

Cameras banned at sentencing of Harberts tragedy

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Despite a Supreme Court ruling allowing cameras in Minnesota courtrooms for certain court proceedings, a Dodge County judge is not allowing cameras for the upcoming sentencing of a man who killed a school teacher and her daughter in a distracted driving crash. Judge Jodi Williamson has ruled that media orga-

nizations will not be permitted to record or photograph during the Nov. 6 sentencing for Tanner Kruckeberg of Dodge Center.

Kruckeberg pleaded guilty to vehicular homicide in early September for causing the 2018 crash that killed Rachel Harberts and her daughter, Emerson, on U.S. Highway 14 on the edge of Claremont. Harberts' son, Jaxon, was critically injured in the crash. As

"The very idea of broadcasting the grief and sorrow wrought by this case is abhorrently ghoulish."

Judge Jodi Williamson
Dodge County District Court

part of a plea deal reached, Kruckeberg would avoid prison time and serve 30 days jail time around the anniversary of the crash for five years and 10 years probation. However, the judge

has the final say on his sentence and could reject the terms of the plea deal. The request for cameras at the sentencing was brought forth by several media organizations in

Minnesota, including the Steele County Times. This comes after the Minnesota Supreme Court last year made a permanent ruling in a three-year pilot program that allows district court proceedings, including sentencings, to be recorded or photographed. Under the program, cameras and audio can be used without consent of

SEE CAMERAS BANNED, A4

Tanner Kruckeberg



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

Officers Travis Johnson and Anna Peterson were serving up some beverages during last Wednesday's Coffee with a Cop. The event was held at Target in Owatonna and was a perfect way for the community to get to meet members of the OPD.

MORE THAN LAW AND ORDER

Owatonna officers serve up coffee on patrol

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Visitors to the Owatonna Target last Wednesday were greeted by a pair of police patrolling the caf?. The officers were there to dish out coffee, hot cocoa, and smiles.

This is the first year the Owatonna Police Department has held Coffee with a Cop, an event aimed at connecting members of the community with their local

"I just like being out in the community and creating that positive role model presence for the kids."

Officer Anna Peterson
Owatonna Police

law enforcement. "We like to make it so that there isn't a wall between us and the community," Officer Travis Johnson said.

During the Wednesday evening shift, Officer Johnson was joined by Officer Anna Peterson, both of whom had big smiles as they interacted with the community by sharing thoughts, having some coffee, and handing out stickers to eager kids.

SEE MORE THAN LAW, A4

Ag2School to help referendums

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

After new Ag2School legislation was put in place last spring, Minnesota rural landowners now stand to benefit from an agricultural credit for school building bonds.

In face of the upcoming referendum on a new Owatonna High School facility this November, the district hosted area superintendents and Senator John Jasinski, R-Faribault and Representative John Petersburg, R-Waseca for an informational press conference on the legislation. The press conference was held on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

SEE AG2SCHOOL, A3

Some call it Holy Tuesday

Serving up lutefisk in BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

It's an annual event and some call it Holy Tuesday.

This special event is the annual Lutefisk Dinner served at First Lutheran Church of Blooming Prairie. Another lutefisk dinner was successful at the church because of many dedicated volunteer workers, says dinner chairwoman Ruth Earl.

With cooperative weather helping motivate them on Tuesday, Oct. 15, some hungry lutefisk lovers paid the price to enjoy what many termed "the best fish ever."

"Many lutefisk lovers come back each year because they like the personal touch," Earl said. She explained that people like to sit down and be

SEE SOME CALL IT, A8

Bean field now, Minimizer to come

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Some gigantic THANK YOUS were passed out to many people and firms who helped point Minimizer of Blooming Prairie to its new future home in Owatonna.

"Thanks for coming out to stand in a bean field with us," remarked Minimizer Operations Vice President Jim Richards as he presided over a brief program and groundbreaking ceremony.

Minimizer announced in August that it was moving the Minimizer operation from Blooming Prairie

to Owatonna. The move would be to a location of 13 acres on the west edge of Owatonna, near the Cybex International plant.

Richards announced that the Minimizer plant was shut down for the day on Monday, Oct. 14 to allow all of its employees the opportunity to be part of the groundbreaking. "All of you had some type of role in getting us to this point so we can't say thank you enough," remarked Richards.

"This is really an employee event," Richards emphasized. "This is a great day for Minimizer," he continued.

Benike Construction of Rochester has already started initial landscaping. The plan is to complete the 96,000 square foot building, which will house all of Minimizer's operations, in 18 months.

Richards said it doesn't matter what business you are in, re-building buildings or building fenders. "Without good people, none of us would be in this organization," he said.

Richards saluted Minimizer president and CEO C.T. Thorpe and others at Minimizer who worked



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Seven Minimizer employees participated in groundbreaking for Minimizer's new location in Owatonna on Monday, Oct. 14. They are, from left: Brooke Wanous, Geraldine Wurst, Ryan Shepherd, Jady Beenken, Jake Lembke, Martin Larson and Kenny Jensen.

\$1.00 | Volume 128, No. 13



507-583-4431 | bptimes@frontiernet.net

INSIDE

Opinions.....A2

Public Safety.....A4

History.....A9

Faith.....A11

Hometown Living.....B1

Community Calendar.....B3

Sports.....B5-6

Football Contest.....B8

Public Notices.....B10

Classifieds.....B11

Fire Prevention.....B12

AREA DEATHS

Lowell Trom, 90, BP

Dianne Hanenberger, 73, BP

Dessie Mae Gasner, 88, Owatonna

Roger Erickson, 90, formerly of BP

Serving
Blooming Prairie
and Steele County
since 1893

OUR VIEW

Police K-9 unit makes perfect sense

Ever since Steele County’s last K-9 handler left for employment elsewhere in 2014, the sheriff’s office has been without a K-9 program. But that will soon change. Just a few weeks ago, Sheriff Lon Thiele announced he is bringing back a K-9 program to help with the county’s crime fighting efforts. The K-9, however, likely won’t hit the streets until next spring at the earliest. The issue of having a K-9 became a political issue last fall during the sheriff’s campaign. The sheriff and his challenger Darrin Helget clashed over many issues, but the K-9 proved to be one where they had the biggest differences. Helget argued that having a K-9 is essential for the sheriff’s office. He pointed out that K-9 Cesar was deployed 56 times in 2013 alone, including 31 narcotic stiffs and building searches resulting in meth and marijuana arrests and 25 deployments for fights, burglaries, alarms, fleeing criminals and armed robberies. At the time, Thiele claimed at a sheriff’s debate that the sheriff’s office did not have great success with dogs. “Some day might be different, but right now we just didn’t have any good success with it,” Thiele said. For Thiele, that some day is apparently now. He started a donation campaign of \$30,000 to start up a K-9 program similar to the one he had when it disbanded in 2014. His office is seeking help from the public through donations to pay for this important crime fighting tool. It’s important to engage the community in this endeavor. We feel it’s essential for crime fighting in the 21st century for law enforcement to have a K-9 at its disposal. It certainly doesn’t stop all crime from happening, but it can be a huge deterrent and help officers get crooks off the streets. Politics aside, it’s great to see that Sheriff Thiele recognizes this need and is making an effort to make the lives of all residents in Steele County safer. He has found a K-9 officer with one of his deputies, Caleb Buck. Once the funds are secured, a dog will be purchased and both the K-9 and Buck will head off to training. Once the K-9 is up and running again, we hope the sheriff will focus on public relations with the K-9. People want to know about the program. Doing canine demonstrations and educational events create natural opportunities to grow the unit and impact the community in a positive way. Having a K-9 unit makes perfect sense for helping to maintain the quality of living we have all come to expect in Steele County.

YOUR VIEW

Help our community feel better

To-the-Editor:
Do you remember how you felt the morning of May 15 when you first heard that the School Bond Referendum to build a new high school in Owatonna had failed to pass? If you were like me, it really hurt. People can debate forever the reasons behind “why?”. Maybe people didn’t agree with the size and scope of the project (and the associated property tax implications)...or possibly it was that they didn’t like that the location of the proposed new school was unknown...or maybe it was simply, they were worried that the existing HS building may get leveled without the community being able to weigh-in on its’ future possibilities. Regardless what those reasons were, they are in the past. On Tuesday, Nov. 5 you have the opportunity to vote on a Bond Referendum where those previous concerns have been AIREd and ANSWERED. The size and scope have been “right-sized,” which has significantly reduced the property tax implications for homeowners, even the ag community is getting a much better, and well-deserved, property tax discount than last spring. The location has now been identified, and best of all, this land is being donated to the district (*pending the referendum passing*). AND, there is a second question on the ballot that offers an opportunity for the current HS building to be repurposed for possible city and district usage...*Note, Question 2 only comes into play IF the question to build a new high school passes.* The future of the current HS building is largely dependent on how you vote on Question 1... vote carefully. Here’s hoping that on Wednesday, Nov. 6, we will ALL awake feeling better, knowing that together, we helped save our past, AND prepared our students for a better future. Join me in voting “Yes/Yes” for OHS and Owatonna. Jon Hilstad Owatonna

They got it right

To-the-Editor:
The morning of May 15th was a day of mixed emotions for many people in our community as we learned the decision to build a new high school failing by the narrowest of margins. There were those who were likely relieved, and those that were disappointed. We were told that many of the people that voted “no” at that time, did so because they felt that, among other things, the “cost was too high,” the “tax impact was too much,” nobody knew “where the high school might be built,” and the “property tax impact on the agricultural community was too much,” and maybe most importantly, they didn’t want “to lose that historic looking building.” Citizens voiced those objections, not just on social media and in Letters to the Editor, but most importantly at the voting booth. Since that time, these same individuals have been allowed to be part of the process to come up with a plan to “get it right.” I certainly respect the opinions of those that wanted to lower the tax impact as well as to pursue an option to save the old HS building. I am also happy to see that the School Board accepted those opinions and was able to positively address ALL those objections. This Nov. 5th we each have the opportunity to cast our vote on the new referendum questions that represent the plan that WE came up with together. Voting YES for BOTH ballot questions will prove that our collective voices were heard... together we helped enact positive changes that accomplished what we asked for. Please join us in voting YES and YES to acknowledge and recognize that our voices were heard and the School District got it right and did what voters asked them to do. Bob & Diane Jungbluth Owatonna

Times is the best prize ever

To-the-Editor:
Ron and I won the gift certificate for one-year subscription to the Steele County Times (from the Litomysl Summer Festival in July). We live your paper so it was the best prize ever. Thank you so much for putting that out there for a prize. Wyonne and Ron Priebe Owatonna

The energizer bunny that kept farming until the end

It became a ritual for me every year during the fall harvest season. I hopped into the bright green John Deere combine with a Blooming Prairie area farmer. When I first started this tradition back in 2014, it basically was to get a personal perspective on the harvest season and what the crops looked like. But once I connected with Lowell Trom, I found out it was so much more. He had a story that I found compelling.

I quickly found that Trom wasn’t just any ordinary farmer. For almost 80 years, Trom devoted his life to his native land in Westfield Township and grew crops, corn and soybeans. Trom, who lived on the same farm place where he was born in the kitchen in 1929, operated 760 acres with his sons Brad and Jimmy.

It’s not often to find a man who’s lived on the same farm for nearly a century and worked the land for most of those years. I’m not aware of any official records, but I have to believe Trom was one of the state’s oldest of active farmers.

Trom always loved farming ever since starting out picking corn by hand and then moving up to a team of two or three horses to get much of the work done back in the early 1940s. From there, he wondered what he accomplished when he got a 2-row combine in the late 1950s. It was remarkable in seeing the progress made over those years, ending up most recently with the addition of a brand new John Deere in 2014.

Brad always referred to his father as “the energizer bunny,” who wouldn’t stop going. The eyes and face on Trom may have looked a little tired in recent years, but who wouldn’t for a man in his late 80s. “I get tired, but I don’t get tired of farming,” he said a few years ago.



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

Neither age nor health concerns kept Trom from doing what he loved to do. He survived quadruple bypass, open-heart surgery, knee replacement and issues with his shoulder. The last count I heard from him was 17 surgeries of various types over the years.

It always surprised me every fall when I would venture out to his farm to see him climb the stairs to reach the cab of his combine and set in for another harvest season behind the controls.

A true farmer at heart, Trom really never entertained the idea of retirement. “I should have quit 20 years ago, but it’s too late now,” he once told me as he maneuvered his way through a corn field. He quickly added, “If I slowed down, I’d probably die sitting in the chair.”

He once admitted to me that it would be nice to retire, but quickly followed it with, “What would I do—chase girls?” He pondered on that thought for a second longer before saying, “I’ve got more to do than sit in that damn nursing home. That’s for old people.”

When I asked him about his key to longevity, Trom didn’t hesitate in saying it boils down to hard work. “If you have something to live for, you’ll be around for a while,” he said.

Trom never lost his sense of humor. Last year, when I was out with him, he had a little trouble lining up the auger with the wagon to unload the freshly harvested corn.

Some accidentally spilled out with his son yelling at him over the 2-way radio. “There’s the profits,” he said. “I’ll have to get a job this winter.”

Trom was always content with sticking to what he knows best—farming. It certainly wasn’t heading to the casinos. “You don’t have to go to the casino with farming,” he said. “Farming is one big gamble by itself.”

Sadly, this year’s harvest will not be the same. Trom, who was encroaching on the 91-year mark, died last week at a Rochester hospital. He had been fighting some health complications in recent months.



TIMES FILE PHOTO

Lowell Trom is shown behind the controls of his John Deere combine a few years ago in Westfield Township. Trom, 90, died last week before he could get to this year’s harvest.

With corn and soybeans waiting to be harvested after a less than desirable growing season this year, Trom did not get the chance to hop aboard his combine for one last harvest. But you can bet he’s watching from above and making sure his sons are taking over right where he left off.

One thing became obvious to me over recent years. There is no taking an old-timer like Trom out of the farm. He’s been woven into the fabric of the agricultural landscape of southern Minnesota for decades.

A harvest without Trom is like having an ice cream cone without ice cream. I feel privileged to have spent time with a man so passionate about farming and in hot pursuit of tending to God’s creation.

GUEST COLUMN

Republican reforms produce stability

BY JOHN PETERSBURG

Finding ways to lower the cost of health care is a top priority for every state lawmaker. That’s why it was gratifying to learn recently that reforms Republicans championed when we served as the House majority continue to pay dividends. The new 2020 individual health insurance market received positive news recently, showing that for the third consecutive year, costs were going to be reduced or held flat after years of double-dig-it increases following the implementation of Obamacare in Minnesota. The reason: GOP reforms that Democrats tried desperately to eliminate last session.

All five of the carriers on the individual market are lowering premiums or effectively holding premiums flat for 2020, with average rates ranging between a 18% increase and a 20 percent decrease. There will also be 39 more health plan options in 2020, and every county will have at least two offerings in the individual market.

It’s certainly good news for those who purchase their health insurance on the individual market. From 2014-2017, average rates increased by double digits every year, including up to 67 percent for 2017. This

was simply unsustainable and the reason why we took action in the first place.

There’s more work to be done towards making health insurance more affordable, but in this area we have made positive progress.

FARMERS LOSING

If you’re a farmer or small business owner, you likely know all about Section 179 – accelerated depreciation – in the federal tax code.

Last session, House Democrats approved and Governor Walz signed into law a bill that did not fully fund conformity to Section 179. Under last session’s law, the Department of Revenue is directed to review Section 179 claims, adjust for new expensing limits, and review any gains or losses from the equipment they traded in.

If you traded in machinery in 2018, and realized a financial gain on that equipment, the Department of Revenue will send you a letter stating income taxes will now be owed on that gain immediately, while higher expensing limits will only benefit you over time. One farmer has already told us that cost exceeds \$10,000.

We are already seeking a solution to this problem, working on legislation that would fully fund conformity to Section 179 and cancel

any penalties and interest leveled by the revenue department on unpaid debts due to the Section 179 debacle. Stay tuned.

MINI SESSION

Last week, I participated in a “mini session” that took place across southeastern Minnesota. It was filled with tours and hearings.

While it was good to bring the government to the people, I was disappointed we did not have any discussions on the continued reports within the Department of Health and Human Services about waste, fraud and abuse. The latest news centered on the department found that it paid millions of dollars to hundreds of deceased Minnesotans a few years ago.

Over \$78 million has been mismanaged since the end of session, and let’s not forget the leadership turmoil or host of other issues plaguing the state’s largest agency.

The public deserves answers as to why this department has been plagued with problems over the past few months. The House majority needs to hold hearings on the DHS trouble – and soon.

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

STEELE COUNTY Times
Founded in 1893
Bussler Publishing, Inc.
www.steeledodge.com
Email: bptimes@frontiernet.net

USPS 058-340
Published weekly on
Wednesdays
Postmaster: Send address
changes to:
Steele County Times
P.O. Box 247
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
Phone: 507-583-4431

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

Publisher Rick Bussler
Advertising Director.....Annie Anderson
Staff WriterHoward Lestrud
Staff WriterLeMar Nelson
County Writer.....Chris Baldwin

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

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

A state and national award winning weekly
MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
2019—7 state awards
2018—6 state and 4 national awards
2017—2 state and 3 national awards
2016—8 state and 6 national awards
2015—7 state and 4 national awards
2014—3 state and 3 national awards
2013—7 state and 2 national awards
2012—2 state awards
2011—4 national awards
(Awards presented by the Minnesota Newspaper Association and the National Newspaper Associations)

Extra hour added to Holiday Bazaar

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

“Are we there yet?” That’s what many excited shoppers will wonder as they head to the annual Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1-2.

An extra hour has been added to the shopping day on Friday. Hours Friday will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hours on Saturday will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The 57th annual Holiday Bazaar will be held on the lower level surrounding the Owatonna hospital Auxiliary Coffee & Gift Shop (formerly the Pink Pantry).

Got your passport? Well, you can pick up a special Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar passport from Hospital Auxiliary greeters at the Main Entrance of the hospital, AllinaHealth.

A Toys for Tot collection bin will be available in the entry way for those wishing to make a child’s Christmas a happier one.

The entrance is accessible to those with mobility issues. Parking can sometimes be a challenge because of the popularity of the bazaar. Organizers remind everyone that parking is also available on the west back side of the hospital, in addition to front parking spots.

Once you have your passport, visit eight stops, get your passport signed and return the completed passport to become eligible for gift drawings from each room.

A prize will be given at all seven locations: Gift Shop, Santa’s Stocking Stuffer, Gift Shop Apparel Outlet, Bake Sale/home-made goodies and treats, Sewing Room/handcrafted items, New/Nearly New, Sheets Galore (NEW this



Shown in the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Coffee and Gift Shop are this year’s Hospital Auxiliary Bazaar Tri-chairs Kathy Ihlenfeld, Audrey Oldefendt and Sheryl Ignaszewski. The bazaar will be held at the hospital on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1-2.

year) and Collective Goods (formerly Books are Fun).

Sheets Galore will have top quality sheets of any color and size at an attractive price.

Homemade quality items, including embroidered dish towels, will be sold in the sewing room.

Kathy Ihlenfeld, co-chair of the Holiday Bazaar, said over 1,000 passports were printed and handed out to guests for the two-day event last year.

Serving as tri-chairs with Ihlenfeld this year are Audrey Oldefendt and Sheryl Ignaszewski.

The Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Coffee & Gift Shop will feature unique pieces of apparel including tops, jackets, shoes, jewelry, hats and mittens. Buffalo Plaid is a popular style.

Coffee and pastries plus flowers and fragrances and many other unique gifts will be available at the gift shop.

An outlet, representing an extension of the gift shop, will be located in the cafeteria. Quality pieces

or apparel and jewelry will be featured at reduced prices.

Theme for the gift shop at this year’s bazaar is Christmas of the Gnome. There will be a different gnome in every stop on the day’s travel at the bazaar.

A bake sale will feature specialty breads, kolaches, rosettes, mini pies, traditional fruit cakes, cinnamon rolls, caramel rolls, lefse (new this year), fudge and cookies galore. New co-chairs of the bake sale are Val O’Neil and Linda Beede.

The Prairie Meadows Caf?, of course, will be open during the bazaar with hot meals, desserts and beverages available at reasonable prices.

The gift shop style show is scheduled for 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Friday and at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Marcia Sullivan, Gift Shop supervisor, is in charge of the style show. She said she will have up to 12 models wearing the latest fashions and wondering through the bazaar

areas. These items will be available at the Gift Shop.

More than 200 volunteers are involved in making the bazaar a success, says tri-chairs Ihlenfeld, Oldefendt and Ignaszewski. “We appreciate all of our volunteers and couldn’t do it alone,” says the tri-chairs.

The bazaar links Steele County with many surrounding areas and it builds community, believes Ihlenfeld. The bazaar also creates multi-generational bonding, she said.

Funds from the bazaar are used to buy HALO Swaddle Sleep Sacks for the hospital’s Birth Center. One is given to each baby born at the Owatonna Hospital Birth Center.

The tri-chairs explain that the sleep sacks are a “big expense” with about 500 expected to be given out next year.

Currently, there are 297 members in the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary. If interested in joining and volunteering, pick up an application at the Gift Shop.

It gets into your blood

Music definitely gets into your blood-stream and that’s what happened to our foursome that attended the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre successful production, Mamma Mia.

Judy and I have seen many wonderful productions over the years at Chanhassen, which seems like it is on the other end of the world.

Even though its distance is challenging, it is worth one’s while to go see this latest Chanhassen success story.

I had heard so much about this production at Chanhassen that I just had to see it before it ended its extended run.

Seeing Mamma Mia is an experience that Judy and I and in-laws Darrell and Cindi will not forget. In fact, we all agreed that we would go see the musical again.

The acting is splendid as usual and the music was more dynamic than I had witnessed with any of the other Chanhassen productions including “Fiddler on the Roof,” “South Pacific,” “Beauty and the Beast,” “Little Mermaid,” “Sister Act” and “Mary Poppins.”

Our foursome learned a little secret when we saw “Sister Act.” It’s in the seating. We chose to sit in what used to be the orchestra pit, right at stage level. These seats are awesome and gives you a flavor for the production that you don’t otherwise experience at a different level.

With these seats, we are at stage level and just

an arm’s length away, when many of the actors and actresses approach the end of the stage.

There’s no real reason to toss out bouquets to the stars of the show because

they are all exemplary stars. We will say we were amazed at the singing voice and acting prowess of Kersten Rodau, who played the part of Sophie’s mother Donna Sheridan.

