

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



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"



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 Remmele, 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.

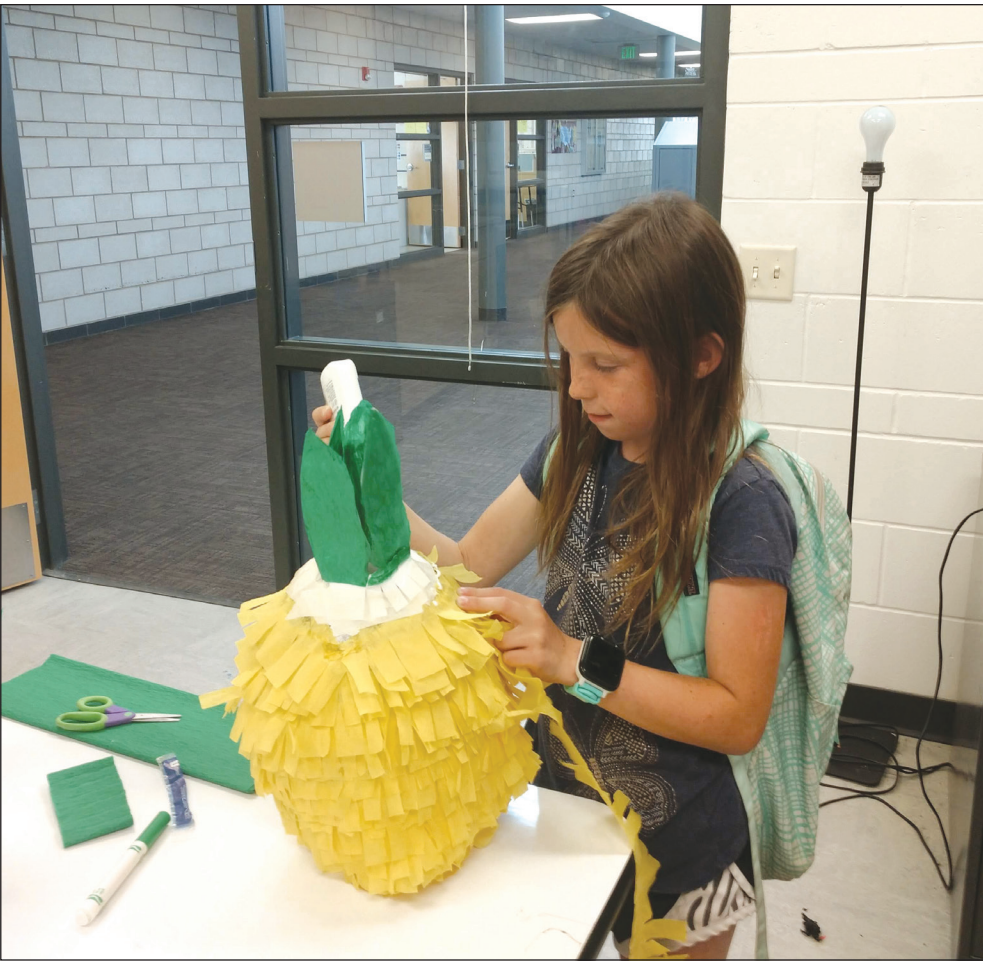
David Sklenicka and his wife, Heather, were leading a class in learning about Dungeons and Dragons. He teaches physics at Stewartville High School, and she teaches chemistry at RCTC.

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 pinata she was making in the Exploring Spanish & Pinata Making Class during the ZED Summer Academy held in Byron last week.

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

Ellendale Gold Mine and Kernie's Supper Club.

The food was outstanding, too. One of my wife Judy's high school classmates, Connie Evenson and her husband Scott, offered some of the best soft pretzels on the planet.

Ellendale has seen a lot of changes over the years and it is still home to active citizens. Thanks Ellendale for showcasing your community during Ellendale Days.



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

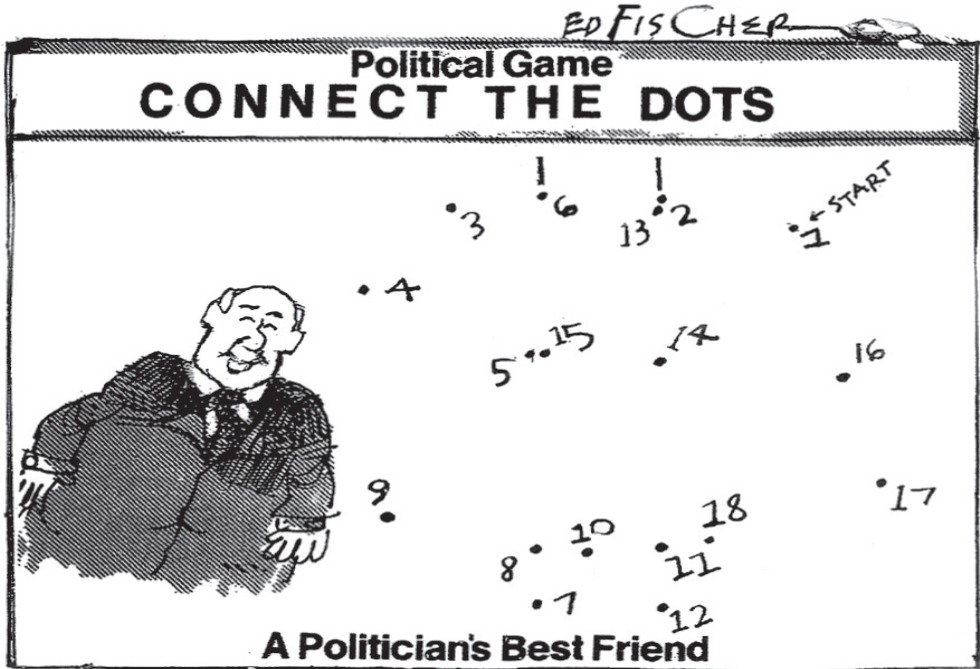
To-the-Editor:
Stories like the recent articles that you printed in the Steele County Times regarding the grand marshal in the parade during Medford's Straight River Days is what a hometown newspaper is all about.

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



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.

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, habilitating, 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 reof-

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 the 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 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 Gnemi 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 Day-care 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 or 507-214-7013.

As always, I welcome your comments and questions. You can reach me at timp@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.

of native pollinators that hibernate over the winter in these stems,” Arlt said of what people can do around their house to help pollinators. “It will help leave some habitat for the pollinators.”

She also suggested that people focus on planting native flora. “Plant plants that are native rather than some of the hybrids which do not have the nectar or the pollen that bees need, the native ones have evolved with the pollinators.” Arlt and the Master Gardeners were selling native plants during the event.

Theresa Harsma of Bee Friendly echoed Arlt’s thoughts on pollinators, stressing the importance of providing adequate habitat for them. “We are hoping to encourage people to plant more native plants to protect pollinators, and also provide more habitat and food,” Harsma said.

Native plants include species such as sunflowers, wild geranium, purple prairie clover, yellow coneflower, calico aster and many others. These native species will provide

“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 families 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 veteran 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.freeborn.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

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.



