what 4-H did for us. It shapes you into a great individual."

**Kelli Jacobson**

A Fair Newlywed

One of the centerpieces for the wedding decorations was a portion of an old granary that had been torn down a year ago. "We cut a wall into three pieces," Kelli said. "It turned out to be an awesome background behind the head table."

They also brought other old items from their farm for decorations. Kelli described her wedding décor as a "rustic farm house, but it was elegant." She went on to say, "We had a lot of people tell us that they have never seen a barn as beautiful as it was."

SEE LOVE, FAIR STYLE, B3

## Senator, lawmakers discuss sustainable farming on farm tour

On June 18, Sen. David Senjem, R-Rochester, joined other members of the Mississippi River Legislative Caucus at a farm near Red Wing to discuss on-farm conservation efforts and sustainable farming methods to reduce nutrient pollution.

"All Minnesotans share a clean water goal that promotes healthy living, thriving communities, and a growing economy. I was glad to participate in a discussion on how sustainable farming practices and conservation methods can help communities along the mighty Mississippi River flourish," said Senjem, acting chair of the Minnesota Mississippi River Parkway Commission. "We all have an interest in protecting

our natural resources."

The delegation visited Lake City Catholic Worker Farm near Red Wing, a locally-based farm that uses restorative agricultural practices and crop diversification to reduce runoff that can negatively impact water quality. The tour was organized by the Mississippi River Legislative Caucus, a network of legislators in states bordering the Mississippi River that encourages

interstate discussions on river health and sustainable infrastructure development.

The tour was organized by the Mississippi River Legislative Caucus, a network of legislators in states bordering the Mississippi River that encourages

interstate discussions on river health and sustainable infrastructure development.

Senjem said, "By engaging with our agricultural communities and leveraging the best in conservation and sustainable farming practices, we can also keep the Mississippi River a national treasure."

Senjem represents Dodge and Olmsted coun-

ties in the Minnesota Senate. Senjem serves as acting chair of the Minnesota Mississippi River Parkway Commission, chair of the Senate Capital Investment Committee, and is a former majority leader and minority leader.

The Mississippi River Legislative Caucus is a project of the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators (NCEL). Created by and for state legislators, NCEL is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that organizes over 1,000 environmentally-committed state legislators from both parties and all 50 states. NCEL provides venues and opportunities for lawmakers to share ideas and collaborate on environmental issues.

**Parent Aware**

Parent Aware offers free tools and resources to help families find the quality child care programs their children need to succeed in school and life.

[ParentAware.org](http://ParentAware.org)

888.291.9811

**Covered by Medicare and suffering from Back or Knee Pain?**

**RELIEVE YOUR PAIN NOW!**

Give your back or knees the support and relief they need to reduce your pain.

- Fast and Easy Medicare Approvals
- Free Nationwide Shipping

**Learn for FREE how a Back or Knee Brace can help: 844-358-9125**

**Are you looking for child care?**

**Parent Aware**

Parent Aware offers free tools and resources to help families find the quality child care programs their children need to succeed in school and life.

[ParentAware.org](http://ParentAware.org)

888.291.9811

COUNTDOWN TO STEELE FAIR  
41 DAYS



# Mascots begin promoting fair



The ever popular mascots of the Steele County Free Fair, Steely and Stella, have begun promoting the fair by hitting area parades and celebrations. On Saturday, the duo jumped on board their little vehicles to perform in the Ellendale Days parade. The fair runs Aug. 13-18 in Owatonna.

## LOVE: fair style FROM B2



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The newlyweds stand next to a tree that had been planted several years ago as a memorial for Andy Jacobson's brother, Evan, who was killed in a farm accident near Ellendale in 2009.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Andy Jacobson and Kelli Naatz stand outside the Owatonna Foundation Building on the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna. They held their wedding reception inside the Foundation building.

days before Christmas.

"It was meaningful to us to have him there," Kelli said of having the wedding near Evan. "That was a very important aspect to have him there. It brought it all together," she added.

Kelli said the fair will always hold a special spot in her heart. "It's where I met the love of my life," she said.

She credits the fair with allowing her to meet many lifetime friends. "Everybody in 4-H is a family," Kelli said. "When you go

to the fair, you're at home with your 4-H family."

Kelli feels fortunate to have grown up around the fair, especially being involved in 4-H and agriculture activities. "Sports in great, but 4-H will take you a lot farther in life," Kelli says. "We appreciate what 4-H did for us. It shapes you into a great individual," she said.

The couple plans to give back to the organization that brought them together by volunteering their time. Kelli will be taking on at least three time slots as

shift manager at the 4-H Eat Stand during the fair. She also plans to assist with running the beef show. A scholarship is also given out to two individuals every year in memory of Evan.

"We're always helping out, donating and giving back to the fair," Kelli said. "I don't think you'll ever get rid of us."

They will also continue their family tradition of camping at the fair for the entire week. "I told mom she can't give up her camping spot because it's too good,"

Kelli said.

The Steele County Fair is "a great fair all around," Kelli says. "Every year they make it better and have something new to offer."

She hopes their children will some day enjoy the fair as much as they have.

Andy and Kelli are planning a honeymoon this coming winter. But she assured one thing. It won't be at the Steele County Fairgrounds.

"It will be somewhere warm," Kelli said.

## Best entertainment for kids at Steele fair



### Steely's Insights WAYNE STEELE

It's fair time in southern Minnesota, and the Steele County Free Fair is home to some of the best free kid's entertainment in all of Minnesota!

Mega Ride tickets for the 2019 Steele County Free Fair go on sale Monday, July 15 through 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 13 at the Hy-Vee store in Owatonna. Tickets are \$55 and entitle the wearer of the wrist band to unlimited rides the entire week of the fair on the Goldstar Midway. Wrist bands will be attached on the first day of the fair beginning at 1 p.m. at the midway ticket office. Mega ride tickets must be purchased by 5 p.m. on the first day of the fair and can be redeemed throughout the week of the fair.

Log on to the new official Steele County Free Fair website; scff.org. The website has entry forms, schedule of events, grandstand entertainment, beer garden entertainment, free stage entertainment, food vendors and sponsors.

You can sign-up for the Mutton Bustin' Contest on the SCFF website (steelecountyfreefair@scff.org) and the fair office. The contest will take place Saturday night of the fair at the Bulls & Barrels event in front of the grandstand. The cost to enter the competition is \$5; the contestant must be between 7 and 10 years

old and weigh less than 55 pounds. You must pre-register by noon on Tuesday, Aug. 13 and you must wear a helmet to participate in the event.

The Elmer Reseland stage at the KRFO Town Square-Family Area will be the home of some great family entertainment this year. The Moogician will be back daily with some new tricks and stories to share. Tuesday through Thursday will be Magic Norm with his sleight of hand, crazy magical tricks and a message about the excitement of reading. James Wedgewood is a ventriloquist

that will entertain everyone Friday through Sunday. James' amazing technical skills will surprise the audience with his quick wit and his whole cast of wacked out wooden friends.

Wayne Steele is the entertainment and publicity director for the Steele County Free Fair in Owatonna.

## Extra fair coverage begins this week

The countdown has begun to Summer days and Carnival lights 2019.

That's the official theme for this year's Steele County Free Fair, the largest county fair in Minnesota.

Beginning this week and continuing every week up until the fair, the Times will be devoting extra space to the Steele fair as a way to showcase the fair through photos, columns, stories and special features.

The fair runs Aug. 13-18 in Owatonna.

For the past decade, the Times has offered expanded coverage of the fair. Staff members will be focusing on human-interest stories related to the fair as part of the newspaper's hometown coverage.

Besides the weekly coverage leading up to the fair, the Times will

be publishing a special section devoted exclusively to the fair on Aug. 7.

For 148 years, the fair has played a key role in the social fabric of Steele County as well as the surrounding counties. The fair has been located at the current fairgrounds for 101 years.

"We would be remiss to not highlight this fair with the extra coverage we plan to provide our readers," said Rick Bussler, publisher of the Times. "The Steele County Fair is rich with tradition and people who love to volunteer to make it the best fair in the state."

The Times hopes to capture some of the magic through its special stories on people who are devoted to making the fair an extraordinary experience for others to enjoy.

**JOHN PETERSBURG**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Prepared and paid for by Petersburg Campaign Committee, 700 19th Ave. NE, Waseca, MN 56093

See you are  
the fair!