There were times when Rodau, Michelle Barber (Tanya) and Therese Walth (Rosie) made us laugh so hard that we were brought to tears.

The three possible dads were also stars in their own right.

If you like musicals and have never seen Mamma Mia, make sure you either see the film or definitely try to see the production at Chanhassen.

And, if you are looking for hometown acting talent, try to take in the Blooming Prairie High School musical, “Sound of Music.” Tamzen Johnson and Kari Bottin are again directing this high school play.

Blooming Prairie’s theatrical productions have been very popular over the years. Credit not only goes to the actors and actresses, but to the people behind the scenes and to the directors.

Musicals, whether done by professionals or by high school actors and actresses, give us a type of enjoyment that takes us away from our daily work routines and rigors.

Sit back and relax with a favorite musical. These musicals give us lasting entertainment



Reflections
HOWARD LESTRUD

Early childhood means more children are ready to learn

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Early childhood development programs provide a quality learning environment, Rae Jean Hansen, of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) told members of the Arkema Citizens Advisory Panel at a recent meeting.

Hansen, a graduate of Blooming Prairie High School and parent of three other Blossom graduates, was the featured speaker recently at an Arkema CAP meeting. She is vice president of Early Childhood.

She spoke on growing a strong early childhood program in southern Minnesota communities.

Hansen also shared a Power Point presentation about her recent trip to Sweden with other SMIF members to learn more about Sweden’s Early Childhood programs. She said Sweden has “a great Early Childhood program.”

Hansen distributed pamphlets outlining programs promoted by SMIF, and she shared details about an Early Childhood Care Conference coming up Saturday, Oct. 26 at Owatonna High School.

The Early Childhood Care Conference is sponsored by SMIF. The conference begins at 7 a.m. with registration and a light breakfast.

Jackie Kops will be the keynote speaker and will share how teachers can set up their classroom centers and environment to be purposeful, interactive and integrate all learning domains. Kops is a pre-school teacher with over 14 years of classroom teaching experience.

The conference continues with time to visit various exhibitors and time

for breakout sessions.

The conference ends at 3:30 p.m.

SMIF makes Early Childhood grants of up to \$20,000 for social emotional development, pre-K to grade 3 alignment and school readiness.

Other grants include Early Childhood Initiative Communities Grants; Early Literacy Grants and Communities Addressing the Child Care Shortage Grants.

The next meeting of the Arkema CAP group is set for Wednesday, Nov. 13 at Lansing Corners, rural Austin.



These prohibition protesters were on the streets at the last Speakeasy Night in Blooming Prairie. They might be out again when the Third Annual Speakeasy Night is held Friday, Oct. 26 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen’s Club.

“Still” Brewing in BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Yes, it’s “Still Brewing” in Blooming Prairie.

That’s the theme of the Third Annual Speak Easy Night scheduled from 7-10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen’s Club.

In the past, the Speakeasy Night has moved from one downtown location to another. This year, the special night will be anchored at the BP Servicemen’s Club.

Live music will be provided by the Austin Big Band.

Cost is \$25 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the BP Chamber Office, at the Prairie Home Floral, Decor and Gift Shop and at B to Z Hardware.

Ticket holders were encouraged to dress in 1920s type clothing and they indeed did that in the past with some of the participants renting special outfits or buying them.

Bring a group and join the fun, said Becky Noble, executive director of the Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce, sponsor of this year’s event. Prizes will be awarded for the best 1920’s costume.

BEAN FIELD NOW: *Minimizer to come* FROM A1

with Capital Partners to make this move possible. “Capital Partners has solid people in its organization, and they will do what they can to make us grow,” Richards stated.

“It’s a little bittersweet moving from Blooming Prairie to Owatonna but moving to Owatonna is a new chapter for us,” Richards explained. “We want to be a productive member

of the community,” he said.

Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz, city council members and members of the local chamber of commerce were present at the groundbreaking.

Kuntz said the city of Owatonna “is so happy” to have Minimizer staying in southern Minnesota. Addressing Minimizer’s employees, Mayor Kuntz said the city of Owatonna wanted Minimizer

employees to be as happy in Owatonna as they have been in Blooming Prairie.

“It’s a great opportunity for Minimizer and for the city of Owatonna,” Kuntz stressed.

In continuing his litany of thanks, Richards mentioned architects, lawyers, consultants and advisors who helped make this new venture possible.

Richards also pointed to

Minimizer’s neighbors, Cybex International and Gopher Sports. “We honestly believe that together we can become stronger,” Richards said.

Making closing remarks, Richards said, “We owe this to all of our employees.” He then invited seven Minimizer employees to grab some gold shovels and participate in the groundbreaking.

Leading the group participating in the groundbreaking was the longest tenured employee, Kenny Jensen.

AG2SCHOOL: *to help referendums* FROM A1

“Ag2School, I believe, is just a continuation of some great work from our local legislators, and I want to publicly thanks them for being responsible for the citizens they serve,” Owatonna Superintendent Jeff Elstad said.

Elstad explained that metro area bond referendums are more successful than those in rural areas due to a larger tax capacity and the lack of agricultural landowners. “We want our ag landowners to know that it shouldn’t matter the zip code of where students reside, we should have a very fair way of offering an opportunity of quality facilities for our students whether you live in the metro or throughout the State

of Minnesota,” Elstad said.

According to Article 5 of the bill, the school building bond agricultural credit, which currently stands at 40%, will make it to 70% by 2023. Should the Nov. 5 referendum pass, taxes would begin to come under effect in the 2021 year, during which the agricultural credit will be at 55%. The money for the credit will come directly from the state’s General Fund and will not be provided by other tax payers.

The law, signed by Governor Tim Walz, will affect both current and future bond referendums. “I just want Senator Jasinski and Representative Petersburg to know how happy we are as a rural school district

in supporting this,” Elstad said. “It’s certainly helps.”

“For my opinion, this is an issue of fairness,” Representative Petersburg said. Petersburg has served on the Minnesota House Taxes Committee for five years. “This is another way for us to really help with equalizing some of that burden.”

Petersburg explained that he has been working on this legislation for many years. “It’s very much a bi-partisan issue, it was strongly supported by both parties, and it’s something we think is really helpful for the education field, especially in greater Minnesota,” he said.

SEE AG2SCHOOL, A9

Stay late, get treats



The staff of US Bank of Blooming Prairie stayed after hours to meet BP Area Chamber of Commerce members at a special Business After Hours open house on Wednesday, Oct. 9. Bringing smiles and laughs were these staffers, from left: Pam Farr, Ann Weedman and Becky Josephson, branch manager.

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.

CRIME BRIEF

Agents nab 3 suspected drug dealers



Timothy Frenzel

Three suspected drug dealers face serious felony charges in connection with a drug bust in Owatonna.

While agents with the South Central Drug Investigation Unit conducted surveillance on an apartment in the 100 block of W. Bridge Street in the downtown area of Owatonna, they saw a person exit and leave in a vehicle. The vehicle was later stopped in Mower County where 20 grams of methamphetamine were found inside the car.

Agents also saw a second person exit the apartment in Owatonna and drive away. Officers stopped the vehicle and a Faribault County K-9 conducted a sniff, which alerted to the presence of drugs in the vehicle. Police found \$990 in cash and about 6 ounces of meth.

Kevin Welsh

Following the second traffic stop, agents executed a search warrant on the apartment. During the bust, agents found more than 2 1/2 pounds of meth and almost \$10,000 in cash, according to police.

The following day another search warrant was obtained for a storage unit associated to one of the occupants in the apartment. Police said additional meth an a shotgun were found in the storage unit.

The people facing charges include: Timothy Frenzel, 41, of Good Thunder; Kevin Welsh, 42, of Mankato and Peter Wollard, 40, of Albert Lea. All have been charged with first-degree possession of meth. Wollard also faces an additional charge of illegal possession of a firearm as he is a convicted felon of a violent crime.

Peter Wollard

CAMERAS BANNED: *at sentencing of Harberts tragedy* FROM A1

the involved parties after guilty pleas have been entered or guilty verdicts returned. The requests must be approved by the presiding judge.

In her ruling filed last week in Dodge County District Court, Williamson wrote there is good cause to bar audio and/or visual coverage of the sentencing hearing. “The physical facilities and, most importantly, the dignity of the proceedings each work to provide separate and independent bases for good cause,” the judge said.

Williamson’s order points out that the courtroom is quite small with general seating for 23-25 people. The state and defense anticipate up to 20 people will attend the sentencing hearing. This does not include the general public that may wish to attend.

“To add the burden of a press crew, even if pooled, would stretch the facilities beyond their limits and may hinder the ability of persons with a personal or emotional interest in the hearing to be present,” said Williamson.

The judge also mentioned that the jury box is small and narrow. “To place two cameras, one for audio/still photography and visual coverage in the jury box would simply not work,” Williamson said. “A jury box is a sacred place in a courtroom and placement of cameras in the jury box is undignified.”

Another reason given by the judge for her denial is the dignity of the proceedings would be “severely harmed and trivialized by audio and/or visual coverage.” Williamson said the victims in this case are entitled to their privacy. She

also said the families and friends who may choose to be present in support of Kruckeberg are similarly entitled to their privacy.

“There is absolutely no reason that the faces or words of any person attending the hearing or providing a statement at this moment of heartbreak should be permanently recorded,” Williamson said. “The very idea of broadcasting the grief and sorrow wrought by this case is abhorrently ghoulish.”

Mark Anfinson, an attorney representing the Times and other media outlets in Minnesota, said Williamson’s order seems to be based on arguments that are self-contradictory and unpersuasive, in addition to minimizing the presumption of access for cameras that’s been explicitly adopted by the Supreme Court.

“If indeed the courtroom is too small to accommodate everyone who may have an interest in the sentencing hearing, that would seem to support audio-video access by the news media, so more people can see what happens,” Anfinson said.

Much more important, Anfinson argues, is the fact that by providing coverage of the sentencing and the impact of the tragedy on so many people, maybe future cases of distracted driving will be deterred.

“It really perplexes me that Judge Williamson (and others) don’t seem to consider this,” Anfinson said.

Williamson was one of 20 people who served on the advisory committee that made recommendations about cameras in the courtroom to the Supreme Court.

Statewide eReminders available for court cases

Parties to a court case can now enroll in optional eReminders to receive a text and email notification to remind them of an upcoming court date.

Notifications are available for parties with an adult criminal/traffic, juvenile delinquency, juvenile traffic, juvenile petty offense, domestic abuse, family, eviction, or juvenile protection case in Minnesota District (Trial) Court. Hearing eReminders will notify parties of the date, time, and location of an upcoming hearing.

During an 18-month pilot of hearing eReminders in Hennepin County District Court, bench warrants for failures to appear dropped by 25%. During the same time frame, July 2017 through January 2019, parties who received some form of hearing eReminder were 35% more likely to show up to their hearings.

“Hearing eReminders have been shown to improve hearing attendance and reduce the number of bench warrants for failures to appear,” said Minnesota Supreme Court Chief Justice Lorie S. Gildea. “The statewide launch of hearing eReminders is another example of a successful Minnesota Judicial Branch pilot project proving effective for Minnesotans and being improved and expanded to the full state.”

In most cases, two reminders will be sent: a reminder three days before the hearing, and another one day before the hearing. Reminders are sent only one day before the hearing

for Eviction cases and only three days before the hearing for Adoption cases. Enrollment in eReminders an optional courtesy service to help parties remember to appear for a scheduled hearing, but do not replace an official notice to appear. Parties will still need to follow instructions from the court for all required appearances.

Additional information regarding eligible case types and access to the enrollment portal can be found at mncourts.gov/Hearing-eReminders.

MORE THAN LAW: *and order* FROM A1

“I’m a native of Owatonna, born and raised here, and I just love being out in the community,” Johnson said. “We also get to do Shop with a Cop here and that’s always fun.”

Both officers, as well as those who helmed the coffee shop in the morning, volunteered as a way to get out in the community and meet those they protect and serve. “This is my favorite part of the job, getting out here and talking to people,” Officer

Peterson said. “We make a lot of connections this way and it’s good for us.”

Officer Peterson hails from Blooming Prairie, and recently started with the Owatonna Police Department last May. “There’s a lot of familiar faces, even from Blooming, who are coming through which is really cool to see,” she said.

“We’ve been really busy this summer, and a lot of times we were going call to call and our call vol-

ume is finally starting to drop down for the winter months now so we can take a little breather,” Officer Peterson said in relation to more relaxing events like this one.

Officer Johnson agreed. “It’s a different role,” he said. “I would say that we’re a very community-orientated department where we’re trying to be out in the community.”

“Honestly, I just like being out in the community

and creating that positive role model presence for the kids,” Officer Peterson said when asked what her favorite part of the job is. “I personally believe that if you can get kids at a younger age and create that positive impact on them, we’re going to see them less as they grow up.”

With the positive reception from the community, Johnson and Peterson are hoping that this could be a regular event. The Owatonna Police Department holds several community outreach events, including

Night to Unite and Shop with a Cop.

“We also do ride-alongs,” Peterson explained. “We highly encourage people to do ride-alongs with us because they see it differently when they’re sitting in the squad car versus us driving around, and they can really get to know what we truly do.”

Events like this one are a great way for citizens to voice their opinion. “I always ask them what’s going on, because they’re the eyes and ears of the neighborhood and we can

only be so many places,” Johnson said.

“We had a lot of handshakes and a lot of thank yous tonight, which is nice to hear,” Peterson said. “That’s not why we’re here but it’s still really cool to see that from the community.”

Overall Coffee with a Cop was a great way for citizens to get to know some members of their local law enforcement while also sharing any of their own thoughts. “We have a lot of support in the Owatonna community, it’s great,” Johnson said.

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of Oct. 7 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Tyreese A. Johnson, 26, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony domestic assault and felony violation of no contact order. He was sentenced to \$131 and 36 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

Steven J. Keller, 28, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony sale of cocaine or meth. Keller was sentenced to \$381, 2 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, obtain permission to leave the state, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, attend AA, psychological evaluation, cognitive skill training and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Oct. 7 – 13:

MN DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Angela R. Herplinck, 36, Owatonna, take fish without a license, \$181.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Ben R. Aase, 45, West Concord, seat belt, \$106; Nuzyba M. Abdi, 30, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$141; Karen A. Adamick, 75, Manhattan, IL, speeding, \$221; Franklin S. Birch, 44, Byron, seat belt, \$106; Brandyn R. Bohlman, 34, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Bing Cheng, 36, Lincoln, NE, seat belt, \$106; Amber

M. Dawson, 33, Waseca, speeding, \$121; Zachary M. Ewing, 26, Pine Island, speeding, \$115; Cory A. Fehn, 43, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Bridget D. Gartmann, 25, La Crescent, speeding, \$221; Warol S. Gatdit, 23, Omaha, NE, seat belt, \$106; Cory T. Goetz, 45, Austin, seat belt, \$100; Wyatt L. Grose, 30, Ellendale, seat belt, \$106; Jacob D. Hanson, 35, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Khailiah M. Holloway, 21, Minneapolis, no license, \$181; Olufemi O. Isawumi, 47, Brooklyn Park, speeding, \$141; Jeremiah W. Johnson, 40, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Eric S. Knudson, 46, Ellendale, seat belt, \$106; Britta L. Maly, 26, South St. Paul, speeding, \$121; Kelliemarie Mash, 23, Maple Grove, speeding, \$121; Michael D. McColley, 59, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Patricia L. McNeese, 62, Madison Lake, speeding, \$121; Sheshikanth Merugu, 27, Pittsburgh, PA, speeding, \$221; Michael L. Metz, 55, Minneapolis, speeding, \$115; Jawahir A. Mohamed, 20, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Diana I. Morales Santiago, 42, Owatonna, hands free violation, \$131; Andy P. Motl, 41, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$106; Yusuf O. Musse, 21, Minneapolis, seat belt and no license, \$206; Jessica M. Needham, 36, Owatonna, hands free violation, \$131; Anna M. Neff, 21, Owatonna, speeding, \$115; Jonathan D. Nold, 40, Austin, speeding, \$121; David M. Paskawych, 61, Marietta, OH, speeding, \$121; Adam T. Peterson, 29, Austin, permit violation, \$131; Joshua C. Portner, 25, North Mankato, speeding, \$115; Monica J. Prusha, 27, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Christopher S. Rogers, 45, Iowa City, IA, speeding, \$115; Robert W. Schuette, 65, Blooming Prairie, seat belt, \$106; Kevin W. Slater, 41, Owatonna, seat belt,

\$106; Carson R. Spratt, 25, Mankato, speeding, \$141; Carla Y. Tabron-Leggs, 52, Independence, MO, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$125 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Ricky W. Techau, 48, Ellendale, seat belt, \$106; Matthew J. Ugorowski, 35, Rochester, speeding, \$115; Taylor R. Winkels, 18, Pine Island, speeding, \$115; Joseph L. Zak, 55, Ellendale, speeding, \$121.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sarah J. Carson, 32, Faribault, violation of order for protection, \$131, 2 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of supervised probation; Anthony J. Chiarini, 21, Claremont, registration violation, \$181; Yathalia Cotto, 21, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Charlena M. Crawford, 42, Owatonna, DWI, \$156, 3 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state and 1 year of supervised probation; India E. Enter, 19, Medford, stop sign, \$131; Sabirin F. Gabri, 20, Owatonna, hands free violation, \$131; Sasha D. Garces, 22, Owatonna, invalid license, \$181; Samuel M. Godfrey, 19, Faribault, suspended license, fenders violation and speeding, \$371; Dinah R. Hodges, 39, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$131, 2 days in county jail, domestic abuse evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Julianna M. Iannacone, 41, West Concord, speeding, \$121; Ahmednoor A. Ismail, 27, Faribault, permit violation and failure to obey traffic control device, \$181; Darron T. Jackson, 38, Owatonna,

invalid license and no insurance, \$381; Stephen L. Koch, 65, Faribault, stop sign, \$131; Jason L. Moen, 46, Faribault, no insurance, \$281; Patrick J. Morgan, 38, Janesville, registration violation, \$181; Marcus P. Pennington, 25, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Tishyra E. Powell, 26, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Jack H. Redman, 21, Owatonna, provide liquor to minor, stay of adjudication, \$50 and 6 months of unsupervised probation; Robin D. Scurlock, 59, Owatonna, domestic assault, \$181, 3 days in county jail, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, no contact with victim, no possession of firearms, domestic abuse evaluation, obtain permission to leave the state and 2 years of supervised probation; Abdirahman J. Sheikh-Yusuf, 37, St. Paul, no insurance, \$281; Sobeida E. Valdespino, 18, St. Paul, invalid license, \$181; Gabriel L. Walker, 26, Owatonna, no insurance, \$275; William R. Wheeler, 32, New Richland, revoked license, \$281; Carol D. Wills, 65, Owatonna, DWI, \$381, attend MADD impact panel, attend chemical awareness class, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation.

ARRESTS Steele County

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Brady Alan Wallert, 20, arrested at 10:20 a.m. Oct. 15, interference with 911 call, held for court.

Cabbott James Weyker, 41, arrested at 3:51 p.m. Oct. 15, felony probation violation warrant arrest, body only.

Tyler Lee Lockman, 31, arrested at 10:51 a.m. Oct. 16, warrant arrest, held for court.

Chris Anthony Vruno Jr., 32, arrested at 6:13 p.m. Oct. 16, probation violation, held for court.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

The following case was heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Oct. 6 with Judge Mark S. Wernick presiding:

Blake R. Klinger, 23, Sauk Rapids, previously appeared and was convicted of felony predatory offender mail verification form violation. Klinger was sentenced to \$1,080, no possession of firearms, cognitive skill training, maintain employment, 100 hours of community service and 5 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of Oct. 6 – 13:

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jesse L. Moreland, 18, Dodge Center, registration violation and no insurance, \$380; Richard J. Morrison Jr., 22, Rochester, revoked license and speeding, \$330; Jesse D. Petsch, 30, Austin, revoked license, \$280; Dillon R. Saari, 20, Kasson, speeding, \$280; Patrick T. Towey, 45, Hayfield, DWI, \$1,005, 1 day in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; Brandi L. Von Rump, 33, Kasson, cancelled license, stay of adjudication, \$50 and 2 years of probation.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Destany R. Adreon, 23, Mantorville, failure to yield, \$180; Richard O.

Alberts, 74, Mantorville, seat belt, \$105; Debra L. Brown, 62, Woodbine, IA, check forgery, \$480; Dahir O. Dahir, 23, Rochester, speeding, \$140; Fany N. Loera, 23, Rochester, invalid license, \$180; Margo J. McKay, 52, Owatonna, speeding, \$140; Timothy G. Mendenhall, 65, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Gregory O. Moen England, 37, Mantorville, seat belt, \$105; Joshua J. Peterson, 40, Dover, seat belt, \$105; Lloyd J. Robb Jr., 25, Mazeppa, seat belt, \$105; Brendan M. Rupert, 26, Mabel, DWI, \$680, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 2 years of supervised probation; Delano R. Senjem, 75, Hayfield, seat belt, \$105; Scott S. Stanchfield, 28, Eyota, seat belt, \$105; Seth T. Stuve, 17, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Andrew D. Witt, 37, Kasson, hands free violation, \$130.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

David S. Baum, 64, Glenview, IL, speeding, \$120; Jesse S. Bentley, 28, Pickerington, OH, seat belt, \$105; Lindsay K. Blank, 26, Mankato, speeding, \$120; Roger F. Hernandez Ordonez, 33, Little Canada, speeding and no license, \$230; Eileen C. Johnson, 58, Owatonna, seat belt, \$105; Miguel A. Rios, 20, Rochester, speeding, \$130; Rebecca L. Ziller, 50, Pine Island, speeding, \$120; Paulette J. Zimmerman, 52, Forrest, IL, speeding, \$120.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Taylor B. Hanson, 24, Nerstrand, possession of paraphernalia, \$130; Josias M. Ramirez, 28, St. Paul, invalid license and speeding, \$240.

TRICK-OR-TREAT
SAFETY TIPS

Healthy snacks should be considered whenever possible

Cashwise Foods
Owatonna
507-451-7220

Props, such as a sword or wand should be flexible toys.

Main Street Dental
Blooming Prairie
507-2141

Always carry a flashlight.

Vandal's Family Market
Blooming Prairie
507-583-6671

Investigate candy wrappers before eating.