Dodge Sheriff
SCOTT ROSE

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.*

CRIME BRIEF

POLICE NAB A FLEEING CYCLIST

A fleeing motorcyclist didn't have much luck avoiding police in Owatonna. On June 17, a police detective spotted a revoked driver operating a motorcycle on Oak Avenue and radioed for a marked patrol squad to stop the cyclist. A patrol officer caught up with the cyclist on the W. Frontage Road near the Kwik Trip store and initiated a traffic stop. The cyclist immediately accelerated away to head north on 24th Avenue, according to police.

The officer pursued the cyclist for a short distance before running off the road attempting to enter northbound I-35, essentially ending the chase. A short time later, an off-duty officer saw the motorcycle crash on the roundabout in Medford. The driver fled on foot. Steele County Sheriff's deputies, the State Patrol and a K-9 unit from Rice County arrested the suspect a short time later. Police discovered the cycle was stolen in Owatonna last year. Tyler Lockman, 31, of Owatonna, has been charged with fleeing in a motor vehicle, motor vehicle theft and reckless driving.



Tyler Lockman

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 1st Street

NE and 2nd 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. Laganieri, 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 Aguilera, 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; Abbigale 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. Jorgensen, 30, New Berlin, WI, speeding, \$131; Caleb E. McClure, 25, Ankeny, IA, speeding, \$141; Christina M. Pauly, 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. Sorensen, 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. Churliye, 58, Minneapolis, invalid license; Ruwaida A. Farah, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Oliver J. Fleming, 20, Owatonna, expired tabs, \$111; Jacob D. Goerd, 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. Uhl, 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. Deml, 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. Kruszalnicki, 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 1st St. NE and 2nd Ave. NE.
June 24
Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 100 block of 4th St. NE at 12:25 p.m.
Restraining Order: Officers responded to a restraining order violation in the 100 block of 8th St. NW at 7:08 p.m.
June 25
Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the

300 block of 8th 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 26th St. NW and Frontage Rd. W.
Warrants: Police made warrant arrests in the 200 block of 12th 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 13th 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 18th 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 26th St. NW at 1:04 p.m.

June 25
Thefts: Police took theft reports in the 200 block of 12th St. NE at 6:38 a.m. and

the 1300 block of Rice Lake St. E. at 12:41 p.m.
Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of Rice St. E. at 9:51 a.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.
Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 400 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 10:38 a.m.
Shoplifting: Shoplifting incidents occurred in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W. at 1:44 p.m. and the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 5:45 p.m.

June 26
Ordinance: At 1:13 a.m., police responded to an ordinance violation in the 100 block of Vine St. E. They arrested a subject at the scene.
Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 500 block of North St. W. at 8:52 a.m.
Crash: Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries at Broadway St. E. and Grove Ave. N. at 4:59 p.m.
Criminal Sexual Conduct: At 5:14 p.m., police arrested a subject for criminal sexual conduct in the 100 block of Wilson Dr. NW.
Restraining Order: Police responded to a restraining order violation in the 1100 block of Mineral Springs Road NE at 8:47 p.m.
Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 600 block of Mosher Ave. SW at 9:46 p.m.

June 27
Driving: At 5:45 a.m., officers responded to a driving complaint in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW. They took a subject into custody.
Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 600 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 10:22 a.m.
Domestic: Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of McKinley St. SE at 12:54 p.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.
Theft: Officer issued a theft citation in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 5:24 p.m.
Restraining Order: At 8:15 p.m., a restraining order violation occurred in the 700 block of Rolling Green Dr. SE.
Arrest: Police assisted another agency with arresting a subject at Highway 14 E. and Austin Road in Owatonna Township at 9:08 p.m.

SEE BLOTTER, A6

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

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Rosa Dusbabek – controlled substance - \$30,000 bail | 8. Ramiro Esquivel – false info - \$2,000 bail | 14. Jequinnson Fisher – DWI – no bail |
| 2. Douglas Eckerman – DWI – no bail | 9. Lance Evans – DWI - \$12,000 bail | 15. Raymond Fleming – DWI – no bail |
| 3. David Ecklund – DWI - \$500 bail | 10. Travis Farris – theft – no bail | 16. Luis Flores – traffic - \$100 bail |
| 4. Hal Edelman – drugs, DWI - \$10,000 bail | 11. Francis Feeley – domestic assault - \$3,000 bail | 17. Rogelio Flores – DWI, revoked license - \$12,000 bail |
| 5. Glenn Edlison – forged check - \$1,000 bail | 12. Romero Fernandez – criminal sexual conduct - \$200,000 bail | 18. Kewana Freeman – card fraud - \$5,000 bail |
| 6. Cedric English – warrant – no bail | 13. Oscar Ferrera – DWI – no bail | 19. Ethan Frye – assault – no bail |
| 7. Anthony Esquivel – robbery - \$20,000 bail | | 20. Melinda Fuentes – no insurance - \$1,000 bail |

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

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.
- Kernie’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 Kernie’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 “Kernie” Jensen.

Lu and Kernie worked in Kernie’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 Kernie’s history.

Beach said she first worked at Johanna’s Cafe and was sold along with Kernie and Lu when they started the supper club east of Ellendale. “I was an indentured servant,” Beach laughed. She started at Kernie’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 Kernie’s as a bouncer. “Kernie’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-



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Ken Hendrickson of the Steele County Historical Society brought his pick axe with him as to explain the history of gold mine lore long ago in Ellendale. He was a featured speaker at a historical tour as part of Ellendale Days on Saturday.

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 Kernie’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.

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

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 Rihi 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.

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.
Lorraine Kniefel, 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.

Georgianna Knutson, 88, Owatonna, Aug. 13.
Norma Holton, 85, Owatonna, Aug. 14.
Agnes Brisbane, 95, Waseca, Aug. 15.
James Mullenmeister, 77, Owatonna, Aug. 15.
Melody Beland, 59, Owatonna, Aug. 16.
Robert Gedicke, 79, Owatonna, Aug. 16.
Donald Mahoney, 87, Owatonna, Aug. 16.
Phil Schroeder, 1 day, Owatonna, Aug. 17.
Terrance Reyer, 72, Owatonna, Aug. 19.
Donald Dalen, 92, Owatonna, Aug. 20.
Pamela Bowe, 68, Owatonna, Aug. 22.
Gwendolyn Fichten, 95, Owatonna, Aug. 22.
Gary Nordseth, 74, Faribault, Aug. 22.
Gary Sturgill, 65, Owatonna, Aug. 24.
Debra Ladika, 61, Owatonna, Aug. 25.
Gerald Jacobson, 95, Owatonna, Aug. 26.
Louise Krause, 90, Owatonna, Aug. 26.
Roger Meyerhofer, 68, Owatonna, Aug. 26.
Alice Plath, 90, Owatonna, Aug. 30.
Gail Arnfelt, 80, Owatonna, 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.
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.
Arnoldo 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.
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

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Hiring an In-Home Caregiver



THE SAVVY SENIOR
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220 3rd St. NW, Blooming Prairie
583-4434

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* – click on "Find Quality, Affordable Care." In addition, Medicare offers a home health compare tool at *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*.
To find someone, ask for referrals or try elder-care-matching services like *Care.com* or *CareLinx.com*. Or, for a fee, an aging life care expert (see *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*. 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 play-house/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 Wencil 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 Wencil'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 habituates 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.

