

Judge keeps plea deal in Harberts tragedy

Prison stayed in lieu of staggered jail time for Kruckeberg

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN
COUNTY WRITER

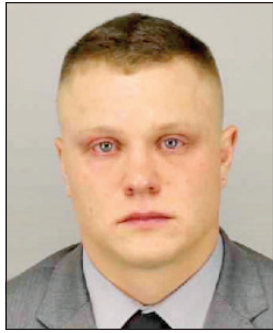
Following emotional statements by the family of Rachel Harberts and her 8-year-old daughter Emerson, as well as the defendant, Dodge County District Court Judge Jodi

Williamson sentenced Tanner Kruckeberg, 25, Dodge Center, to the terms of what previously had been agreed on in a plea deal. That deal included 10 years probation with 30-days each year spent in jail for the next five years for criminal vehicular homicide. A

57-month prison sentence was stayed for up to 10 years. Immediately following the sentencing on Nov. 6 in a Mantorville courtroom, Kruckeberg was remanded to the Dodge County Sheriff's Office to begin serving the first 30-day term in the Steele County

Detention Center in Owatonna. The charges arose from a crash in September 2018 that resulted in the death of Harbert, a Dodge Center resident and Blooming Prairie teacher, and her daughter. The two, along with

SEE HARBERTS TRAGEDY, A4



Arbitrator upholds officer firing

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A state arbitrator has ruled the City of Owatonna was justified in firing a police officer.

In a ruling filed Nov. 1, arbitrator Joseph Daly said the termination of police officer Jason Christensen is reasonable. "There are no extenuating circumstances justifying modification of the discharge supported by substantial evidence," Daly wrote.

In addition to upholding the firing, Daly also ruled that a pair of suspensions prior to the termination were for just cause.

Christensen appeared for a combined Veterans Preference and Arbitration hearing on several dates throughout August and mid September in Owatonna. The Minnesota Public Employees Association union represented Christensen in the hearing.

The union challenged both a 15-day suspension, collectively a 30-day suspension and a 60-day suspension as well as the city's intent to fire him.

Christensen began as a police officer in September 2014. Prior to joining the Owatonna force, he worked in law enforcement for more than 15 years. During his short tenure with Owatonna, the city shows he had a poor record of service and clashed with administration numerous times.

The officer's firing results from two incidents involving the arrest of a suspect at Walmart and the presence of property seized in and on his desk at the police station.

The city launched an internal investigation into two complaints made against Christensen in October 2018. The first complaint involved misconduct on Oct. 4, 2018 at Walmart while the second com-

SEE ARBITRATOR UPHOLDS, A4

Thumbs up on new high school

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

For referendum supporter Ryan Gillespie, it became an emotional evening as she watched the results come in for the Owatonna School Referendum Nov. 5.

"I had a lot of tears," Gillespie said. She said as it became apparent the referendum was going to pass, the cheers got louder and the high fives were exchanged. Gillespie and other supporters awaited the results at a party at the Eagle's Club in Owatonna.

And it was the kind of result supporters had been hoping for all along. A new high school will be coming to Owatonna after voters approved the bond referendum. Unofficial results show the referendum passed by almost 1,300 votes. The final total for Question 1 was 6,311 or 56% to 5,017 or 44%.

"We're beyond thankful to the community for the overwhelming outcome," said Gillespie, who volunteered on the Vote Yes committee. "It was a historic deal that everyone was excited to be a part of."

Superintendent Jeff Elstad shared similar sentiments. "We are incredibly grateful to our community for this double vote of confidence," he said. "The new high school and the repurposed existing high school will benefit our entire community, not just our students. Today we are truly Owatonna proud."

The second question regarding the repurposing of the current high school instead of the original intention of demolishing it passed by a narrower margin: 5,756 or 52% to 5,420 or 48%.

As was the case during the first election in May, the referendum struggled in the rural areas of the district. In the Clinton Falls precinct, which encompasses mostly rural areas, voters soundly defeated the referendum with 1,154 no votes to 545 yes votes. The referendum was defeated in only two other precincts within the City of Owatonna: Ward 2, Precinct 1 and Ward 3, Precinct 1. The second question was defeated in a couple other city precincts by small margins.

The new high school will be built on an 88-acre parcel of land near the intersection of Highways 14 and 218 in the southern part of Owatonna. The land will be donated to

SEE THUMBS UP, A3

A baker's delight



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

It takes teamwork between dad Gregg Fristedt and daughter Alie Strand to make some perfect rosettes. Fristedt taught his daughter the fine points of rosette making.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Alieshia (Alie) Strand and her father Gregg Fristedt show the finished product after their frying rosettes. "It is indeed an art form," said Alie

Making rosettes is an art form for Fristedt

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

What do you do after having worked as a registered nurse at a local clinic for a full day? Well, this one nurse, who resides near Blooming Prairie, makes rosettes. Alieshia (Alie) Strand is just learning the art and guess who her teacher is.

Her instructor is none other than Gregg Fristedt, owner of one of the most popular bakeries in southern Minnesota, The Bakery of Blooming Prairie. "Put an apron on," Fristedt ordered as he prepared to teach his daughter the art of making rosettes. Why was Strand making rosettes after completing a

SEE A BAKER'S DELIGHT, A9

TIME TO CASH IN AT THE BANK

Unbeaten Blossoms qualify for state semis

It's time for the Awesome Blossoms of Blooming Prairie to cash in at the bank. U.S. Bank Stadium, that is, with a couple of big victories leading to a state football title.

Blooming Prairie is on the verge of winning its first ever state football championship as the unbeaten Blossoms (11-0) qualified for state semi-finals Saturday after beating up on another unbeaten team, Springfield-Comfrey, 42-20.

The Blossoms now take on Ada-Borup (10-1) Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at U.S. Bank Stadium in downtown Minneapolis. The other semi-final contest will feature

BOLD (12-0) against Browerville-Eagle Valley (10-1) at 9 a.m.

The winners of both semi-final games will battle it out for the state championship on Friday, Nov. 29 at 10 a.m.

This will not be Blooming Prairie's first time competing at U.S. Bank Stadium. Last year, the Blossoms lost 37-7 to BOLD in state semis.

In last Saturday's other state quarterfinal playoff game, St. Thomas Academy dethroned two-time state champions, Owatonna Huskies, 21-0, in Woodbury. The loss ended Owatonna's 29-game winning streak that included back-to-back state titles in Class 5A.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Blossoms senior Matthew Pryor (28) battles his way across the goal line to score Blooming Prairie's first touchdown Saturday against the Springfield-Comfrey Tigers in state quarterfinal action in Janesville. Colton Krell (58) blocks a couple Tigers to allow Pryor to score. BP is hoping to cash in at the bank Saturday against Ada-Borup in state semifinal action.

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AREA DEATHS

Olgar Lon Himle, 90, rural Austin

*Serving
Blooming Prairie
and Steele County
since 1893*

OUR VIEW



Aubrey



Charlie



Emily



Jack

Our holiday wish: Matching children with great role models

Aubrey is energetic who loves to chat. Charlie is a talkative and helpful young boy. Emily is known for her friendly attitude, kind heart and good manners. Jack is especially good at archery and would love to show what he knows about the sport. They all have different interests and characteristics, but one thing remains the same in each of them. They all are dying to find a Big Brother or Big Sister. They are among this year's 12 Kids of Christmas featured by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Southern Minnesota and the Steele County Times. We are teaming up to find the best Christmas present ever for 12 children—a big friend.

For the next six weeks, we will be featuring two children in each edition that have been waiting for a Big. In some cases, the kids have been waiting for several years. We will be publishing a photo along with a short write-up of why these special kids want a big friend, what they enjoy doing and how they spend their time.

It's our hope through this special feature that residents will step forward and answer the call to be a big friend to these children. They want nothing more than an adult companion in their life to spend some time with them.

When children and teens have the influence of a caring adult, they are more likely to avoid risky behaviors and focus on academics. Today's youth face incredible challenges and being matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister can help them navigate these challenges and reach their potential.