Holland Family Dental
Owatonna
507-451-7250

Quietly pass by unlit houses.

Loken Excavation & Drainage
Owatonna
507-451-2873

Buy costumes that are made of flame-retardant material.

Blooming Prairie Area Chamber
Blooming Prairie
507-583-4472

Jackets should be worn over costumes on Halloween nights.

Main Street Dental
Blooming Prairie
507-2141

Remember to walk, and not run, between houses.

Lansing Corners
Austin
507-433-7841

Costumes should not be too dark to see.

Lansing Corners
Austin
507-433-7841

Know how and where to contact your parents.

Sweet Towing
Owatonna
507-451-3424

Stay in neighborhoods you are familiar with.

SE MN Realty
Hayfield
477-2000

Don't cut across yards or driveways.

Darrick's Auto
Blooming Prairie
507-583-9994

Light your jack-o'-lantern with a battery- powered light instead of a candle.

Lerberg's Fitness & Car Wash
Ellendale
507-475-3496

Tricks should never be harmful.

Farmer's Insurance
Michael Bishman
Owatonna
507-451-0193

Eat before going out to Trick or Treat

Edward Jones
John T. Havelka- Advisor
Owatonna
507-446-0150

Make sure shoes fit and are tied tightly

Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner, PA
Blooming Prairie & Owatonna
507-583-7528

Unfamiliar pets and animals should be avoided.

Steele County Times
Blooming Prairie
507-583-4431

Follow all traffic laws and signals.

B to Z Hardware
Blooming Prairie
507-583-4469

Never enter a stranger's home.

Steele County Child Association
Owatonna
507-210-8175

Visit only houses that have a porch light on.

Vandal's Family Market
Blooming Prairie
507-583-6671

Go slow drivers. Be careful!

Cashwise Foods
Owatonna
507-451-7220

Only eat candy after your parents have checked it.

Dr. Deborah J Lien
Blooming Prairie
583-6613

Watch for cars - ALWAYS!

U.S. Bank
Blooming Prairie
507-583-6627

XYZ go to houses that have a porch light on.

Steele County Times
Blooming Prairie
507-583-4431





Parks & Recreation

"Your Best Investment"
City of Owatonna



owatonna

PARKS and RECREATION

540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna, MN 55060 • Office Phone: 507-444-4321 • www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation

Parks and Recreation Contact Information:

Office & Information Line 507-444-4321
Fax 507-444-4299
Facebook: Owatonna Parks and Recreation
Email Address: parkrec@ci.owatonna.mn.us

Tennis & Fitness Center 507-444-4290
West Hills Social Commons 507-444-4280
Brooktree Clubhouse 507-444-2467
River Springs Water Park 507-774-7370

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Thank you Park Board Members!

Angie Malo Greg Posch Jonathan Thiel Andrea Gaffke
Greg Louis Nicholas Elsner David Christiansen

OUR MISSION:

The city of Owatonna Parks and Recreation Department provides a diverse system of green spaces, trails, facilities, programs and services to enhance the quality of life for the community.

Winter Registration begins December 12

- **Swimming Lessons**
- **Learn to Skate Hockey-Session 2**

Programs coming in the Spring Brochure (released February 2020)

- Youth Soccer
- Little League Baseball (current grades 2-5)
- Fastpitch Softball
- Association Baseball and Fastpitch Programs
- T-ball and Squirt ball programs

Ways to Register:

- On-Line:
<http://owatonnaparksrectest.maxgalaxy.net/Home.aspx>
- Walk-In Registration:
Parks and Recreation office at 540 West Hills Circle.
Office hours are 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri
- Call in: 507-444-4321

Special Events

- Trick or Treat Trail
- City Archery Deer Hunt

Give the Gift of Recreation!

Purchase a Parks and Recreation gift card this holiday season and give the gift of recreation and fun! Our gift cards can be used for any registration, program and at any one of our facilities (Brooktree Golf Course, Tennis & Fitness Center, River Springs Water Park or West Hills Social Commons).

Youth Basketball

Kindergarten-Tikes
Non-competitive program that focuses on developing social skills, sportsmanship, teamwork and motor skills in a safe environment.
T-shirt included with fee.
Cost: \$35 (after October 31: \$45)
Location: McKinley School
Program tentative dates:
Dec 7, 14, Jan 4, 18, Feb 1, 15, 22
Times: Vary

1st & 2nd Grade-Squirts
Focuses on developing basketball skills as well as sportsmanship and teamwork.
T-shirt included with fee.
Cost: \$35 (after October 31: \$45)
Location: McKinley School
Program tentative dates:
Dec 7, 14, Jan 4, 18, Feb 1, 15, 22
Times: Vary

3rd-6th Grade
Scrimmages and games will emphasize learning and skill development. T-shirt included with fee.
Cost: \$45 (after October 3: \$55)
Location: Practices are held at elementary schools; games are held at Owatonna Middle School
First practice and meeting:
November 12, 6 p.m.-7 p.m., Girls at OHS and Boys at Owatonna Middle School
Times: Vary
Days: Practices vary; Games are held Saturdays at Owatonna Middle School on December 14, January 4, 18 and February 1, 8, 15, 22

Volunteer Coaches Needed-Youth Basketball

Volunteer coaches play an important role in the youth sports experience. Volunteers are trained in our philosophy of youth sports, first aid, concussions and how to teach skills for their sport. A classroom and on-court clinic for all basketball coaches with OHS Boys and Girls Varsity staff will be 7:10 p.m.-7:40 p.m. for girls' coaches at OHS and 7:10 p.m.-7:40 p.m. for Boys' coaches on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at OMS, after the Kid's clinic.

Learn to Skate Hockey: Session 2
Lean to skate and develop basic hockey skills. The program is divided into three levels: Learn to Skate. U6 for players born between 7/1/12 and 6/30/14 and U8 (Mites) for players born between 7/1/2010 and 6/30/2012. "Learn to Skate" is for first time skaters regardless of age. A helmet is required for everyone on the ice. An entire bag of equipment is available to rent through the Owatonna Youth Hockey Association rental program for \$50 per year. Skates can be leased at Straight River Sports for an entire season for a reasonable cost.

Program Supervisor: Tony Schwichtenberg: tony.schwichtenberg@gmail.com
Cost: \$75 (after December 19 cost is \$85)
Location: Four Season's Centre
Program Dates Learn to Skate: January-Early March
Program Dates U6&U8: January-Early March
Times: Varies
Days U6&U8: Mostly Saturdays and Sundays
Days Learn to Skate: Most Mondays & Saturdays

Swimming Programs:

Registration begins December 12

Parent/Child Aquatics Level 1&2 – child must be at least 18 months old, parent is in the water
Pre-School Aquatics – child must be at least 3 years old, NO PARENT IN THE WATER
Level 1 – Intro to Water Skills helps students feel comfortable in and enjoy the water safely
Level 2 – Works on giving students success with fundamental aquatic skills
Level 3 – Stroke Development builds on Level 2 skills with guided practice in deeper waters
Level 4 – Stroke Improvement develops confidence in strokes and improves other aquatic skills
Level 5 – Provides further coordination and refinement of strokes
Level 6 – Refines strokes so students swim with ease, efficiency & power over greater distances

Group Swim Lessons: \$42
*Sunday afternoon classes: Meets January 5 – March 1
*Tuesday night classes: Meets January 7 – March 3
*Wednesday night classes: Meets January 8 – March 4
*Thursday night classes: Meets January 9 – March 5
*Saturday morning classes: Meets January 4 – February 29

Private Swim Lessons: \$105 for one student, \$160 for two students (same family, scholarships not available). Each class meets five times for 30 minutes each. If there are two students in a class, the students must be within one level of each other. You may not sign up for two classes for the same person until a week after registration opens.

****For all swim lesson details visit our website at www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation.**

Lifeguard Training Classes:

The purpose of the American Red Cross Lifeguarding course is to provide entry-level lifeguard participants with the knowledge and skills to prevent, recognize and respond to aquatic emergencies and to provide care for breathing and cardiac emergencies, injuries and sudden illnesses until emergency medical services (EMS) personnel take over.

Prerequisites:

1. Must be at least 15 years of age by the end of the course
2. Swim 300 yds continuously (crawl & breaststroke)
3. Swim 40 yds with a 10-pound brick, retrieving it from 10 feet of water, using only a kick, holding the brick with two hands on the chest
4. You must attend all classes to pass
5. No refund will be issued if you do not pass

Interested in becoming a Lifeguard or have you recently taken your Lifeguard Training certification class? Owatonna Parks and Recreation offers up to \$150 reimbursement if you become a certified American Red Cross Lifeguard and work of the city. Contact us for more information.

March Class
Fee: \$185 (no refund will be issued if you do not pass)
Class meeting times: March 25-29
March 23 (Mon) 9 a.m.-1 p.m. @ Middle School
March 24 (Tues) 9 a.m.-1 p.m. @ Middle School
March 25 (Wed) 9 a.m.-1 p.m. @ Middle School
March 26 (Thurs) 9 a.m.-1 p.m. @ Middle School
March 27 (Fri) 9 a.m.-1 p.m. @ Middle School



Water Safety Instructor Classes (Swimming Lesson Instructor):

The Water Safety Instructor course certifies swimming instructors to teach Red Cross swimming, diving, and water safety programs

Pre-requisites:

- Must be 16 at time class ends
- You must attend all classes to pass
- No refund will be issued if you do not pass
- Must demonstrate proficiency in swimming strokes





Our Members Have Saved Over **\$6,301,407** **On Fuel, And Counting!**

1 Purchase specially marked items.

2 Receive rewards.

3 Redeem and save MORE!

496 West North Street, Owatonna • 507-451-8440 • Open 6Am-Midnight • Find us online at www.cashwisedelivers.com



Parks & Recreation

"Your Best Investment"

City of Owatonna



owatonna

PARKS and RECREATION

540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna, MN 55060 • Office Phone: 507-444-4321 • www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation

Youth Scholarship Fund: UPDATED

This fund helps support programs for all youth in Steele County and Adult Therapeutic Recreation Programs. Forms are available at the Park and Recreation Office. Participants must pay **40% of program fees**, any late fees, and must show verification of one of the qualifications. If a program is over \$75, you will pay half of the registration fee.

Qualifications for Scholarship:

- Current recipients of Free or Reduced Lunch Program
- Current recipients of SSI (Supplemental Security Income) or Social Security Benefits
- Current recipients of Medical Assistance Program
- Other circumstances (will need to explain)

Pavilions available for rent!

Pavilions Rentals are available one year in advance. Call the Parks & Recreation office at 507-444-4321 or stop by our office to make a reservation. Payment is due at the time of the reservation.

Reservations

Reservations may be made at the Parks & Recreation office, and may be made up to a year in advance. Rates vary depending on pavilion size and length of rental. Both the reservation fee and refundable damage deposit must be paid at the time of reservation.

Give the Gift of Recreation!

Purchase a Parks and Recreation gift card and give the gift of recreation and fun! Our gift cards can be used for any registration, program and at any one of our facilities (Brooktree Golf Course, Tennis & Fitness Center, River Springs Water Park or Senior Place).



New Hope,
DID YOU KNOW
PARKS & RECREATION
Enriching Life. Inspiring Community.

Halloween is second only to Christmas in the amount of money spent each year. Save your money and come to our free event the Trick or Treat Trail!

Therapeutic Recreation

We still have plenty of room for more members on our Membership Council. If you would like to join us, please contact the TR office or talk to one of our council members. We meet on the last Tuesday of each month, 4 p.m.-5 p.m. at the West Hills Social Commons.

**Night Club invites members 22 years and older to create friendships and pursue their leisure interests. Night Club meets on Wednesdays from 6 p.m.-7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

**Teen Club welcomes students 10-22 years old who are looking for fun and friendship! Teen Club meets Thursdays from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

**Special Rec is a group for children with disabilities ages 4-10.*

Please remember that you must register and pay for any activities that you want to participate in. If you do not pre-register, there is a chance that you will not be able to participate in the activity.



West Hills Tennis & Fitness Center

September Special: Serve it up! It's Tennis Time....this month reserve a 1.5hr block of Open Tennis Court Time for \$5 per person (plus court fee) between 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday

October Special: Get Pumped for Fall! Purchase a month membership and get entered into a drawing for a free month membership of equal or lesser value.

West Hills Pool Open Swim

Cost: \$4 weekdays, \$5 weekends

Days & Hours: October 1 - Memorial Day

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6 a.m.-7:15 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Amenities:

- Cardio and strength training equipment
- Gymnasium • Sauna
- Running Track • 6 indoor tennis courts
- Heated swimming pool
- Locker rooms with showers

Private party facility rentals are available for the pool, gym, and tennis courts

Personal Trainer

If you are in need of a Personal Trainer, the Tennis & Fitness Center has just the person for you! Our facility trainer, Aaron Halla, has a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education, Non-Teaching (Exercise Science), an ACE Trainor Certification and many years of experience as a fitness trainer. Aaron is an Owatonna native and an OHS alumni. He has trained various levels of fitness abilities: from athletes, to beginners, to those with special needs. He has a flexible schedule, affordable training packages, and will work with you to meet all your fitness and health needs.



New Hope,
DID YOU KNOW
PARKS & RECREATION
Enriching Life. Inspiring Community.

Physically active people have lower rates of heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, diabetes, colon and breast cancer, and depression. Our personal trainer Aaron Halla has classes to fit everyone, check one out today! Call the Tennis and Fitness center at 507-444-4290 for details!

Parks and Trails

Bocce Ball, Bean Bags, Ping Pong & More!

Available at the Sid Kinyon Courts at Lincoln. This is a repurposed area, with artificial turf. An official size bocce court, concrete bean bag boards and a concrete ping pong table are highlights in the area. Additional open space is available for games such as Kubb. Equipment may be checked out at the Parks & Recreation office for no fee.

Skate Park

The Bike and Skate Park is a Tier I park – it is free to use by all patrons. Helmets are required and other safety equipment such as elbow and knee pads are strongly recommended. Please report any damage or needed repairs to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Hard Surface Trails

18th Street, Buxton Trail, Kaplan's Woods Parkway Trail, Cashman Crossing, Muckle Trail, North Straight River Parkway containing the Ihlenfeld/Wildung Trail and Lange Woods Trail. Maps are available at the Parks & Recreation office: Trail Hours: Open 24hrs

Outdoor Public Skating

Warsinski rinks, located in Morehouse Park are the only supervised skating rinks in Owatonna. The Warsinski chalet, a large warming house complete with cross country ski and skate rentals and food concessions is located at the west end of School Street.

Schedule is subject to change due to weather and ice conditions. Check our website for opening day! Family bonfire events are held Saturday evening at 5:30 p.m.



Park & Rec Employment Opportunities:

- Parks and Rec Summer Intern
- Swimming Lesson Instructor
- Youth Official Basketball
- Water Aerobics Substitute

Apply at www.ci.owatonna.mn.us and click on Employment



Orthodontic Specialist
Building Healthy Smiles
New Patients Welcome • Free Consultations
Dr. Deborah J. Lien, DDS, MBS

132 2nd Ave. NE
Blooming Prairie
583-6613



Kappy's COLLISION CENTER

OWATONNA'S COLLISION SPECIALIST

STAY HAPPY
www.kappysauto.com
kappysauto@gmail.com

Now using PPG Waterborne Paint

SEE KAPPY
Charlie & Al Kaplan
507-451-8989





Create personalized class rings, school yearbooks, photo gifts, graduation announcements, and jewelry for college, high school, hobbies, and sports.

www.jostens.com
507-455-6100

148 E. Broadway, St, Owatonna



FROM PAGE A1



Who said that young people don't like lutfisk and lefse. Little Harper Hansen, 7, of Blooming Prairie, proved these people wrong as she enjoyed lutfisk and lefse.

served. They also like real plates, real cup and regular silverware, she added.

Regular customers also like the way the tables look, Ruth said. The tables feature a white table covering and also have American and Norwegian flags on each table.

These comments may sound like a broken record but it seems that the fish gets better with age, or the consumers age and believe the fish has gotten better.

Earl, chair of this huge community event, said 1,283 were served at the 77th annual lutfisk and meatball dinner. This total was slightly down from the 1,321 served last year.

More than 200 volunteers had their special jobs to make this giant church fundraiser a resounding success. Preparation for next year has already begun with a Lutheran Church Women committee meeting in a few weeks to evaluate 2019's dinner.

"This dinner brings us closer together as a church and as a community," says Earl.

There's a woman from Lyle who called Earl last June, asking Earl to put her on the work detail. She was there on Holy Tuesday.

People always tease about eating lutfisk, a tasty morsel to many and an offensive morsel to others.

There's an option for those who don't want to consume the lutfisk. They can eat some delicious meatballs, consume some lefse, enjoy some cranberry salad and smack their lips to some Norwegian pastry items like rosettes and krumkake.

Here's a scorecard of how much of each menu item were ordered: 1,250 pounds of lutfisk; 224 pounds of a mixture of ground beef (168 pounds) and pork (56 pounds) to make 8,000 meatballs; 800 pounds of potatoes; 84 pounds of cranberries for the cranberry salad, 48 gallons of corn; 1120 rounds of lefse (4,480 pieces); 216 pounds of butter; 1,900 rosettes and 1,400 krumkake.

Most of the lutfisk lovers are at an advanced age (you know who you are) but there are some younger consumers, too. Harper Hansen, 7, of Blooming Prairie, ate her lutfisk first and then followed with a helping of lefse.

Lutfisk lovers began to show up at First Lutheran Church about two hours before the first serving began at 11 a.m.

The first serving always seems to be the most popular. Earl said that 755 ate during the first serving. This breaks down as follows: 599 visitors, 103 workers, 4 complimentary and 48 takeouts.

Three more servings came at 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The evening total was

Some call it Holy Tuesday

PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD

"This dinner brings us closer together as a church and as a community."

Ruth Earl
Lutfisk Dinner Chair



Everyone was still smiling after serving 1,283 people at the annual First Lutheran Church Lutfisk and Meatball Dinner on Tuesday, Oct. 15. Pictured from left are: Sarah Esplan, Cindy Lindquist, Judy Bishop, Jeanne Schwartz, Gary Thorson, Sharon Christianson, Doug Hillson, Jennifer Milton, Becky Braaten, Dorothy Trom and Tracy Mollenauer.



You might say these two smiling partners are real cutups. Actually, Judy and Maynard Johnson were "cutting out the eyes" of potatoes to be served at the annual First Lutheran Church Lutfisk and Meatball Dinner in Blooming Prairie.



What does a 100-year-old woman do on the day of the First Lutheran Church Lutfisk and Meatball Dinner? Well, she goes to the dinner. Dorothy Gulbrandson of Albert Lea, going on 101, took time to visit with Pastor Heidi Heimgartner, senior pastor at First Lutheran.



Vivian Ulrich had her own system of setting tables for the First Lutheran Church Lutfisk and Meatball Dinner. She used her scooter to navigate the dining hall the day before the dinner.



After making 8,000 meatballs, Carrie Farr, chair of the detail, is still smiling. Well, she didn't make them all by herself. She had lots of dedicated volunteers helping her, for whom she was thankful.



Ready for some lutfisk? Server Linda Wolf brings the tasty morsel to the table at First Lutheran Church's annual Lutfisk and Meatball Dinner. She was paired with husband Bob in serving tables.



Alice Sorenson of Owatonna was one of 1,283 customers at the dinner. Oh yummy!



Jean Schwartz was one of many volunteers who helped make meatballs for the annual First Lutheran Church Lutfisk and Meatball Dinner.



528, broken down like this: 432 visitors, 11 complimentary, 28 carryouts and 57 workers.

Earl said she is constantly amazed at how smoothly the whole production runs. "Sure, we have a few crisis situations but most of all, people know what their jobs are and they love doing them," Earl explained.

Lots of planning goes into the lutfisk and meatball dinner being a success year after year, Earl said. She praised the younger people of confirmation age and younger who helped move furniture, clear tables and do any job asked of them.

This year marked the fifth year Earl has chaired the event. "There were many return servers this year and it's when you start from scratch with volunteers that the job of organizing becomes tougher, she said.

Earl said that when new workers come on board, others are there to mentor them about their duties.

Meat ball people were new last year under the leadership of Carrie Farr and Nicki Bishop. Two new people helped serve the corn this year.

Many of the loyal workers have helped with the dinner for years. The husband and wife team of Harold and Vivian Ulrich are always there to do multiple jobs.

Harold helps with the peeling of potatoes and again donated the use of his reliable tent, used in the potato peeling area.

Vivian was busy zooming around the dining area on her motorized scooter the day before the dinner. She had the scooter loaded with plates and silverware. She helped set the first sitting.

"Everybody has to give themselves a pat on the back for a job well done," said Earl, pointing to the volunteers who worked the food part of the operation on Tuesday and to the other people who helped seat customers. She also saluted volunteers who worked in the Used a Bit Shop and in the Craft Room.

Earl said she walks the halls of the church during the dinner to see how smoothly it was being run.

She said she always checks on the lutfisk being prepared in the kitchen. It's an art, she believes.

She said Jennifer Milton, Becky Braaten and Doug Hillson are three of the mainstays finishing off the lutfisk. Jim Johnson is one of the regulars preparing the fish the day before the dinner.

The lutfisk comes from Olsen's Fish Market of Minneapolis. The lefse comes from the Norsemen of Rushford.

Profits from the major event are disbursed at a later time by the women of the church. Monies go to local organizations first and then to regional and world-wide purposes.

Earl thanked all of the volunteers who helped with the dinner and those who sold items in the craft room, in the used a bit shoppe and at the bake/candy sale.

Sponsored by these local businesses.

Your ad could be here!

STEELE COUNTY Times

CASH WISE

LARGE SELECTIONS LOW PRICES

495 West N. ST. Owatonna 507-451-7220

Dr. Deborah Lien

ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

Building Healthy Smiles!

132 2nd Ave NE • Blooming Prairie 507.583.6613

Mike's REPAIR

Ag & Truck Tire

870 32 Ave. NW, Owatonna

507-455-0388

Sorenson's Appliances & TV

GE, Frigidaire, Direct TV, Danby, Crosley, Broan, Jenn-Air, KitchenAid, Maytag, Panasonic, RCA, Samsung, Toshiba, Whirlpool

Geneva, Mn 507-256-7258

misgen auto parts

507-684-2100

12880 SW 72nd Ave, Ellendale

Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Tamzen R. Johnson

319 East Main Street, Blooming Prairie

HOPE CREAMERY

TRY HOPE BUTTER FOR YOUR BAKING!