Edward William Thorson, 26, arrested at 2 a.m. June 26, felony extradition hearing, held for court.
Kyaw Bu Hae, 29, arrested at 1:58 p.m. June 26, DWI, held for court.
Eric Justin Huisenga, 33, arrested June 26, felony controlled substance crime, held for court.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of June 16 – 23:

DODGE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mohamed I. Baalul, 37, Minneapolis, speeding, \$140; Vanity S. Bartlett, 31, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$37; Jamie A. Casura, 48, Kenyon, possession of marijuana, \$380 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Cyris J. Conklyn, 20, Rochester, possession of marijuana, \$380 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Todd L. Donley, 57, Byron, seat belt, \$105; Joseph L. Donovan, 21, Lake Crystal, speeding, \$220; Coe D. Emmett, 43, Claremont, seat belt, \$105; Jenny L. Fiksen, 28, Mantorville, revoked license, \$280; Timothy T. Frenzen, 57, Owatonna, speeding, \$380; Shawn M. Jakubowski, 46, Stoddard, WI, invalid license, no insurance, driving without Ignition Interlock and speeding, stay of adjudication, \$300 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Cheryl M. Luebbe, 53, Rochester, suspended license, \$280; Michael D. Madtson, 25, Farmington, speeding, \$130; Abdi A. Mohamed, 27, Faribault, speeding, \$140; Qaalid N. Munye, 22, Owatonna, speeding, \$220; Luke B. Quimby, 23, Mantorville, registration violation, \$110; Nicko Z. Rabe, 27, Dodge Center, parking violation, \$32; Thomas R. Schwenke, 42, Kasson, DWI, \$480, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Bryan A. Studnicka, 28, Rochester, parking violation, \$32; Jason D. Wells, 43, Faribault, violation of order for protection, stay of adjudication, \$300 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Noelle L. Worstman, 20, Mantorville, speeding, \$140.

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. Schneckloth, 53, Mantorville, backing upon roadway, \$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.

COLLEGE NEWS

Area students graduate from colleges

U OF M-CROOKSTON

Two area students have graduated from the University of Minnesota-Crookston

during spring commencement.

They are Jason Troy Grosland and Natalie Anne Krueger of Owatonna.

UND-FARGO

Four Owatonna area students have graduated from the University of North Dakota

during spring commencement.

They are Andrea K. Bothun, bachelor of science in social work; Michelle M. Evans,

bachelor of arts in psychology; Ashleigh J. Milbrath, master in physician assistant studies and Deanna R. Ripka, master of social work.

Students achieve various academic honors at colleges

U OF W-RIVER FALLS

Ethan Arett of Blooming Prairie has been named to the Dean's List for spring 2019 semester at the University of Wisconsin- River Falls. There were more than 1,500 students qualifying for the special honor.

Arett is majoring in animal science.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must earn a GPA of at least 3.5.

HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

Ibrahim Abdullahi of Owatonna was named to the Dean's List at Hamline University in St. Paul for spring semester.

Abdullahi is majoring in education and will graduate in 2022.

He was among more than 552 students named to Hamline University's top students. To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher and maintain a full course load.

Tori Folkestad of Owatonna has been named to the Minnesota State

University Moorhead's Dean's List in recognition of academic achievement for spring semester.

Folkestad is majoring in business administration.

Students must be in degree-seeking status and maintain a 3.25 or higher GPA while completing a minimum of 12 graded credits to qualify for the honor.

WARTBURG COLLEGE

Several area students have been named to the 2019 Winter/May Term Dean's List at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa.

The area students include Jenna McMains, Lydia Revier, Natalie Shroyer and Kimberly Strobel, all of Owatonna.

The list honors students who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above in at least five course credits. Wartburg recognized 443 students on the Dean's List.

CARTHAGE COLLEGE

Tiana Moore of Owatonna has been named to

the Dean's List at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis., for spring semester.

The Dean's List at Carthage includes students who achieve a minimum of 3.5 GPA while carrying at least 14 credit hours during the semester.

Haley Kartes, Kelly Kittleson and Alex Klecker of Blooming Prairie are among more than 800 students from Rochester Community and Technical College who made the high academic achievement list for spring semester.

To qualify for the high achievement honor, a student must have completed 3-11 credits for the same semester with a 3.75-4.0 GPA.

RCTC

Several area students have excelled academically at Rochester Community and Technical College for spring semester.

Bryan Fristedt of Blooming Prairie was among more than 400 students from RCTC who made the

President's List for spring semester. To qualify for the President's List, students must have completed 12 credits with a 3.75-4.0 GPA.

There were several other students who were among nearly 1,000 students from RCTC who made the Dean's List.

They are Ryan Chapman, Alexandra Louks and Marnie Reese, all of Blooming Prairie.

To qualify for the Dean's List at RCTC, students must successfully complete 12 or more letter-graded credits and achieve a GPA between 3.0 and 3.74.

U OF N-LINCOLN

India Enter of Medford has been named to the Dean's List/Explore Center List of Distinguished Students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for spring semester.

Enter is a freshman music major. Enter was named to the Dean's List for the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts.

More than 5,100 students at Nebraska were named to the Dean's List.

RIVERLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Many area students have been named to the President's List and Dean's List at Riverland Community College in Austin.

Benjamin Robins and Zachary Sisler of Blooming Prairie were named to the President's List for spring semester. To be eligible for the president's list, students must have completed 12 credits per semester with letter grades and have earned a GPA of 4.0.

Students named to the Dean's List are Wyatt Grundmeier and Ann Meyer of Waltham and Elijah Baker, Alexis Olivo, Zachary Piller, Alicia Ptacek, Asia Thostenson and Abby Zylstra, all of Blooming Prairie. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must have completed 12 credits per

semester with letter grades and have earned a GPA of 3.25 to 3.99.

Riverland has campuses in Albert Lea, Austin and Owatonna.

U OF M-CROOKSTON

Riley Thompson of Owatonna has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Minnesota-Crookston for spring semester.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must complete 12 or more letter grades while attaining a 3.66 GPA.

Thompson is majoring in biology and criminal justice.

IOWA STATE

Riley Arthur of Ellendale was named to the spring 2019 Dean's List in the College of Agriculture Life Sciences at Iowa State University in Ames.

The Dean's List honors students who were enrolled in 12 credit hours and earned a 3.5 GPA for the term.

Hayfield Fire Dept.
Chicken Fry and Street Dances

July 12-13

Chicken served 4-8pm at the Fire Hall on Sat, July 13

Delivery Available 477-2674

Field of Flags: at Field Crest, July 8-14, ceremony 11am on Sat, July 13. Galen Bungum 507-365-8935

Viking Pride Golf Tournament: Friday July 12 – Oaks, 10 am shot gun start. Lana 507-272-9891, Oaks 507-477-3233

Miss Hey Days Pageant: Friday, July 12 7:00pm Trinity Lutheran Church

Friday Night Street Dance: Featuring: Junk FM, July 12 8pm-12:30am, sponsored by Hayfield

Fire Department and Hayfield American Legion, must be 21 wristband required

Bingo: Friday and Saturday Night 6:30pm Hayfield Legion, all ages welcome!