BBBS enrolls children ages 5-14 in Steele, Dodge, Rice and Waseca counties. But, unfortunately, there are more littles than there are bigs. There is a waiting list of children seeking to have a great role model in their lives.

Here's just a small snapshot of what happens when children are matched with adults: 95% of littles see their grades improve after being matched with a big, 91% of little have improved relationships with family and peers and 97% of bigs feel having a little has changed their life for the better.

Invest in a child's future. When you support Big Brothers Big Sisters, you change lives for children in your community. Children are our future, and we need to do everything possible to build our youth in positive ways.

Help make this holiday season a memorable one for 12 Kids of Christmas through Big Brothers Big Sisters. It's something that you won't ever regret.

BP residents had own theory on Lindbergh kidnapping

History is something that has had a special appeal to me.

Blooming Prairie Librarian Nancy Vaillancourt recently uncovered some history that has always intrigued me. It surrounded one of Minnesota's most popular citizens, Charles Lindbergh, the famous aviator from Little Falls.

Lindbergh made headlines with his trans-Atlantic flight, with some unpopular comments about world War II and with losing a child to a kidnapper in 1932.

Charles Augustus Lindbergh Jr., 20-month-old son of Charles Lindbergh and Anne Morrow Lindbergh, was kidnapped on March 1, 1932. He was kidnapped from the crib in the upper floor of his home in Griffith in East Amwell, N.J.

The child's body was discovered on May 12, 1932 by a truck driver by the side of a nearby road.

Prior to the arrest of a German immigrant carpenter named Richard Hauptmann, people everywhere speculated as to who may have kidnapped the Lindbergh baby.

To show you the value of community journalism, go back to 1932 and pick up a copy of the Blooming Prairie Times from March 17, 1932. The headline reads: "Many Local People Say Capone Knows About Kidnapping."

The March 17, 1932 issue of the Blooming Prairie Times said "everybody in Blooming Prairie has an opinion about the Lindbergh kidnapping. Many believe Al Capone (well known gangster) knows all about it. Here is an assortment of views picked at random by The Times.

Mrs. A.W. Simpson: "Capital punishment for the kidnappers certainly would be none too severe as I think it is a terrible thing to take a young child from its mother."

Mrs. Alfred Ditlevson: "Those kidnappers should certainly be cleaned up on. They are not too good to hang when they would try to put one over like that. I don't think such people should be allowed to exist."

Mrs. Ernest Srsen: "Too much publicity and police have frightened the kidnappers so it is hard telling what the outcome will be. The most severe punishment could not be too bad but even if they are electrocuted, the suffering of the mother is never over."

Mrs. Joe Ressler: "I think they should be given life imprisonment so that they live to be punished during this



Reflections HOWARD LESTRUD

life, too. I have been wandering if the baby is still alive. If it had a bad cold it perhaps got pneumonia and wouldn't get the care it should. I think it is the most terrible thing that has happened for a long time."

Mrs. Jane Trotman: "I feel sure that it is some of the Lindbergh's own crowd such as relatives, or friends of the maid who took the baby. If they don't get capital punishment it won't be long before the outfits get out and are paroled. Of course, Mrs. Lindbergh must feel terrible but I don't think it is as bad for her as for mothers who have raised their children."

Maggie Farrell: "Capital punishment for those kidnappers and for sure ought to be hung. If they hung a few, there wouldn't be so much of that kind of crime."

Ward Morton: "I don't think so much of Lindbergh as I did. When he admits that he has to get gangland to help him and the police out, what is the country coming to? I think Al Capone has his finger in the pie. Why is he so anxious to put up a \$200,000 cash bond to get out of jail? Maybe Capone planned the kidnapping so that he could get out of jail because he knows that if he has to stay in jail a year longer, his gang will be disorganized. I feel sorry for the parents, especially Mrs. Lindbergh."

Miss Elizabeth Cashman: "I think it's just terrible. Mr. and Mrs. Lindbergh aren't safe at all. They don't know when they will be kidnapped or knocked off. Just because they have so much money, why should anybody else think he can get it? And, why is Al Capone so anxious to get out of jail? Why does he promise that he can get the baby back if hey will let him out? He must know something about it. I think it's just terrible that they had to call on the underworld to help."

Frank Faltejssek: "I think Al Capone knows all about it. They should have hushed it up after two days and than they would have found out. But it will all come out, even if they don't ever get the baby back."

Final disposition Hauptmann was found guilty of first-degree murder and sentenced to death.

Despite his conviction, he continued to profess his innocence, but all appeals failed and he was executed in the electric chair at the New Jersey State Prison on April 3, 1936.

Newspaper writer H. L. Mencken called the kidnapping and trial "the biggest story since the Resurrection."



Providing a niche that no one else does

As journalists, we are usually the ones behind the camera asking questions and taking photos. But recently the role was reversed for me.

A few weeks ago a crew from Twin Cities TPT (Public TV) came to the area to feature our newspaper and some of the challenges we've been experiencing in recent years. The story aired statewide on PBS stations Nov. 1. It is also available for live stream at tpt.org/almanac if you're interested in pulling it up.

Many of the points that I highlighted during my interview have been shared with readers over the past few years. I have always tried to be transparent about the state of local journalism and the newspaper industry.

In the TPT story, Matthew Weber of the Univer-



Hot Pursuit RICK BUSSLER

sity of Minnesota Hubbard School of Journalism highlighted some key points that I think many people fail to realize or think about. Weber said the decline of local news coverage decreases your civic engagement. In other words, there is a direct correlation between local news coverage and people being involved in their communities. Basically, it comes down to this: whenever there is less local

news, it's less likely that you are going to vote in local elections and be involved in the community.

Local newspapers provide a niche that no one else does. We cover local news of Steele County and the surrounding counties that often no other media outlet does. We pride ourselves on bringing readers all local news every week.

I ask that you would encourage your friends, neighbors and relatives to purchase a subscription to our newspaper if they haven't already. There is always room for us to grow.

Our newspaper's survival depends on two things: subscribers and advertisers. Without the two, there is no newspaper.

TPT interviewed a couple area residents. Douglas Leth affirmed that it would be "bad if we didn't have the paper." As he pointed out, you need the paper because you can't get all the information on TV.

And Brenda Petersen made a good point that people take the paper for granted. "If it were to totally go away, it would be a problem," Petersen said.

The newspaper industry has faced a whirlwind of changes over the past few years. We are fighting to maintain a community institution that has been around for more than 125 years. We need your help to keep this beacon of an informational source shining for years to come.

And yes, it was a little different being on the other side of the camera. But rest assured, I ended up taking a photo of the TPT crew so I could be somewhat in my comfort zone.

It's back to the grind stone and going in hot pursuit of chasing down local community news.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

A crew from Twin Cities TPT came to the area recently to feature the challenges of small newspapers, including the Steele County Times and our sister, Dodge County Independent. Pictured with the videographer is Kaomi Goetz, the Greater Minnesota reporter for TPT's Almanac show.

YOUR VIEW

Making lasting connections

BY TIM PENNY

After several busy months of taking advantage of warm weather, the leaves start to drop from the trees in preparation for winter, and I am reminded of the importance of slowing down and connecting with others. At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) we are spending this season connecting with many of our partners in our 20-county region at several major events.

We recently held the Entrepreneurial Bridge Event in Austin for the fifth year in a row. Business owners from around our region spent the day hearing from inspirational speakers and learning from each other to help their businesses grow. This year's theme was Achieving Greatness, and we were exposed to many ways of doing this. John McHugh, director of corporate communications at Kwik Trip, talked to us about the importance of creating a culture of community and compassion, and finding a purpose in the workplace. Cindy Ebert, president of The Growth Collaborative, walked everyone through a series of interactive sessions to help them hone in on their leadership styles and develop a goal-setting system to support growth in the business and the entrepreneur. We also heard from Mike McCabe, former director of air warfare at the Pentagon, who taught us the importance of being a strong leader by creating a culture in the workplace that others can buy in to.