John Petersburg



# Owatonna High School

## 2018-2019 Second Semester Honor Roll

Hudson Aase	Tanner Cummins	Max Hanson	Greta Korbel	Andrew Moen	Ivan Rodriguez-Sanchez	Cayanna Stoltz
Melinda Abernathy	Samsam Dahir	Lisabet Hanson	Madeline Koslosky	Khalid Mohamed	Ethan Rohman	Andrea Storm
Nasra Ahmed	Aaron Dahlin	Elizabeth Harder	Sydney Kretlow	Muna Mohamed	Brady Rohwer	Aiden Stowe
Avery Ahrens	Emma Dahnert	Hayli Hausen	Kylie Kruckeberg	Tyler Mollenhauer	Dylan Roush	Zacharia Stransky
Asad Ali	Julia Dallenbach	Molly Hawkins	Evan Krueger	Maria Mollenhauer	Keezia Rud	Cade Strawmatt
Allison An	Elena Dant	MaKayla Hedberg	Ryan Krumholz	Kayla Mollenhauer	Aidan Ruiz	Kaitlyn Strusz
Isabella Anderson	McKinsie Davison	Margaret Heisler	Ethan Kubat	Abbigail Moran	Zander Russell	Josie Sullivan
Emma Anderson	Raul De La Paz Carranza	Jack Helget	Luke Kubicek	Sophia Muir	Katelyn Rysavy	Lauren Swedberg
Zoe Anderson	Antonio DeAlba	Burke Henderson	Noah Kubicek	Nicholas Mullenbach	Gabriel Rysavy	Jasmine Talley
Sara Anderson	Connor deBruin	Jakota Hernandez	Zachary Kubicek	Haylee Mullenbach	Shaymara Salinas	Lauren Thamert
Marcus Andrist	Emma deBruin	Olivia Herzog	Alivia Kubista	Elyssa Munch	Sahyme Salinas	Sepaltura Thompson
Addison Andrix	Jacob DeHaan	Anna Herzog	Ganno Kuehn	Austin Mundt	Lily Sampson	Nora Thompson
Annika Andrix	Carson DeKam	Ava Hess	Carter Kuehn	Abigail Munns	Samuel Sampson	Cassandra Thul
Grace Arthur	Brooke DeLeeuw	Ethan Hettinga	Miles Kuhn	Parker Nelson	Oscar Sanchez	Annah Thurnau
Lauren Arthur	Victoria Dietz	Claire Heyne	Mason Kunkel	Dominic Nelson	Elise Sande	Jack Titchenal
Jerez Autridge	Julia Dietz	Brandon Highborg	Andrew Laatsch	Kaden Nelson	Mason Saurffer	Samuel Tolzman
Brianna Bailey	Mikayla Dinse	Alexis Highborg	Anastasia LaDuke	Lexi Nelson	Dakota Savoie	Kaven Torabpour
Nolan Baker	Naval Diriye	Briannie Hinckley	Emily Larson	Lydia Nelson	Jared Sawkva	Gabriel Tratz
Lindsay Bangs	Abigale Dirks	Isaiah Hinrichs	Liv Larson	Jessica Neuharth	Tessa Schirmer	Cassandra Trout
Cora Barrett	Lucas Dittmer	Noah Hodgman	Anna Leckner	Joshua Neuman	Ashley Schlauderaff	Haley Tull
Zachary Barrett	Cael Dowling	Ethan Hoffman	Alison Lee	Maggie Newhouse	MaKenzie Schmidt	Mackenzie Turley
Macy Barrington	Colton Drache	Lydia Hoffman	Afton Lee	Benny Nguyen	Nevin Schroeder	Dominic Valento
Laurny Bateman	Brenden Drever	Kallen Hoffmann	Zachariah Lenz	Moriah Noeldner	Isabella Schroeder	Anora Vang
Jenna Bauman	Sky Dube	Anna Holcomb	Thomas Leon	Isaiah Noeldner	Abigail Schroeder	Calishia Vang
Alexzander Beadell	Liam Dublin	Justice Holmes	Isabelle Leonard	Brianna O'Connor	Mariah Schroht	Maritza Vega
Chloe Beede	Karmen Eaton	Julia Holt	Brianna Levisay	Zara Ogle	McKenna Schroht	Caleb Vereide
Rachel Benson	Joseph Edel	Hailee Homeier	Madison Levy	Melia Olsen	Caleb Schuler	Alexander Vereide
Jenna Bergeron	Emilia Edel	Alex Huemoeller	Delaney Levy	Hailee Olson	Fletcher Schulz	Lane Versteeg
Joseph Betti	Luke Effertz	Sydney Hunst	Zachary Liebl	Emerson Omangi	Alivia Schuster	Anna Vetsch
Alix Bettin	Elise Egbert	Ethan Hunt	Grace Linders	Selena Ong	Lanie Schuster	Stanley Von Helmst
Patricia Biegert	Mirah Eichten	Nataly Hurtado Tiza	Reese Lindholm	Isaac Oppegard	Benjamin Schwartz	Madison Voracek
Klara Blacker	Kya Elsbecker	Derek Huxford	Catryna Lindholm Sullivan	Daniela Ortiz	Abigail Schwartz	Riley Voracek
Morgan Blood	Kaia Elstad	Audrey Hylle	Ruth Livingston	Ayan Osman	Brooke Schwartz	Taylore Wagner
Tea Boerner	Ethan Engel	Regan Ihlenfeld	Emma Loveless	Katelynn Paape	Matthew Segler	Gavin Walerius
Ethan Boerner	Kaleb Enter	Kathryn Ihre	Julius Luckert	Aiden Packard	Jacob Seykora	Susan Walker
Lauren Borgerding	Brody Erola	Adela Interiano	Lucy Maciis	D'age Padilla	Kate Seykora	Tatum Walkingstick
Nelson Bottin	Halima Farkhudin	Spencer Intress	Kaitlyn Madole	Lauren Phelps	Matthew Seykora	Thomas Wall
Damian Boubin	Brent Fischer	Charity Jackson	Lincoln Maher	Genevieve Phillips	Kelsie Simon	Ethan Walter
Rebekkah Boubin	Evan Fosness	Grace Jacobs	Emma Maher	Jessica Pieper	Ruvieanna Skaalerud	Nicole Weber
Ava Bretl	Samantha Fredin	Leone Jacobson	Cassandra Maine	Mason Piepho	Nicole Skalicky	Abigail Webster
Adrien Breuer	Kiley Friedrichs	Jannah Jandi	Emily Maine	Ariadna Martin	Savana Sletten	Scott Weckman
Jocelyn Brooks	Landon Fumo	Libby Janka	Bailey Manderfeld	Hunter Martin	Easton Sletten	Leah Welker
Haven Broton	Ryan Gander	Tucker Jeno	Kayden Manning Wallace	Nicholas Pilcher	Ava Sletten	Blake West
Adelaide Broughten	Leo Gantert	Alissa Jensen	Ashwini Manokar	Calbey Podein	Camryn Smith	Dallas Wetzel
Annika Brown	Monica Garcia	Ashton Jensen	Maggie Marks	Hannah Potter	Nathaniel Smith	Connor Whalen
Joseph Brueggemeier	Madeline Gardow	Zachary Jerpabk	Emelia Marks	Jameze Powell	Abigail Smith	Morgan White
Nathan Buegler	Logan Gauthier	Alyvia Johnson	Ariadna Martin	Ethan Prokopec	Grace Smith	Annika Wiese
Samuel Buegler	Laura Gebur	Auna Johnson	Hunter Martin	Joseph Prostollo	Alexandra Smith	Kennedy Wilker
Matthew Bueltel	Sophia Gieseke	Landon Johnson	Morgan Masche	Joshua Prostollo	Alexis Smith	Ariana Wilker
Nolan Burmeister	Henry Gigstead	Blaine Johnson	Ransom Maslinski	Elizabeth Prostollo	Cheryl Smith	Madeline Wilker
Emma Burns	Connor Ginskey	Benjamin Johnson	Mariah Mason	Lainie Rahn	Lathan Smith	Nicholas Williams
Asia Buryska	Brody Ginter	Madeline Johnston	Vance Matejcek	Emily Rahrick	Savannah Smith	Andrew Williams
Ashley Busho	Jenna Gleason	Payton Jorgensen	Conner McCartney	Isaiah Ranslow	Shannon Smith	Ava Wolfe
Brynn Butler	Kiley Golberg	Payton Jorgenson	Logan McGahean	Jackie Meiners	Gavin Sommer	Grace Wolfe
Holly Buytaert	Angel Gonzalez	Tara Kack	Alyssa McGinn	Haley Meiners	Logan Spaar	Emma Wolf
Viviana Cantu Sanchez	Elizabeth Granowski	Jorden Kalbach	Madison McKenzie	Jacqueline Meiners	Jenna Spatenka	Emma Zappia
Dallas Carlson	Madysen Grass	Jessy Kaspfeldt	Jasmine Medina	Benjamin Revier	Jessica Spatenka	Dominick Yerhot
Victoria Cassen	Tristan Groh	Courtney Kath	Preston Meier	Hunter Menden	Eli Spurgeon	Angela Zaccaria
Ashlikay Castillo	Jake Gronli	Dakota Kath	Jack Meiners	Makayla Mendez	Karington Stanford	Benjamin Zappa
Nolan Cederstrom	Emily Grosland	Lydia Kath	Dylan Meiners	Morgan Miller	Nicholas Staska	Madison Ziegler
Caryl Christenson	Rian Grunwald	Rachel Kellar	Haley Meiners	Liam Miller	Reid Stauffer	Emma Zimmerman
Julia Christenson	Max Guenther	Ashley Kellar	Isabella Meiners	Jacob Miller	Caroly Stauffer	Max Zirngible
Lexionna Christianson	Gabrielle Guimond	David Keller	Isabella Meiners	Camryn Miller	Nicholas Steel	
Emily Christiansen	Hillary Haarstad	Aaron Kess	Isabella Meiners	Kayla Klinenberg	Brandon Steiger	
Veronica Church	Mackenzie Haberman	Annika Kilanowski	Isabella Meiners	Eli Knutson	Ella Stockwell	
Isabella Claeys	Emily Hagen	Cade King	Isabella Meiners	Skyler Kopecky-Johnson	Ethan Stockwell	
Heather Clark	Oliver Hansen	Sarah Kingland	Isabella Meiners			
Wyatt Clausen	Julia Hansen	Kialee Kleeberger	Isabella Meiners			
Tyler Cobban	Mathieu Hanson	Kayla Klinenberg	Isabella Meiners			
Grace Cocchiarella	Bennett Hanson	Eli Knutson	Isabella Meiners			
Abby Crandall	Faith Hanson	Skyler Kopecky-Johnson	Isabella Meiners			