Turkey Sandwiches: Friday July 12 5:00pm at Fire Hall, served by American Legion

Volleyball Tournament: All day Saturday, Earl Himle Park. 507-272-4193, 507-696-8332

Parade – 2pm: Saturday, July 13, Nicole 507-273-1307
Saturday Night Street Dance: Fire Hall, 8pm-12:30am, music by Country Line Drive, must be 21 wristband required

Beer Garden and Full Bar: Friday at Fire Hall 4pm-12:30am

5K Walk/Run: Saturday, July 13 8am, Earl Himle Park, Kathy Demmer 507-477-3655

Bean Bag Tournament: Saturday July 14 9am sign up, Earl Himle Park, Chad O'Connor 507-273-5624, AJ Anderson 507-273-0683

Boy Scout Pancake Feed: 7am-noon, Saturday July 13, Fire Hall

Lion's Brat Stand: opens 10am, Saturday, Earl Himle Park

12U Youth Baseball Tournament: Saturday – pool field and SAL fied, Kasey 507-259-0192

Kid Activities/Games: Saturday July 13, Uncle Mony', 7pm-10pm

Fireworks at Dusk: Saturday, July 13 near Field Crest

Omlets and Bloody Marys: Sunday morning 9am-noon, American Legion

Field Crest Care Center 50th Anniversary Celebration: 11am-3pm Sunday July 14

Wristbands: good for both nights, \$10 in advance, \$15 at the gate, available at area businesses until July 11 at 5pm

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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 National 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 Degrood. 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, Remelele 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 Garner.
Michelle Susan Horness and Sean Richard Horness.

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CHOCOLATE REVEL BARS

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup butter

2 cups brown sugar

2 eggs

2 tsp. vanilla

2 ¼ 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

½ 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 (Gorackowski) 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.



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 (Tamara) 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 sisters, 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.



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 spotlight. 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!

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

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

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:
BRENNIA 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

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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 Edwardson
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., Sergeant
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
Weinkauff
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 Starasinich
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 Starasinick
Deacon Patrick Fagan
507-451-4845
Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m.
Reconciliation: 3-3:30 p.m. Sat.
Daily Mass:
8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri.
(Communion Service
8 a.m. Thursday)
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CHRISTIAN

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

PENTECOSTAL

FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL
230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Eliazar Talamantes
507-363-2240
Worship: 10 a.m. 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
www.ellendaleumc.org
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST
815 E. University, Owatonna
Loren Olson, Pastor
Linda Boorman, Associate Pastor
Joyce Parker, Associate Pastor
507-451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship (Pathways):
9 a.m. Sunday

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

BRIDGES OF HOPE COMMUNITY
130 W. Bridge St., Owatonna
Pastor Keith Haskell
507-215-2249
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
Biblestudy: 9 a.m. Sun.
Reformers Unanimous Meetings:
7 p.m. Friday

CEDAR CREEK
30 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Aaron de Neui
507-477-2255
www.cedarcreekchurch.org
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

DESTINY CHRISTIAN
2515 Harvest Lane NW
Owatonna
Pastors Joe & Vicki Braucht
www.destinycc.org
Worship: 6 p.m. Sat.

ELEVATION NORTH
2002 Austin Road, Owatonna
Pastor Doug Jones
507-363-3099
www.elevationnorth.blogspot.com
Worship (English): 10 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Worship (Spanish): 2 p.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
Spanish Evangelism & Prayer:
7 p.m. Friday

NEW BEGINNINGS
332 14th St. NE., Owatonna
Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson
507-413-0209
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

SIMPLE CHURCH
4515 NW 22nd Ave., Owatonna
(Country Goods building across
the freeway from Cabela's)
Pastor Todd Lundgren
507-451-5661
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wednesday

MENNONITE

PRAIRIE MENNONITE
13638 750th St., Blooming Prairie
Bishop Dennis Martin
507-583-7532
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wed.

MORMON

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
404 31st St. NW, Austin
Bishop Rick Bremner
507-433-9042
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.

PRESBYTERIAN

ASSOCIATED CHURCH
Presbyterian Church (USA) and
United Church of Christ
800 Havana Road, Owatonna
507-451-1546
www.associatedchurch.org
office@associatedchurch.org
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

(Fellowship, Church School, and
Adult Discussions follow)
Wednesday Activities: Sept –
May (see website for schedule)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
109 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Kirk Johnston
507-477-2631
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
P.O. Box 66, Claremont
507-528-2320
Pastor Douglas Walters
10 a.m. Worship

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
2373 Seventh Ave. NE, Owatonna
Pastor Brian Beavers
507-340-7143
Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat.
Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat.

UCC

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 Main St. S., Medford
Rev. Richard Waters
507-451-4596
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
702 Third St. S., Ellendale
Pastor Patrick Stitt
507-684-3421
www.vibrantlifeag.com
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST
104 First Ave. NE,
Blooming Prairie
Pastor Matt Fennell
507-583-2673
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
& 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST BAPTIST (Owatonna's oldest church)
123 E. Main St., Owatonna
Pastor Cindy 507-451-2803
www.firstbaptistowatonna.com
Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

VICTORY LIFE
105 2nd St NE
Geneva
Pastor Diane Butler
507-402-0960
Worship on Sundays
Prayer Service: 7:30 a.m.
Church Service: 9:30 a.m.
Children's Church: 9:45 a.m.

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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

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

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 LESTRUJ

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 Manthly 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. 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 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.

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 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 eloquent.” 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.”

In addition to growing up at the fair, the newlyweds had another reason for utilizing the fairgrounds for their wedding. The ashes of Andy's brother, Evan, are buried by a tree planted in his memory outside the 4-H Eat Stand. A picnic table has also been placed as a memorial. In 2009, Evan tragically died at 14 years old in a farm accident on the family farm.

Andy proposed to Kelli by the picnic table just two

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 afforded local farmers, state legislators, and city officials the opportunity to discuss collaborative efforts and innovative techniques that reduce nutrient loading.

“After touring the Lake City Catholic Worker Farm, legislators were inspired and are dedicated to working together to reduce nutrient pollution along the Mississippi River corridor,” said Jeff Mauk, executive director for the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators. “We are inspired by their desires to coordinate together as they work towards a healthier Mississippi River.”

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.

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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



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.

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 said. 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



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.