We also saw greatness from the college students who participated in the student competition portion of the Bridge event. Their inspirational business pitches ranged from stylish headbands to robotic defense mannequins for sports training. I'm always amazed by the innovation that comes from our youngest entrepreneurs. Three winners – JockLab, 2True Headbands and School Shark – walked away with prize money to invest in their busi-

nesses, which we hope will support their ideas in taking root and sprouting into lasting businesses in our region.

The connections we are making with partners in this region don't end there. At the end of this month we will welcome 500 early childhood professionals to the Owatonna High School for the fifth annual Early Childhood Care Conference At SMIF we believe that making sure our youngest generation is prepared to be the leaders of tomorrow starts with early childhood professionals who are raising our future leaders, workers and citizens. These educators have developed a network over the years that is creating a better future for the children in our region. We want to be sure they are equipped with the tools to help our children grow and succeed, and this conference is an important way to do that.

Finally, we are already looking ahead to the winter when the FEAST! Local Foods Marketplace will be taking place at the Rochester Mayo Civic Center on Dec. 7. This is a great opportunity to get some holiday shopping done while supporting artisan food vendors from the region. From honey and jam to hazelnuts and chocolates, this event is the perfect way to make a direct connection with the people who make your food.

As we prepare for what might be another long winter, let's take the time to appreciate the beauty of this time of year in each other's company. Don't forget to connect with us directly if you have questions about opportunities through SMIF.

As always, I welcome your comments and questions. You can reach me at tim@smifoundation.org or 507-455-3215.

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



Becky Noble and LeMar Nelson reminisce at the 50-year anniversary of Blooming Prairie High School musicals. Current BP director Tamzen Johnson organized the event, which was well received by former actors.

Celebrating 50 years of musicals in BP

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

It was a time to renew acquaintances built by acting in high school plays the past 50 years. Blooming Prairie High School actors over the past 50 years met on Saturday night, Nov. 9 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club in celebration of their experiences. "Everybody should have the chance to be on stage," said former musicals director Frank Vorlicek, who was present at the reunion of sorts. "We have a lot of talent in this town," believes Vorlicek, who also put in a plug to push for an auditori-



Natalie (Becker) Sorensen attended the 50-year anniversary wearing the same dress she wore when she performed in the Blooming Prairie musical, The Sound of Music, 20 years ago.

um to be built in Blooming Prairie. "There is no reason why we can't have an auditorium in the community," he said. The impromptu reunion was spearheaded by current high school musicals director Tamzen Johnson. The reunion was sandwiched in between performances of The Sound of Music. Saturday's reunion gave Blooming Prairie actors a chance to reminisce about plays of the past. Videos were played as actors mingled with one another. Special honors were given to Vorlicek, LeMar Nelson, Sandra Johnson Rowe, Allison Jacobson, Renee Felchle Burns and Patty Mueller. Pianists Chris Butler and Karla Iacovino talked about some of their play experiences. Johnson paid credit to Nelson who said he enjoyed being part of the theatrical productions, Jane Ayre, Harvey and Annie. Nelson played the part of Daddy Warbucks in Annie. Johnson began her theatrical directing in 1991. She said theatre has changed considerably since that time, technology one area that has seen change. She said in 50 years, Blooming Prairie theatre touched over 2,400 kids. "It takes a whole community to make theatre happen," Johnson said. She's been a part of 23 productions. Kari Bottin, assistant director for The Sound of Music, said she has been part of 14 musicals with Johnson. "It's incredible to see all the kids who have been in theatre," she said. Johnson's two sons, Grant and Alex, both credited theatre with shaping their future careers.



Frank Vorlicek, a past director of Blooming Prairie High School theatrical productions spoke to a gathering of about 60 at a 50-year anniversary party at the BP Servicemen's Club on Saturday night, Nov. 9.

Natalie (Becker) Sorensen played Liesl in The Sound of Music 20 years ago. She came to the anniversary party wearing the dress she wore 20 years earlier. Lots of theatrical memorabilia was displayed at the dining tables and at display tables. Tamzen's husband Doug Johnson took BP actors through 50 years of plays by showing photos taken from Blossom yearbooks.

Referendum passes, what's next?

Superintendent lays out timeline for new high school

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Owatonna School District Superintendent Jeff Elstad is excited to begin the next steps toward the completion of new high school facility after the Nov. 5 referendum passed with 56% of the vote. "I am incredibly grateful and thankful for our community continuing to support our students," Elstad said. "I'm feeling a great measure of gratitude for our residents and the many businesses that stepped up to support this." After the initial bond referendum failed last spring, Elstad and his team went back to the drawing board and sought community input in order to provide a better vision for the new facility. They lowered the overall cost and detailed some of the possible designs. "The next steps will be for the planning and design phase for the project and over the next month we will start to advertise for members of the community who are interested," Elstad explained. "There will be several planning committees. It takes many voices and many interests." moving forward is still of utmost importance. "That's one of the most beautiful parts about a public building is that there are a lot of community voices around the table," he said. "We will be thinking about what the philosophy will be, and what we want this to look like, and what would best represent Owatonna." The second question of the measure, which also passed, involved the repurposing of the current building once the new facility is completed. "We threw out a couple of ideas when talking about the bond referendum but that timeline is delayed because it is our intention to get construction going on the new building," Elstad explained. One of the ideas which was floated would entail moving the district offices and maintenance into the current facility and under one roof. "Really the idea there would be to centralize ourselves and reduce our footprint as a district," Elstad said. As a long-time Owatonna resident, Elstad is proud to help bring this new chapter of education to the community. "I've lived here nearly 20 years, I bleed blue and silver, and I am very

NEW OWATONNA HIGH SCHOOL PLANS

- **Learning:** New learning spaces to prepare students into 21st century opportunities
- **Size:** 300,000 square foot building designed to accommodate 1,600 students; 70 classrooms, labs and shops outfitted with modern technology to support learning
- **Lunch Area:** Lunchroom space adequate to allow all students to get a seat during lunch; doubles as a community commons
- **Media:** Flexible media center to support a variety of learning opportunities
- **Gym Space:** Main gymnasium and auxiliary gym to provide four courts for physical education and athletics
- **Labs:** Modern career education spaces with updated vocational labs with modern industrial equipment, and flexibility to accommodate changes
- **Auditorium:** 900 seat auditorium paired with an improved music area
- **Parking:** Adequate on site parking for students, staff and visitors as well as accommodations for event parking – at least 1,000 parking stalls
- **Systems:** Up-to-date building systems including modern and energy efficient mechanical and electrical systems
- **Temperature:** Control for both winter and summer activities
- **Future:** Building systems designed to allow flexibility for future changes as technology evolves in the future

The planning and design phase is scheduled to take around a year, likely lasting from December of 2019 to December of 2020. After that the bidding and construction phase will get underway, and in the spring of 2021 the first bidding packages will come in. "There's a lot of moving pieces," the superintendent said of this process. "We will have roughly a 24 to 27-month construction window and are scheduled to open the building in late summer or early fall of 2023." Elstad maintains that community involvement proud of our community and I see this community as a thriving community," he said. "I am also proud of what my students and staff do each and every day!" "I love this community, and I love our students," Elstad added. "Whether you voted for this or not, and whichever side of the fence you were on, I think that all of us care about the education of our young people." For now, the district will continue to push forward as the planning and design phase for the new building to be located at 18th St. SE gets underway.

THUMBS UP: on new high school FROM A1

the district by Federated Insurance, one of many corporate donations that helped reduce the total cost of the bond request for taxpayers. Plans to repurpose the current high school will include a review of the high school to utilize the best parts of the building for district services and potential community usage. The final design will be a collaboration with the community and will likely include partial demolition, renovation and systems updates. Gillespie hopes to get a little rest after working on the referendum over the past year. "It's one of the greatest committees I've ever been a part of," she said. "We became family."