507-684-2019

SALINAS AUTO REPAIR INC.

656 3rd St. NE • Blooming Prairie, MN

Robert Salinas Family-Owned

507-583-6620

FLOOR TECH

322 East Main St. Blooming Prairie

507-583-2276

DARRICKS PREFERRED AUTO

Darrick Schewe Owner

507-583-9994

Minimizer

www.minimizer.com

800-248-3855

How to Help Aging Parents Manage their Medications



THE SAVVY SENIOR

Brought to you by:



Prairie Manor Care Center & Heather Haus

**220 3rd St. NW,
Bloomington, IL 61701
583-4434**

Dear Savvy Senior,
What tips or tools can you recommend that can help seniors and their caregivers keep up with medications? My 82-year-old mother, who lives alone, is supposed to take several different medications at various times of the day but often forgets.
Working Daughter

Dear Working,
Anybody who juggles multiple medications can relate to the problem of forgetting to take a medication, or not remembering whether they already took it. This is especially true for older adults who take medications at varying times of the day. Here are some different product and service solutions that may help.

Simple Medication Helpers
Getting organized and being reminded are the two keys to staying on top of a medication schedule. To help your mom achieve this, there are a wide variety of pillboxes, medication organizers, vibrating watches, beeping pill bottles and even dispensers that will talk to her that can make all the difference. To find these types of products, the best source is *Epill.com*, where you'll find dozens to choose from.

You can also help your mom stay organized by creating a simple medication list that breaks down exactly what she should take and when she should take it. To help you with this, go to *SafeMedication.com* – a resource from the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists – and download and print a copy of “My Medicine List.”

Smart Pill Boxes
There are also a variety of “smart” pill boxes on the market today that will remind your mom when she needs to take her medicine and will send family members and caregivers notifications if she forgets to take her pills, or accidentally takes the wrong ones.

Three to consider here include Tricella (*Tricella.com*, \$95), which uses Bluetooth connectivity but requires that your mom have a smartphone with data service or tablet with Wi-Fi; PillDrill (*PillDrill.com*, \$279), a comprehensive system ideal for strict medication schedules but requires home Wi-Fi; and MedMinder (*MedMinder.com*, \$40 per month), that operates off a cellular network (no phone line or Wi-Fi necessary).

Convenient Packaging
Another way to help simplify your mom's medication use is to get her prescriptions filled in single-dose packets that put all her medications (vitamins and over-the-counter drugs can be included too) together in neatly labeled packets organized by date and the time of day they should be taken. This does away with all the pill bottles and pill sorting. One of the top providers of this type of service is *PillPack.com*, an online pharmacy owned by Amazon.

Apps and Calling Services
If your mom has a smartphone, there are apps she could use to help her keep up with her medication. One of the best is Medisafe (*MyMedisafe.com*), a free app works on Apple and Android phones. Medisafe will organize your mom's pills in one place, send her timely notifications to take her meds, and send her reminders to fill her prescriptions.

Caregivers can also connect with the Medisafe app to get notifications about when it's time for their loved one to take their medication – and they can see whether or not it's been marked as taken.

If your mom doesn't use a smartphone, there are also calling services, like Care Call Reassurance, which provides medication reminding calls – see *Medication-Reminders.com*. This service will call your mom's phone at the scheduled times she needs to take her medication as a reminder, and if she fails to answer or acknowledge the call, a family member or caregiver will be contacted. This service runs between \$15 and \$20 per month.

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.



CFS
THE POWER OF PROGRESS

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



cfscoop.com



Agromony • Energy • Grain • Feed • Financing

History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago Oct. 27, 2009

DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie turned 105 years old this year. They have stuck by their business model throughout the years and have been able to survive tough economic times because of smart decisions. Their focus is just like their name says—agriculture and business. Stephen Habberstad has been CEO since 1989.

The Blooming Prairie Lions Club visited the elementary school last week to give the third and fourth graders dictionaries. This is the second year the Lions have donated the useful and educational gifts to the students.

The first baby born at the new Owatonna Hospital is Gavin Underdahl of Blooming Prairie. He is the son of Trevis and Laura Underdahl. He was born on Oct. 16 at 6 p.m.

The Blooming Prairie Police Department has been actively investigating reports of vandalism in town. For about the last two weeks, calls have been coming in of broken windows at homes in Blooming Prairie. It is suspected that the perpetrators are juveniles on foot.

20 Years Ago Oct. 26, 1999

Parents vent inspection anger at the Blooming Prairie School Board. Concerned parents filled the high school library in Blooming Prairie to find out what changes would be made in the food serving practices at both district buildings in the wake of a health inspection three weeks ago. It was during the regular board meeting when questions surrounding the food serving bombarded Superintendent Irv Peterson and board members.

Looking for a way to keep trim over the winter months? Now there's a way in Blooming Prairie to do it not only when it's cold, but year around. Duane Reichl and Tim Wacek have opened Fit 4 Life on Main Street next door to

their Floor Tech building. Both men look forward to having people utilize the equipment in making their own personal health exercise plan.

Four people have filed for three school board positions in Blooming Prairie. Two incumbents have filed and two newcomers will be on the ballot. The seats up for election belong to Ron Janning, J. Michael Taylor and Jim Trotman. Trotman resigned earlier this month. The others running are Norman Wonderlich and Bill Fogarty. With this election, there will be elections every two years instead of every year as part of legislation passed a few years back.

Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie is proud to announce that Kent Lea has joined its staff as agricultural loan officer. Kent is a 1994 graduate of Blooming Prairie High School and a 1998 graduate of the University of Minnesota, St. Paul with a degree in agricultural economics. He is the son of Kenneth and Sharon Lea of rural BP.

Blooming Prairie attorney Frank Henefeld donated \$1,000 recently to the Blooming Prairie Education Foundation. He presented a check to the foundation's president, Becky Noble.

Hormel Foods Corporation announced the advancement of V. Allan Krejci to vice president of the company effective Nov. 1. Krejci has been director of public relations since 1983. He is a graduate of Ellendale High School.

50 Years Ago Oct. 22, 1969

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

The Blooming Prairie Times was one of four area news media honored for educational coverage during the past year by the Minnesota Education Association at its southeastern sectional convention in Rochester Oct. 18. The Times won one of the 29 “School Bell Awards,” which this year attracted a record 351 entries representing outstanding examples of news media coverage of Minnesota education.

Prairie Manor Nursing Home in

Blooming Prairie is rapidly taking shape and construction on the project is ahead of schedule at the present time. Lysne Construction, Inc. workmen are taking advantage of the favorable weather conditions and hope to have the structure enclosed so that inside work can continue throughout the winter months. The project is expected to be ready for occupancy by mid-June of 1970.

Joe Wurst took over as Standard Oil bulk agent in Blooming Prairie on Oct. 20. He replaces Stan Johnson, who resigned recently after 21 years as Standard Oil's agent here. Mr. Wurst has been employed the past three years as a mechanic at Harpel Chevrolet Co. and prior to that operated the Standard Oil Station in BP.

75 Years Ago Oct. 26, 1944

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

As the closing day of the War Service Fund drive approaches, Chairman Ray Herron in charge of the “drive” for this village informs the Times that the fund lacks \$65 of meeting the \$1,200 quota allotted to Blooming Prairie.

Dodge County men in the October quota who have been inducted into military service at Ft. Snelling are Lawrence Goracke, Dodge Center; Clifford Peterson, West Concord; James M. Brown, George M. Lally of Kasson; Russell Massey, Claremont; John Lermon, West Concord; Richard D. Johnson, Hayfield; Bernard G. Farstad, Claremont; Neal E. Chaplin, Marvin L. Bode, Dodge Center and Phillip D. Stevens, Kasson.

Proclamation from Blooming Prairie Mayor O.J. Underwood: Ask all dispensers of intoxicating liquor to close and 3.2 beer parlors to refrain from all sales of such on V-Day and for a period of 24 hours after the public announcement of V-Day. That day should be one of thanksgiving and prayer rather than one of celebrating and I ask all citizens of BP to spend that day in a quiet, sane manner and to attend church services.

AG2SCHOOL: to help referendums FROM A3

“I think it's only fair for us in rural Minnesota to have the same type of things that they have in the metro,” Senator Jasinski said. “I really believe that Minnesota was raised on farming and things like this, so we should be supportive of that and give a break to farmers who do that.”

Jasinski noted the many businesses in Owatonna which are looking to help ease the tax burden of a new facility should the referendum pass. “Hats off to Owatonna and the school district with Federated stepping up and all the industry behind this,” he said. Federated has agreed to purchase and donate the land, which will be used for the new facility if the referendum is successful.

“I think our kids' education is the most important thing,” Jasinski said. “We need to get money into our education to make our stu-



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

Owatonna Superintendent Jeff Elstad gives opening remarks during last Tuesday's Ag2School press conference. From left: Blooming Prairie Superintendent Chris Staloch, Elstad, Rep. John Petersburg, Sen. John Jasinski, and Faribault Superintendent Todd Sesker.

dents the best they can be.” The Senator explained that each person should consider voting for the Nov. 5 measure, but that each should decide what is best for them.

The Senator also applauded Minnesota's strong workforce and tradition of good education. “Minnesota really does have a great workforce, and it's because of our schools, and our technical colleges, and our colleges,” he said.

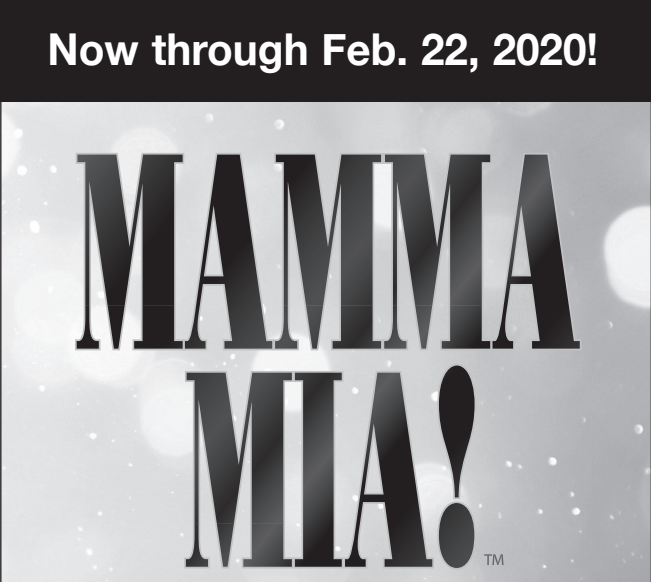
Tuesday's press conference also featured Faribault Superintendent Todd Sesker and Blooming Prairie Superintendent Chris Staloch. “It is important to

our ag community, and I think we need to help them out,” Staloch said. “Our kids throughout Minnesota deserve the best.”

“We really thought this was something important that we wanted and so we went to the table with Governor Walz,” Jasinski said of the legislation. “I think education in the State of Minnesota is at a win-win now because you have a Governor who has been a teacher and you have Republicans that really want to see education go.”

With the referendum looming, area voters are reminded to visit *Owatonna-naproud.org* for more information on the measure, possible taxes, and the Ag2School tax credit.

Now through Feb. 22, 2020!



MAMMA MIA!

“A **HUGE** hit... Can't wait to return!”
— KARE 11

“MY, MY, I can't resist it!”
— WCCO TV





DINNER THEATRES
Chanhassen
entertaining *You*

952.934.1525 • 800.362.3515
ChanhassenDT.com

**ADVANCE NOTICE
AFTER HARVEST AUCTION**
Thurs. Dec. 12, 2019—9:30 a.m.

Located:
Hamilton Auction Co. off Interstate 90 at Dexter, MN
exit #193 then ¼ mile east on Hwy 16
(130 State Hwy 16, Dexter, MN 55926)

Several farm lines have already been consigned for this auction sale.

Consign your farm machinery including tractors, tillage equipment, combines, heads, construction equip., semi-tractors, trailers, pickups & cars by the 19th of November to have items advertised. — **NO TIRES** — Because of weather concerns we will not be taking any small items for the ground. Titled items must have a current certificate of title or registration when brought in to sell.

To consign call: 507-584-0133 office
HAMILTON AUCTION CO.
130 State Hwy 16
Dexter, MN 55926

Let Us Put A Drainage Project Like This On Your Farm

We can also help you with:

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



LOKEN



Excavation & Drainage, Inc.

Call Dallas for all your Drainage Needs!
507-451-2873
Toll-Free 1-855-298-2568
3695 Hoffman Drive NW • Owatonna • token@qwestoffice.net

OBITUARIES

Dianne Hanenberger,
73, Blooming Prairie

Dianne Sue Hanenberger, age 73, of Blooming Prairie, passed away peacefully Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 15, 2019, at Mayo Clinic Hospital Rochester, Saint Mary's Campus. Dianne was born Oct. 1, 1946 in Estherville, Iowa, to Robert and Marjorie Mitchell. She grew up in Graettinger, Iowa, until her family moved to Stewartville, just prior to her senior year of high school. Dianne graduated from Stewartville High School in 1964, though still considered herself a Graettinger High School Pirate. She then went on to attend Mankato State University earning her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

On June 15, 1968, Dianne married Robert Hanenberger at the Methodist Church in Stewartville. Dianne furthered her education and graduated with her master's degree at the University of Minnesota in 1983. Upon her college graduation, she became an elementary teacher for Blooming Prairie High School, teaching third and fourth grade for over 30 years. She was a member of the First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, and when her children were younger, she helped them in 4-H and was a senior leader.

Dianne collected many things over the years including, Swarovski crystals and cherished teddy bears. She enjoyed writing, crossword puzzles, crafts, and going fishing. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Survivors include her husband, Robert Hanenberger of Blooming Prairie; children, Kevin (Sondra) Hanenberger of Blooming Prairie, David Hanenberger of Otsego, Minn., Kimberly (Rolando) Mast of Owatonna, Troy Meiners of Blaine; seven grandchildren, Lyanne and Brianna Hanenberger, Colin Meiners, Trevor Meiners, Shaleigh Meiners, Mikayla Ramsey, Arri Meiners; sister, Donna (Jim) Wilkerson of Hayfield; four step-sisters, Corrine (Gary) Fiksdahl of Rochester, Korlee (Gary) Witzel of Menomonie, Wis., Delores (Glen) Hammel of Eyota, and Darla (Hugo) Bakke of Owatonna.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Marjorie Mitchell; and three step-sisters, Kaye Johnston, Corlis Toft, and Donna Kuhn.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019 at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, with Pastor Mike Walerius officiating. Interment was in First Lutheran Cemetery, Blooming Prairie. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the family. Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.



Dianne Sue Hanenberger

Lowell Irving Trom,
90, Blooming Prairie

Lowell Irving Trom, age 90 of Blooming Prairie, passed away Monday, Oct. 14, 2019 at Mayo Clinic Hospital, Saint Mary's Campus, Rochester.

Lowell was born April 10, 1929 on the family farm in Dodge County, to Elmer and Marie (Wilson) Trom. Lowell lived his entire life on the family farm that he loved. He graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1946. A lifelong crop farmer, Lowell also raised livestock in the early years.

On Oct. 22, 1953, he married Evelyn Gross at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. Together, the couple raised six children. Lowell's life centered around faith, family and farming. In fact, Lowell's passion for farming ran so deep this year marks the first missed harvest for him in over 80 years.

With over 40 years of public service, Lowell served as a Region 10 Board member, Dodge County Commissioner, and Westfield Township Supervisor, among other public offices. As a public servant, he recognized the importance of service to others. Lowell spearheaded several instrumental improvements in Dodge County, including construction of the Fairview Care Center, the Dodge County Highway Department building and Westfield Town Hall. He belonged as a member to Farmers Union and First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn Trom of Blooming Prairie; children, Randy (Karen) Trom of Kaukauna, Wis., Shelley (David) Williamson of Woodbury, Bradley Trom of Blooming Prairie, Sonja (Douglas) Eayrs of Maple Grove, Peggy Trom of Naples, Fla., James (Deanne) Trom of Austin; eight grandchildren, Amanda Trom of Chicago, Rachel (Ryan) O'Leary of Green Bay, Michael (Shubhang Dave) Williamson of Denver, Andrew Williamson of Seattle, Rebekah (Paul) Cavanagh of Louisville, Colo., Kathleen Eayrs of Minneapolis, Justin Trom of Austin, and Maggie Trom of Minneapolis, as well as two great grandchildren, Evelyn and Noelle; brother, Kenneth (Gloria) Trom of Austin; sister, Darlene Schmidt of Owatonna; sisters-in-law, Mary Trom of Owatonna, and Tonia Trom of Rochester.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Marie Trom; sisters, Bernice (Art) Thompson, Verna (Pat) Mattson; brothers, Ralph (Joyce) Trom, Richard (June) Trom, Charles (Nola) Trom, Eugene Trom, Lloyd "Bud" Trom; and brother-in-law, Darrell Schmidt.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019 at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie, with Pastor Heidi Heimgartner officiating. Interment was in First Lutheran Cemetery, Blooming Prairie.

Memorials are preferred to First Lutheran Church, 434 - 1st Street SW, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 or Westfield Lutheran Church, 71829 - 120th Avenue, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917. Services are prearranged and performed with Worlein Funeral Home in Blooming Prairie. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.



Lowell Irving Trom

BOOK NOOK

Mystery solved
at the library

The mystery has been solved! A few months ago, I wrote about an immigrant trunk that was donated to the Blooming Prairie Branch Library. On the top of the rustic wooden box is the address: Mr. L. Christensen, Bloming Prairia, Minesota, North Amerika. It had been purchased at an auction in the Mankato area and given to a family in northern Minnesota. This family felt that the trunk needed to be back in its "home."

A few weeks after that article was published, a family came in to say that they thought the trunk was from their family. Briefly, Lars and Anna Marie Christenson were farmers in Lolland, Denmark. Two of their three children moved to the United States in the early 1880s. Lars and Anna Marie decided that they wanted to be closer to their children and grandchildren, so they traveled with their youngest daughter to Blooming Prairie in 1884. Their daughter Karen Tina married Peter Hansen; they were the grandparents of Harold (Bud) Hansen and his siblings.

The Hansen/Peterson families have put photographs and information in our display case that shows the relationships in their family. Thank you to Judy and Elwood (Junior) Hansen and Paul and Ruth Thorager for sharing their family's story. Stop in to see the trunk and the family that descended from its owners. See you at the library!



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

OPEN HOUSE
Celebrating 90 Years
for
Phyllis Dandeleit

Friday, Nov. 1
5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
at the Pizza Cellar
in Blooming Prairie.

Join us:
Your presence not presents, please

Autumn Christian
Music Concert
Sunday, Oct. 27
2 p.m.

DONATIONS BENEFIT THE Semcac Dodge County Food Shelf
Monetary and shelf-stable food donations accepted at the event.

Give online: www.semcac.org/donate
Open to the public. Handicap accessible.

Faith Lutheran Church
308 2nd St. NW • Dodge Center

In 2018, the Dodge County Food Shelf, in Kasson,
assisted 1,377 individuals from 465 households.

Jensen
Heating, A/C,
& Plumbing

Registered
Showroom

256-4712
Geneva, MN

24 hour service for all your
plumbing & heating needs

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

THE BOLD LOOK
OF KOHLER

Birthdays &
Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

OCT. 23
RICK KITTELSON
LISA HOCKING
LEVI RYKS
VERN DAHL
EDWARD ERICKSON

OCT. 24
LINDSEY SCHIEFERT
RAE JEAN HANSEN

OCT. 25
REBECCA JOHNSON
LUANN BECKER
JENNIFER PETERSON
TIMOTHY WOLF
SUE SCHMELING
BOB BRAATEN

OCT. 26
GARY WIESE
DIANE KREJCI
GLENDA JANNING
DERRICK LAMOTTE

OCT. 27
GLORIA SNIDER
COURTNEY HACKENSMTIH

ANNIVERSARIES

OCT. 22
KEVIN & AMANDA TOCKO

OCT. 26
RON & GLENDA JANNING

OCT. 28
FRANK & DIANE VORLICEK

OCT. 29
MURIEL & RAGNA THOMPSON

Sponsored by:

Best kept secret!

Deli Sandwiches Daily Specials
ALL COME WITH A COOKIE & CHIPS

Tuesday - Ham
Wednesday - Turkey

Thursday - Your Choice
Friday - Beef

The Bakery
Main Street • Blooming Prairie • 583-4433

Football Terms
Word Search

W I D E R E C E I V E R E T U R N
Q U A R T E R B A C K F I E L D E
P T I G H T E N D G U A R D I D S P S
A R R E K C A B E N I L D F Z Z P
N F I E L D G O A L T A C K L E E
S O F F E N S I V E L I N E H X C
F A I R C A T C H S I W Z L A T I
N O I T E L P M O C N I C H N R A
K C A S P D L U A J R L O I D A L
E Y Y R H E Z R U E G R C O P T
V N C T U A C O Z T F T N K F O E
I F D A E S L R N J N F E H F I A
R U O Z D F H F E E O R U L N M
D M Z T O O A I B T C K B D R T S
X B F L S N W S N A N C A D E F E
R L D A K Q E N R G C I C L E X K
E E F U L L B A C K G K K E Y U O

BACKFIELD
CENTER
CORNERBACK
DOWN
DRIVE
END ZONE
EXTRA POINT
FAIR CATCH
FIELD GOAL
FULLBACK
FUMBLE
GUARD
HALFBACK
HAND OFF
HUDDLE
INCOMPLETION

INTERCEPTION
KICKOFF
LINEBACKER
OFFENSIVE LINE
PUNT
QUARTERBACK
RED ZONE
RETURN
RUSHING
SACK
SAFETY
SNAP
SPECIAL TEAMS
TACKLE
TIGHT END
WIDE RECEIVER

VALLEYVIEW ASSISTED LIVING
1212 W Frontage Rd Owatonna, MN
507-451-0722 • valleyviewofowatonna.com

Newly Remodeled
County Assistance Accepted
Pet Friendly

Make new friends.

D.O.T. HEALTH CARD
PHYSICALS
...without the HEADACHE!