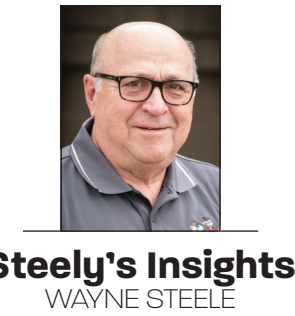
shift manager at the 4-H Eat Stand during the fair. She also plans to assist with running the beef show. A scholarship is also given out to two individuals every year in memory of Evan. "We're always helping out, donating and giving back to the fair," Kelli said. "I don't think you'll ever get rid of 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

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

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Abigail Schwartz
Brooke Schwartz
Matthew Segler
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Kate Seykora
Matthew Seykora
Olivia Shaw
Arianna Shornock
Marco Silvestri
Makayla Simon
Audrey Simon
Kelsie Simon
Ruvieanna Skaalerud
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Easton Sletten
Ava Sletten
Camryn Smith
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Nicholas Staska
Reid Stauffer
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Nicholas Steel
Brandon Steiger
Ella Stockwell
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Cade Strawmatt
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Succi Abdullahi
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Gabriel Adams
Ayan Ahmed
Alexis Akemann
Elena Alba
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Gustavo Alejandro
Iqra Ali
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BLOOMING PRAIRIE

JULY 4 Fourth of July Celebration	4:30 p.m. – Economic Development Authority Meeting
JULY 8 1 p.m. – Movie Mondays, BP Library 7 p.m. – Public Hearing Meeting, followed by City Council Meeting	JULY 11 4 p.m. – Police Commission Meeting
JULY 9 10:30 a.m. – BP Library 2 p.m. – Pony Tales, BP Library 4:30 p.m. – Fire Commission Meeting	JULY 16 2:30 p.m. – Public Utilities Meeting 5 p.m. – Ambulance Commission Meeting
JULY 10 1 p.m. – Teen Time, BP Library	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	7 p.m. – Berlin Township Meeting, Community Building
JULY 8 10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building	JULY 10 10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

OWATONNA/MEDFORD


JULY 4 10 p.m. – Fireworks, Fairgrounds	– 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 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.	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, or call our office at 507-455-2995.



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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

Owatonna's ninth annual Weekend Out is set for July 12-14.

There will be an all weekend activity of trails challenge. Residents are urged to walk, bike or run on Owatonna trails throughout the weekend and be entered into a drawing for prizes. More information can be found on this challenge on Owatonna Parks & Rec website and Facebook.

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

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 Activity 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!

LAKE KOHLMIER BEACH PARTY

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 American Red Cross needs blood donors 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 or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (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.

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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 Converage
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)

All event details available at J&H Liquor
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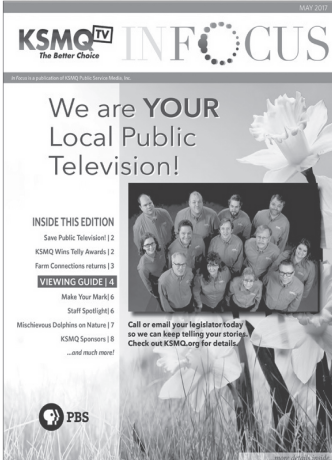


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WOOD CHIP BIOREACTORS

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, Brennen, 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 Dittich, 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,



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

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 down stream. 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

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



ROGER TOQUAM

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, AI-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.

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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 (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.

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 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 elementary 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,



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

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.



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

KEVKO 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-Micheal Bryant-Mason City IA, [4]; 7. 48J-Justin Johnson-Baudette, [7]; 8. 12-Jalen Stay-Williams, [5]; 9. 89-Allen Royle-Northfield, [9]; 10. 2C-Cole Bennerotte-Bayron, [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-Allen Royle, [3]; 6. (DNF) 71-Matt Prehn, [2]
- Heat 2 (6 Laps):** 1. 5-Logan Brown, [1]; 2. 12-Jalen Stay, [3]; 3. 14-Micheal Bryant, [5]; 4. 48J-Justin Johnson, [4]; 5. (DNF) 2C-Cole Bennerotte, [2]

WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds

A Feature 1 (20 Laps):

- 1. 90-Ryan Wetzstein-West Concord, [5]; 2. 98D-Christopher Deno-Kasson, [2]; 3. 88-Eric Lamm-Zimmerman, [7]; 4. 79-Jeremy Misgen-New Richland, [3]; 5. 33-Darryl Hainka-Wannamingo, [13]; 6. 23B-Britt Olson Jr-Waseca, [1]; 7. G12-Ryan Goergen-Stacyville IA, [4]; 8. (DNF) 37-Michael Wytaske-Hartland, [6]; 9. (DNF) 83-Kylie Kath-Claremont, [8]; 10. (DNF) 86-Noel Hoppe-Waseca, [10]; 11. (DNF) 14-Cole Kroneman-Austin, [12]; (DNS) 79H-Luke Hainka-Wannamingo, [1]; (DNS) 4-Brayten Cisneros-Blooming Prairie, [1]; (DNF) 14-Cole Kroneman, [4]
- Power 96 WISSTOA Pure Stock**
- A Feature 1 (15 Laps):** 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-Allden, [1]; (DNF) 11-Michael Gift, [2]
- Y Waste WISSOTA Hornets**
- A Feature 1 (15 Laps):** 1. 9-Nate Coopman-Mankato, [2]; 2. 193-Daniel Knish-Kilkenny, [11]; 3. 19-Jerry Coopman-Mankato, [5]; 4. 63-Bailey Wolff-Janesville, [7]; 5. 34CJ-Caylie Blowers-Waseca, [1]; 6. 79T-TJ Pearson-Burnsville, [12]; 7. 41-Ashley Bell-Lakeville, [10]; 8. 22-Shawn Grainger-Lakeville, [13]; 9. 5-Nick Sillman-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. (DNF) 5L-Luke Geisler-Richfield, [4]; 17. (DNF) 14-Justin Schellitzche-Cologne, [8]; 18. (DNF) 29-Tommie Tesch-Waseca, [3]; 19. (DNF) 17-Noah Lund-Waseca, [20]; 20. (DNF) 02K-Karson Crooks-New Hampton IA, [9]; 21. (DNF) 16-Blake Jacobson-Burnsville, [17]; (DNS) 89-Timothy Gores-Garden City, [1]; (DNF) 5 Laps: 1. 34CJ-Caylie Blowers, [1]; 2. 29-Tommie Tesch, [7]; 3. 63-Bailey Wolff, [11]; 4. 9-Nate Coopman, [9]; 5. 02K-Karson Crooks, [6]; 6. 193-Daniel Knish, [4]; 7. 22-Shawn Grainger, [10]; 8. 5-Nick Sillman, [8]; 9. 16-Blake Jacobson, [2]; 10. 89-Timothy Gores, [3]; 11. (DNF) 28-Patrick Andrus, [5]
- Heat 2 (5 Laps):** 1. 14-Justin Schellitzche, [1]; 2. 15-Luke Geisler, [4]; 3. 19-Jerry Coopman, [8]; 4. 163-Mark Wolff, [10]; 5. 41-Ashley Bell, [9]; 6. 79T-Taylor Pearson, [3]; 7. 20-Joe Frahm, [5]; 8. 6-Timothy Barnett, [7]; 9. 02-Bryce Lisowski, [6]; 10. 17-Noah Lund, [11]; (DQ) 12-Cale Giesler, [2]

Adams Graphix WISSOTA Street Stocks

A Feature 1 (18 Laps):