UNOFFICIAL REFERENDUM RESULTS:

Ward 1, Precinct 1 Question 1 Yes: 538 No: 413 Question 2 Yes: 524 No: 409	Question 2 Yes: 314 No: 344
Ward 1, Precinct 2 Question 1 Yes: 846 No: 451 Question 2 Yes: 743 No: 538	Ward 4, Precinct 1 Question 1 Yes: 542 No: 401 Question 2 Yes: 515 No: 417
Ward 2, Precinct 1 Question 1 Yes: 371 No: 423 Question 2 Yes: 355 No: 428	Ward 4, Precinct 2 Question 1 Yes: 627 No: 498 Question 2 Yes: 571 No: 539
Ward 2, Precinct 2 Question 1 Yes: 1,174 No: 369 Question 2 Yes: 1,007 No: 519	Ward 5, Precinct 1 Question 1 Yes: 580 No: 361 Question 2 Yes: 524 No: 407
Ward 3, Precinct 1 Question 1 Yes: 224 No: 240 Question 2 Yes: 219 No: 238	Ward 5, Precinct 2 Question 1 Yes: 527 No: 373 Question 2 Yes: 424 No: 459
Ward 3, Precinct 2 Question 1 Yes: 337 No: 334	Clinton Falls Question 1 Yes: 545 No: 1,154 Question 2 Yes: 560 No: 1,122

Historical director to take job in Missouri

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

After about 15 months on the job, the executive director of the Steele County Historical Society is moving south. James Lundgren submitted his resignation last week to the Society's board. Lundgren has accepted a new position as CEO and executive direc-

tor of the Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum in Hannibal, Mo. He begins in the new role Jan. 2. "We are so sad to see him go, but wish him the very best in his exciting new role," said Ryan Gillespie, president of the SCHS. She credits Lundgren with being an effective director for the Society, instrumental in continuing execution

of successful exhibits, programming, events and much more. Lundgren worked very hard at building a strong society with new sponsors coming on board this past year, Gillespie said. "Our staple events have been very successful (under Lundgren)," she said, adding he was very passionate about the history of the area

and being the face of the organization. Gillespie said the board has become the search process of finding a replacement for Lundgren. She hopes to get someone new on board before the end of the year. She doesn't anticipate any problems finding a qualified director to take Lundgren's spot. "We are looked to be a strong organization," Gillespie said. "It's very well respected. We are lucky to have the center and the village to host events, programming and rentals. We have a unique set up." Said Gillespie: "Our Historical Society has enjoyed a wonderful year. Our staff, volunteers and members are second to none, and we are excited to see what is to come in 2020." Gillespie said Rachel Neville, the center's events manager, who started in September, has also turned in her resignation. The society will also be working to replace her.

12 Kids of Christmas

Meet Aubrey

Aubrey has been waiting 2 months for a Big. She is an energetic young girl who loves to chat. Her hobbies include dancing, making arts and crafts, reading, playing outside and just expressing her creativity. Aubrey also has a passion for helping others, she said that one day she hopes to feed homeless people and help kids with special needs. The best Big for Aubrey would be someone who is quirky, funny and has patience.

Help end the wait for Aubrey. YOU could be the Big who ignites her potential. Become a Big today.

For more information call Megan at 507-451-5922 or visit www.bbbsofsouthernmn.org

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

Police launch probe into bomb threat

Owatonna Police are investigating a bomb threat at a local manufacturer. Police responded to Daiken Applied on 21st Avenue NW on Nov. 5 at about 8:58 a.m. for a report of a bomb threat. A suspicious device was located inside the Daiken building, according to Capt. Eric Rethemeier. He noted that Daiken management

initiated an evacuation of the building prior to police arriving on the scene. The St. Paul Police Bomb Squad was called in to assist and determined the device to be inert and non-dangerous, Rethemeier said. No arrests have been made, and the case remains under investigation. Owatonna Fire also assisted at the scene.

Winter parking restrictions begin Friday in Owatonna

Winter parking restrictions will go into effect Friday in Owatonna. At midnight on Nov. 15, the city's ordinance restricts on-street parking on many of the city streets between midnight and 12 noon no matter if there is snow on the ground or not. This will remain in effect until March 31. There are a few exceptions to the parking restriction. On even-numbered days, vehicles may be parked on the near side of the street adjacent to lots

and houses that have been assigned even numbers. On odd-numbered days, the same applies to lots and houses with odd numbers. The winter parking ordinance exists to expedite and make more efficient snow removal throughout the community. Police officers will be strictly enforcing the ordinance throughout the winter. Violators will be ticketed and towed. Any questions regarding the winter parking rules can be directed to the city's hotline at 507-444-4399.

JUDGE KEEPS PLEA DEAL: *in Harberts tragedy* FROM A1

Harberts' son, Jaxson, were on their way to school and were stopped on U.S. 14 near Claremont to make a left turn when their vehicle was rear-ended by a vehicle driven by Kruckeberg. Emerson Harberts died at the scene and her mother died later in the hospital in Rochester. Twelve-year-old Jaxson was critically injured but survived. According to court documents, Kruckeberg reportedly admitted he was looking down at his phone and that cell phone records indicate he was using an online banking app when the Hummer he was driving struck the Harberts car. Before Williamson announced Kruckeberg's sentence, a number of members of the Harberts family made statements to the court with several asking if Kruckeberg had really learned from the choices he made. Rachel's mother, Sharon Post, told the court that the morning of the accident she heard the helicopters flying over the house and worried that there had been another accident on Highway 14. Then, Rachel's husband Brandon called and said there had been an accident. "That day changed the life of everyone," she said. "Her life ended too soon."

Grandson Jaxson, she said, would not leave the hospital until Nov. 9. "Nothing can bring them back," she said. "Yes, Tanner will have to live with this, but," she asked, "has he learned his lesson?" Other family members expressed similar sentiments of how life would never be the same, that Jaxson would be growing up without his mother and sister. "It sucked the joy out of part of my life forever," Rachel's brother Jeremy Post said. Like other family members he questioned whether Kruckeberg had learned his lesson. The last family member to speak was Rachel's husband and Emerson's father, Brandon. He and Rachel had met in 1996, he said, and married in 1999. Having children proved to be difficult, he said, but ultimately they did have Jaxson and Emerson who he described as "our miracle baby." Recalling the day of the crash, he said he received a call at work that Rachel was late for work at the school, which was not at all like her. Minutes later he got a call from a state trooper. "Our lives changed forever that day," he said. Not only did he lose his wife and daughter but

"Jaxson can't play football anymore, he is in special education and kids have been teasing him." Because of his head injury he must wear a helmet for some activities and that embarrasses him, his father said. "No one is going to win in this situation," Harberts said. "I hope people learn from this. I think about them every day. "Jaxson doesn't talk about it, I don't know what he is thinking." Kruckeberg also made a statement to the court, telling the Harberts family that he "blames nobody but myself. "I want to apologize to the Harberts family and friends. There are no words I can say to make this better. I am truly sorry for what I have done. I don't expect forgiveness." These cases are difficult and horribly tragic, Williamson said. "I see a lot of grace in this courtroom. I see a lot of forgiveness," she said. She added she hoped it would open the doors of healing for the Harberts, for the Kruckeberts, for friends, law enforcement and the community, all of whom were affected by the tragedy. Following the sentencing, Geoff Hjerleid, the special Dodge County attorney who prosecuted the case,

explained the reasoning for the plea bargain that avoided a prison sentence. Gross negligence is a case such as this is a very difficult legal standard to meet, he said. In this case, he said, no alcohol or speeding was involved, Kruckeberg had no prior felonies and evaluations showed a low chance of recidivism. The plea agreement, which had been presented to the court in September, had Kruckeberg pleading guilty to one count of criminal vehicular homicide for operating his vehicle in a "grossly negligent" manner. He was originally charged with two counts but the second one was dropped in exchange for a guilty plea. His sentence calls for Kruckeberg to be on probation for up to 10 years. Each year, for the next five years, he will spend 30 days in jail with the jail time to begin on the anniversary of the crash. He will also be required to participate in community service where he will tell the story of what happened. In addition, his drivers' license will likely be suspended although that decision will be made later by the Department of Motor Vehicles. A 57-month prison term was stayed during the probation period.