- No Waiting
- Fast-in-and-out Examination
- No Hidden Fees
- Appointment Reminders

SCHEDULE YOUR
D.O.T. PHYSICAL TODAY
866-5DR-CHAD OR 507-583-2271

Prairie Family & Sports CHIROPRACTIC
507-583-2271
Toll Free: 866-537-2423

Chad M. Eischens
Doctor of Chiropractic/Certified D.O.T. Medical Examiner
www.drchad.org
344 East Main Street
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

YOU'RE INVITED

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
59th Annual
POTATO PANCAKE SUPPER
BAKE AND CRAFT SALE

Sunday, Nov. 10
3 p.m. - 7 p.m.
FREE WILL OFFERING

Menu:
All you can eat potato and buttermilk
pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage,
applesauce, milk, coffee and water.
Music provided by Luverne Wanous

PROCEEDS DONATED TO CONCORDIA FOOD BANK
4532 SE 84th Ave • Claremont

Recipe Corner

Finger-Lickin' Shrimp

Yields 12 bites

34 cup best-available olive oil
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 tablespoons minced

fresh Italian parsley
2 teaspoons minced fresh oregano or thyme or 1 teaspoon dried
12 colossal shrimp, shells on
1/2 cup kosher salt or coarse sea salt

Preheat grill to medium-high heat. In a small bowl, prepare dipping sauce by whipping together 1/2 cup of the olive oil, the lemon juice, garlic, parsley, and oregano. Save. Using a paring knife, make a 1/4-inch incision down the backs of the shrimp. Devein them, but do not remove the shells. In a medium bowl, add remaining 1/4 cup olive oil and the shrimp. Toss the shrimp in the oil, then sprinkle salt overtop, and toss thoroughly so that the shrimp are coated in salt. Grill shrimp directly over the heat or pan cook for approximately 3 minutes per side, or until shrimp are opaque throughout. Serve with dipping sauce.

Sponsored by:
Krejci Ford
15th Presidents Award Winner
Blooming Prairie, 583-2046

HAVE A RECIPE TO SHARE?
Email to bptimes@frontiernet.net
OR Send to: P.O. Box 247, Blooming Prairie

OBITUARIES

Dessie Mae Gasner, 88, Owatonna

Dessie Mae Gasner, 88, of Owatonna, died peacefully Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019 at her home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born May 10, 1931 in Claremont, the daughter of Mike and Isabelle (Verness) Allen. Dessie attended school in Claremont. She married Duane Gasner Oct. 29, 1948 in Owatonna. The couple lived in Owatonna for a brief time before moving to Iowa. They moved back to Owatonna and in 1956 built the house where they still



Dessie Mae Gasner

reside today. Dessie worked at Federated Insurance and later at Cashman Flowers.

Dessie was a life member of the VFW Auxiliary, a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and Associated Church where she volunteered in the nursery. She enjoyed socializing with her friends on the phone, spending time at their cabin on French Lake hosting family and friends, trips to Robin & Chuck's cabin in Dan-

bury, Wis. and occasional visits to the casino. Dessie loved to read. Often you would find her walking to the Library to get her next book. She was an avid Minnesota sports fan cheering on the Vikings, Twins and Gophers as well as many other sports teams. She also loved watching her grandchildren participate in sports. Dessie also enjoyed a special relationship with her sisters-in-law, Carol, Eunice and Shirley.

She is survived by her husband, Duane Gasner of Owatonna; sons, Randy (and Judy) Gasner of Owatonna, Rick (and Sue)

Gasner of Medford; daughters, Rhonda (and John) Mengelkoch of Oak Grove, Robin (and Chuck) McKey of Owatonna; 13 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; two great great grandchildren; brothers, Richard "Hookie" (and Bev) Allen of Mankato, Bob Allen of Texas and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by an infant great grandson, three sisters and two brothers.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019 at 11 a.m. at Michaelson Funeral Home with visitation one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Interment will be in the Forest Hill Cemetery in Owatonna.

Roger Elmer Erickson, 90, formerly of BP

Roger Elmer Erickson, age 90, of Minnetonka and formerly of Blooming Prairie, passed away peacefully on Oct. 13, 2019.

Roger was born in Blooming Prairie to Elmer and Elsie (Popken).

He is preceded in death by his parents Elmer and Elsie, his infant son James, his beloved wife Peggy, and his oldest son Roger Edward.

Roger is survived by his sisters Jean Schimmele, Dee Strand, and Carol Benson, his son David, his grandchildren Brooke, Katie, Alex, Brian, and Brandon, and



by his great-grandchildren Nora, Lily, Violet, Owen, and Remington.

Roger was a wonderful son, brother, husband, father, and grandfather. He was a quiet man of deep strength and compassion, he loved his family, served his country, showed kindness to all, and had malice toward none.

A memorial gathering will be held at the Huber Funeral Home, Excelsior Chapel, 520 2nd St., Excelsior, MN, 55331, on Saturday, Oct. 26, at 11 a.m. with luncheon to follow.

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN	RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN – ELCA	TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMS	ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC	NON-DENOMINATIONAL	
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.	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.	108 Third Ave. SW., Medford Pastor Mark Biebighauser 507-451-0447 Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. Wednesday Worship: 6:30 p.m.	114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie Father Peter Schuster, Parochial Administrator 507-583-2784 www.stcolumbanuschurch.com Mass: 10:30 a.m. Sun. & 8:30 a.m. Friday Reconciliation: 9 a.m. First Friday & Saturday	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	(Fellowship, Church School, and Adult Discussions follow) Wednesday Activities: Sept – May (see website for schedule)
COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 106 Third St. SE., Geneva Pastor Kristen Venne 507-256-4288 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.	ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMS 4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont Pastor Alan Broadwell 507-528-2404 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.	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.	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) Adoration Chapel available Mon. – Fri. 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Key fob required after hours or weekends	DESTINY CHRISTIAN 2515 Harvest Lane NW Owatonna Pastors Joe & Vicki Braucht www.destinycc.org Worship: 6 p.m. Sat.	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN 109 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Kirk Johnston 507-477-2631 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC 503 Radel Ct., Ellendale Pastor Richard Sliper 507-684-2451 Men's Bible Study: 8 a.m. Saturday Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday (Kids church- 9 a.m. and Confirmation- 10:15 a.m.) Jesus and Me: 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday Call to Prayer: 7 p.m. Tuesday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Wednesday School: 6:15-7 p.m. followed by Youth Group- 7-9 p.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.	ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA 7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale Pastor: Rev. Dean Smith Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sunday Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.	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.	CEDAR CREEK 30 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Aaron de Neui 507-477-2255 www.cedarcreekchurch.org Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN P.O. Box 66, Claremont 507-528-2320 Pastor Douglas Walters 10 a.m. Worship
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.	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN- ELCA 1301 Lincoln Ave. Owatonna Pastors Dave Klawitter 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	CATHOLIC	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.	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	
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.	ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA 30450 570th Ave., Waltham Pastor Dwight DoBell 507-567-2474 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.	CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS 307 SW First St., New Richland Father Raul Silva Father Antony Arokiyam 507-234-6244 Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday	HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL 9946 SE 24th Ave. Owatonna Father Peter Schuster, Parochial Administrator 507-583-2784 www.litomysl.webs.com Sunday Mass at 8:30 a.m. with Children's Church 8 a.m. Sunday Sacrament of Reconciliation Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation classes for K thru Confirmation Second Sunday of month: Family Faith Formation Litomysl Finance Council: 2nd Thursday Litomysl Pastoral Council: 2nd Thursday every other month	NEW BEGINNINGS 332 14th St. NE., Owatonna Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson 507-413-0209 Worship: 10 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.	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.	SACRED HEART CATHOLIC 150 NE Second St., Hayfield Father Peter Schuster, Parochial Administrator 507-477-2256 Mass: 4:30 pm Saturday & 8:30 am Thursday Reconciliation: 3:45 pm Saturday	FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL 230 Locust Ave., Owatonna Pastor Eliazar Talamantes 507-363-2240 Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday	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	
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.	ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA 2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden Pastor: Rev. Dean Smith 507-451-2165 Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.	SACRED HEART PARISH 810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna Father John Sauer 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.	METHODIST	MENNONITE	
PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA 9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale 507-465-8366 Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.	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.		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.	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.	
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.			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	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.	

www.minimizer.com

800-248-3855

Blooming Prairie

Owatonna
GRANITE & MONUMENT

“Creating Your Story in Stone”

1180 Frontage Rd E • Owatonna
507-455-9551
www.owatonnagranite.com

LERBERG'S FITNESS CENTER & CAR WASH

118 5th Ave.
Ellendale
507-684-2471

Dr. Deborah Lien
DDS, MBS

Building Healthy Smiles!

132 2nd Ave NE
Blooming Prairie
507.583.6613
FREE CONSULTATION

CLAREMONT SERVICE CENTER

Service Center:
507-528-2233

After Hours Towing:
507-456-4158

111 Front Street
P.O. Box 282
Claremont, MN

Johnson, Doerhoefer & Miner P.A.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Certified Public Accountant Tamzen R. Johnson

319 East Main Street, Blooming Prairie 888-933-6828 Fax: 507-583-3389

Locally Owned & Operated

237 Hwy. Ave. S.
Blooming Prairie
507-583-6671

Koster's CAR KORNER

FOR THAT HOMETOWN PERSONAL TOUCH

Hwy. 218
Blooming Prairie
507-583-2018

FLOOR TECH

322 East Main St.
Blooming Prairie
507-583-2276

FARMERS INSURANCE

Mike Bishman
121 W. Broadway St.
Owatonna
507-451-0193

REALIFE COOPERATIVE

Vibrant Living For Individuals 55 & Older at a Reasonable Price

Call Jon Arnett @
455-3735 for a tour
236 22nd St. SE • Owatonna

VALLEYVIEW OF OWATONNA

Make new friends.

1212 W Frontage Rd Owatonna, MN
507-451-0722
valleyviewofowatonna.com



FALL IS HERE

Visit the Apple and Pumpkin Patches



TWIEHOFF

GARDEN & NURSERY

From our garden to your table!!

We have Onions, Squash,
Indian Corn, Gourds Fall Mums,
Pumpkins and Birdseed.

Check out all the Fall Decorations

Hours Mon-Sat 9:00 - 5:30
Sun 11:00 - 5:00

917 St Paul Road Faribault



August thru October
9:00AM to 7:00PM

**Pick - Your - Own Apples,
Wagon Rides, Hello Honey,
and lots of Fall Decorations.**

**OPEN
7 DAYS A
WEEK**

**SEKAPP
ORCHARD**
THE KAPPAUF FAMILY
HAS OWNED THE ORCHARD SINCE 1962

507-282-4544
3415 Collegeview Road E.
Rochester, MN



Fireside Orchard & Gardens

Featuring Apple Cider, donuts, and much more!

We offer a wide variety of apples to choose from including the favorites of Minnesota.

Stop in to enjoy our beautiful garden!

Celebrating 46 years of

Open daily 9-6

2225 Lonsdale Blvd. Northfield, MN
(1 1/2 miles east of I35 on Hwy 19)

507-663-1376



BAUER'S
MARKET & GARDEN
CENTER

We have the largest apple selection in the area.
Hand-dipped caramel apples and
Fresh pressed apple cider.

Open daily 8am - 7pm

Highways 14 & 61
LaCrescent, MN
507-895-4583



**Farmer John's
Pumpkin
Patch**

**Celebrating
31 years**

Come for the pumpkins, stay for the fun!

Where Kids can be Kids

F: Pumpkin for your baby born after 10/15/2018
R: Admission, To pick your own pumpkins!!
E: Wagon Rides - Sat & Sun 1:00 - 4:00
E: Fun for the whole family

90537 273 Street Austin, MN
507.437.9180

HERE IS MY CARD

ACCOUNTING



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

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

AUTOMOBILE

Mike's
REPAIR
870 32 Ave. NW
Owatonna, MN 55060
On-site Tire Service

507-455-0388
Fax: 507-455-0486
After Hours: 507-455-0483

Mike Hartle

COLLISION

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

 NATIONAL
BODY SHOP
INCORPORATED
Ford Recommended

 ASSURED PERFORMANCE™
COLLISION CARE

 MOPAR

 GM

 enterprise



CSI:

www.csiaustinmn.com

**Collision
Specialists Inc**
507.437.2837

CONSTRUCTION

**Johnson Construction
& Tree Service**

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

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

J.A. Gwilt Siders, Inc.
Siding, Windows, Gutters, Roofing & Decks

Call 507-456-1504
for your **FREE**
estimates!

Serving Steele County
for 20 years.



Known for our exceptional quality of material and labor.

EXCAVATING

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

State License # 1844

Serving the Area
Over 12 Years

- Design • Installation
- Compliance Inspections



BISHOP

BE

EXCAVATING, INC.

- EXCAVATION • BASEMENTS
- DEMOLITION • DOZER WORK

Commercial & Residential Sitework

507 583-2999

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

GARBAGE SERVICE

SKJEVELAND ENTERPRISES

YOU CAN COUNT ON US! Sanitation & Recycling Services

Pride in service since 2007

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

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

Contact Skjeveland Enterprises today!

507-528-9900



ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

Dr. Deborah J. Lien, DDS, MBS
132 2ND AVE. NE
BLOOMING PRAIRIE
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST
FREE CONSULTATIONS

**Building
Healthy
Smiles!**

drdeborahlienorthodontics.com 507.583.6613

PETS

 *Bennett's*
**PET HAVEN
CEMETERY, INC.**
"Professional Cremation and Burial Services for your loving pet"
Larry & Donna Bennett
4151 N. City Rd. 45
Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 451-2203 **Cell: 507-456-3562**

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

PREPLANNING

A Simple, Thoughtful Act of Caring
PREARRANGEMENT & PREFUNDING



507-583-7561
www.worlein.com

Mary Kittelson
NFDA Certified Preplanning Consultant • Licensed Agent • Purple Cross Plans

Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home
418 Highway Ave S., Blooming Prairie, MN

**CONTACT ANNIE ANDERSON
AT 507-319-1549 OR BPANNIE@FRONTIER.COM
AND PROMOTE YOUR SERVICES HERE!**

Hometown Living

High marks for new school plan

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Owatonna's plan for a new high school is getting high marks from a state agency. The Minnesota Department of Education has

given its stamp of approval on the proposal by Owatonna Public Schools for a new high school that will come before voters on Nov. 5. In her approval letter to the district, Education Commissioner Cathryn

Ricker said, "Based on the department's analysis of the school district's required documentation and other pertinent information from sources of the Minnesota Department of Education, the Com-

missioner of Education provides a positive review and comment." School districts must submit detailed documentation to the state for approval when proposing major building projects.

"Now that state approval has been granted, the next step is voter approval on Nov. 5," said Shaylene Baumbach, spokesperson for Owatonna Schools. The new high school request is the first of two

questions facing voters on the ballot. The second question is a request to repurpose usable parts of the existing high school, rather than tear most of it down.

SEE HIGH MARKS, B2

Teen vaping hits close to home



Steele Talkin'
ANDREA MARSHALL

As my son sits across from me with his head over a bowl of cereal, I reluctantly bring up the subject of vaping. I know he does this (vaping), and he knows I hate it. It's a conversation we've had numerous times, but often leaves both of us feeling misunderstood.

When I ask him what he thinks of the latest news about people getting sick? He insists that it must be because they don't clean the vape or that they are getting them from some sketchy places. The truth is, I tell him, is we really don't know. He shrugs as if he is, of course, an invincible 18-year-old. I too shrug, defeated.

As a Health Educator, how could I have lost my own child to the Big Tobacco Industry? Despite all the parenting efforts I put in trying to help him avoid making such risky decisions, it continues to plague my family and many other parents of teens. With the trend being labeled an epidemic by the US Surgeon General, and with my experience in classrooms talking to hundreds of young people, I know we have a fight on our hands trying to teach students the dangers of this epidemic- they truly think it is harmless! Unfortunately, our children are the tobacco industry's second generation of lab rats and it is affecting even the most health conscious families, as it (vaping) is touted as a safe alternative to smoking.

WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR.

As of Oct. 8, 2019, 49 states, the District of Columbia, and 1 U.S. territory have reported approximately 1,299 cases of severe lung disease associated with the use of e-cigarettes.

- 26 deaths have been confirmed in 21 states: Alabama, California (2), Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia (2), Illinois, Indiana, Kansas (2), Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, New Jersey, Oregon (2), Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia.

- Center for Disease Control (CDC) has received complete sex and age data on 1,043 cases: 70% of cases are male; median age of patients is 24 years and ranges from 13-75 years. 80% of patients are under 35 years old, making this a teen and adult problem.

SEE TEEN VAPING HITS, B2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Braeden Meier, a 2018 graduate of Owatonna High School, reads to young children in South Africa as part of his study abroad program. Meier has organized a GoFundMe campaign to maintain an after school program in Cape Town in an effort to keep children away from gang violence.

Helping at-risk youth

Owatonna grad travels to South Africa to keep kids out of gangs

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Helping at-risk youth succeed in school has become a mission this fall for an area college student who is reaching out to a far away country through a study abroad program.

Braeden Meier, a 2018 graduate of Owatonna High School, is currently in South Africa volunteering for the Great Commission United in the Cape Flats of Cape Town. He is working with three other students. His main job has been marketing and fund-raising for GCU.

Meier arrived in Africa in mid-August and will continue helping out through the end of November. He is a sophomore at Wittenburg University in Springfield, Ohio majoring in marketing and communications.

GCU, Meier says, is an organization focused on helping children ages 7-15 succeed in school, sports and their future careers. Ex-gangster, Mario Van Niekerk, started GCU. "The Heideveld community that GCU is based in is riddled with gangs, drug abuse and violence," he said. He noted the unemployment rate is among the worst in Cape Town, and children are recruited to join gangs as young as age 11.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Owatonna graduate Braeden Meier, far left, is in South Africa with a group of volunteers for the Great Commission United organization. He currently attends Wittenburg University in Ohio.

GREAT COMMISSION UNITED AFTER SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

- Help children stay out of gangs in South Africa
- Fundraiser organized by Braeden Meier of Owatonna
- Donate to: www.gofundme.com/f/gcu-after-school

In order to keep kids in school and away from gangs, GCU is providing schools in the area with physical education coaches and tutors, according to Meier.

GCU also runs an after-school program targeted at social development through sport. "This is a crucial part of keeping kids out of gangs as most gang

activity occurs after primary schools finish the day," Meier said. "It offers youth a safe place to express themselves, learn and grow with other children in the community."

Unfortunately, Meier said, the after school program is at risk of being shut down due to lack of sponsors. Meier, along with other volunteers, has decid-

SEE HELPING AT-RISK YOUTH, B2

Hospital gift shop has new name

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

It's now called the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Coffee & Gift Shop.

It was The Pink Pantry. It is still the location of a small gift shop that has many, many unique items, says Marcia Sullivan, gift shop supervisor.

Why the name change? Sullivan explains: "The new name tells who we are,

where we are and what we have. The Auxiliary is taking ownership."

The gift shop hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. The shop is not open on weekends.

The Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Coffee & Gift Shop will be open during all hours of the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar on Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov.

2. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Unique pieces of apparel including tops, jackets, shoes, jewelry, hats and mittens can be found at the Gift Shop on the two days of the bazaar.

Theme for this year's bazaar is Christmas the Gnome.

Coffee, pastries, flowers and fragrances are also available at the Gift Shop.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

This cute, little GNOME peeks his head out from a gift bag at the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Coffee & Gift Shop. The Gift Shop was formerly called The Pink Pantry.

Motorist alert for flashing red mode at Owatonna signal

The southbound Interstate 35 off-ramp traffic signal at Bridge Street in Owatonna has been in flashing red mode since Oct. 16 for approximately two weeks, while crews replace the foundation and the signal pole that was damaged by a vehicle crash, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

The traffic signal pole and its foundation were damaged in August during a vehicle pursuit with police ending in a crash that killed two people. A MnDOT contractor is replacing the foundation and the signal, so the current signal will be in red flashing mode, meaning motorists must stop before proceeding when it's safe to do so. Westbound traffic on Bridge Street will have stop signs to help regulate the traffic.

The new concrete foundation for the replacement signal pole will take approximately one week to cure or achieve the needed strength to hold the pole. The pole will be replaced and the signal connected, so it can be operational. The work is expected to take approximately two weeks, weather permitting.

HELPING: at-risk youth FROM B1

ed to create a fundraiser for them through GoFundMe. The goal is to raise \$10,000 to keep the after school program operating for at least one more year, he said. As of Monday afternoon, Meier had raised \$560.

In addition to the fundraising campaign, Meier is also looking into different grants and funding opportunities to help GCU.

Meier said it would be a travesty for the South Africans to lose the after school program. "If they don't have a safe place to go after school, they get involved in gangs," he said.

For Meier, working with the children in South Africa has been heart warming. "It's incredible to see the smiles on their faces when we work with them," he said. "I didn't expect to have such an impact."

This particular study abroad program is new at Wittenburg, Meier said. When the opportunity opened up, Meier jumped at the chance to go. This worked into Meier's schedule perfectly because he plays lacrosse in spring and would not be able to travel at that time when most abroad programs take place.

"I've always wanted the opportunity to travel overseas," Meier said. "I signed up for this immediately when it came out," he said, adding the experience has definitely pushed him outside his comfort zone.

Cape Town is "quite an impoverished area," Meier said. He has found many people live in unofficial housing. For example, some have taken a giant sized aluminum can-type structure and turned it into a tin shed to live in. Unemployment in the area is at 30%, according to Meier.

Meier said, "I feel we are having a big impact here, and I hope when I leave it will be sustained."

While at Owatonna, Meier was captain of the hockey and lacrosse teams. He was also involved in cross country and DECA member.

HIGH MARKS: for new school plan FROM B1

Funds would be used to demolish what's no longer usable, renovate what can be renovated and develop the site for district and/or community use.

If the second question is successful, the final design would be a collaboration with the community.

If voters approve only the first question and not the second, the current high school location would still stay in the district's control. However, most of the current high school would be demolished as the district would not have enough funds to maintain or renovate it, according to Baumbach.

Both questions require more than 50% yes votes in order to pass.

The unanimous School Board decision to bring the two funding requests to voters on Nov. 5 was based on feedback from the community after a narrow loss in May.

From the research completed by the Community Task Force on Facilities and community input, the high school design plan would include:

- New learning spaces including classrooms, labs and shops outfitted with modern technology to support learning and propel students into 21st Century opportunities
- A secure main entrance adjacent to the main office
- Adequate lunchroom space that also doubles as a community commons area
- An auditorium that would be paired with appropriately sized music rooms
- ADA and Title IX compliant
- Up-to-date building systems, including modern and energy-efficient mechanical and electrical systems
- Adequate on-site parking

• A building designed to allow flexibility for future changes as technology continues to evolve.