- 1. 01-Kory Adams-Stacyville IA, [6]; 2. 34-Braden Brauer-Eyota, [5]; 3. 32-Jason Newkirk-Austin, [3]; 4. 1-Dustin Dougherty-Oakdale, [8]; 5. 21-Jesse Stahl-Austin, [4]; 6. 99-Greg Lammers-Owatonna, [2]; 7. 34JR-Bobby Blowers-Waseca, [9]; 8. 15-Zach Elward-Hayfield, [7]; 9. 31-Raey Hastings IV-Austin, [12]; 10. 2-Fred Prudoehl-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-Winona, [16]; 15. (DNF) 39J-Dan Klingfus-Austin, [11]; 16. (DNF) 101-Bernie Adams-Stacyville IA, [14]
- Heat 1 (8 Laps):** 1. 1-Dustin Doughty, [3]; 2. 34-Braden Brauer, [2]; 3. 99-Greg Lammers, [4]; 4. 2-Fred Prudoehl, [7]; 5. 34JR-Bobby Blowers, [5]; 6. (DNF) 101-Ken Adams, [6]; 7. (DNF) 42-Cody Hyatt, [1]; (DNS) 32K-Caylee Kjos, [1]; (DNS) 2 Laps: 1. 15-Zach Elward, [4]; 2. 01-Kory Adams, [1]; 3. 21-Jesse Stahl, [6]; 4. 32-Jason Newkirk, [7]; 5. 71-Jonathan Hansen, [2]; 6. 39J-Dan Klingfus, [8]; 7. 31-Raey 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-Kobie Kath-Owatonna, [7]; 5. RED1-Scott Splittstoesser-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-St Ansarg IA, [11]; 12. 81K-Caleb Korpi-Claremont, [13]; 13. 21-Taylor Ovrebos-Wellis, [20]; 14. (DNF) 98-Kyle Anderson-Decarah IA, [10]; 15. (DNF) 54-Jett Sorensen-Rochester, [3]; 16. (DNF) 28J-Jackson Hale-Grand Meadow, [12]; 17. (DNF) 28-Parker Hale-Grand Meadow, [4]; 18. (DNF) 55-Brody Shaw-Brownsdale, [18]; 19. (DNF) 55III-Gavin Shaw-Brownsdale, [17]; 20. (DNF) 4W-Tucker Williams-Rochester, [15]
- Heat 1 (8 Laps):** 1. 02-Cole Denner, [1]; 2. 83X-Kadden Kath, [3]; 3. RED1-Scott Splittstoesser, [4]; 4. 75-Cole Suckow, [6]; 5. 81K-Caleb Korpi, [5]; 6. 4W-Tucker Williams, [7]; 7. (DNF) 72-Alex Schubbe, [2]
- Heat 2 (8 Laps):** 1. 33S-Dustin Steinbrink, [2]; 2. 02K-Hunter Kennedy, [1]; 3. 99-Noah Grinstead, [4]; 4. 28J-Jackson Hale, [3]; 5. 30-Scott Demmer, [6]; 6. 83K-Kobie Kath, [5]
- Heat 3 (8 Laps):** 1. 44-Matthew Brooks, [2]; 2. 28-Parker Hale, [4]; 3. 54-Jett Sorensen, [3]; 4. 98-Kyle Anderson, [7]; 5. (DNF) 55III-Gavin Shaw, [5]; 6. (DNF) 55-Brody Shaw, [6]; (DQ) 21-Taylor Ovrebos, [1]

French's Repair USRA A Modifieds

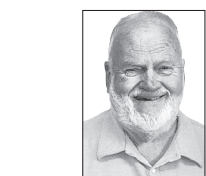
A Feature 1 (25 Laps):

- 1. 02-Jacob Dahle-Morris-town, [1]; 2. 50-Brandon Davis-Hayfield, [17]; 3. 8S-Tony Schill-Oakdale, [5]; 4. 29H-Joe Horgdal-Kasson, [9]; 5. 51W-JT Wasmund-Pine Island, [10]; 6. 3A-Taylor Ausrud-Hayfield, [4]; 7. 77-Jacob Stark-Austin, [12]; 8. 96-Greg Jensen-Albert Lea, [16]; 9. 40-David Schuster-Waterville, [11]; 10. (DNF) 71-Jason Cummins-New Richland, [6]; 11. (DNF) 98-Kevin Stoa-Albert Lea, [8]; 12. (DNF) 23-Darwin Karau-Kasson, [2]; 13. (DNF) 99-Josh Angst-Winona, [7]; 14. (DNF) 51-Blake Arndt-Brownsdale, [15]; 15. (DNF) 15-Chris Loberg-Elma IA, [14]; 16. (DNF) 90-Steve Wetzstein-West Concord, [3]; (DNS) 21R-Tony Ranes-Lake Mills IA, [1]
- Heat 1 (8 Laps):** 1. 02-Jacob Dahle, [2]; 2. 71-Jason Cummins, [6]; 3. 98-Kevin Stoa, [5]; 4. 29H-Joe Horgdal, [7]; 5. 51W-JT Wasmund, [1]; 6. 40-David Schuster, [9]; 7. 21R-Tony Ranes, [3]; 8. 51-Blake Arndt, [8]; (DQ) 50-Brandon Davis, [4]
- Heat 2 (8 Laps):** 1. 3A-Taylor Ausrud, [2]; 2. 90-Steve Wetzstein, [3]; 3. 23-Darwin Karau, [7]; 4. 99-Josh Angst, [6]; 5. 8S-Tony Schill, [5]; 6. 77-Jacob Stark, [1]; 7. 15-Chris Loberg, [8]; 8. 96-Greg Jensen, [4]



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Outside the Lines

LEMAR NELSON

By far the most important and favorite holiday of the year is the annual celebration that this community has dubbed A Good Old Fashioned Fourth of July. Each year doubt is raised as to the feasibility of continuing the event, and each year enough people step up to ensure that the custom and tradition will continue. It is rightly labeled one of the most popular attractions in the entire area.

This year when the day falls midweek some pluses and some less fortuitous events arise. Most local people stay home and take part in the activities offered. Conversely, many people get just the holiday off and then must trudge off to work the next day. It just depends on the individual.

As far as the day itself is concerned, it is really a pretty accurate picture of riding, walking, or just sitting around watching this small piece of life pass in parade. Then in the afternoon, everyone scrambles for a space near

the street, as the big parade wends its way through the downtown streets.

And then, when all the cheese curds, pork sandwiches, and sno cones have been devoured, the day ends gloriously with the always-sparkling fireworks display that caps a hectic, but entertaining good old-fashioned Fourth of July.

And so far, we have discussed just the activities of the Fourth and have said nothing about what the holiday really is about. Memorial Day honors all the service personnel who have sacrificed their lives for the country. The Fourth of July honors all those enterprising patriots who wisely drew up a Declaration of Independence that has kept our country democratic and independent through 245 years of existence.

Who could have thought that a small group of forward thinking individuals could devise a document so sensible and yet wise that it would prevail through numerous wars, tragic times in history, and even rhetorical attacks on the document itself. Yes, we have much to celebrate on this special day. We again honor the individuals who have battled to keep our country safe and a beacon of democracy. As someone

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 he 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 I 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.