### Students of Distinction

Fardowsa Abbas	Esmeralda Degollado	Ryan Haberman	Griffin Korbel	Landon Olson	Abe Stockwell
Shamsa Abdullahi	Matthew DeHaan	Katelyn Korpi	Serena Omangi	Cameron Stoen	
Adnan Abdullahi	Jake DeLeeuw	Philippe Koslosky	Devin Omangi	Azalea Story	
Suci Abdullahi	Jorge Delgado	Ethan Koziolak	Abdirizak Omar	Grant Stowe	
Grant Achterkirk	Hunter Delhanty	Stephanie Hager	Wilo Omot	Jacob Stoykovich	
Gabriel Adams	Jesse Demi	Anas Haji	Alexis Ortiz Padilla	Joseph Stransky	
Ayan Ahmed	Raymond Demli	Thomas Hanson	Hailie Osmon	Korban Stricklin	
Alexis Akemann	Makenna Dempsey	Jade Hanson	Caden Kubicek	Olivia Svenby	
Elena Alba	Gavin DeWitz	Jack Hanson	Levi Kubicek	Makalia Szymanski	
Hayleigh Albers	Reilly Dibble	Avery Hartman	Gabriella Lamont	Kobe Thomas	
Gustavo Alejandro	Mackenzie Donahue	ZamZam Hassen	Zachary Langager	Jay Thompson	
Iqra Ali	Francis Donlon	Solomon Havelka	Samuel Lange	Domnick Thompson	
Logan Anderson	Noah Drache	Caden Hedlund	Connor Lantsberger	Sophie Thurnau	
Jennifer Armendariz	Joseph Dub	Samuel Helmsley	Levi Larsen	Annie Thurnau	
Bianca Avalos	Derek Dunn	Jackson Hemann	Braydn Larson	Dominique Timmerman	
McKenna Baker	Evan Dushek	Jace Hendricks	Cole Larson	Caelesta Tripp	
Kaine Baldus	Marlee Dutton	James Henriksen	Christopher Lewis	Brayden Truelson	
Michael Bangs	Joseph Earl	Samuel Henson	Evan Little	Alex Trybus	
Damaeon Bartlett	Thomas Earl	Jonathan Hernandez	Onyka Lopez	Leah Tucker	
Angelina Bartz	Cole Earles	Fatuma Hersi	Trenton Lower	Nyakuoth Tut	
Camryn Bartz	Kayla Eaton	Sean Heselton	Alexander Lowery	Charlea Underwood	
Payton Bauer	Steven Eckard	Hannah Hesprich	Chynna Luna	Natalie Utoft	
Alex Beaver	Cassandra Emmons	Javelle Higgs	Jamie Lysne	Harrison Utoft	
Emily Beckmann	Emily Engebretson	Quang Ho	Sabella Maas	Amelia VandeZande	
Jackson Bellomy	Mason Enger	Mackenzie Hoffman	Dylan Maas	Kate VanReeth	
Joseph Berg	Parker Erickson	Ashton Hoffman	Tyler Maas-Schlie	Oscar Vasquez	
Benjamin Berg	Caleb Esquivel	Michael Hofmaster	Emma Maeyerta	Evelyn Vasquez	
Sean Bergeman	Stephanie Esquivel	Tristan Hollister	Roxy Manzano	Izaya Vazherms	
Marc Berkley	Sadia Fakrudin	Erin Holzerland	Natalie Matejcek	Erika Vortherms	
Jacob Bochmann	Aisha Farah	Brooklyn Houser	Jalisa Mathews Schmidt	Rhiannon Vraspi	
Paige Boedecker	Peter Fast	Breeana Houser	Abigail Mathison	Hailey Wagaman	
Lainy Boedecker	Samera Fearn	Parris Hovden	Kathryn McDermott	Reed Wagner	
Dylan Boerner	Mckenzi Fedder	Hunter Huebbe	Avery McManimon	Nyagam Wal	
Ian Borgschatz	Estela Fernandez	Evan Huemoeller	Abigail Medo	Trace Walderon	
Elizabeth Borromeo	Jared Fett	Molly Hulbert	Hunter Meehan	Jonathan Wall	
Carter Breckenridge	Kaden Finholdt	Asma Hussein	McKenna Melby	Tayiah Waltz	
Joseph Brein	Elizabeth Fisher	Sudi Hussein	Xitali Mendez	Caleb Wannarka	
Cassandra Bremer	Payden Foster Erickson	Nolan Ideker	Talus Meyer	Jared Warn	
Gabriela Breuer	Hailey Fox	Samantha Ihrke	Makenzie Michael	Hailey Wegener	
Seth Brewer	Emmalynn Friesen	Jasmine Ihre	Leif Michaelson	Cody Wehr	
Madelin Bruessel	Josef Friesen	David Izquierdo	Hazel Michaud	Evan Weippert	
Ezra Buck	Jenna Gonzales	Samuel Jabara	Ian Miller	Niveah Welch	
Evan Buck	Angel Garcia Perez	Tytiana Jackson	Celina Mims	Annabelle Wellnitz	
Jonathon Burbie	Mathew Gardner	Karla Jacobo Zavaleta	Ayaaan Moalim	Jamie Wells	
Brady Carrigan	Marco Garibay	Abdulatah Jama	Ian Moffett	Joby Werk	
Destine Cavazos	Wyatt Garten	Johnathan Jensen	Istahil Mohamed	Dakota Wetzel	
Mason Chandler	Austin Garten	Lucas Jensen	Liban Mohamed	Sydney Winch	
Kyle Christenson	Citlaly Garza	David Johnson	Khalid Mohamed	Paige Winter	
Alyssa Cicero	Jenna Gasner	Krystal Johnson	Evan Moore	Taylor Boltman	
Hailey Clear	Hunter Gathje	Amaal Munye	Janessa Moore	Kya Wright	
Mason Cochchiarella	Isaac Gefre	Bryce Murry	Karen Morales	Ryan Yankoviak	
Hailey Cockram	Holly Gerdtz	Riley Myrom	Leah Seykora	Lillian Yates	
Valentina Contreras	Tate Gfrerer	Arica Kath	Joshua Nechanicky	Ellie Youngquist	
Megan Copeland	Drake Gieseke	Brendan Kath	Zachary Nechan		