The district has identified an approximately 88-acre parcel of land suitable for the proposed new high school near the intersection of U.S. Highways 218 and 14. Federated Insurance of Owatonna has signed a letter of intent with the Ryka family and donate it to the school district, if voters approve the referendum on Nov. 5.

For more information about the upcoming referendum, check out www.owatonnaproud.org.

TEEN VAPING HITS: close to home FROM B1

• More cases are expected as CDC and FDA advisories are encouraging the medical community to report suspected cases.

WHAT DO ALL THESE CASES HAVE IN COMMON?

All confirmed cases have a reported history of e-cigarette product use.

- The latest findings from the investigation into lung injuries associated with e-cigarette use, or vaping suggests products containing THC play a role in the outbreak.
- Of the 573 patients with information on substances used in e-cigarette, or vaping, products in the 3 months prior to symptom onset; about 76% reported using THC-containing products;
- 32% reported exclusive use of THC-containing products; about 58% reported using nicotine containing products; 13% reported exclusive use of nicotine-containing products.
- Suspected cause is a chemical exposure, though the specific chemical exposure(s) remains unknown currently.

• No single product or substance has been linked to all lung injury cases. More information is needed to know whether a single product, substance, brand, or method of use is responsible for the outbreak.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS THAT HAPPEN?

Among the cases, three major groups of symptoms have been associated with this outbreak:

1. Chest symptoms appear to occur over several days to several weeks and includes:
 - Cough
 - Chest pain
 - Shortness of breath
2. Abdominal symptoms preceding chest symptoms and includes:
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
3. Other symptoms include:
 - Increased heart rate (tachycardia)
 - Fever and/or chills

WHAT CAN PARENTS AND YOUTH DO?

- STOP/DO NOT USE E-CIGARETTE/ JUUL PRODUCTS UNTIL THE

EPIDEMIC IS OVER

- It's important to communicate to your children about the dangers of vaping-associated lung injury. Visit these websites for tips on starting the conversation.
- How to talk with your kids about vaping
- Surgeon General: Parent tip sheet on e-cigarettes
- If you use e-cigarette products, or your child vapes, and you experience or notice any of the symptoms described above, seek medical care immediately.
- Regardless of the ongoing investigation:
 - Youth and young adults should not use e-cigarette products
 - Women who are pregnant should not use e-cigarette products.
 - If you do use e-cigarette products, you should not buy street products (for example, e-cigarette products with THC or other cannabinoids).
 - You should not modify e-cigarette products or add any substances to these products that are not intended by the manufacturer.

Adult smokers who are attempting to quit tobacco products should use evidence-based treatments, including counseling and FDA-approved medications; see CDC: Ways to Quit Smoking. If you need help quitting tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, contact your doctor or another medical provider.

Steele County Public Health and Steele County Safe and Drug Free Schools has partnered to provide creative and interactive outreach education programs to any organization, business, church or school that is interested. We can provide presentations no matter the size or demographics. Please contact me at Steele County Public Health at 507-444-7650 if interested.

Andrea Marshall is a health educator and substance abuse prevention specialist with Steele County Public Health in Owatonna. Steele Talkin' is a regular column featuring authors representing various organizations around Steele County.

Kickin' it up!



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

With streamers in hand, members of the Just for Kix group in Blooming Prairie perform for fans at last Wednesday's football game. Showing off their dance moves are, from left: Eva Magnuson, Aireanah Thomforde and Juliana Torres. There are 104 girls ranging in grades pre-K to seniors performing in dance this year in BP. The group's director is Bizzy Thompson.

Helping during disasters

Disasters are becoming all too common! Flooding is one of the natural disasters we are dealing with around Medford all too frequently these days. Last year's tornadoes in September were another. The interstate closing due to weather conditions or a major accident or chemical spill is cause for concern. The Union Pacific and Canadian Pacific railroads have been increasing longer trains running through our communities about a dozen times during the day/night-often with numerous cars of hazardous materials.

Have you ever wondered about your own family's safety and taking care of each other when any emergencies happen? Safety during disasters start at home. How prepared are you to protect family and property? How about your neighbors requiring assistance during an emergency?

Educating yourself in emergency response by participating in the upcoming Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) hosted at Owatonna Trinity Lutheran Church is one sure way to understand safety response at home and in your neighborhood. Volunteers trained to respond to numerous disasters in an organized fashion, working with city and county emergency individuals are critical in responding those first hours following a disaster. After the initial disaster, clean up is often required. Maybe sheltering of individuals and their pets for a period of time is required. All are critical areas where the CERT individuals play a role.

In November, a CERT class is scheduled at Owatonna Trinity Lutheran Church-a designated emergency shelter site. The dates are November 7, 9, 12, 14, 16, 19 and 21. Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m. The instructors are passionate and experienced. You are also introduced to a number of other supporting agencies available at the time of a disaster. The last day, participants actually go through a mock drill putting the hours of training to good use.

Topical areas covered is information on Community, Home and Workplace Preparedness; Fire Safety; Disaster Medical Operations; Light Search and Rescue Operations, Disaster Psychology, Terrorism and how CERT volunteers work with the county and even national emergency response teams.

More people from all of Steele County trained, as CERT volunteers are needed. First, to take care of your own home and neighborhood. Then, to assist our volunteer fire department, emergency response teams and the county emergency staff while dealing with the disaster. There is no charge for taking the training and you do receive a basic safety backpack with a variety of items to use at the time of an emergency.

Last year, I participated in the training. I retrieve the manual and my pack when dusting the upstairs bedroom to review those initial steps of response to the emergency. The more prepared we are as individuals, the more we should be able to assist at home, our neighborhood and the community when there are actual declared emergencies.

Information and registration material is available at www.emergency.owatonna.info click on CERT. Your family will be glad to see and hear more of your experiences. Let us all be more safety conscious and have ability to respond to any emergency! Thank you for committing to this training.

Lois M. Nelson is currently serving her seventh year as Medford's mayor.

NRHEG

Panther of the Week

Crissa Koopal

Sponsored by:

Steve's SMOKEY ACRES
Award Winning Home-Cured Meat Products
ESTABLISHED 1973

NRHEG Elementary- Ellendale

This week's Panther of the Week is Crissa Koopal. She is the daughter of Jason and Lacey Koopal and they reside in Hartland. She is in Mr. Beynon's third grade class.

Crissa is an exceptional student. She comes to school prepared and ready to learn. She shows great responsibility, integrity, and empathy and is always respectful. "She is someone I can always count to brighten my day," said Todd Beynon.

Crissa enjoys cheerleading and reading. She's also a fan of Harry Potter. Keep up the great work Crissa!

47th Annual AAUW & BP Women of Today

Village Affair

Sat., Oct 26
9a.m.-3p.m.
LUNCH SERVED
10:45 a.m. -1 p.m.
Food prepared by
Conger Inn Victory Catering
BEVERAGES & TREATS
SERVED ALL DAY

OVER 75 VENDORS

FREE ADMISSION ~ Blooming Prairie High School

All Proceeds to Scholarships for Local Students

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

OCT. 24 6:30 p.m. – Family Fun Night, BP Library	OCT. 28 6:30 p.m. – Fire Relief Association Meeting
OCT. 25 7 p.m. – Speakeasy, Servicemen's Club 7 p.m. – BPHS Band Concert, BPHS Gym	OCT. 29 10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library
OCT. 26 Village Affair	OCT. 30 10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

OCT. 24 7 a.m. – Ellendale EDA Meeting, Community Building 7:30 p.m. – Ellendale City Council Meeting, Community Building	Community Building
OCT. 25 10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building	OCT. 28 10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building
OCT. 26 Ellendale Craft Show,	OCT. 29 6:30 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do, Ellendale Elementary Gym
	OCT. 30 10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

OCT. 24 Noon – Business Boot Camp 2 p.m. – Movies at the Library, Owatonna Library 6:30 p.m. – Family Fun Night, Owatonna Library	Native Gardens, Little Theatre of Owatonna 6:30 p.m. – Citizens' Climate Lobby, Trinity Lutheran
OCT. 25 Native Gardens, Little Theatre of Owatonna 11:30 a.m. – Small Towns Luncheon, Owatonna Public Utilities	OCT. 28 4 p.m. – Owatonna HRA Meeting, City Admin Building 7 p.m. – Medford City Council Meeting, City Admin Building
OCT. 26 Native Gardens, Little Theatre of Owatonna 7 a.m. – Farmers Market, Central Park 8:30 a.m. – Women's Morning of Well-Being, Country Club 8:30 a.m. – Coffee with the Owatonna City Council, Dining Hall of Camp Pillsbury 1 p.m. – Children Halloween Party, Arts Center 2 p.m. – Trick or Treat Trail, Fairgrounds Park 6 p.m. – A Starry Night for Exchange Club Center for Family Unity, Inn at Shattuck-St. Mary's	OCT. 29 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Preschool Storytime, Owatonna Library 3:30 p.m. – 4 Seasonz Market, North Cedar Avenue 4 p.m. – North Market, Grace Baptist 5:30 p.m. – Owatonna 2020 Budget Review Session, City Admin Building 6:30 p.m. – Medford 6-12 Grade Choir Concert, Medford Auditorium 7:30 p.m. – Medford 6-12 Grade Band Concert, Medford Auditorium
OCT. 27	OCT. 30 11 a.m. – Karl's Appliance Grand Opening, 1287 21 st Ave. NW

Veteran's Day special to feature popular war film

A 2019 Veteran's Day special film event will be coming to Austin. The historic Paramount Theatre will be showing, "Saving Private Ryan," on Friday, Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. A free-will donation is being requested with all proceeds benefiting local programs. The film event is sponsored by SPAM Post 570, American Legion Post 91, VFW Post 1216 and Auxiliary, DAV Chapter 27 and the Austin Area Arts. For more information, call 507-437-4583.

Oyster Stew & Chili Feed coming Nov. 2

The Sons of the American Legion will sponsor its 8th Annual Oyster Stew & Chili Feed Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club, just off U.S. Highway 218 at 210 4th St. NE. Serving will be from 5-7 p.m.

The menu includes oyster stew, chili, fresh bread, dessert, milk and coffee. Everyone is welcome. Door prizes will be given to lucky winners. A free will offering is asked. Donations go to the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #52.

Dinner to honor military vets

A free dinner will be offered for all military veterans. The 10th annual Veterans Day Dinner will take place on Monday, Nov. 11 at 5 p.m. at the Owatonna Elks Club. A roasted turkey buffet will be served from 5-6 p.m. with musical entertainment from 6-9 p.m. Music will be performed by Ryan Herman. The Blooming Prairie Police Department Explorer Post members will be assisting with the event. All military veterans will be honored at the dinner. Reservations are requested by Nov. 8 at 507-451-1395.

Minnesota Basket to be raffled at Village Affair

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

When you visit the Village Affair at the Blooming Prairie High School on Saturday, Oct. 26, be sure to get a raffle ticket for a Minnesota basket.

Pam Folkens of the Blooming Prairie AAUW (American Association of University Women) and Mandy Doocy of the Women of Today urge visitors to take a chance to win a Minnesota basket with lots of goodies. Tickets cost only \$2 each.

Some of the items in the basket include honey, syrups, Minnesota made beer, wild rice and other items representative of Minnesota creations. Everyone likes a surprise so check out the Minnesota basket.

The 2019 version of the Village Affair, which represents the 47th annual event, is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Blooming Prairie High School. Admission is free.

The Village Affair, in actuality, is a holiday bazaar that brings items that coincide with the upcoming holidays of Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Craft exhibitors will bring these creations: hand sewn items, holiday items, hand woven rugs, scrap booking materials, baked goods, jewelry, ceramics,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This Minnesota basket featuring all kinds of items native to Minnesota will be the prize if you win a drawing at the Village Affair on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Blooming Prairie High School.

candles, handbags, pottery, wood pieces, painted wood, fabric items, jams and jellies, home decor items and much, much more.

Village Affair promoters urge attendees to come early and stay late within the 9 to 3 time frame.

Lunch will be served from 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Food is prepared by Conger Inn Victory Catering. Meals to go are available.

The menu will include sloppy joes, chicken noodle hot dish, cole slaw and macaroni salad. Beverages and goodies are served all day.

"With over 75 craft exhibitors, we will see over 140 tables reserved," related Pam Folkens.

Funds from the event are directed to scholarships next spring. Students are encouraged to apply in April.

Pro wrestling coming to BP in 2020

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The Blooming Prairie Lions Club is bringing professional wrestling to Blooming Prairie in 2020.

Mark Saturday, Jan. 11, 2020 on your calendars as the day the American Wrestling Federation brings its ticket to town.

All of the action will take place in the Blooming Prairie High School gymnasium. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the action slated to begin at 7 p.m.

The gate will be manned by the Lions and concessions will be run



by Blooming Prairie High School student volunteers.

The American Wrestling Federation is known as Minnesota's No. 1 independent wrestling promotion.

The AWF roster includes these combatants:

Air Wolf, Angel Dorado, Arik Cannon, Brandon Gore, Darin Corbin, JDJ, Jake Savage, Petey Brown, Nick Nelson, Ryker Mex, Ricky Love, Sterling Bond, Super Thunderfrog, Tony Denucci and Wildcat.

Owatonna church plans lutefisk dinner

Make plans to attend a popular fall tradition in Owatonna.

Trinity Lutheran Church will be having its annual lutefisk and Swedish meatball dinner on Thursday, Nov. 7 from 4-7 p.m.

The menu consists of lutefisk, Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes,

lefse, rutabagas, coleslaw and dessert.

There are two tiers of pricing for tickets: \$18 for both lutefisk and meatballs and \$14 for meatballs without lutefisk. Children 12 and under are \$6.

Tickets may be purchased in the church office at 609 Lincoln Ave. or online at tlcowatonna.org/lutefisk.

Driver discount courses offered in Hayfield

The Minnesota Highway Safety Center is offering 55+ driver discount courses next month.

On Tuesday, Nov. 19, a 4-hour refresher course will be place from 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Hayfield Elementary School, 96th Ave. SE in Hayfield. The 8-hour refresher course will be offered on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 20-21 from 5:30-9:30 p.m. at the same location.

This class will save you up to 10% on your auto insurance. Completion of the 8-hour course

qualified drivers for the discount. To maintain the discount, drivers must complete the 4-hour refresher every three years.

A certified instructor will update you on defensive driving tips, changes in laws, vehicle technology and traffic safety.

The cost for the short course is \$22 and the long course is \$26.

For more information or to register, visit the safety center's website at www.mnsafetycenter.org or call 888-234-1294.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Blooming Prairie native Lisi Wright stars in Galactic Cowboy Orchestra, which will be performing at the Paramount Theatre in Austin Nov. 9.

Galactic Cowboy Orchestra brings BP native to Paramount

A woman who grew up on a hog farm near Blooming Prairie will be taking center stage with her band next month.

Lisi Wright will be performing on her violin and singing with Galactic Cowboy Orchestra on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Paramount Theater in Austin.

The four-piece band, which was formed in 2009, identifies as eclectic, art-rock jazz fusion with inspiration from jamgrass, jazzgrass and experimental rock. The energetic live show is artsy, intense, limit-stretching, poetic, sophisticated and fun.

Wright has been playing violin since 5 years old. A fan of Rush, the Beatles, Soundgarden and Collective Soul, Wright has played with Martin Zellar & the Hardways, Mick Sterling and Alison Scott. She is endorsed by Bridge Violins. She endorses dessert for breakfast and craft beers.

Other band members include:

- A noted Twin Cities' picker, Dan Neale contributes guitars and vocals to the group. He has played with Bo Diddley and has performed as a guest artist and a fill-in for Pat Donohue on Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion."
- Bassist John Wright first made his mark in

the Minnesota Music scene in 1989 when he backed guitarist Billy McLaughlin as well as his own progressive rock band US, who's debut recording made the cover of the College Music Journal. Wright went on to play with Mick Sterling and Tim Mahoney. In 1999, he formed the critically acclaimed Celtic/American Folk-Rock trio Lehto and Wright, still active to this day.

- Born and raised in Rochester, Alec Tackmann covers percussion and vocals with the band. He started on piano as a kindergartener until switching to drums in his early teens. He earned a Bachelor of Music in drum set performance from Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. Tackmann is the author of the GoAndPractice series of drum instructional books, based upon his popular YouTube channel of the same name.

Galactic Cowboy Orchestra played the Paramount four times, most recently as part of The Banjo Hour with Captain Gravitone and the String Theory Orchestra in April 2018.

Advanced tickets are available at austinareaarts.org or 507-434-0934. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Dementia friendly activity planned

Senior Alliance for Steele County (SASC) will be holding a Dementia friendly Halloween bingo activity on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 609 Lincoln Ave. S, Owatonna.

The activity is open to any individual living with dementia and their caregiver. SASC committee members will be on hand to provide guidance and there will be light refreshments for participants. This activity is free for the individual with dementia and their caregiver.

The goal of Senior Alliance for Steele County is to offer a variety of no-cost or low cost activities to be held in a safe and understanding environment for individuals with dementia and their caregivers, in addition to offering educational and informational opportunities for the general public.

RSVPs are requested for the event to Deb Gillard at 507-213-1305 or gillard.deb@gmail.com.

You may also contact Gillard for information about Senior Alliance for Steele County.

Halloween Bash to benefit Alzheimer's

Don't let this fundraiser scare you off.

The Owatonna Elks Club will be hosting a Halloween Bash on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 5 p.m.

Admission to the bash is \$10 per person with profits from the fundraiser going to the Alzheimer's Association.

The third annual bash will feature sloppy joes and sides from 5-7 p.m., Tri Eight Band beginning at 7:30 p.m. and a costume contest and raffle at 9 p.m. There will be an opportunity to win prizes.

• *Uncompromising Quality*
• *Timeless Remembrance*
• *Enduring Beauty*

• *Allow us to help you select a memorial that is right for you*

• *Locations in Rochester & Austin*

• *Serving Southern MN and Northern IA*

bremker@gmail.com

507-363-9275 • 877-754-0592 • www.bertrandmemorial.com

Bob Remker

Don't miss all the "Better Choices!"

Plan your viewing with the IN FOCUS Program Guide!

Delivered to you monthly • 1 Year Member Subscription \$35.
email: MBednar@KSMQ.Org or 507.481.2098

KSMQ TV
The Better Choice

R TOWN 90 Farm connections

INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Save Public Television!
- KSMQ Wins Top Award!
- How Computers Work!
- VIEWING GUIDE
- Make Your Mark!
- Start Your Own!
- Millennium Babies on Video!
- KSMQ Sponsors!
- ...and much more!

Call or email your legislative leader on one key issue today! Check out KSMQ.org for details.

PBS

J & H LIQUOR

FALL EVENTS

Bar Bingo
Monday @ 6:30 p.m.

Bloomin' Grapevine Wine
Tues. 7-8:30 p.m.
Nov. 7: Holiday Dazzle Wine Tasting
Nov. - April: Available Later
May 5: Wine Tasting "Gala"

Thurs. Nov. 7 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Held at the BP Servicemens Club
Tickets: \$15 Advance/ \$20 Door
Purchase Ticket by Oct. 12,
enter name into a prize basket
drawing. Tickets available at the
Chamber office \$ J&H.

All event details
available at J&H Liquor
340 E. Main St. • Blooming Prairie
583-7557

BUSINESS FOR SALE

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

WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOUR BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, OR RETIREMENT PARTY



WHAT A BLOWOUT SEASON!



Congrats to the Awesome Blossoms on their unbeaten season and for fighting their way to a Mid-Southeast-White District championship!



We’re wishing you the best in the upcoming playoffs. Let’s bring home a section title and take it to the bank at US Bank Stadium!

This message sponsored by these Blossom supporters:

FARMERS & MERCHANTS
STATE BANK

“WHERE YOUR DEPOSIT
BECOMES AN INVESTMENT
IN YOUR COMMUNITY”

583-6688

245 EAST MAIN ST
BLOOMING PRAIRIE

Member FDIC

Choose Your **AWESOME**

507-583-2296 • 317 Hwy 218 S. Blooming Prairie

Bto
HARDWARE

323 East
Main St.

Blooming
Prairie, MN

Prairie Manor Care Center & Heather Haus Apartments

“QUALITY CARE”

with a Small Town Touch

Prairie Manor
CARE CENTER

583-4434 • www.prairiemanorinc.com
220 3rd St. NW, Blooming Prairie, MN

SALINAS AUTO REPAIR INC.

656 3rd St. NE • Blooming Prairie

583-6620

Vandal's
FAMILY MARKET

Locally Owned & Operated

237 Hwy Ave S. • Blooming Prairie • 583-6671
Mon - Sat: 7:30 am - 8:30 pm • Sun 8 am - 7:30 pm

GENEVA
Lumber Company

For all your Lumberyard & Home Design/Drafting needs.
Stop in and see Tait today!

413 West Main St. • Geneva • 507-256-0045

Sportstitch inc.

341 East Main Street
Blooming Prairie, MN
507-583-7001
www.sportstitch.net

“Your One Stop Logo Shop”

usbank

Blooming Prairie Branch

236 East Main St. 507.583.6627 usbank.com
Member FDIC

Blossoms, Huskies take unbeaten records into playoffs

Minnesota football playoffs begin in earnest this week, and Steele County has two unbeaten teams to offer in sectional play this year.

The defending state champion Owatonna Huskies and the Blooming Prairie Blossoms both have excelled on the gridiron this fall. For their hard earned efforts, both teams have received first round byes in the playoffs.

Beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday, Owatonna will host the winner of Rochester John

Marshall and Northfield/Arcadia, which were to play Tuesday night. The winner of Saturday's game will challenge one of the following teams: Rochester Century, Rochester Mayo or Austin.

On Saturday at 7 p.m., Blooming Prairie will host the winner of Randolph and Fillmore Central, which was to be played Tuesday night. The winner of Saturday's game will take on one of the following four teams: Goodhue, Hayfield, Rushford-Peterson or

Wabasha-Kellogg.

The section semi-final games will take place Friday, Nov. 1 with the section championships on Saturday, Nov. 9. The winners of the sections will qualify for the state playoffs.