ARBITRATOR UPHOLDS: *officer firing* FROM A1

plaint on Oct. 18 involved the officer's failure to properly secure evidence from criminal cases, including dangerous weapons, drug paraphernalia and property testing positive for trace amounts of methamphetamine. City administrator Kris Busse determined that Christensen made an unlawful arrest and search and failed to issue a Miranda warning during a shoplifting call at Walmart on Oct. 4, 2018. The city found Christensen made an invalid custodial arrest, which led to the improper seizure of seven bottles of prescription pills. After the invalid search, Christensen improperly questioned the suspect about the pills prior to giving the suspect a Miranda warning. Christensen continued to give the suspect an incomplete Miranda warning and continued to question her. The investigation into the incident also found Christensen had disagreements with the Steele County Attorney's Office over his actions involving the arrest. The county attorney's office deemed the officer's arrest and search of the suspect as invalid. At one point, Christensen circumvented chain of command by requesting the county attorney's office on his own to reconsider charging a case that prosecutors had already declined. The second incident leading to the officer's firing was his failure to secure evidence. During an inventory of his work desk, officials found 20 items that they maintain should have been secured in the department's property room. Some of the items included broken glass drug pipe, a digital scale with trace amounts of meth, license plates, brass knuckles, a pellet gun and a steel knife and sheath. It was determined Christiansen did not follow police procedures for the collection and storage of the evidence. According to city records, Christensen has been disciplined various times throughout his four years of being an officer in Owatonna. He has been given a 60-day suspension on Jan. 15, 2019, a 30-day suspension on Nov. 13, 2017 and Jan. 7, 2019, a four-day suspension on Aug. 22, 2017 and a one-day suspension on Aug. 21, 2017. He has also been issued at least four other written reprimands and two oral reprimands for various incidents during his tenure. The city's termination notice outlined several adverse impacts of Christensen's behavior. "The city's prosecuting agency has lost trust in your willingness or ability to perform assigned tasks and conform to work standards," the city wrote. "Your ability and the ability of city law enforcement personnel to enforce laws is substantially impaired. The safe and effective provision of law enforcement services to the community is jeopardized." The city also revealed an email that Christensen sent out to all sworn personnel in November 2016. It said in part: "I am a man of violence. I am dangerous. I will always lead with that. I am switched on, and I am frosty. You will not see me sacrifice aggression or vigilance in the name of public opinion or fear of discipline. Ever... You will see my gun out, a lot. You will see me pull my rifle, a lot... I do these things because we live in a shitty evil world." The city told the arbitrator that in less than five years of employment, Christensen demonstrated he is a man of his word and does not fear discipline or even fix his attitude, behavior or conduct as a result of it. On Jan. 25, the city made the decision to terminate Christensen. "Christensen's extensive disciplinary record relative to the length of his tenure with OPD, the adverse impacts related to that discipline and Christensen's apparent disregard for OPD policies and directives, the city made the determination to discharge Jason Christensen," the city wrote. The union argued that termination is unjust and asked the arbitrator to remedy the three cases into an appropriate level of discipline and put Christensen back to work. In the arbitration ruling, Daly wrote, "The facts show that he is not a fit or proper person to hold the office of police officer in Owatonna. The cause and reason for his dismissal relate to the manner in which Mr. Christensen performs his duties and the evidence showing the existence of reasons for his dismissal are substantial." At the time of his firing, Christensen was making \$71,593 per year.

COURT NEWS

Steele County

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of Oct. 28 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding: William I. Wilson, 36, St. Paul, previously appeared and was convicted of felony sale of narcotic. He was sentenced to \$131 and 58 months in St. Cloud State Prison. The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of Oct. 28 with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding: Jarod J. Fuller, 21, previously appeared and was convicted of felony assault of correctional employee/probation officer/prosecutor or judge. He was sentenced to \$131 and 17 months in St. Cloud State Prison. The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Oct. 28 – Nov. 3:

- BLOOMING PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT**
Jessie L. Bellikka, 36, Austin, revoked license, no insurance and seat belt, \$506; Nyagoga S. Paul, 19, Austin, speeding, \$101.
- MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER**
Richard J. Binsfeld, 51, Saint Marys, KS, speeding, \$115; Emma J. Buckley, 21, Superior, WI, speeding, \$275; Deron D. Butts, 31, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$141; Yaow H. Chong, 24, Lincoln, NE, speeding, \$135; John W. Gordon, 61, Ellendale, speeding, \$121; Michael J. Hrupek, 52, Maple Grove, speeding, \$121; Khadir M. Ismail, 35, Owatonna,

- speeding, \$131; Keith J. Johnson, 58, Blooming Prairie, suspended license and seat belt, \$306; Tanner R. Klug, 19, Fairmont, possession of paraphernalia and marijuana, \$181; John M. Lueken, 64, Owatonna, seat belt, \$100; Donald L. Madden, 59, Waseca, seat belt, \$100; Karrie S. Meyer, 36, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Anthony J. Mezzenga, 55, St. Paul, speeding, \$135; Brian J. Nelson, 42, Rochester, speeding, \$135; Minh H. Nguyen, 45, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$121; Bianca M. St. Dennis, 17, Owatonna, speeding, \$115; Andrew R. Vandekrol, 23, Polk City, IA, speeding, \$121; Jeevan S. Veeramachaneni, 23, Maryville, MO, speeding, \$125; Mary C. Wagner, 61, Hastings, speeding, \$115; Jodi L. Whitney, 51, Mankato, speeding, \$115; Myron W. Wunderlich IV, 32, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281.

- OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT**
Justin T. Ambrus, 32, Owatonna, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Fred R. Collins, 65, Owatonna, invalid license, \$181; Mathew R. Drengenberg, 34, Casper, WY, unsafe equipment and unsafe tires, \$171; Juan C. Garcia Pina, 18, Blooming Prairie, minor consumption, \$181; Donnie D. Jones, 39, Owatonna, cancelled license, stay of adjudication, 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Stanley I. Koslosky, 20, Medford, minor consumption, \$175; David B. Lamb, 31, Owatonna, DWI, \$406, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of unsupervised probation;

- Robert M. Miller, 52, Waseca, cancelled license, \$375 and 2 years of supervised probation; Ashley L. Myers, 28, Owatonna, suspended license, \$281; Victor H. Ramirez, 44, Claremont, no insurance, \$275; William J. Sanderfoot, 27, Rochester, permit violation, \$131; Naphon Tanphanich, 22, Mankato, license plate light violation and expired license, \$221; Matthew M. Toov, 28, Owatonna, expired tabs, \$105.

- STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**
Willie Z. Barkor, 50, Brooklyn Park, DWI, \$406, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use, attend MADD impact panel and 1 year of supervised probation; Kyle E. Campbell, 28, Northfield, expired tabs, \$105; David S. Chant, 53, Faribault, revoked license and failure to drive in single lane, \$331; William C. Coleman, 45, Blooming Prairie, violation of order for protection, \$181 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Xuan L. Do, 50, St. Paul, speeding, \$375; Dylan J. Foy, 19, Rochester, speeding, \$141; Chloe J. Hanson, 18, Rochester, DWI, \$406, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Alex J. Hughes, 20, Milbank, SD, speeding, \$125; Caitlin J. Jewison, 23, Mapleton, speeding, \$135; Sarah R. Keller, 31, Kenyon, no child passenger restraint system, \$131; Shanna K. Klaar, 23, Janesville, WI, speeding, \$141; Eric M. Peeler, 62, Austin, speeding, \$115; Loeta M. Reed, 45, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Dayna M. Solari, 58, Mount Prospect, IL, speeding, \$115.