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FREE CONSULTATIONS

FORECLOSURE

18-109820

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 12, 2004

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$140,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Lavern D. Ehlers and Eunice E. Ehlers, husband and wife, Delmar W. Ehlers, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Centex Home Equity Company, LLC

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Centex Home Equity Company, LLC

SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed March 3, 2004, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A 319812

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York, as successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, as Trustee for Centex Home Equity Loan Trust 2004-C

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All that part of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of Section 25, Township 106 North, Range 19 West, Steele County, Minnesota, described by: Commencing at the Southwest Corner of said SE 1/4; thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, assumed bearing, 529.44 feet along the West line of said SE 1/4 to true point of beginning; thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East 862.07 feet along the West line of said SE 1/4; thence South 28 degrees 45 minutes 31 seconds East 484.09 feet; thence South 03 degrees 28 minutes 11 seconds East 215.16 feet; thence South 89 degrees 45 minutes 14 seconds East 122.81 feet; thence South 00 degrees 31 minutes 50 seconds West 196.15 feet; thence South 79 degrees 22 minutes 24 seconds West 111.46 feet; thence South 88 degrees 43 minutes 58 seconds West 257.43 feet to said true point of beginning

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 9543 89th Ave SE, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 04-025-2301

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$121,461.73

THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

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

lows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 23, 2019, 10:00am

PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060

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

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on January 23, 2020, or the next business day if January 23, 2020 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: May 24, 2019

The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York, as successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, as Trustee for Centex Home Equity Loan Trust 2004-C

Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY _____

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559

Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778

Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X

Gary J. Evers - 0134764

Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X

Attorneys for Mortgagee

Shapiro & Zielke, LLP

12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200

Burnsville, MN 55337

(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

6/5, 6/12, 6/19

6/26, 7/3, 7/10

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: June 30, 2010

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$134,564.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Traci A. Langstaff, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Advisors Mortgage, LLC

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on July 1, 2010 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 17761 as Document Number T000066016 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on March 20, 2019 as Document Number T000077114 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 5, Block 1, Maplewood Terrace Townhouses No. 2, Owatonna, Minnesota, Steele County, Minnesota.

REGISTERED PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 13 AUGUSTA PLACE, OWATONNA, MN 55060

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$118,693.01

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Advisors Mortgage, LLC

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-421-0105

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100199600012390478

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: August 20, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Dated: May 24, 2019

The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York, as successor in interest to JPMorgan Chase Bank, as Trustee for Centex Home Equity Loan Trust 2004-C

Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY _____

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559

Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778

Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X

Gary J. Evers - 0134764

Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X

Attorneys for Mortgagee

Shapiro & Zielke, LLP

12550 West Frontage Road, Suite 200

Burnsville, MN 55337

(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

6/5, 6/12, 6/19

6/26, 7/3, 7/10

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: June 30, 2010

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$134,564.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Traci A. Langstaff, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Advisors Mortgage, LLC

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on July 1, 2010 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 17761 as Document Number T000066016 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on March 20, 2019 as Document Number T000077114 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 5, Block 1, Maplewood Terrace Townhouses No. 2, Owatonna, Minnesota, Steele County, Minnesota.

REGISTERED PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 13 AUGUSTA PLACE, OWATONNA, MN 55060

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$118,693.01

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Advisors Mortgage, LLC

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-421-0105

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100199600012390478

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: August 20, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.

gage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on February 20, 2020.

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

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: June 19, 2019

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.

Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.

Attorneys for Mortgagee

25 Dale Street North

St. Paul, MN 55102

(651) 209-9760

(19-0454-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

6/26, 7/3, 7/10

7/17, 7/24, 7/31

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: March 20, 2008

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$103,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Larry M. Jarvis, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on March 25, 2008 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 15747 as Document Number T000062717 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: None.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All that part of Lot 2 in Block 1 in Luedtke Addition to the City of Owatonna described as follows: Beginning at a point in the line between said Lot 2 and Lot 3 in said Block 1

in the Westerly line of Maple Drive (formerly Larch street); thence Southerly along the Westerly line of said Maple Drive 7 feet; thence Westerly parallel to and with the line between said Lots 2 and 3 approximately 85 feet to a point in the center line of Maple Creek as shown by the plat on file; thence Northerly along the said center line of Maple Creek to the line between said Lots 2 and 3, 86.19 feet to the place of beginning.

Also all of Lot 3 in Block 1 in Luedtke Addition to the City of Owatonna, excepting therefrom the following: Beginning at a point in the line between said Lot 3 and Lot 4 in said Block 1 in the Westerly line of Maple Drive (formerly Larch Street); thence Southerly along the Westerly line of said Maple Drive 12 feet; thence Westerly parallel to and with the line between said Lots 3 and 4 approximately 107.62 feet to a point in the center line of Maple Creek as shown by the plat on file; thence Northerly along the said center line of Maple Creek to the line between said Lots 3 and 4; and thence Easterly along the line between said Lots 3 and 4, 110.86 feet to the place of beginning.

All the above described real estate is conveyed subject to and together with all riparian rights

REGISTERED PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 510 MAPLE DRIVE, OWATONNA, MN 55060-1967

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$70,686.38

TRANSACTION AGENT: None

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-150-0103

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 3, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time al-

Dated: June 19, 2019

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.

Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.

Michael van Muelken

Attorneys for Mortgagee

25 Dale Street North

St. Paul, MN 55102

(651) 209-9760

(19-0350-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

7/3, 7/10, 7/17,

7/24, 7/31, 8/7

lowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on March 3, 2020.

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

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: June 28, 2019

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.

Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.

Michael van Muelken

Attorneys for Mortgagee

25 Dale Street North

St. Paul, MN 55102

(651) 209-9760

(19-0350-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

7/3, 7/10, 7/17,

7/24, 7/31, 8/7

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Belonging to a thing

4. Woman (French)

7. "Incredible" TV veterinarian

8. Volcanic craters

10. Geological times

12. Ghana's capital

13. Any small compartment

14. Conductance unit

16. Athens, Georgia, rockers

17. Plant of the arum family

19. Hawaiian dish

20. Pop

21. Imparting of information

25. Take in solid food

26. Dutch banking group (abbr.)

27. Contemptible

29. Peak

30. Play a role

31. Yuck!

32. Diversion

39. ___ and groan

41. Helps little firms

42. Large, edible game fish

43. To do so is human

44. Supervises interstate commerce

45. Basics

46. La Cosa Nostra

48. Mens' neckwear

CLUES DOWN

1. Induces vomiting

2. Matador

3. A way to travel on skis

4. ___ and cheese

5. Indicates long vowel

6. Made a mistake

8. Chinese chairman

9. Indigenous people of the Philippines

11. Slender

14. Extinct, flightless bird

15. Japanese conglomerate

18. Of (French)

19. Rate in each hundred (abbr.)

20. Unit of loudness

22. Most organized

23. 007's creator Fleming

24. Computing giant

27. American singer

28. Shock treatment

29. Ottoman military commander

31. Urban Transit Authority

32. Too much noise

33. Type of blood cell

34. Home of football's Panthers (abbr.)

35. Fortifying ditch

36. Receding

37. Christian creed

38. Tuft of hanging threads

39. Microelectromechanical systems

40. Speak

44. Supervises flying

47. Inches per minute (abbr.)

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web: jenwalsh.kw.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON UPDATING CODE OF ORDINANCES

Notice is hereby given that he City Council of the City of Blooming Prairie will meet in the Council Chambers located in the City Center at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 8, 2019, to consider updating the Blooming Prairie Code of Ordinances. A copy of the Code of Ordinances is available at Administration Office located in the City Center for review.