## BLOOMING PRAIRIE

**JULY 4**  
Fourth of July Celebration

**JULY 8**  
1 p.m. – Movie Mondays, BP Library  
7 p.m. – Public Hearing Meeting, followed by City Council Meeting

**JULY 9**  
10:30 a.m. – BP Library  
2 p.m. – Pony Tales, BP Library  
4:30 p.m. – Fire Commission Meeting

**JULY 10**  
1 p.m. – Teen Time, BP Library

**JULY 11**  
4 p.m. – Police Commission Meeting

**JULY 16**  
2:30 p.m. – Public Utilities Meeting  
5 p.m. – Ambulance Commission Meeting

**JULY 17**  
11 a.m. – Golf Fun Day, Country Club

**JULY 22**  
6:30 p.m. – Fire Relief Association Meeting

## ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

**JULY 5**  
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

**JULY 8**  
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

## OWATONNA/MEDFORD

**JULY 4**  
10 p.m. – Fireworks, Fairgrounds

**JULY 6**  
7 a.m. – Farmers Market, Central Park

**JULY 7**  
1 p.m. – Crochet in Transition, Animal Painting Opening, Arts Center  
1 p.m. – Sharon Stark Exhibition Opening, Arts Center

**JULY 8**  
4:30 p.m. – Owatonna Park & Rec Board Meeting, City Admin Building  
6 p.m. – Galactic Game Nights, Owatonna Library  
7 p.m. – Medford Park Board Meeting, City Admin Building

**JULY 9**  
9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Summer Storytime, Owatonna Library  
11 a.m. – Neighbors Helping Neighbors Golf Classic, Country Club  
1 p.m. – So Many Books... So Little Time, Owatonna Library  
4 p.m. – The North Market, Grace Baptist Church  
4:30 p.m. – Healing Art Exhibition, Owatonna Hospital  
5 p.m. – Steele County Board Meeting, County Admin Building  
5:30 p.m. – Owatonna Human Rights Commission Meeting, City Admin Building  
5:30 p.m. – Owatonna Planning Commission Meeting, City Admin Building

**JULY 10**  
9:30 a.m. – Garden Time, Owatonna Library

## Owatonna Foundation announces summer hours

The Owatonna Foundation office at 108 West Park Square will have the following hours for the months of July and August: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Foundation office closed June 27 and will re-open on Monday, July 8.

The Foundation was established in 1957 with the goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations

of Owatonna residents.

Since then, the Owatonna Foundation has committed more than \$11.9 million dollars in grants to Owatonna projects and annually awards \$30,000 in scholarships for both traditional and non-traditional students.

For more information

about the Owatonna Foundation, please visit our website at: [www.owatonnafoundation.org](http://www.owatonnafoundation.org), or call our office at 507-455-2995.



**Dr. Deborah J. Lien**  
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST  
GIVE THEM EVERY REASON TO SMILE

583.6613  
132 2nd Ave NE | Blooming Prairie MN



**Bob Remker**  
507.363.9275  
bremker@gmail.com  
[www.HomeSellersMN.com](http://www.HomeSellersMN.com)

## J &amp; H LIQUOR

## SUMMER EVENTS

## BAR BINGO

Monday at 6:30 p.m.  
July 1, 15, 29  
August 12, 26

## JULY 3

Street Dance  
"Red Dirt Road"  
8 p.m. - Midnight  
\$5 Convercharge  
21 & over  
ID required

## JULY 4

Open 9 a.m. to close  
(Bar & OFF-SALE)

## JULY 20

B.O.B. RIDE: TOYS FOR TOTS  
Registration: 9 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.  
at J&H Liquor  
Fee: \$10 per ride  
Ride: Leaves at 10:30 a.m.  
Meal: 5 p.m. at J&H Liquor  
(2018 Donation was \$15,000)

WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOUR BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, OR RETIREMENT PARTY

## It's time to play in the sand



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Temperatures have warmed somewhat and this has allowed these little girls an opportunity to visit the Blooming Prairie swimming pool. The pool opened for the season on Monday, June 10. Finding fun in the sand are Aspen Clayton, 6, at left and Lydia Brown, 4.

## Weekend Out coming to Owatonna

### CARD BOARD BOAT REGATTA

#### 10 a.m. at River Springs Water Park

The Cardboard Boat Regatta challenges amateur boat builders – youth and adult – to design, build and navigate boats made **entirely** of corrugated cardboard. The crafty cardboard creations then sail (or sink!) in River Springs Water Park Activi-

ty Pool as they compete for a variety of trophies. Spectators have just as much fun cheering on the courageous crews and soaking up the sun. (Registration Required) For more information please see the Owatonna Parks and Recreation website!

On Friday, July 12, there will be Movie in the Park at the Lincoln Soccer complex. Grab your blankets and lawn chairs, sit back and watch the movie *The Sandlot* under the stars! The movie will begin at sunset (approximately 8:45-9 p.m.), pre movie activities will begin an hour before the movie – play games on the newly repurposed tennis courts! Concessions will be available. Rain date is July 13.

On Saturday, July 13, there will be several activities:

#### DIAPER DASH ~ TODDLER TROT ~ KIDS K TRAIL RUNS

#### 9 a.m. at Dartts Park

Register at the park. Races are free, all participants finishing receive a prize. A child may register for more than one race, but will only receive one finishing prize.

Diaper Dash – crawling only. A 10-foot course for 24 months or younger.

Toddler Trot – ages 2-5, a 100-meter run.

Kids K-ages 4-12. A full K trail run – ending at Brooktree Clubhouse.

Sponsored in part by Twin Cities in Motion

#### 5-7 p.m.

Join us for a beach

party at Lake Kohlmier.

There will be activities

and music. Food available

for sale. Watch Park and Rec Facebook Page for

more information.

#### LAKE KOHLMIER RENTAL SPECIAL

#### 12-7 p.m. at Lake Kohlmier

Looking to try out the new equipment down at Lake Kohlmier? This is your chance to glide through the waters at Lake Kohlmier with our Summer Weekend Out Special. Lakefront rentals will be discounted to only \$3 per 1 hour rental!

Come on out and take a

Kayak, Canoe, Paddle

board, paddle boat or

Hydro Bike for a spin!

On Sunday, July 14,

there will be a super splash

special offered all day at

River Spring Water Park.

Admission will be \$2.50.

## Red Cross urges donors to fill missing types to prevent summer blood shortage

The \_meric\_n Red Cross needs 1\_d d\_n rs to bring back the missing A's, B's and O's. A few missing letters may not seem like a big deal in a sentence, but for patients who need A, B, O and AB blood types, these missing letters mean life. The Red Cross urges donors of all blood types to give now to help prevent delays in medical care this summer.

Six years ago, doctors told Jacqueline Rogers' family that there wasn't enough type O negative blood available to perform her open-heart surgery. This news that her surgery was postponed was scary for Jacqueline, just 8 at the time, who was born with a congenital heart disorder. "No blood means no surgery. I thought I was going to die." Fortunately, blood donors stepped up, and Jacqueline's surgery was successfully completed a week later.

To draw attention that blood types sometimes do go missing from hospital shelves, A's, B's and O's began disappearing on June 11 from iconic brand logos, social media pages, signs and websites as part of the Missing Types campaign. The campaign is raising awareness of the need for more blood donors.

While thousands of blood donors have answered the call to fill the Missing Types, more donors are needed now to help ensure patients don't have to wait for blood products. During the summer, especially

around holidays like Independence Day, donations often don't keep pace with patient needs. The Red Cross is thanking all those who come to donate July 1-6 with an exclusive Red Cross Missing Types T-shirt, while supplies last.

Make an appointment to donate blood by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-733-2767.

### UPCOMING BLOOD DONATION OPPORTUNITIES JULY 5-JULY 15: FREEBORN

Albert Lea  
July 10: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Ramada, 2301 E. Main St.  
July 12: 12-6 p.m., North Bridge Mall, 2510 Bridge Ave.

### MOWER

Austin  
July 8: 1-5:30 p.m., Holiday Inn, 1701 4th St. NW  
July 9: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Holiday Inn, 1701 4th St. NW

### STEELE

Owatonna  
July 5: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Famous Dave's, 4355 W. Frontage Road  
July 11: 12-6 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 609 Lincoln Ave. S.

July 12: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 609 Lincoln Ave. S.

July 15: 12-5 p.m., The Retrofit Companies, 1010 Hoffman Drive

July 15: 12-6 p.m., Seventh Day Adventist Church, 2373 7th Ave. NE

## Farmer's Market open in Owatonna

Vegetables galore are available in Owatonna on the weekends.

The Owatonna Farmer's Market

is held every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Central Park located in downtown Owatonna.

The market will be open until the last weekend in October.

## Don't miss all the "Better Choices!"

Plan your viewing with the IN FOCUS Program Guide!