POLICE BLOTTER

Steele County

- OWATONNA POLICE**
Nov. 1 Shoplifting: Shoplifting incidents occurred in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW. at 8:26 a.m. and the 1200 block of 21st Ave. NW at 12:48 p.m.
Vandalism: Property damage was reported at Broadway St. E. and Maple Ave. NE at 12:04 p.m.
Restraining Order: At 2:29 p.m., a restraining order violation occurred in the 2300 block of 1st Ave. NE.
Criminal Sexual Conduct: Police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct on Park Dr. NW at 3:20 p.m.
Hit and Run: At 5:20 p.m., a hit and run accident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.
Juvenile: Police received a juvenile complaint from the 2700 block of 3rd Ave. NE at 11:14 p.m.
Nov. 2 Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 600 block of Agnes St. E. at 1:30 p.m.
Trespassing: Police issued a trespassing citation in the 300 block of Mineral Springs Road NE at 4:58 p.m.
Disturbance: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of Minnesota Ave. SE at 6:06 p.m.
Nov. 3 Shoplifting: At 8:41 a.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 300 block of Mineral Springs Road NE.
Warrant: Officer made a warrant arrest in the 500 block of Ridge Road NE at 4:39 p.m.
Crash: Police responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at 18th St. SE and Cedar Ave. S. at 5:54 p.m. They issued a citation to

- one of the drivers.
Assault: Officers responded to an assault in the 400 block of Hillsdale St. at 7:12 p.m.
Nov. 4 Trespassing: Officer issued a trespassing citation in the 300 block of Mineral Springs Road NE at 3:18 a.m.
Missing Person: Police assisted with a person missing from the 1500 block of St. Paul Road NE at 9:09 a.m. and the 1200 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 3:22 p.m.
Littering: Officer issued a citation for littering in the 300 block of Allan Ave. SW at 2:33 p.m.
Child Protection: Police received a child protection report from the 400 block of Academy St. E. at 3:19 p.m.
Nov. 5 Bomb: Police responded to a bomb threat in the 1000 block of 21st Ave. NW at 8:58 a.m.
Criminal Sexual Conduct: Police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct at the law enforcement center at 12:02 p.m.
Drug: Officers responded to drug activity in the 700 block of Havana Road SE at 2:32 p.m.
Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW at 6:55 p.m.
Shoplifting: At 8:37 p.m., officer issued a shoplifting citation in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.
Nov. 6 Disturbance: Police responded to a disturbance in the 1800 block of 3rd Ave. NW at 2 p.m.
Threats: Officers responded to a subject making threats in the 2400 block of St. Paul Road NE at 2:33 p.m.
Shoplifting: Officer issued

- a shoplifting citation in the 1000 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 6:55 p.m.
Domestic: Police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Adams Ave. NW at 9:08 p.m.
Nov. 7 Shoplifting: At 7:27 a.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.
Bomb: Police responded to a bomb threat in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW at 4:55 p.m.
Arrest: Officers assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 500 block of 23rd St. NE at 6:04 p.m.
Civil: Police responded to the 1800 block of Hemlock Ave. NE to assist with a civil matter at 7:37 p.m. They took a subject into custody at the scene.
Restraining Order: At 8:33 p.m., a restraining order violation occurred in the 1800 block of Hemlock Ave. NE.

- STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF**
Nov. 1 Crashes: Motor vehicle accidents occurred in the 2900 block of 76th St. NW in Medford Township at 12:59 p.m. and the 2700 block of 97th Ave. NW in Deerfield Township at 2:37 p.m.
DWI: Deputy made a DWI arrest at County Road 45 N. and 36th St. NW in Clinton Falls Township at 11:06 p.m.
Nov. 3 Crash: At 6:22 a.m., a vehicle hit a deer in the 8900 block of Lemond Road in Lemond Township.
DWI: Deputies arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at Lemond Road and 62nd Ave. SW in Lemond Township at 9:57 p.m.

SEE BLOTTER, A10

Does it Run in the Family? How to Create a Family Health Portrait



THE SAVVY SENIOR

Brought to you by:



Prairie Manor Care Center
& Heather Haus

220 3rd St. NW,
Bloomington
583-4434

Dear Savvy Senior,
How do I go about making a family health history?
Most of my relatives have died before age 65, so my doctor recently suggested I create a family history to help identify my own genetic vulnerabilities.
Approaching 50
Dear Approaching,
This is a very good idea. An accurate family health history remains one of the most important tools in keeping yourself healthy as you age, and the holidays when family members come together is a great time to do it. Here's what you should know, along with some tips and tools to help you create one.

KNOW YOUR GENES

Just as you can inherit your father's height or your mother's eye color, you can also inherit their genetic risk for diseases like cancer, diabetes, heart disease and more. If one generation of a family has high blood pressure, for example, it is not unusual for the next generation to have it too. Therefore, tracing the illnesses suffered by your relatives can help you and your doctor predict the disorders you may be at risk for, so you can take action to keep yourself healthy.
To create a family health history, you'll need to start by collecting some basic medical information on your first-degree relatives including your parents, siblings and children. Then move on to your grandparents, aunts, uncles and first cousins.

You need to get the specific ages of when they developed health problems like heart disease, cancer, diabetes, arthritis, dementia, depression, etc. If family members are deceased, you need to know when and how they died. If possible, include lifestyle information as well, such as diet, exercise, smoking and alcohol use.
Some relatives may not want to share their medical histories, or they may not know their family history, but whatever information you discover will be helpful.
To get information on diseased relatives, get a copy of their death certificate. This will list their cause of death and the age he or she died. To get a death certificate, contact the vital records office in the state where your relative died, or go to VitalChek.com.
Or, if you were adopted, the National Foster Care & Adoption Directory Search (see ChildWelfare.gov/nfcdad) may be able to help you locate your birth parents so you can get their medical history.

HELPFUL TOOLS

To get help putting together your family health history, the U.S. Surgeon General created a free web-based tool called "My Family Health Portrait" (see phgkb.cdc.gov/FHH/html) that can help you collect, organize and understand your genetic risks and even share the information with your family members and doctors.
Another good resource that provides similar assistance is the Genetic Alliance's online tool called "Does It Run In the Family." At FamilyHealthHistory.org you can create a customized guide on your family health history for free.

HANDLING THE RESULTS

If you uncover some serious health risks that run in your family, don't despair. While you can't change your genes, you can change your habits to increase your chances of a healthy future. By eating a healthy diet, exercising and not smoking, you can offset and sometimes even neutralize your genetic vulnerabilities. This is especially true for heart disease, stroke, type-2 diabetes and osteoporosis.
A family medical history can also alert you to get early and frequent screening tests, which can help detect other problems (high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and cancers like breast, ovarian, prostate and colon cancer) in their early stages when they're most treatable.

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.

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History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago Nov. 17, 2009

RICK BUSSLER, PUBLISHER

It was a special night for Becky Noble and her family at the 2009 Blooming Prairie Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Banquet. Noble was honored as Blooming Prairie's Citizen of the Year. Presenting her with the honor was Chamber president Keith Holman.
Excitement continues to build as football mania takes Blooming Prairie by storm. The Awesome Blossoms football team is making history as it stormed past top-ranked New Ulm Cathedral 21-8 in state tournament action in Rochester. Saturday's upset victory marks a historical milestone for Blooming Prairie. This is the farthest the local team has ever gone in school history.
The Blooming Prairie High School is presenting the musical, "White Christmas," this fall. As far as the directors know, this is the first amateur performance of the musical in Minnesota.

Dr. Vern Krebs marks 30 years at the Blooming Prairie Veterinary Clinic on the edge of town. He came to the clinic in 1974. Krebs was part or full owner of the clinic until 2004 when he sold the business to Susie Strunk.
Sydney Basness, Hunter Rudlong and Tyler Ferguson were confirmed at Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church in rural Austin on Oct. 25.
The Blooming Prairie Fire Department has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the AgStar Fund for rural American. Chief Kurt Underwood and first assistant chief Dean Naatz accepted the check from AgStar Financial Services executive Steve Frodl.

20 Years Ago Nov. 16, 1999

ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

The biggest holiday gala in years will take place this weekend in Blooming Prairie so get your shopping shoes on and prepared to be dazzled. Blooming Prairie Chamber businesses have come up with "Holiday Dazzle," which will kick off the Christmas holiday season set for Nov. 19 and 20.
Blooming Prairie High School senior Lisa Meshke will attend college at Iowa State University in Ames next fall and play golf for the Cyclones when she signed a national letter of intent to the Iowa college. She is the daughter of Dean and Marilyn Meshke. She has been one of Minnesota's best high school girls' golfers from seventh grade to the present.
Kenneth Trom celebrated his 65th birthday during a bash at Farmers and Merchants Bank in Blooming Prairie.