Andrew Langholz

City Administrator

6/11/19

6/26, 7/3

CLUES ACROSS

1. Belonging to a thing

4. Woman (French)

7. "Incredible" TV veterinarian

8. Volcanic craters

10. Geological times

12. Ghana's capital

13. Any small compartment

14. Conductance unit

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43. To do so is human

44. Supervises interstate commerce

45. Basics

46. La Cosa Nostra

48. Mens' neckwear

CLUES DOWN

1. Induces vomiting

2. Matador

3. A way to travel on skis

4. ___ and cheese

5. Indicates long vowel

6. Made a mistake

8. Chinese chairman

9. Indigenous people of the Philippines

11. Slender

14. Extinct, flightless bird

15. Japanese conglomerate

18. Of (French)

19. Rate in each hundred (abbr.)

20. Unit of loudness

22. Most organized

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27. American singer

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38. Tuft of hanging threads

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40. Speak

44. Supervises flying

47. Inches per minute (abbr.)

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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

Motion by Steve Ille and seconded by Pam Hameister to approve an extension to the current transportation contract with changes as follows. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)
F. Budget Revision 2018-19
Motion by Jenny Thurnau and seconded by Jon Sunde to approve a final 2018-19 budget. Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)
G. Election Status/Timelines
This item was tabled until the regular June 2019 meeting.
VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY
A. Committee Reports
A report update was given on the following committee: Education Foundation, Finance, Staff Development, Transportation, and ZED.
B. Enrollment Data
Enrollment for the 2018-19 school year as of May 15, 2019, was 414 at the elementary school (grades K-6) and 337 at the high school (grades 7-12) (332 attending BPHS and 5 attending PSEO). The PSEO number consists of 3 seniors and 2 juniors with attendance being full-time.
C. Dates to Note
The Board noted dates of importance.
VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

1. Election change (odd yr. versus even)
2. Community Education licensure
3. Master Schedule nearing completion
4. Everalert system
5. Replacing carpet to tile in Mrs. Kittelson's room at the high school
6. Playground update
7. Thank you from Mr. Olson

IX. ADJOURNMENT
Motion by Jon Sunde and seconded by Dean Meshke to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.
Motion carried. (7 Aye/0 Nay)
Tentatively, the next Regular School Board Work Session will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2019, at 6:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the High School. Tentatively, the next regular meeting of the School Board will be Monday, June 17, 2019, at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center (Open Forum begins at 7:00 p.m.).
A complete copy of the official minutes may be found in their entirety in the official minute book located in the superintendent's office at the high school; however, they will not be available until approved by the School Board.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

NOTICE

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA
May 16, 2019

A regular school board work session was held at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 16, 2019, in the Board Room at the High School.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:
None

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools, Elementary School Principal

DISCUSSION ITEMS:
General review and discussion was held on agenda items for the May 20, 2019, regular school board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Hameister
Clerk of the School Board
Independent School District #756
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

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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 Media Center**

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

I. CALL TO ORDER – CHAIRPERSON
II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
III. ROLL CALL – CLERK
IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
V. PRINCIPAL REPORTS
VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD ACTION IS REQUESTED
A. Consent Agenda
Minutes
Treasurer's Report
Resignations
Donations
B. Employment
C. Volunteer Coaches
D. School Board Meeting Dates
E. Work Sessions
F. School Board Per Diem
G. Designation of Staff for Local Depositories
H. Health & Safety Policy
I. LTFM Ten Year Plan

NOTICE

Proposed
City of Blooming Prairie
City Council Meeting
Agenda
July 8, 2019
7:00P.M.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing – Ordinance Update – 7:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes of June 10, 2019 – Regular City Council Meeting
3. Application for Exempt Gambling Permit – Blooming Prairie Cancer Group
4. Approval of Temporary Street Closing – September 6 – 8th

Financial Report

Committee/Commission Reports

1. B.P. Public Utilities
2. B.P. Economic Development Authority
3. B.P. Planning & Zoning
4. B.P. Fire Commission
5. B.P. Police Commission
6. B.P. Ambulance Commission

Business

1. Resolution – Adopting Ordinance Book
2. Approve the Publishing Summary for the Updated Ordinance Book
3. 2019 Street Improvement – Pay Request No. 2 & Update

City Administrator's Report

1. 4th of July Review
2. 2019 Street Improvement Progress
3. Seal Coating Progress
4. 2020 Preliminary Budget
5. Steele County Public Health – Study Session – August 12, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

City Attorney's Report

Council Members' Reports

Adjourn

This agenda is subject to change

J. Public Hearing on Proposed Property Tax Levy for Payable 2020
K. Resolution Regarding Board Control of Extracurricular Activities
VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY
A. Family Education Rights & Privacy Act
B. Committee Reports
C. Enrollment Data
D. Dates to Note
VIII. SUPERINTENDENT OR BOARD MEMBER ITEMS
IX. ADJOURNMENT

*Agenda may be subject to changes

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If interested. Please call 507-634-4308 (29,30,31 chg)
CAREGIVER WANTED every other Saturday day. Flexible hours, \$12/hour to start, no heavy lifting, will train. NW Rochester (507)-289-2756 (wk 29,30,31 pd)

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Salon Manager's License Required
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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.
• FT & PT 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.
• FT 10 p.m. - 6 a.m.
Housekeeper
• PT 8 a.m. - 2 p.m./3 days a week
Cook
• FT 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.



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SENIOR LIVING

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OPENINGS

Dietary/cook position at Prairie Manor Inc. in Blooming Prairie.

PT/FT weekdays with every other weekend and holiday.

Contact Jackie Larson at 507-583-5181.

Prairie Manor
CARE CENTER
www.prairiemanorinc.com

In Memory Of

Robert Ernest Reiter

Robert Ernest Reiter, 87, of Slayton, Minn., died Friday, May 24, 2019.

He accidentally drowned at his home on Lake Shetek.

Robert was born on Oct. 12, 1931. He is survived by his wife, Lorraine Reiter, a daughter, Dawn Lee, and a sister, Dona Gullickson, of Blooming Prairie.

He was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Wayne Gullickson.

Funeral services were held on June 3, 2019 at St. John Cantius Catholic Church in Wilno, Minn. He was buried with military honors at St. John's cemetery.



Oct 1931 – May 2019

WE THOUGHT OF YOU TODAY

We thought of you with love today. But that is nothing new. We thought about you yesterday. And days before that too. We think of you in silence. We often speak your name. Now all we have is memories. And your picture in a frame. Your memory is our keepsake. With which we'll never part. God has you in his keeping. We have you in our heart.

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.