Owatonna is the top-ranked team in Class 5A. The only other team in the top 10 that the Huskies have played this season is Mankato West, which is ranked ninth in state.

The Blossoms are currently ranked second in the

state behind BOLD-Olivia. No teams that Blooming Prairie has played this year are ranked in the top 10 in state.

The Huskies have captured the state Class 5A title for the past two seasons.

Last year, the Blossoms earned a state playoff berth after winning the section championship over Goodhue. Blooming Prairie's dream season came to an end when they lost 37-7 to BOLD in the Class A semifinals.



The Panthers' Gabe Hagen (8) makes an attempt to get past a Medford defender in last week's onslaught with BP crushing the Tigers 44-0.

BP shuts down Medford 44-0

BY LEMAR NELSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Like most of the Awesome Blossom games this season, this one was virtually over by halftime. BP steam-rolled Medford 44-0 on the home field

Wednesday, Oct. 16, and that was the score at the break.

The second half proved just a formality, as the team went through the regular season 8-0, just as they had last season. Now the real season begins.

After Medford punted on its first possession of the game, the Blossoms took just 7 plays to begin the onslaught. Matthew Pryor gained 41 yards on two carries, Gabe Hagen



Senior Matthew Pryor (28) attempts to break away with Josiah Hedensten (17) at his legs and Justin Ristau (12) at his upper body. Pryor scored the first touchdown of the game.



It was off to the races for Zach Weber (80) after he got past the reach of a Medford defender in the final regular season contest. The Blossoms did all their damage early in the game scoring all 44 points in the first half.

Unbeaten Huskies kill JM 54-7

It was yet another breeze for the Owatonna Huskies in their final game of the regular season Oct. 16 as they killed Rochester John Marshall 54-7.

With the victory, the defending state champion Huskies pushed their winning streak to 27 games over the past three seasons, including unbeaten seasons in the past two.

The contest got off to a rather slow start for Owatonna as John Marshall scored the first touchdown of the game putting JM on top for the only time in the game 7-0. The Huskies quickly shot back to score a touchdown and extra point about a minute later to tie the game. Owatonna added a field goal with about a minute to go in the first quarter to take the lead for good 10-7.

In the second quarter, the Huskies piled on four touchdowns and a field goal to take a 40-7 lead at half. One of the highlights in the second quarter was Peyton Beyer's 30-yard fumble return for a touchdown.

Owatonna added two more touchdowns in the second half, one coming midway through the third quarter

and the other late in the fourth quarter.

Quarterback Brayden Truelson dominated Owatonna's offensive power with 186 passing yards and two touchdowns. Other Huskies to score touchdowns in the game were Sol Havelka, Logan Gauthier, Tanner Hall, Matt Williams, Payton Beyer and Brandon Skala. Owatonna had a total of 347 yards in the game.

Hall led the Huskies with 86 rushing yards while Ethan Walter had 110 receiving yards in the game.

Four defensive players for the Huskies finished the night with six tackles each. They were Grant Achterkirch, Carson Dekam, Matt Seykora and Isaac Gefre. Cole Earles chipped in with three tackles while numerous other Huskies had one tackle each. Seykora recorded the game's only sack for Owatonna.

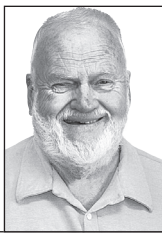
The Huskies (8-0) had a first round bye in the section playoffs, which got underway Tuesday night. Owatonna will host the winner of Tuesday's game between Northfield and Roch-

ester John Marshall Saturday at 7 p.m. The Huskies easily defeated both teams in the regular season.

GAME SUMMARY

Huskies 54, John Marshall 7					
Owatonna	10	30	7	7-	54
Rochester JM	7	0	0	0-	7
PASSING	Comp.-Att	Yds.	TD	Int	
Sol Havelka	1-3		41	1	0
Brayden Truelson	11-15		186	2	0
Logan Gauthier	1-1		7	1	0
RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Tanner Hall	14	86	6.1	1	
Sol Havelka	4	-2	-.5	1	
Blake Sommers	7	22	3.1	0	
RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Matt Williams	2	49	24.5	1	
Isaac Oppegard	1	11	11	0	
Payton Beyer	4	54	13.5	1	
Ethan Walter	4	110	27.5	0	
Brandon Skala	1	7	7	1	
DEFENSE	Tackles	Sacks	Int		
Grant Achterkirch	6	0	0	0	
Carson Dekam	6	0	0	0	
Matt Seykora	6	1	0	0	
Isaac Gefre	6	0	0	0	
Cole Earles	3	0	0	0	

Undefeated again for Blossoms



Outside the Lines

LEMAR NELSON

I am running out of superlatives to describe the Awesome Blossom team and season this year. Another game in which the locals went into the halftime break with 40 points or better put an end to their contest against Medford comfortably into the win column.

That makes two seasons in a row of undefeated football over the regular season schedule or 16 straight victories. Last year, the season didn't stop until the semifinals of the state playoffs, and the BP goal is even higher this year.

I won't bet against them. By the time readers see this column, the Blossoms will be preparing for a Saturday contest at McFarlin Field with a trip to Rochester in their sights. The No. 1 seed in the playoffs earned them a first round bye, and they will play the winner of the Randolph/Fillmore Central game. The best of luck to them in their quest.

The Blossom volleyball finished the regular season on a winning note and last night entertained LeRoy-Ostrander in a sub-section playoff match. We are hoping that it was a victory for the girls, and they can advance to the next round.

Both cross country teams finished fourth at the Gopher conference meet at Hayfield. I thought it is notable that the local runners recorded personal bests at this meet. Isaac ille, Hosea Baker, and Abby Smith all earned second team All-Conference honors.

HALLOWEEN

One of the big events in October is Halloween, a holiday that once was part of a religious observance, but has now morphed into a secular occasion for celebration. Originally, the day was All Hallows or All-Saints Day, when a three-day festival honored the departed saints.

It gradually became more and more a night of pranks, and for a few years the tradition got out of hand, and some people, especially teachers, actually became afraid of pranks that got dangerous. Now it is much more parties, trick or treating, or other such trappings. And a big part of the entertainment, at least for the younger generation, is carving jack-o-lanterns out of pumpkins.

I would bet that almost 100% of us engaged in that annual ritual when a youngster. I remember joining my sister in attempting that activity, but there was a great divide when it came to a finished product. My sister had that rare quality to make any project a success. When it came to carving jack-o-lanterns, she excelled. Me? Unmitigated disasters probably defined my efforts the best. Dorothy's jack-o-lanterns were creative geniuses, with perfect symmetrical features and three teeth smiling

SEE UNDEFEATED AGAIN, B6

FOOTBALL STANDINGS

Mid Southeast- White Conference

	Conference	Overall
*Blooming Prairie	5-0	8-0
Goodhue	4-1	6-2
Randolph	3-2	6-2
Faribault BA	1-4	2-6
Kenyon-Wanamingo	1-4	3-5
Medford	1-4	3-5

Big Southeast- Red Conference

	Conference	Overall
*Owatonna	6-0	8-0
Mankato West	4-2	6-2
Century	4-2	6-2
Mayo	3-3	4-4
New Prague	2-4	4-4
John Marshall	2-4	3-5
Northfield/Arcadia	0-6	1-7

South Central- Blue

	Conference	Overall
*Maple River	5-0	6-2
Martin County West	4-1	5-3
Gibbon-Fairfax	3-2	6-2
NRHEG	2-3	3-5
Lake Crystal	1-4	2-6
Le Sueur-Henderson	0-5	1-7

Football State Rankings

- Class A
- 1- BOLD- Olivia
 - 2- Blooming Prairie
 - 3- Springfield-Comfrey
 - 4- Ada-Borup
 - 5- United South Central- Wells
 - 6- Mahnommen
 - 7- Underwood
- Class 2A
- 1- Caledonia
 - 2- Minneapolis North
 - 3- Barnesville
 - 4- Paynesville
 - 5- Lewiston-Altura
 - 6- Redwood Valley
 - 7- St. Agnes
- Class 5A
- 1- Owatonna
 - 2- St. Thomas Academy
 - 3- Elk River
 - 4- Robbinsdale-Armstrong
 - 5- Bemidji
 - 6- Tartan
 - 7- Chaska
 - 8- Rogers
 - 9- Mankato West
 - 10- Minneapolis Southwest
- Rankings provided by the Associated Press

FREE CONSULTATIONS

Dr. Deborah I. Lien

DDS, MBS

ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

583.6613

132 2nd Ave NE

Blooming Prairie

www.drdeborahlienorthodontics.com



PHOTO COURTESY RONDA STALOCH

It took three Panthers to bring down the GFW ball handler in this play Oct. 16. Involved in the tackle were Blake Ihrke (14), Hunter Knutson (75) and Nick Staloch, on the ground on right side. GFW toppled NRHEG 52-15.

GFW piles it on with NRHEG

After a game that only produced seven points between both teams the week before, this week's game resembled more of a football game once again with 67 points being scored between the two teams. Unfortunately, NRHEG came out on the losing end of a 52-15 contest against Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop on Oct. 16 in Winthrop.

What was lacking the previous week offensively ended up coming to life again for the Panthers. Quarterback Blake Ihrke connected on 15 of 25 passing attempts for 146 yards. Kordell Schlaak chipped in one pass for 11 yards. But their efforts proved to be futile against GFW's rushing attack. GFW piled on 483 rushing yards compared to NRHEG's 24. In total offense, GFW smeared the Panthers 516 to 181 yards.

GFW jumped out to an early 8-0 lead and never really looked back the rest of the game. NRHEG came within two points in the first quarter when Ihrke completed a 48-yard pass for a touchdown. But that would prove to be as close as the Panthers would get in the game.

In the second quarter, GFW added another touchdown. NRHEG's Ben Schoenrock added a 31-yard field goal to make the score 9-16 at halftime.

GFW exploded in the second half with a pair of touchdowns in the third quarter and three touchdowns in the

fourth quarter. NRHEG added a final touchdown in the fourth quarter with GFW coming out on top 52-15.

The loss ended NRHEG's regular season at 3-5. The Panthers were scheduled to play Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton in the first round of playoffs Tuesday afternoon in Janesville. The Bulldogs were 4-4 in the regular season.

GAME SUMMARY

Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop- 52, Panthers 15

NRHEG	6	3	0	6-	15
GFW	8	8	14	22-	52
PASSING	Comp.-Att	Yds.	TD	Int.	
Blake Ihrke	15-25	146	2	1	
Kordell Schlaak	1-1	11	0	0	
RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Kordell Schlaak	4	14	3.5	0	
Lonnie Wilson	3	13	4.3	0	
Nick Staloch	6	11	1.8	0	
RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	
Lonnie Wilson	6	65	10.8	1	
Kordell Schlaak	3	33	11	0	
Nick Staloch	4	26	6.5	1	
Bo Budach	1	22	22	0	
Jack Olson	1	11	11	0	



PHOTO COURTESY RONDA STALOCH

Senior Lonnie Wilson (9) takes off with the ball in last Wednesday's regular season finale in Winthrop. Wilson left the Panthers in receiving with 65 yards.

BP SHUTS DOWN MEDFORD FROM B5



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Medford's Garron Hoffman (44) tries to scurry around BP's Ezra Kiley (59), who is being blocked by Tate Hermes (54) of the Tigers. BP's Xavier Rennie (18) is coming into the action to provide some defensive help.

gained 9 yards on a pass, and Pryor forced his way the last yard for the touchdown.

Carson Brenneke began a night of perfection with the first of his six straight points after kick. The rout was on, and BP would score two more touchdowns before the end of the stanza.

Another Tiger punt gave BP the ball on the Medford 45, and it culminated in a touchdown pass from Kaden Thomas to Zach Weber for 3 yards. Shortly before the half, the Blossoms took the ball on their own 35. This time it took four plays, including a 38-yard toss to Mitch Fiebiger for the touchdown. A pass good for 15 yards to Gabe Hagen got the team started on this short drive.

The second quarter touchdowns were sandwiched around a safety when a mob of BP tacklers pulled a punter down in the end zone.

A short punt later in the period turned into another BP touchdown, when it was recovered by BP and carried into the end zone. The final score came after a 6-play drive and a 36-yard pass from Drew Kittelson to Weber.

GAME SUMMARY

Blossoms 44, Medford 0	
Blooming Prairie 21 23 0 0- 44	
Medford 0 0 0 0- 0	

BP netters go over.500 mark

BY LEMAR NELSON
SPORTS EDITOR

The BP volleyball team sneaked above .500 for the season and won a conference match over USC at Wells Tuesday, Oct. 15.

The Blossoms lost game one 23-25, but then won the next three in a row to claim the victory. BP took game two 25-21 and then won identical 25-15 games to close out the match.

Julia Worke had 8 kills and 13 digs to lead the Blossoms, but Halle Strunk added 5 kills, Anna Kittelson 4 kills, and Megan Oswald 3 kills. Heather Pirkl and Maggie Bruns had 13 and 11 assists, and Bruns added 2 ace serves and 8 digs.

The win upped the team record to 13-12 overall and improved the conference mark to 3-5.

Blossom teams place fourth in cross country meet

BY LEMAR NELSON
SPORTS EDITOR

BP runners recorded 17 personal bests at the Gopher Conference cross-country meet at Hayfield Tuesday, Oct. 15, and both teams finished fourth of seven teams in the meet.

Isaac Ille and Hosea Baker were named to the second team All-Conference squad for the boys, and Abby Smith earned the same honor for the girls.

Ille led the BP boys over the 500 course with an 18:44.2, and Baker finished in 19:23.20. Tyler Forystek ran a 20:20.09, and Alex Miller placed fourth for the Blossoms with a 20:52.29. Ethan Grant rounded out the top

five for the locals with a 20:14.1. Other runners for BP included Dylan Johnson, Joe Pirkl, Cody Nirk, Elliott Swenson, Isaac Arnold, Sam Michaud, and Tommy Donnelly.

Smith ran a 20:40.1 to pace the BP girls, and Emily Anderson ran right behind her with a 20:11.2. Asha Lightizer timed a 25:46.1, and Reese Millam ran 26: 562 for fourth Abby Braaten rounded out the top five with a 27:56.4. Rose Michaud finished for the girls with a 28:45.2.

In the junior high division, Jack Bruns ran a fine 10:21.5, and Jaxon Harberts timed a 10:27.0. Shanna Halvorsen paced the junior high girls with a 12: 52.5, and Elsie Arnold ran a 13:15.1.

Medford sweeps NRHEG in volleyball

BY LEMAR NELSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Just as they did a week ago to the Awesome Blossoms, the Medford volleyball team made quick work of NRHEG Monday, Oct. 14, in a three-game sweep over the Panthers.

The Tigers won by identical 25-13 scores in all three games.

As NRHEG Coach Onika Peterson remarked, "There is a reason that the Tigers have been ranked in the state all season long. They have a very impressive team with a very quick offense and power hitters all across the front line of the net. Their back court is also impressive."

Kendall Johnson led NRHEG with 5 kills, Sophie Stork had 2 kills and 6 digs, and Cambria Nissen had 3 digs. Grace Tufte assisted on 9 points.

NRHEG's overall record is 14-15.

UNDEFEATED AGAIN: for Blossoms FROM B5

brightly in the mouth. My carvings always had the eyes distorted, a hole in the cheek, a mouth that always grinned sideways, and a lid that always managed to slide into the pumpkin and put out the candle.

The project, however, always seemed to supersede the initial plan, and my sister and I managed to stay on good terms throughout the process. That was a miracle in itself. It is just another of those youthful memories that stick with us, no matter our age.

WHAT'S UP?

As we have mentioned before, October is a busy month, and now that the delightful aroma of lutefisk has dissipated, other activity goes on. Today is the Manufacturers' Luncheon at the City Center. For a small community, we have a lot of manufacturing, and we are proud to recognize them occasionally.

Friday night the third annual Speakeasy Night will be held at the Ser-

vicemen's Club, with the Austin Big Band a special guest. This is really a fun evening for all ages. Some really get into the spirit and dress appropriately, while others come as they are. Either way there is fun for all.

I have talked up the Village Affair several times already, and this is my last chance to encourage local residents that the affair will be held this coming Saturday, Oct. 26. Approximately 70 vendors will be filling the halls with handcrafts of all types and sizes, and some early Christmas shopping will be on the agenda. I know that I used to attend just to buy my annual pumpkin pie to freeze and offer some to company as the holiday season approaches.

I join others in wishing farmers some good luck with the weather, as the harvest season rolls on. We can't do much to change it, but we can hope Mother Nature cooperates. Keep the faith, good luck to Blossom football, and we'll talk again.

HUSKIES MAGIC!

Congratulations to the Owatonna Huskies on being the 2019 Big SE Red Division Champions!



Photo courtesy Oldenburg Photography

A snapshot of Huskies magic:

- Unbeaten season 8-0
- 2nd straight conference title
- 3 straight section titles
- 2 straight state champion titles (3 state titles in the last 6 years)

Will the Huskies’ relentless pursuit of excellence continue?



Best wishes in the upcoming sections!

GO HUSKIES... TAKE IT TO THE BANK AGAIN!

This message sponsored by these proud sponsors of Huskies football:



STAY HAPPY SEE KAPPY
Now using PPG Waterborne Paint
www.kappysauto.com
kappysauto@gmail.com



Charlie & Al Kaplan
507-451-8989

TRAVEL  LEADERS®
travel better



111 N. Cedar Ave. • Owatonna
507-455-1170



EDUCATING TODAY
for a Brighter Tomorrow

Ages 6 weeks to school age | Enriching FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN

600 Florence Avenue, Owatonna
www.kidskorner.org • 507-451-0312





THE HAT CHIC
EVERYDAY'S A HAT DAY
507-213-1227



110 North Cedar • Owatonna • email: thehatchic@gmail.com • Hours: Wed-Fri 11:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Custom Orders

www.thehatchic.com



FARMERS INSURANCE

mbishman@farmersagent.com
121 W Broadway St, Owatonna, MN 55060
(507) 451-0193



Mike Bishman

Hours
Mon-Fri: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sat & Sun: Closed

Tue-Wed-Thurs. Lunch Menu Available
Thurs-Bingo 6:30 pm
Wed. & Fri. Dinner Specials
• 5-8 pm Call to Reserve

126 E Vine St. • Owatonna • (507) 451-1395



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
of the United States of America



BUFFALO WILD WINGS

1100 Frontage Rd W, Owatonna • 455-2700



CASHWISE DELIVERS



SAVE BIG WITH **more** REWARDS



IT'S EASY!

Our Members Have Saved Over \$ **6,362,173** On Fuel, And Counting!

- 1 Purchase specially marked items.
- 2 Receive rewards.
- 3 Redeem and save MORE!

496 West North Street, Owatonna • 507-451-8440 • Open 6Am-Midnight • Find us online at www.cashwisedelivers.com

SPONSORED BY
TOREY'S FINE DINING
OWATONNA

STEELE-DODGE
PIGSKIN MANIA 2019

WINNER: Jerry Bessler - Owatonna

FOOTBALL CONTEST
ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

9 _____

10 _____

11 _____

12 _____

13 _____

14 _____

15 _____

16 _____

*Tie-Breaker Score _____ *

5. Minnesota (NFL) at Kansas City*

Football Contest Rules

- **Contest period:** Sept. 11-Nov. 27
- **How to win:** Pick the team you think will win each game listed in the below advertisements. Write the team's name in the blank with corresponding number. Cut out and send or drop off at Steele County Times, P.O. Box 247, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 or Dodge County Independent, 121 W. Main St., Kasson, MN 55944. You may enter in person, mail or e-mail to bptimes@frontiernet.net or dcf@kmtel.com. Must be returned by 5 p.m. on Tuesday prior to games. (Note: the selected games are for the following week, not the current week.)
- **Tie-Breaker:** You must enter a score in the Tie-Breaker game or you will be disqualified.
- **Prizes:** We will award a gift card to local restaurant or grocery store to the person correctly predicting the most winners from the games listed. There will be a grand prize awarded to the person who picks the most correct games throughout the entire 12 weeks. All decisions by judges are final.
- **Eligibility:** Open to anyone age 14 or older, excluding staff of newspapers.



Pete's Repeat

Bar and Grill

Kasson • 634-7500 • 27 W Main St, 5.5

Pease come
support your local
youth hockey
association pull tabs

1. Northwestern at Indiana

2. Rutgers at Illinois



Darrick Schewe, Owner
583-9994
Located in NAPA Auto Parts Building

3. Michigan at Maryland

4. Nebraska at Purdue





Large Selection & Low Prices
Right To Your Door!

CashWiseDelivers.com

495 West N. Street, Owatonna
507-451-7220 • www.cashwise.com



5. Minnesota (NFL) at Kansas City

6. Green Bay at Los Angeles Chargers

TOREY'S

Fine Dining & Fine Catering

Taking bookings for this
Fall & 2020

Our 2nd floor will have a banquet and event center
with seating for up to 275 with bar and lobby area



Lunch Buffet
Mon-Fri • 11:00-1:30
Full Lunch & Dinner Menu
507-455-9260
208 N Cedar Ave, Owatonna
www.toreys.net



7. Chicago at Philadelphia

8. Detroit at Oakland



Kasson American Legion Post 333

HALLOWEEN
AT THE LEGION



Kid's Party – October 31 – 4-7 pm
Adult's Party – November 1 – 7-11 pm
Watch for more info on facebook and our sign

9. Cleveland at Denver

10. Tampa Bay at Seattle



www.ZumbrotaFord.com

DEALER



THE PEOPLE

• 507-732-5127 •
OR TOLL FREE: 1-888-932-5127
1660 South Main St., Zumbrota
www.ZumbrotaFord.com

11. Tennessee at Carolina

12. Jacksonville at Houston



Good Luck Teams!!
AT THE CAPITOL:
State Office Building Room 147
100 Rev. Dr. M.L.K. Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-3903

Sen. David Senjem
District 29



ROCHESTER:
2423 12th Ave. NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-282-7648

Prepared and paid for by Dave Senjem

13. Indianapolis at Pittsburgh

14. San Francisco at Arizona

BIGELOW
HOMES

Tradition. Excellence.

Office: 507-529-1161
www.bigelowhomes.net

15. Washington at Buffalo

16. New England at Baltimore



LOOK UP!

FOR HAZARDS DURING HARVEST

Before farm begins, make sure to note the location of overhead power lines.