Delivered to you monthly • 1 Year Member Subscription \$35.

email: [MBednar@KSMQ.org](mailto:MBednar@KSMQ.org) or 507.481.2098

**KSMQ-TV**  
The Better Choice

**RTOWN 90**  
Farm connections



**J & H LIQUOR**

**SUMMER EVENTS**

**BAR BINGO**  
Monday at 6:30 p.m.  
July 1, 15, 29  
August 12, 26

**JULY 4**  
Open 9 a.m. to close  
(Bar & OFF-SALE)

**JULY 20**  
B.O.B. RIDE: TOYS FOR TOTS  
Registration: 9 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.  
at J&H Liquor  
Fee: \$10 per ride  
Ride: Leaves at 10:30 a.m.  
Meal: 5 p.m. at J&H Liquor  
(2018 Donation was \$15,000)

**WEEKEND OUT**

**Business for Sale**  
Need a career change?  
Be your own boss!  
Great opportunity to own this hometown bar/off-sale.  
Contact Harvey for details.

**KSMQ-TV INFOCUS**

We are YOUR Local Public Television!

INSIDE THIS EDITION  
Save Public Television | 2  
KSMQ Wins Telly Awards | 2  
Farm Connections returns | 3  
VIEWING GUIDE | 4  
Make Your Mark | 4  
Mischievous Dolphins in Nature | 7  
KSMQ Sponsors | 8  
...and much more!

PBS

# WOOD CHIP BIOREACTORS

## *A lesson for farmers at Field Day on Toquam's farm*

**BY HOWARD LESTRUD**  
STAFF WRITER

Woodchip bioreactors and saturated buffers dominated discussions at a farm field day hosted by the Toquam Family Farm in Dodge County on Friday, June 28.

The Toquam Family Farm is located about seven miles northeast of Blooming Prairie. The Toquam Family Farm spans three generations: Orlo, his son Roger and Roger's three sons, Brennan, Josh and Isaiah. All were present at the field day.

Early in the morning, Roger, a Ripley Township Board member, ironically was closing roads in Ripley Township due to flooding conditions caused by heavy rains the night before.

A host of experts on drainage water management shared experiences with new farm field drainage practices, mainly with woodchip bioreactors and with saturated buffers.

The Toquams were approached by the Dodge County Soil & Water Conservation Board and the Zumbro Watershed District to construct a bioreactor for the purpose of managing drainage water on their properties. Ellingson Companies constructed a wood chip bioreactor on the Toquam property in Ripley Township.

Another reactor is to be constructed on Toquam property located in Westfield Township of Dodge County. This project is in the Cedar River Watershed.

Roger Toquam said his family is interested and concerned about conservation practices, which will make them better stewards of their land.

The Minnesota Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funded an agreement in August 2018 with Ecosystem Services Exchange (ESE) to increase technical assistance available to producers in the southern portion of the state to reduce nitrate loading of Minnesota watercourses.

This three-year agreement places an emphasis on watersheds draining into the Mississippi River Basin.

The agreement provided

for 10 training sessions for NRCS and partner organization staff. The three-year project also includes 210 site reviews, 70 drainage water management plans and designs for 50 saturated buffers and 40 bioreactors.

The morning session and part of the afternoon session centered around presentations from:

- Mark Dittrich, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Paul Sweeney, Ecosystem Services Exchange
- Keegan Kult, Agricultural Drainage Management Coalition
- Dave Jones, United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Andry Ranaivoson, University of Minnesota Southwest Research and Outreach Center
- Gary Feyereisen, USDA Agricultural Research Service
- Mike Tveten, Ellingson Drainage
- Ray Thomas, Ellingson Drainage

Later in the afternoon, field day attendees took a tour of the wood chip bioreactor being constructed on the Toquam property in Ripley Township.

Prior to the start of the field day agenda, Paul Sweeney of Ecosystem Services Exchange took time with this writer to explain the various facets of drainage water management.

What is a woodchip bioreactor?

Go to the Internet and learn that bioreactors are essentially subsurface trenches filled with a carbon source, mainly wood chips, through which water is allowed to flow just before leaving the drain to enter a surface water body.

The carbon source in the trench serves as a substrate for bacteria that break down the nitrate through denitrification or other biochemical processes.

Organisms from the soil colonize the woodchips. Some of them break down the woodchips into smaller organic particles. Others "eat" the carbon produced by the woodchips, and "breathe" the nitrate from the water. Just as humans breathe in oxygen and breathe out carbon dioxide,



**Roger and Orlo Toquam check on construction progress of a wood chip bioreactor constructed on their property in Ripley Township, seven miles northeast of Blooming Prairie.**

Sweeney says bioreactors reduce nitrate levels leaving a farm field via tile. The bioreactors intercept tile water and direct it into the bioreactor, Sweeney explained.

The biology within the reactor breaks down the nitrate into nitrogen gas, Sweeney further explained. The excess water then leaves the reactor and goes to the stream or ditch, he said.

With a wood chip bioreactor, it is hoped that 40 to 60% reduction in nitrates will be achieved. The objective is to reduce the nitrates going downstream. If the nitrates are not removed, the drinking water standard is exceeded.

Sweeney said that Minnesota Nutrient Reduction Strategy states that 43% of the nitrates leaving Minnesota via the Mississippi River comes from tile drainage.



**ORLO TOQUAM**



**ROGER TOQUAM**

Sweeney says the reduction of nitrate levels is achieved by employing these practices:

- 1) Drainage water management
- 2) Woodchip bioreactors
- 3) Saturated buffers

Sweeney reports that

there is considerable interest in this program from local producers in Steele County and Dodge County. There is no cost to the producers.

Tom Gile of the Board of Water and Soil Resources says that producers

must select a farm field practice that will work for them. "Treat the water before it gets into the stream," he said.

These drainage water management practices represent a learning experience, Gile said.

Lunch was served by the Dodge Center Lions Club.

The list of other sponsors of the field day included: Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Ecosystem Services Exchange, United States department of Agriculture natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Agriculture Research Service, Al-Corn, Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment, University of Minnesota SWROC, Compeer Financial, Dodge County Corn & Soybean Growers, Minnesota Agricultural Water Resource Center, Nutrien Ag Solutions and Claremont Insurance Agency.

**Let Us Put A Drainage Project Like This On Your Farm**

We can also help you with:

- Aggregate Products
- Waterway Cleaning
- All Excavation Projects
- Hauling
- Septic

**LOKEN**

Excavation & Drainage, Inc.

Call Dallas for all your Drainage Needs! **507-451-2873**

Toll-Free 1-855-298-2568

3695 Hoffman Drive NW • Owatonna • [loken@qwestoffice.net](mailto:loken@qwestoffice.net)

## Clover Glen tapped as farm family of the year in Steele County

The Glenn Johnson Family of Clover Glen Farms has been named Steele County's "2019 Farm Family of the Year" by University of Minnesota Extension.

Glenn Johnson and Deb McDermott-Johnson run Clover Glen Farms near Claremont. The Johnsons began their farming career in 1979 by purchasing the family operation where Glenn grew up. They relocated to Claremont (Steele County) in 1993, which was an intentional migration from Carlton County following the agriculture crisis of the 1980's.

The operation has changed throughout the years. The milking herd was 100% Guernsey at the time of purchase, with Holsteins added to the operation in 1988 and Brown Swiss added in 2011. Today, Clover Glen milks 70 cows and has 90 heifers on the farm as well. They also run 220 crop acres, growing their own inputs of alfalfa haylage, corn silage, and dry hay.

Glenn and Deb stay busy on the farm. They are both owner/operators, splitting the farm duties and both managing daily operations. Glenn takes care of nutrition, feeding, herd health, and reproduction, as well as their cropping systems. Deb takes care of the young stock and keeps the farm's records.

The farm actively supports dairy production agriculture, hosting Steele County's Breakfast on the Farm twice, providing animals for Owatonna's Culture Fest, Family Festival, Early Childhood Holiday Open House and the FFA barnyard.

The Johnsons have hosted Cow Camp for 12 years. Cow Camp is a hands-on experience for young people to learn about life on a dairy farm. Students work their way through "Rookie Camp" and "Pro Camp." Pro Campers exhibit their animals at the Steele County Free Fair. To-date, a total 179 students have participated in the camp program, attracting youth

from as far away as Florida. For each of the last several years, the Johnsons have had as many as 26 students showing cattle. In 2015, an impressive 42 head of cattle were taken to the Steele County Free Fair. The Johnsons are proud of their campers - students have won honors in the county 4-H dairy interview competition, won state fair trips, and participated on dairy judging teams. Cow Camp has produced three county Dairy Princesses and several Dairy Ambassadors to-date. Twelve Cow Campers have gone on to join 4-H with three of them winning national dairy conference trips.