50 Years Ago Nov. 12, 1969

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

C. Richard Darr, 23-year-old Claremont man, died at 11:13 a.m. Sunday from injuries sustained the previous evening in a single-car accident 3 1/2 miles east of Blooming Prairie on Highway 30. The crash occurred about 7:30 p.m. Saturday on what is known as Burke's corner. Darr was westbound when the vehicle went out of control on the curve. He careened into the ditch and hit several trees.
Officials of Prairie Manor Nursing Home announced this week that they have received a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service dated Oct. 14, 1969, that all contributions to this non-profit organization are tax-deductible.
The Coast-to-Coast Store in Blooming Prairie was robbed sometime late Friday night or early Saturday morning of last week. The thieves entered the store by

Kiwanis hits the road to tour Public Works



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Kiwanis Club took their most recent meeting on the road to visit the new Steele County Public Works building in Owatonna.

The Kiwanis Club of Owatonna took a road trip for its recent meeting to

tour the new county Public Works building at 3000 Hoffman Drive, Old Highway 14, completed earlier this year. Members held an informal meeting in the new spacious conference room, then reviewed the service area where snow plow trucks were being fitted with snow removal equipment and inspected the large wash bay.
The Highway Department is responsible for the construction and maintenance of 377 miles of County Roads, supervised by county engineer Greg Ilkka. Programming of road and bridge construction includes project scheduling, surveys, design, right-of-way acquisition and contract administration. A total of 132 bridges on County and Township roads are inspected annually.
The Kiwanis Club of Owatonna, a chapter of Kiwanis International, meets every Wednesday noon at SpareTime Entertainment, 333 18th St. SE and welcomes all men and women seeking service to young children, youth and community. Gege Abraham is president.

prying open the back door into the building. According to Police Chief J.K. Jorgensen, the robbers took 10 or 11 guns, a small amount of ammo, many wrist watches, radios, rifle scope and about \$40 cash.
George Curtin, superintendent of Blooming Prairie's Public Utilities, was elected president of the District III Water Works Operators' Association at their annual seminar held in Hayfield on Oct. 29.
Lynwood Ditlevson assumed the duties of manager of the Central Co-op Oil Association in Blooming Prairie. He replaced Ray Seaton, who resigned the position recently. Ditlevson served as the manager from June 1964 to March 1968. Prior to returning to the position this week, he was employed by Northwestern Refining Co. in Rochester.
The Steele County Agricultural Society held its annual meeting on Nov. 6 in the City Hall in Owatonna with Dr. Louis Allgeyer presiding at the session. Reports indicate that the Steele County Free Fair had a most highly successful year with a net profit of \$7,083. This was due in part to the extremely favorable weather during the six-day fair in 1969.

75 Years Ago Nov. 16, 1944

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

A near fatality occurred on Blooming Prairie's Main Street Saturday afternoon when a car driven by Mrs. John McNeil struck little Roger Tuinder, 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Tuinder. The crash happened in front of the telephone office building. Roger received a broken collar bone, a large gash in his face and had one of his ears nearly severed off.
The sixth War Bond Drive begins on Nov. 20. Blooming Prairie's quota is \$93,000 while county residents will buy \$1,840,000.
Special low prices on drugs at John Shaw Drug Co. in Blooming Prairie: Anacin tablets- 19?, Bromo seltzer- 49?, Lifebuoy shaving cream- 27?, Feenamint- 19?, Midol tablets- 32?. Shaw gives S&H Green stamps.

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 1/4 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.

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STEELE-DODGE

BUSINESS

Costa's Candies & Restaurant a fixture in Owatonna for a century

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN
COURT WRITER

Costa's Candies and Restaurant has been a fixture on Cedar Avenue in Owatonna since 1919 when George Boosalis opened it as George's Candy Kitchen. Boosalis ran the business until 1970 when his nephew, Costa Boosalis, bought the business and changed the name to Costa's Candies and Restaurant.

Costa Boosalis and his wife, Mary, operated the restaurant until they retired and it was operated for a short time by their son, Ted, until Grant and Julie Schultz bought it in 2009.

This place is more of an institution and icon in Owatonna, Grant Schultz said. In the 10 years they have owned it, he said, they have added a few food items to the menu and a few candies but they have made changes slowly.

They have continued to be a local, small town diner, Julie Schultz said. People keep coming back, she added.

Costa Boosalis remodeled the restaurant when he purchased it, she said, and it has had much the same look since then.

The candies are made using the same recipes and methods and some of the candy making equipment is also original going back to the days when George Boosalis opened his candy kitchen. The beater for the cremes, for example, is the same one used in 1920. They also think that the copper pot use to make the candies is original as is the table made of Mankato limestone.

The Schultz's have added some new flavors, Julie said, including truffles, peanut butter and sea salt caramels. The truffles have proved to be a Valentine's



Grant and Julie Schultz in front of the candy counter at Costa's Candies and Restaurant.

STAFF PHOTO BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN

Day favorite she said, while the regular wrapped caramels continue to be popular.

Everyone has their favorites, the Schultzs said. The cremes, she said, have become somewhat less popular although still liked by older patrons.

It is hard to add new candies, she said, because if any old favorites are eliminated, it will always upset some patrons. Since all the candies cannot be available all the time, she said, some of the selections have become more seasonal.

The chocolate Easter bunnies have also remained favorites. Although they now use new molds to

make the bunnies, she said, they still use a large, original metal mold to make a couple bigger-than-normal bunnies each season.

She added that many times if a patron finds an old favorite is not available and they try a new one, they end up coming back and saying they have a new favorite.

The making of a lot of the candies is actually a three-day process, Schultz said. It takes six hours to make the inside of the butter cr me which then has to set before it can be dipped in chocolate and wrapped.

Grant makes the caramels and the insides of the

COSTA'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Who: Costa's Candies and Restaurant

Where: 112 N. Cedar Ave., Owatonna

Specialty: Hand-rolled candies

When Started: 1919 by George Boosalis

Current Owner: Grant and Julie Schultz

cremes. They have a full-time, year-round chocolate dipper, Julie said.

They generally employ about a dozen people between the restaurant and the candies but that number can double during holiday seasons.

When the Schultzs bought the store, Julie said, they had no experience

running a restaurant or making candy. She had been a teacher but was a stay-at-home-mom at that time. Grant was the third generation working in his family construction business.

"The opportunity presented itself and we went with it," Julie said.

Both of the Schultz's liked to bake and cook and

Julie had made candy with her mother.

They took over the business on Oct. 1, meaning the busy Christmas season was near. Costa helped out for the first four to six weeks, she said, and then they were on their own.

Candy is more seasonal than the restaurant business, they said, with not as much sold during the summer.

"We saw an uptick about a month ago," Julie said.

Costa's candies have become known far and wide and have been shipped to all 50 states and 32 countries. Most of the candies going overseas, Grant said, have been purchased in Owatonna by people taking it out of the country.

However, he said, on one occasion they shipped a package to a service member in Afghanistan through the regular APO system. The woman who received the shipment during her deployment came into the restaurant after she returned home and said that the candy, when it finally arrived, was all melted together. It still tasted delicious, she told them, and it was worth it.

The couple has been celebrating the 100th anniversary all year and have been asking people to write down their memories in a book at the front counter. They are now on their second book of memories, Julie said.

"The memories have been a lot of fun to hear," she said.

Their family, they said, has grown to four children, ages 12, 10, 8 and 5, Julie said, and when the children come into the restaurant they can find a job for each one. Julie said her parents also come in on Sundays to help wrap the caramels.

The anniversary celebration will continue until the end of the year.

Tri M features photo calendars during open house

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Jean and Edith Zamboni of Owatonna don't miss a beat when it comes to community events. That's why it was no surprise that the 95-year-old twin sisters didn't skip the annual Tri M Graphics Open House on Saturday.