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines
- Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines
- Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance
- If a power line is sagging or low, contact your power company



FARM EQUIPMENT IS ON THE MOVE

If contact is made with a power line, stay on the equipment. Make sure to warn others to stay away and call 911. Do not leave until the utility crew says it is safe to do so. The only reason to exit is if the equipment is on fire.

It's important to take time for safety!
Stay alert and don't forget to **LOOK UP** this harvest season!

BP

507.583.6683

Blooming Prairie Public Utilities



Wishing

the area farmers

a bountiful, but safe harvest

from the Blooming Prairie Public Utilities

333 Second Avenue NE • Blooming Prairie

www.saveenergyinmycommunity.com

BEWARE of dangers above.

Your LIFE depends on it.



Look up and look out for power lines.

Steele-Waseca
Cooperative Electric

2411 West Bridge St.
PO Box 485
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-451-7340 • 800-526-3514
Fax: 507-446-4242
www.swce.coop • swce@swce.coop

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



NOTICE

Minnesota Secretary of State Certificate of Assumed Name Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

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

ASSUMED NAMED: Elemoose

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 202 N Cedar Ave. Ste 1, Owatonna MN 55060 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S): Name: Garage Graphics & Visuals

Address: 2503 N Neergard Ave, Springfield MO 65803 USA

I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY:

Milinda Teeter
Mailing Address
2503 N Neergard Ave,
Springfield MO 65803 USA
Email:
mteeter@elemoose.com
10/16, 10/23

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No:
74-PR-19-1810

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

Estate of:
Penny Larson Nepomuceno,
a/k/a Penny J. Larson Nepomuceno,
a/k/a Penny Jean Larson Nepomuceno,
f/k/a Penny Jean Hernandez,
f/k/a Penny Jean Larson, Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is

given that on December 9, 2019, at 2:45 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Steele County District Court, 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Teodoro M. Nepomuceno Arguello, whose address is 815 22nd Street Northeast, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060 as personal representative of the Estate of Decedent in an unsupervised administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and do all the necessary acts for the Estate.

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

/s/ Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court
10/17/2019

Robin Hoesly by Deanna Verdict
Court Administrator/Deputy Clerk
10/17/2019

Attorney for Petitioner
Timothy R. Maher (#295644)
Guzior Armbricht Maher
2700 East Lake Street, Suite 3300
Minneapolis, MN 55046
Telephone: 612-373-0007
Fax: 612-373-0008
Email: tmaher@gamlaw.net

10/23, 10/30

Notice is also given that



90th Birthday
Charlotte Braaten

Sunday, Oct. 27
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Social Hall at Grace
Lutheran Church- Austin

No gifts,
please.

Find us on Facebook





Let people know what's happening!

Place your ad in the

Advantage

over 13,000 viewers will see your event

Dodge County Independent
121 West Main Street
Kasson, MN 55944
dci@kmtel.com
634-7503

DODGE COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

	S	W	H	V	T	V		S	B	N	H	C	S	
S	L	V	E	D	E	H		E	V	N	I	W	V	T
E	H		G	V	B	E	T	D	D	V	S		W	E
H	E	C	V	D		L	I	V		D	E	S	O	D
O	T	I	S		W	E	O	H	D		V	N	N	V
B	V	L		E	N	C		L	V	O		V	E	L
		S	V	H	V				A	C	O	I	D	I
S	D	I	C	V					X	I	T	V	C	
E	E	T	N	O	C				N	V	H	I		
I	T	V		H	V	D			D	V	L		C	E
F	E	E	H		S	E	D	E	D		S	I	T	E
I	W	H	E	F		T	O	D		S	E	S	I	H
D	V		D	V	D	D	N	V	W	O	W		N	N
E	N	I	T	C	E	D		E	T	O	I	L	E	D
E	D	V	A	R	B	V		L	E	C	R	V	P	



Where the Deals Are!

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

SITUATIONS WANTED

AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GARAGE SALES

HOUSES FOR SALE

STEELE COUNTY
TIMES

Call to place an item in the Classifieds today:
507-583-4431



Minnesota Classified Advertising Network

WANTED TO BUY BUYING AND SELLING any gold and silver items, collector coins, diamonds, gold jewelry, silver dollars, rare currency. No collection too big. Kuehl's Coins, Fairmont, Minnesota, 507/235-3886, 507/399-9982	MISCELLANEOUS A PLACE FOR MOM The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is free, no obligation. Call 844/347-2104	MISCELLANEOUS ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a free LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify, plus senior & military discounts. Call 844/919-0966
Classified Advertising that is Easy! THE MINNESOTA CLASSIFIED Ad NETWORK Make an impact with your advertising dollar with classified advertising that reaches over 2.5 million readers! MCAN STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS Your newspaper representative can provide complete details. The 2nd Network is a program of the MNA, phone 800-279-2979	SAVING BIG ON MEDICATIONS Up To 90% Savings from 90DAYMEDS! Over 3,500 Medications available! Prescriptions req'd. Pharmacy checker approved. Call today for Your free quote 844/209-2877	DISH NETWORK \$59.99 For 190 channels! Add high speed internet for only \$19.95/month. Call today for \$100 gift card! Best value & technology. Free installation. Call 855/562-4309 (some restrictions apply)
SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION World Health Link. Price match guarantee! Prescriptions required. CIPA certified. Over 1,500 medications available. Call today for a free price quote. 866/237-5131 Call now!	DONATE YOUR CAR truck or boat to Heritage For The Blind. Free 3-day vacation, tax deductible, free towing, all paperwork taken care of 844/220-9501	

CLUES ACROSS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13						14					15			
16			17			18					19			
20		21				22			23		24			
25					26				27		28			
29				30					31		32	33		
		34	35						36		37			
38	39								40					
41					42				43					
44				45		46			47			48	49	50
51			52		53		54				55			
56				57		58					59			
60			61		62				63				64	
65		66						67			68			
	69							70						

CLUES ACROSS

- Package
- Wear away
- Joins a leaf to a stem
- Worsen
- Motives international cooperation (abbr.)
- Your folks
- Publicity
- Moves up
- Dept. of Labor
- Physicist Enrico
- Whitney and Manning are two
- Human foot (pl.)
- Coral is an example
- Extended error correction
- Small amount
- Dash
- The greatest of all time
- Middle Eastern country
- Ravine
- Cup-like cavity
- Chemical substances
- Extremely stupid behavior

CLUES DOWN

- Relating to male organ
- Indicates position
- Covers with frost
- Makes a soft murmuring sound
- Wood
- Type of fuel
- Confused
- Where you go at night
- Canadian flyers
- Type of birch tree
- Beloved Welsh princess
- Coated
- Smooth substance of crushed fruit
- Improves intellectually
- A sign of assent
- Island-based Italians
- Pragmatic
- Peter's last name
- A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
- Mexican city
- Sir Samuel __, Brit. statesman
- Summer Olympics were just here
- Fiddler crabs
- Southern military academy
- Tumors
- Speaks incessantly
- Sacred sound in Indian religions
- Transactions
- Et--
- Reminders
- Doesn't interest
- Norse gods
- Canola is one type
- Beloved sports-caster Craig
- Irish mother goddess
- Daddy
- Press against lightly
- Sound unit
- Master of Ceremonies
- Morning

**U-PICK!
U-SAVE!**

All of our vehicles have pumpkin spice air in their tires. This month only.

2019 Jeep Renegade

Lease for \$299/mo.

\$499 Total Due at signing

42 months, 10,000 miles per year,
On approved credit.

2019 Dodge Grand Caravan

MSRP\$28,535
Discounts & Rebates-\$3,782
Everyone Price\$24,753
Chrysler Finance Cash-\$1,000

As Low As \$23,753

Pre-owned 2017 Toyota Yaris

Sale \$8,999 or \$202/mo.

Clean, Low Miles, Super MPG!

Over 200 vehicles to choose from

ZUMBROTA

CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep RAM

"Dealer For The People"

507-732-5337

Sales Hours: Mon. and Thur., 9:30-8:00; Tues., Wed. & Fri., 9:30-6:00; Sat. 9:00-5:00
Service Hours: Mondaythrough Friday 7:30-5:00



Let's get you movin'!

Licensed in Minnesota
Serving Serving Steele, Dodge,
Mower and Freeborn counties,
including Rochester, Byron,
Kasson and Owatonna.

**KW KELLERWILLIAMS
PREMIER REALTY MLS**

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



DEALS ON WHEELS

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

Over 25,000 in households

CLASSIFIEDS

BARGAIN FINDER

Sell your items for \$50 or less. Run it for four weeks. ONLY \$5!

www.steeledodge.com

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

TO PLACE AN AD

Steele County Times

507-583-4431

bptimes@frontiernet.net

411 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie, MN 55917

3-WEEK SPECIAL: \$32

BUY TWO WEEKS,

GET THE THIRD FREE

UP TO 20 WORDS; 10¢ FOR EACH WORD AFTER

TO PLACE AN AD

Dodge County Independent

Dodge County Advantage

507-634-7503 • dci@kmtel.com

121 W. Main St., Kasson, MN 55944

FOR RENT

HAYFIELD-FOR RENT- GREAT WESTERN APARTMENTS. Large 1- & 2-bedroom apartments, includes all utilities, laundry on site. Available NOW. Must have proof of employment, Call (507) 796-0152 or (701) 330-9788 (40-42 chg)

DODGE CENTER 1 bedroom upper apt, in house. Stove, Refrigerator, water, and garbage serv. provided. Available now. \$495 monthly, plus \$495 deposit and ref. No pets, non smokers ONLY apply. 507-374-6747. DODGE CENTER APARTMENT for rent, 2bedroom includes heat, water, trash, on-site laundry, and off street parking. Available immediately, \$615/month. Call George if interested at 507-269-9870 (tfn chg)

DODGE CENTER- 3 bedroom older home with large yard. Stove and refrigerator furnished. NON SMOKERS ONLY APPLY. \$550.00 Deposit and \$550 rent. References required. 507-374-6747. (chg tfn)

2 BD APT ~ MANTORVILLE Open Nov! Month

to month leases & no pets. Rent from \$515 p/mo + elec. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity (45-46 chg)

1 & 2 BD APTS ~ KASSON Open Nov! Family & smoke free senior rentals. Rent from \$485 p/mo + elec. Month to month leases & deposit payment plans. 507-398-6027 or 507-451-8524 www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 Equal Housing Opportunity (45-46 chg)

1 BD APT ~ DODGE CENTER Open Nov! Smoke free wheelchair accessible apt w/blinds, DW & patio. One year lease & no pets. \$645 p/mo + elec. 507-438-7935 or 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (45-48 chg)

2 BD TOWNHOME ~ DODGE CENTER Open NOW! Smoke free two story homes with 1 ½ baths, W&D, central air, single stall attached garages & large yards. One year leases & no pets. \$1010 p/mo + heat & elec. 507-438-7935 or 507-451-8524 or www.lifestyleinc.net tdd 507-451-0704 EHO (45-46chg)

FOR LEASE

BYRON- BEAUTY SALON for lease. Operating Salon-room for four more stylists. Plus, spray tan room. Great location, corner of Hwy 14 and Co Rd 5 in Byron. For more information please call 507-271-4791 (44-46chg)

HOT JOBS

BIGELOW & LENNON CONSTRUCTION LLC is looking for Full Time Carpenters \$1,000 HIRNING BONUS! Experience is great, but we will train! We offer: Health Insurance, 401K, PTO and Holiday pay. We also have great starting wages! Contact us for more information 507-775-7068 or 507-951-3400 jill@bigelowlennon.com (43-45chg)

WASIOJA TOWNSHIP IS LOOKING for a Snow Plow Operator. CDL Li-

FOR SALE

PIANOS, DIGITAL PIANOS, Rodgers Church Organs - New, Used, Sales & Service - Call DEWEY KRUGER MUSIC, Northwood, Iowa, 800-933-5830, deweykrugermusic.com

APPLIANCES FOR SALE DODGE CENTER Whirlpool Dryer \$125.00, Small deep Freezer \$40.00, Corner Computer Desk \$15.00 White Wicker Shelfe for Bathroom \$10.00 If Interested, call with best offer 507-374-2180 (45-47pd)

BARGAIN HUNTERS

FIELD ROCKS FOR SALE, \$25 per load, South of Kasson, You load. Call 507-273-9678 (pd 30-42)

FOR SALE: LOVESEAT, in good condition, asking \$40.00!! If interested, please call 507-775-6757 (40-43 pd)

LOST & FOUND

NW KASSON Lost 6 year old orange and white, male, neutered cat. Boo is friendly. He is not wearing a collar. Please call 634-7982

Kasson-Mantorville Elementary School



Kasson-Mantorville Elementary School is seeking a Lead Custodian (evenings). Special Boiler License required.

Please complete an application on-line at www.komets.k12.mn.us and include a resume, application letter, and reference letters.

TRITON COBRAS

Career Opportunities

Triton Public Schools will be hiring a Long Term Substitute Spanish Teacher.

All postings and applications for Triton Public Schools can be found at: www.triton.k12.mn.us - under the District Office menu.

EOE

STEELE COUNTY Times

Always local, all the time.



COMMUNITY

Let people know what's happening!

Place your ad in the ADvantage

over 13,000 viewers will see your event

Dodge County Independent

121 West Main Street

Kasson, MN 55944

dci@kmtel.com

634-7503

DODGE COUNTY INDEPENDENT

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

for Kasson Public Library, Kasson Minnesota, serving a population of 6504, with a collection of 26,609 items. To build on a growing program, board desires a progressive person with skills in public relations, personnel, budgeting, grant writing, and being responsible for, adapting to, and assisting patrons with emerging technology and being proficient with (or willing to learn through professional development) 3D printers, Maker Spaces, and Chromebooks.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Science in Library Science and three years of experience or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the requisite knowledge and abilities for this position. Salary range \$61,651 to \$74,692 with standard benefits.

Job description may be found at <http://www.cityofkasson.com> under Employment. Send resume and 3 references by November 15, 2019 to: Kasson City Administrator, 401 5th Street SE, Kasson, MN 55944

ASK THE MOTOR MEDICS®

Syndicated Newspaper Column

By Shannon Nordstrom And Russ Evans



Dear Motor Medics, I drive a 2003 Pontiac Montana minivan with 110,000 miles in very good condition. Recently we have noticed that the lights that provide nighttime illumination for the speedometer and the temperature control panel and also the door lock switches are starting to fail. Some of the switches are still lit and can be controlled by the dimmer switch but others have failed completely. Sometimes the failed bulbs will flicker. Can we replace the bulbs in these items ourselves? A shop told us we cannot. Diane in Sandusky Ohio

Dear Diane, Many of the vehicles made in the past 10 years have switched to a lighting system known as L.E.D. or light emitting diode. This type of light is not replaceable do to the way that they are installed. They are soldered to the boards of the components they are lighting up and when they fail the only way to get them to work again is to either solder new leds to the boards or to replace the entire component. Due to the availability of the leds and the difficulty of replacing them we find that to repair the failed lights the best way is to replace the component. Unfortunately this can get very pricy. While some items like window switches can be as little as \$15 items like the instrument cluster can run several hundred dollars. In the case of the later we recommend checking on the availability of a used part. Take care, the Motor Medics

Dear Motor Medics, I heard you guys on a recent show discussing vehicle warm-up times and heard you say it was not necessary to warm up a fuel injected vehicle. I thought that all vehicles should be warmed up to get the oil flowing at least a little bit. If this is so, how long is a good warm-up time? Brandon in Dayton Ohio

Dear Brandon, There was more to what we were talking about that you must have missed. While we said that the fuel injected vehicles manufactured in the past few years could be driven right away due to better parts and efficient injection systems we still recommend some warm up time. We have heard some people even say just start them up and drive them to warm them up faster although we don't agree with that. There has to be a proper medium between running a vehicle too long to warm it up which wastes fuel and taking off so soon that the defroster won't even keep a windshield clear posing a safety hazard. The owner's manual will provide a good reference for warm ups. For us personally we tend to err on the longer side of warm up times. We like to make sure everything is lubricated and working as it should. Take care, the Motor Medics

LET THESE SPONSORS KNOW YOU APPRECIATE THESE COLUMNS!

FOR ENTERTAINMENT ONLY. ALWAYS CONSULT YOUR LOCAL SHOP AND FOLLOW ALL SAFETY PROCEDURES BEFORE REPAIRS.

Come visit the Motor Medic® online at underthehoodshow.com

L&D Recycling, Inc.

Scrap Iron & Metals

WE BUY ALL METALS!

507-527-2408 • LDRecycling.com

55976 STATE HWY 56, West Concord, MN

ALL Insurance

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS INSURANCE

Jacob Simons

President

507.361.7556

jacob@allinsb.com

2518 Superior Dr NW Suite 101A

Rochester, MN 55901

Boe Auto Center

115 Highway 56 N. West Concord

507-527-2241

www.boeautocenter.com

DARRICK'S PREFERRED AUTO

Darrick Schewe, Owner

583-9994

Located in Napa Auto Parts Building

Schaeffer's SPECIALIZED LUBRICANTS

Bruce Freerksen

(507)273-9110

brucewithschaefferoil@gmail.com

West Concord, MN

Kappys COLLISION CENTER

OWATONNA'S COLLISION SPECIALIST

Now using PPG Waterborne Paint

STAY HAPPY

www.kappysauto.com

kappysauto@gmail.com

SEE KAPPY

Charlie & Al Kaplan

507-451-8989

Hoff's Auto Repair

704 7th St Circle Se • 634-4633

STEVEN'S Collision Center

700 7th St. Circle SE - Kasson

507-634-6444

Mon-Fri. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

• 24 hour towing

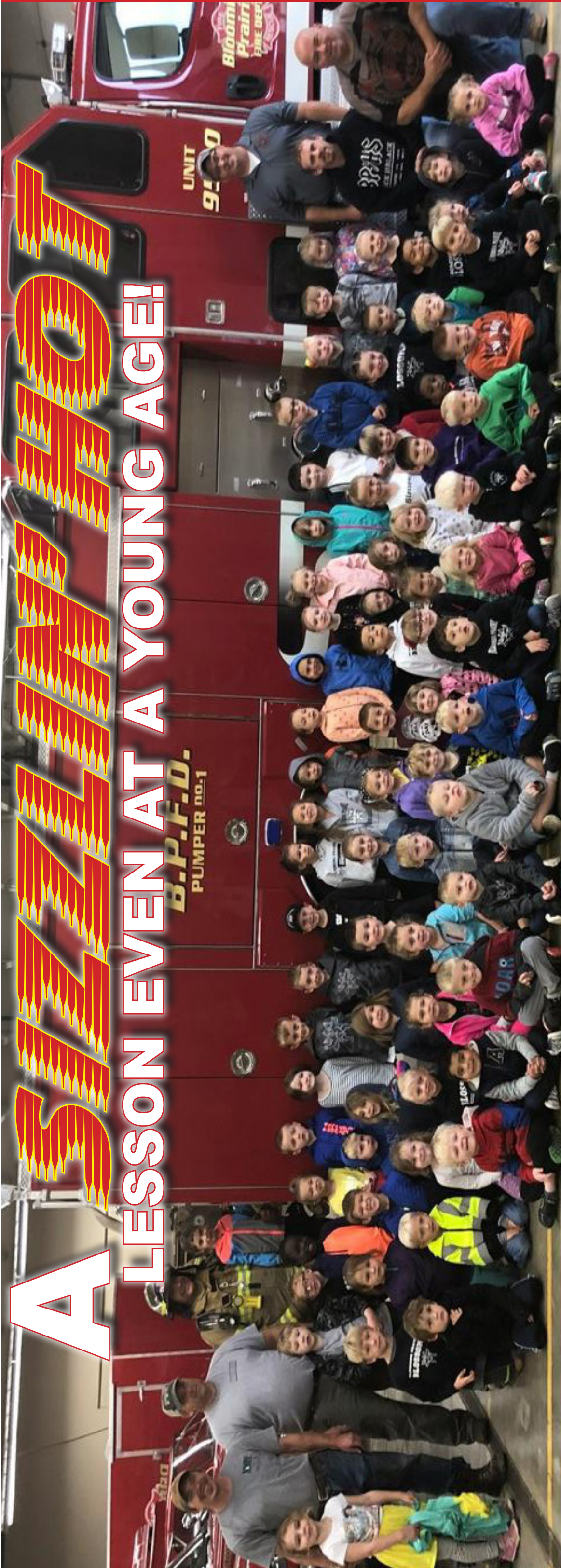
• Free Written Estimates

• All Work Guaranteed

• Complete Paint & Bodywork

• Auto Glass Repairs

• Vinyl Roof & Seat Repairs



Here's a sizzling hot lesson for everyone:

Smoke alarms save lives!

- Make sure you have working alarms
- Check smoke alarm batteries monthly
- Replace alarms every 10 years

This important message sponsored by these safety-minded businesses:



These youngsters are proof that fire prevention can never start too young. The kindergarten classes from Blooming Prairie made their annual visit to the Blooming Prairie Fire Department during National Fire Prevention Week to learn about fire safety.



CASH WISE
Large Selection & Low Prices
Right To Your Door! 24 HOURS
CashWiseDelivers.com

495 West N. Street, Owatonna
507-451-7220 • www.cashwise.com







Choose Your **AWESOME**



507-583-2296 • 317 Hwy 218 S. Blooming Prairie





Plemel Insurance Agency



920 Hoffman Drive, Owatonna 507-451-4619
471 Highway Ave. S. Blooming Prairie 507-583-7747
www.plemelagency.com

Thanks BP Firefighters

DARRICK'S

PREFERRED AUTO

583-9994
536 Highway 218 S. • Blooming Prairie
www.darrickspreferredauto.com



Worlein FUNERAL HOMES

Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home
418 Highway Ave. S., Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
507-583-7561 | www.worlein.com

GO BLOOMING!

Best kept secret!

Deli Sandwiches Daily Specials
ALL COME WITH A COOKIE & CHIPS

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

The Bakery
Main Street • Blooming Prairie • 583-4433



KAPPY'S COLLISION CENTER
OWATONNA'S SPECIALIST

STAY HAPPY SEE KAPPY'S
Now using PPG Waterborne Paint
www.kappysauto.com
kappysauto@gmail.com
Charlie & Al Kaplan
507-451-8989

Koster's CAR KORNER

Rod & Tess Koster, Owners
507-583-2018
Hwy. 218 • Blooming Prairie
www.kostercarkorner.com
ALL VEHICLES UNDER BOOK