Families are selected as the Farm Family of the Year by their local county selection committees for demonstrating commitment to enhancing and supporting agriculture and agricultural production.

"These farm families are a major driver of Minnesota's economy and the vitality of Minnesota's rural communities,"

said Bev Durgan, Dean of University of Minnesota Extension. "The University of Minnesota is proud to recognize these farm families for their contributions to agriculture and their communities."

Clover Glen Farms will be honored during the Hall of Fame ceremony at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 13 at the Steele County Free Fair. They will also be recognized during the statewide Farm Family of the Year recognition ceremony at 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 8 at the annual Farmfest near Redwood Falls.

Farmfest runs Aug. 6-8 at the Gilfillan Estate, near Redwood Falls. Event hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Along with Farmfest, University units sponsoring the recognition event include University of Minnesota Extension, Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, the University of Minnesota College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

**CFS**  
THE POWER OF PROGRESS

an Ag-focused Cooperative that turns **Progress** into **Powerful** solutions for our customers.

**cfscoop.com**

**Agronomy • Energy • Grain • Feed • Financing**

## Blossom graduate makes family proud with athletic achievements

BY HOWARD LESTRUD  
STAFF WRITER

What do Blossoms and Rockets have in common?

Dennis Trom, a 1976 graduate of Blooming Prairie High School, carved out quite an outstanding high school athletic career as a Blossom.

Now, he has built an enviable record as head girls basketball coach and head girls softball coach for the Randolph Rockets of Randolph, Minn. Randolph is located in southern Dakota County.

A Trom-coached girls softball team recently completed its season by placing third in Class 4A of the state tournament. It was the second year in a row that the Rockets made it to the state in softball.

Even though



Dennis Trom graduated from Blooming Prairie High School as a Blossom in 1976.

many years has separated Trom, 61, from his high school sports days, he will not forget that being a Blooming Prairie Blossom has made him proud. "That's where I got my interest in sports and learned everything I could about playing football, basketball and baseball," Trom remarked.

Two of Trom's biggest fans are his twin sisters Dorothy and Doreen who both live in Blooming Prairie and continue to be Blossom supporters. Of course, they are now Rocket boosters when they are not playing Blooming Prairie. Dennis also has two brothers, Doug, North Carolina and Dean, Eden Prairie.

Let's look at some of Dennis Trom's sports involvement in Blooming Prairie and in Randolph. The history was collected by sisters Dorothy and Doreen.

Trom graduated from Blooming Prairie in 1976. While at BP, he starred as a quarterback in football with school records for most yardage thrown. He was a point guard in basketball and a pitcher in

baseball. He lettered three years in football, two years in basketball and five years in baseball.

He earned All-Gopher Conference in all three sports. He was all state his senior year of football. The Blossoms football team was ranked No. 1 in Class A and went to state, playing in the semifinals in 1974-75. He played in the high school all-star football game (Shrine Bowl) in 1976.

Trom started volunteer coaching through the many years his three children were active in sports. Sons Nick and Riley competed in baseball and football, respectively. Daughter Haley played basketball for Randolph.

Trom began as a volunteer coach in 2002. He worked with the elemen-

tary boys and girls programs and then coached with the junior high girls basketball programs. A few years later, he became the junior varsity girls basketball coach, along with being an assistant football coach and a volunteer varsity girls softball coach.

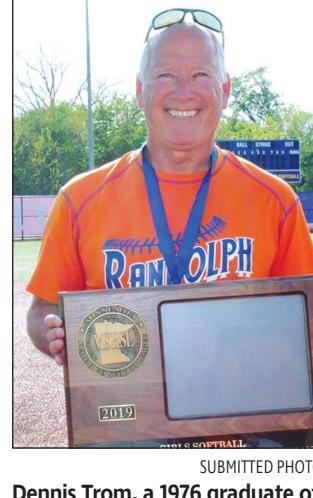
His coaching career pivoted to the girls varsity basketball program in 2013 and to the girls varsity softball team in 2014.

His overall record in coaching girls basketball at Randolph is 105-54 and his record as girls softball coach is 90-24.

Named Section 1A Coach of the Year in 2014-17 in girls basketball, Trom also set his sights on girls softball where he was named Coach of the Year in 2018.

Section softball championships under Trom's coaching were won in 2015-19. His team won 1A Sub-section softball championship in 2016 and a Section 4A softball championship in 2018 and 19.

The Randolph Rockets girls softball team went to state for the first time in the school's history in 2018 and finished third. In 2019,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dennis Trom, a 1976 graduate of Blooming Prairie High School, proudly displays Randolph's 2019 Section 4A girls softball championship trophy won by the Rocket girls. The Rockets finished third in the state tournament.

the Rockets again made it to state and earned the #2 seed. Again, the Rockets finished third.

Randolph high school coaches have been named to section Coach of the Year the last five years with Trom winning four of the five distinctions.

He was named girls basketball section 1A Coach of the Year in 2015 and 2018 and also

garnered Section 4A Softball Coach of the Year honors in 2018 and 19. His softball teams have won five conference championships.

Trom says his Blooming Prairie coaches have been responsible for his dedication to sports and for developing a love for coaching kids.

Some of Trom's BP coaches included: H. Peterson, Scott Nelson, Jerry Kokoschke, Bill Fritze, Ken Behnken, Dean Meshke and, Gerry Peterson.

Some of Trom's most memorable coaching experiences have been coaching his own kids in their early sports involvement. He remembers coaching his daughter Haley in fifth and sixth grade. "We were not



Dennis Trom was a star point guard for the Blooming Prairie Blossoms, graduating in 1976.

very good," Trom recalls. "We lost one game, 44-0, and had only three shots at the basket," he said.

Trom took over the girls basketball program after his daughter had graduated. In his second year of coaching girls basketball, his team finished 22-5 with the most teams a Randolph girls basketball team had recorded.

Have student athletes changed over the years since Trom participated? Trom answers with a definite "yes" and said one word can describe the difference and that is athletes are now "stronger."

Trom is a firm believer in weight training and says his team members go to the weight room at least three times a week. "Today's athletes, boys and girls, are bigger, stronger, faster and really go after it," remarked Trom.

Looking toward future goals, Trom said he hopes the teams "can get a little better every year."

Trom says the girls he has coached "put everything into their efforts" on the court and on the field. "They get pretty good at improving their skills," he said. "Hopefully, we can take our accomplishments to the next level," Trom said.

Randolph is a small farming community of just over 500 people and is a "tight-knit" community similar to Blooming Prairie, population of just over 2,000, Trom commented.

The Randolph community has been "great" in supporting its high school sports teams, says Trom. "We often see a sea of orange shirts at our sporting events," he says.

Trom and his wife Michelle live in New Trier, a small rural town about seven miles from Randolph. Trom next January will mark 34 years as a postal employee. He works at the Eagan Post Office.

Once remarked "Democracy may not be a perfect form of government, but it is the next best thing, and we should acknowledge it as such."

And so after all the concessions have been consumed, the big parade has marched on by, and the sky has been engulfed with a myriad of lights and sounds, we are left to ponder briefly the real meaning of the Fourth, and we celebrate and honor our ancestors for their ingenuity and their wisdom. The document they wrote has stood the test of time and will continue to do so through many more Fourth of Julys. Thanks for that.

### SOME LAST HONORS

An area newspaper recently released its All-Area baseball team, and BP players received some of the honors. Payton Simon, Luke Rennie, and Ian Wayne all made the team, and Karson Vigeland and Alex Miller were named Honorable Mentions. These individuals all deserved the honor, and we congratulate them for their play over the last season.

### PLAY DAY

This would be a good time to begin touting the annual Golf Fun Day, spon-

sored by the local Chamber of Commerce. Director Becky Noble is advertising the event as one big tailgating party, and golfers and golfing duffers are urged to enter into the spirit of the occasion.

This is one of the biggest fundraisers of the year for the chamber, and it needs the support of everyone to make the event a success. Make plans now to attend for a day of fun and remember that golfing skills take a distant second place to the intention of having fun. Entry forms are available from the chamber office or through the chamber site on Facebook. See you there.

### LAST THOUGHTS

Everyone knows that we have been cursed this year with an inordinate amount of water and last week provided the finishing touch to the water overload when 5 to 7 inches of rain fell in the Kasson area in just six hours. When the water rushes so fast and is so deep that cattle get washed away with flooding, it is time to turn off the rain spigot.

Let's hope that this was a final salute by Mother Nature, and some normalcy can be restored to our weather patterns. Regardless of what happens, we'll talk again.



These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of June 28:

### KEVCO Outlaw Mini Mods

#### A Feature 1 (12 Laps):

1. 5-Logan Brown-Clear Lake IA, [3]; 2. 97-Davis Royle-Northfield, [2]; 3.

17K-Anthony Kramer-Owatonna, [8]; 4. 15-Nathan Kilwine-Glenville, [6]; 5. 17-Tanner Prehn-Forest City IA, [1]; 6. 14-Michael Bryant-Mason City IA, [4]; 7. 48J-Justin Johnson-Baudette, [7]; 8.

12-Jalen Stay-Williams, [5]; 9.

89-Alan Royle-Northfield, [9]; 10. 2C-Cole Bennerotte-Bronson, [10]; (DQ) 71-Matt Prehn-Mason City IA, [11]

Heat 1 (6 Laps): 1. 15-Nathan Kilwine, [6]; 2. 17K-Anthony Kramer, [4]; 3. 17-Tanner Prehn, [1]; 4. 97-Davis Royle, [5]; 5. 89-Alan Royle, [3]; 6. (DQ) 71-Matt Prehn, [2]

Heat 2 (6 Laps): 1. 5-Logan Brown, [1]; 2. 12-Jalen Stay, [3]; 3. 14-Michael Bryant, [5]; 4. 48J-Justin Johnson, [4]; 5. (DQ) 2C-Cole Bennerotte, [2]

WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds

#### A Feature 1 (20 Laps):

1. 90-Ryan Wetzstein-West Concord, [5]; 2. 98B-Christopher Deno-Kasson, [2]; 3.

88-Eric Lamm-Zimmerman, [7]; 4. 79-Jeremy Misgen-New Richland, [3]; 5.

33-Darryl Hainka-Wannamongo, [13]; 6. 12-Jalen Stay, [3]; 7. 14-Cole Kroneman-Austin, [12]; (DNS) 79H-Luke Hainka-Wannamongo; (DNS) 4-Brayton Cisneros-Blooming Prairie, [5]; 8. (DQ) 16-Michael Wytske-Hartland, [6]; 9. (DQ) 82-Kylie Kath-Claremont, [8]; 10.

(DQ) 86-Noel Hoppe-Waseca, [10]; 11. (DQ) 14-Cole Kroneman-Austin, [12]; (DNS) 79H-Luke Hainka-Wannamongo; (DNS) 4-Brayton Cisneros-Blooming Prairie, [5]; 12. (DQ) 42-Cody Hyatt, [1]; (DNS) 32K-Caylee Kjos, [7]; 13. 47-Brent Holland-Glenville, [13]; 14. 32K-Caylee Kjos, [16]; 15. (DQ) 39J-Dan Klingfus-Austin, [11]; 16. (DQ) 10-Bernie Adams-Stacyville IA, [14]

Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1. 1-Dustin Dougherty, [3]; 2. 34-Braden Brauer, [2]; 3. 99-Greg Lammers-Owatonna, [4]; 4. 2-Fred Prudohe, [7]; 5. 34J-Robby Blowers-Waseca, [5]; 6. 15-Zach Elward-Hayfield, [7]; 9. 31-Rae Hastings IV-Austin, [12]; 10.

2-Fred Prudohe-Winona, [1]; 11. 42-Cody Hyatt-Waseca, [15]; 12. 71-Jonathan Hansen-Holmen WI, [10]; 13.

47-Brent Holland-Glenville, [13]; 14. 32K-Caylee Kjos, [16]; 15. (DQ) 39J-Dan Klingfus, [8]; 7.

31-Rae Hastings IV, [3]; 8.

47-Brent Holland, [5]

Action Builders USRA B-Mods

#### A Feature 1 (20 Laps):

1. 33S-Dustin Steinbrink-Austin, [1]; 2. 02-Cole Denner-New Hampton IA, [6]; 3. 99-Noah Grinstead-Austin, [2]; 4.

83X-Kadden Kath-Owatonna, [7]; 5. RED1-Scott Splitsstoesser-Cottage Grove, [5]; 6. 75-Cole Suckow-Cresco IA, [8]; 7. 44-Matthew Brooks-Austin, [9];

8. 72-Alex Schubbe-North Mankato, [19]; 9. 30-Scott Demmer-Ellendale, [14]; 10.

83K-Kobie Kath-Owatonna, [16]; 11. 02K-Hunter Kennedy-Claremont, [11]; 12.

81K-Caleb Korpi-Claremont, [13]; 13. 21-Taylor Ovrebo-Wells, [20]; 14. (DQ) 98-Kyle Anderson-Decorah IA, [10]; 15. (DQ) 54-Jett Sorensen-Rochester, [3]; 16.

(DQ) 28J-Jackson Hale-Grand Meadow, [12]; 17.

(DQ) 28-Parker Hale-Grand Meadow, [4]; 18. (DQ) 55-Brody Shaw-Brownsdale, [18]; 19. (DQ) 55H-Gavin Shaw-Brownsdale, [17]; 20.

(DQ) 4W-Tucker Williams-Rochester, [15]

Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1. 02-Cole Denner, [1]; 2. 83X-Kadden Kath, [3]; 3. RED1-Scott Splitsstoesser, [4]; 4. 75-Cole Suckow, [6]; 5. 81K-Caleb Korpi, [5]; 6. 4W-Tucker Williams-Rochester, [7]; 7. (DQ) 72-Alex Schubbe, [2]

Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1. 1-26-Brady Krohnberg-Walters, [5]; 2. 17-Michael Wick-Faribault, [2]; 3. 7X-Andrew Eischens-Taopi, [4]; 4.

1-Troy Maas-Faribault, [3]; 5.

96-Kyndra Neis-Chatfield, [1]; 6.

11-Michael Gift-Faribault, [7]; (DNS) 3G-Josh Sousa-Adalen, [5]; 12. (DQ) 19-Danny Knish-Kilkenny, [11]; 13.

19-Jerry Coopman-Mankato, [5]; 4. 63-Bailey Wolff-Janesville, [7]; 5. 34CJ-Caylee Blowers-Waseca, [1]; 6. 79T-TJ Pearson-Burnsville, [12]; 7.

41-Ashley Bell-Lakeville, [10]; 8. 22-Shawn Grainger-Lakeville, [13]; 9. 5-Nick Silliman-Minnesota Lake, [15]; 10. 20-Joe Frahm-Stewartville, [14]; 11. 02-Bryce Lisowski-Faribault, [18]; 12. 163-Mark Wolff-Janesville, [6]; 13.

6-TJ Barnett-Owatonna, [16]; 14. 28-Patrick Andrus-Austin, [21]; 15. 12-Cale Giesler-West Concord, [22]; 16.

(DQ) 5L-Luke Giesler-Richfield, [4]; 17. (DQ) 14-Justin Schelitzche-Cologne, [8]; 18. (DQ) 29-Tommie Tesch-Waseca, [3]; 19. (DQ) 17-Noah Lund-Waseca, [20]; 20. (DQ) 02K-Karson Crooks-New Hampton IA, [9]; 21. (DQ) 16-Blake Jacobson-Burnsville, [17]; (DNS) 89-Timothy Gores-Garden City, [10]; 22. (DQ) 21-Taylor Ovrebo, [13]; 23. (DQ) 55H-Gavin Shaw, [5]; 6. (DQ) 55-Brody Shaw, [6]; (DQ) 21-Taylor Ovrebo, [1]

French's Repair USRA A Modifieds

#### A Feature 1 (15 Laps):

1. 26-Brady Krohnberg-Walters, [5]; 2. 17-Michael Wick-Faribault, [2]; 3. 7X-Andrew Eischens, [4]; 4. 3-Troy Maas-Faribault, [3]; 5. 19-Jeremy Misgen-New Richland, [1]; 6.

26-Brady Krohnberg-Walters, [4]; 7. 19-Dan Grinstead-Austin, [1]; 8. 28J-Jackson Hale, [3]; 9. 30-Scott Demmer, [6]; 10.

83K-Kobie Kath, [5]; 11.



**DEALS ON WHEELS**

Sell your car, bike, RV, trailer, and anything on wheels today!!

Over 25,000 in households

**TO PLACE AN AD**

Steele County Times  
507-583-4431  
bptimes@frontiernet.net  
411 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

**NOTICE**

REGULAR SCHOOL  
BOARD MEETING  
BLOOMING PRAIRIE,  
MINNESOTA  
May 20, 2019

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

**OPEN FORUM** – No comments.

**I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL – CLERK**

Steve Ille, Rodney Krell, Kelly Braaten, Pam Hameister, Dean Meshke, Jenny Thurnau, Jon Sunde

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Superintendent of Schools, Elementary School Principal, BPTA Members

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Steve Ille to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of the May payroll amount and final FY 19 budget information. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

**V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

Report was given by Mr. Staloch.

**VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED**

A. Minutes, Bills, Treasurer's Report, Resignations, Donations

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the following items. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

\* minutes from the April 15, 2019 regular school board work session; April 15, 2019 regular school board meeting; and April 16, 17, and 23rd special school board meetings

\* May bills in the amount of \$163,357.97; April handwritten checks in the amount of \$11,055.88; April payroll in the amount of \$564,459.67; and May payroll in the amount of \$510,568.19

\* Treasurer's report as presented with no transfers between financial institutions since December 18, 2018

\* budget year-to-date comparison for 2017-18 to 2018-19

\* resignation from Megan Sangren as ESL/elementary computer teacher at the end of the 2018-19 school year

\* resignation from Catherine Befort as head speech coach

\* resignation from Heather Schiller as assistant track coach

\* no personal donations in excess of \$1,000.00 have been received within the last month requiring formal acknowledgment

B. Employment

Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve the employment of Cynthia Beinhorn for a part-time high school clerical position. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Jenny Thurnau to approve the employment of Emily Henslin as a first grade teacher. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Kelly Braaten and seconded by Steve Ille to approve the employment of Stephanie Adelman as an ECSE. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve the employment of Denise Hadrath as head academic triathlon coach from assistant academic triathlon coach. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

C. Elementary Principal's Contract

Motion by Pam Hameister and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve a contract for Jacob Schwarz effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

D. Volunteer Coaches

Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Dean Meshke to approve Steven Busho as a volunteer coach for golf. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)

E. Transportation Contract

7/4

**CLASSIFIEDS**

Serving Steele, Mower, Freeborn, Dodge, and Olmsted Counties

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

**NOTICE**

**SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #756  
BLOOMING PRAIRIE,  
MINNESOTA 55917  
MONDAY, JULY 15, 2019  
HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA  
CENTER**

**PROPOSED TENTATIVE  
AGENDA**

**6:00 a.m.  
Thursday, July 11, 2019  
\*Regular School Board  
Work Session –High  
School Board Room**

**7:00 p.m.  
Monday, July 15, 2019  
\*Open Public Forum–High  
School Media Center**

**7:15 p.m.  
Monday, July 15, 2019  
\*Regular School Board  
Meeting–High School Me-  
dia Center**

**\*Agenda may be subject to  
changes**

7/3

**FOR RENT**

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
in Dodge Center. 2 Bdrm, includes heat, water, trash, on-site laundry, and off street parking. Available August 1st \$615 a month Call George if interested at 507-269-9870 (wk 28,29,30 chg)

**2 DB ~ CLAREMONT** Open August! Rent from \$555 p/mo + heat & elec. Month to month leases and deposit pay plans. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity (29,30,31,32 chg)

**1 BD ~ MANTORVILLE** Open July! Rent from \$480 p/mo + elec. Month to month leases & no pets. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity (29,30,31,32 chg)

**1 BD ~ KASSON** Open August! Smoke free apt for 62+ or disabled persons. Month to month leases & deposit payment plans. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**1 BD ~ KASSON** Open August! Smoke free apt for 62+ or disabled persons. Month to month leases & deposit payment plans. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**2 BD TOWNHOMES ~** DODGE CENTER Open September! \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. Smoke free two story homes with 1 1/2 baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (29,30,31,32 chg)

**BARGAIN FINDER**

Sell your items for \$50 or less. Run it for four weeks. ONLY \$5!

[www.steeldodgeonews.com](http://www.steeldodgeonews.com)

**TO PLACE AN AD**

Dodge County Independent  
Dodge County Advantage  
507-634-7503 • dci@kmtel.com  
121 W. Main St., Kasson, MN 55944

**HOT JOBS**

**CAREGIVER WANTED** p/t every other Saturday day and/or Friday/Saturday overnights. Flexible hours, \$12/hour, no heavy lifting, will train. NW Rochester (507)-289-2756 (wk 26,27,28 pd)

**WANTED: CAREGIVER** for adult foster care, must be energetic, compassionate, and caring, nursing experience preferred. Call (507)208-8111 (wk 27, 28, 29 pd)

**SOLO ATTORNEY LOOKING** for administrative assistant to work 25-35 hours per week. Send resume to 1202 1/2 7th Street NW, suite 214, Rochester, MN 55901, email: [gerald@weinrichlaw.com](mailto:gerald@weinrichlaw.com) (28,29,30 pd)

**PART TIME MILKING** in parlor and some weekends.

**FOR SALE**

**PIANOS, DIGITAL PIANOS,** Rodgers Church Organs - New, Used, Sales & Service - Call DEWEY KRUGER MUSIC, Northwood, Iowa, 800-933-5830, [deweykrugermusic.com](http://deweykrugermusic.com)

**JOHN DEERE 4430 TRACTOR** WITH 5560 hours, 1 owner. John Deere 8285R Tractor with 135 hours and a John Deere 980 30' Field Cultivator. Excellent shape. Retired Farmer. Call 641-425-9300

**CAREER OPPORTUNITY****Hairdresser Needed  
for Assisted Living**

Salon Manager's License Required  
Run your own business; 1-2days/week  
Call Laura for more info 634-9500



**Prairie Meadows  
SENIOR LIVING**

**Apply at: 800 5th Ave. NW, Kasson, MN • EOE**

**CAREER OPPORTUNITY****Resident Assistant**

• FT & PT 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.

7 a.m. - 11 a.m.

# Small town lure charms Ellendale



Samuel Reyna, 3, of Ellendale, tries his luck at swinging a power hammer during a kids game at Ellendale Days last weekend.

PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD



Brian Wayne and Arlen Brekke of the Ellendale Commercial Club, manned the pork chop grill during Ellendale Days Saturday. The Club served 150 dinners at the Ellendale Municipal Building.



Avery Blouin, 5, of Ellendale, was all decked out with a colorful trike during the kiddie parade as part of Ellendale Days on Saturday, June 29.



Sisters McKenna Moody, 5, and Kaylee Moody, 3, were buddies as they surveyed activities at Ellendale Days. The hot and humid weather did not prevent these sisters from flashing a friendly smile.



Abbey Engel tried to cool off last Saturday during Ellendale Days by enjoying a Bomb Pop.



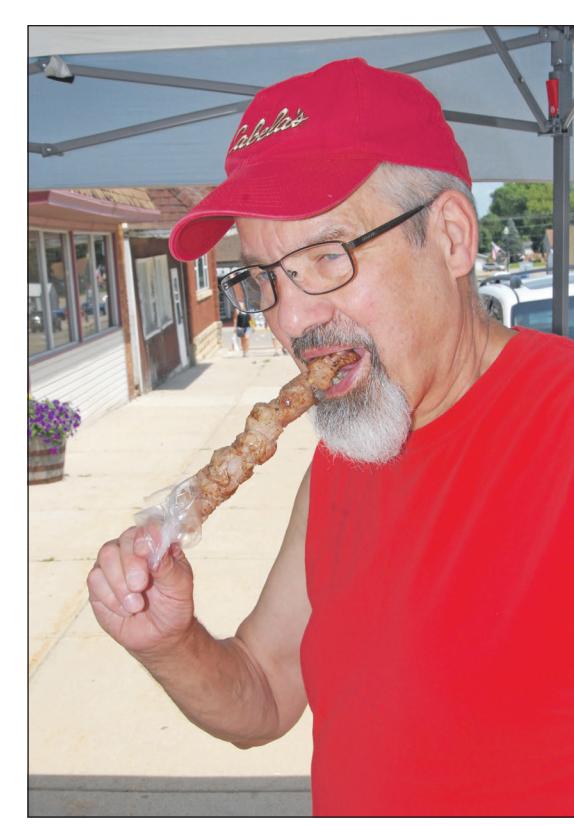
Wow! That's a big wrench. This wrench is one of many manufactured by Truth Tool. Shown at a Ellendale History Tour are Lloyd Kaplan, Frank McNulty and Barbara Mrotz.



Thirteen-year-old Graden Karl of Ellendale said he has been practicing bicycle tricks for the past two years. He is shown doing his tricks during Ellendale Days last weekend.



Alexa Viktora, 8, of Ellendale, was a turtle race winner during Ellendale Days fun activities on Saturday.



Jerome Schmidt of Ellendale takes a bite of a sausage k-bob served at Steve's Market during Ellendale Days last weekend.