"This is one of the big events of this town," said Jean Zamboni. "They always have beautiful and interesting things to look at. Added Edith, "This becomes part of the tradition with Christmas coming."

One of the highlights for the sisters is to check out more than 500 photo entries for Tri M's annual photo contest. As Jean looks at the photos, she often wonders why certain ones weren't picked to win. Of course, she quickly reminds herself, "I'm not the judge."

Being involved in community events like the Tri M Open House has always been important to the Zamboni sisters. Just last month, they received the



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Guests at Saturday's open house enjoy looking at more than 500 entries in the annual photo contest sponsored by Tri M Graphics. The winning entries will appear in a 2020 photo calendar distributed by Tri M.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Lainey Hall, 5, of Owatonna takes the opportunity to hang out with a couple of mascots Saturday morning at the annual Tri M Graphics open house in Owatonna. Max is Tri M's mascot created as the third M in Tri M, behind Mike and Mary, the children of founder Jon Jensen.

Spirit of the Community Award from the Owatonna Foundation.

"I love the Zamboni twins," said Mike Jensen, owner of Tri M Graphics. "I

hope I have that kind of life and energy when I turn 95. They are truly gems in the community."

The Zambonis were among more than 500

people that attended Tri M's open house Saturday morning. During the open house, Tri M revealed the 2020 winners of its calendar contest. In addition to

the photo gallery of all the entries, there were kids activities and crafts, meet favorite mascots, refreshments and a chance to write Santa a letter. And, of course, guests walked away with a free 2020 calendar.

This was the 26th year for the calendar contest, which was started by Jensen. He said he started the contest as a way to showcase full

color printing that Tri M offers. "It was also an advertising tool for us," he added.

The contest has grown tremendously over the years from about 60 photos in the beginning to more than 500 today. Tri M circulates about 4,000 calendars featuring the winning photographs.

SEE TRI M FEATURES, A7

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STEELE-DODGE BUSINESS

A haven for the elderly

BY ALEX NUEHRING
STAFF WRITER

Everyone wants their parents and grandparents to be happy and healthy throughout their golden years and that often involves moving them into a nursing home, but now a new option is available: Angel Haven Adult Foster Care.

Angel Haven offers elders residential living, freedom to leave their home for a set number of hours, and most importantly 24/7 care from someone with 24 plus years of nursing experience. It is located in Byron.

In addition to her nursing experience, Deborah Klein, founder of Angel Haven, knows what it takes to run an adult foster care as she ran one from 2003 to 2008.

After that, she took time off to care for her aging par-

"It makes me feel good that I can help other people and open my house up to the elderly to care for them."

Deborah Klein
Angel Haven Founder

ents and eventually started doing private nursing before deciding to return to adult foster care in 2018.

"I enjoyed it the first time, and I had done in-home private nursing for other people and so then I thought, 'Okay, now I want to go back to do adult foster care again and open my house up again,'" she said.

She currently cares for two older women but can take up to five residents.

Getting to know her residents and sharing laughs is one of the reasons she enjoys her job.

"It's a bundle of fun. You get a lot of joy and laughter," Klein said.

She also likes knowing that she's making a difference in her resident's lives.

"It makes me feel good that I can help other people and open my house up to the elderly to care for them," she said.

Caring for the elderly presents its challenges and it's no different in adult foster care.

"If they get sick and have to go to the hospital. Like with Donna we didn't know if she was going to pull



through or not and she did, she's a very strong-willed lady that is not ready to leave the world yet. Those are my biggest challenges," she said.

However, outside of those worrisome times, Klein said she and her residents enjoy doing activities together.

"We go out to eat, we do different things here at home, we'll go drive around and see all of the beautiful leaves changing and when the Christmas lights come out, we'll go driving around and see all of the Christmas lights. It's pretty much whatever they want to do," she said.

She hopes that freedom to pick their own activities and individual attention entices more elders to choose Angel Haven.

"Hopefully, we can find some other nice people that would like to join us and become part of our family here at Angel Haven Adult Foster Care," she said.

Toys for Tots kicks off in Steele County

The Steele County Toys for Tots Program kicked off its annual Toy Drive on Nov. 1. Volunteers delivered Toy Collection boxes to more than 55 participating businesses in Steele County.

New unwrapped toys may be placed in the boxes through Thursday, Dec. 12. Toys will be distributed to children ages 0-15 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Owatonna on Dec. 16-18.

For a full list of Steele County Toys for Tots Toy Donation Sites check the Steele County Toys for Tots website: <http://owatonna-mn.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/donate-toys.aspx>.

If you are interested in being a Steele County Toys for Tots Drop-Site please contact Steve, Steele County Toys for Tots Drop-Site Manager at 507-774-9092.

If you need to request toys for your child, applications for the Steele County Toys for Tots Program are available online at the Toys for Tots Website and also in Owatonna and throughout Steele



County at the following locations:

Steele County: Blooming Prairie Public Library
Lerberg's Foods and Food Shelf of Ellendale
Hope: First National Bank
Medford: 1st State Bank of Red Wing – Medford
Owatonna: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern MN
Churches in Steele County
Minnesota Prairie Alliance
Owatonna Public Library
Steele County Employment Services
Salvation Army
Steele County Clothesline & Food Shelf
Steele County Public Health

Parents/guardians must complete an application and leave it at Steele County Food Shelf & Clothesline, or put it in the drop box at Minnesota Prairie County Alliance, or mail to P.O. Box 199, Owatonna, MN 55060. **Emailed applications will not be accepted.**

The application deadline to qualify for a Family to Family food card and toys is Nov. 13. Applications received after Nov. 14 will qualify only for toys. Parents/Guardians will select toys for children ages 0-15 on Dec.16-18 at Trinity Lutheran Church of Owatonna.

Toys for Tots of Steele County has been in existence for more than 30 years. It operates within the national U.S. Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots program, which began in 1947. Its objective is to collect and distribute NEW and UNWRAPPED toys to Steele County needy children at Christmas. Cash and gift cards received are used to purchase toys as per directives from our national organization.

For more information about Steele County Toys for Tots visit their website <http://owatonna-mn.toysfortots.org> or check for updates on the Steele County Toys for Tots Facebook page.

Hy-Vee and Hormel Foods spread smiles with peanut butter donation

Hy-Vee, Inc., in conjunction with Hormel Foods, is donating more than 11,000 pounds of Skippy creamy peanut butter to food banks across the grocer's eight-state region, including Minnesota.

The donation is part of a hunger program created by the makers of Skippy peanut butter in 2018. Earlier this year, Hy-Vee participated in a sales promotion with Skippy, and as a result was provided more than 11,000 pounds of peanut butter to be distributed to food banks in 11 different communities.

The hefty peanut butter donation equates to more than 184,467 peanut butter sandwiches.

"Through our partnership with Hormel Foods and its popular Skippy brand, we can further address the issue of hunger here in the Midwest," said Craig Clasen, Hy-Vee's senior vice president of retail business development. "Hy-Vee and Hormel Foods care about our customers, and this is a great way to give back to our communities."

The food bank in Austin will receive 1,000 pounds of peanut butter, which sup-

plies enough peanut butter to make approximately 16,300 sandwiches. The rest of the food banks are in Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, South Dakota and Illinois.

"Protein is a much-needed item for households, and peanut butter is a terrific protein option," said Doug Johnston, senior customer executive at Hormel Foods. "We want to thank Hy-Vee for joining this effort and thank the local food banks for serving their communities. Hormel Foods and the Skippy brand are proud to give back to the communities Hy-Vee serves."

Hy-Vee Pharmacies Install Drug Take Back receptacles

To further assist in combatting the national opioid epidemic, Hy-Vee, Inc. announces it has purchased and installed drug take back receptacles by Nov. 7, in all 276 Hy-Vee pharmacy locations throughout its eight-state region to provide customers a secure place to dispose of unused medications, including controlled substances.

The availability of drug take back receptacles in all Hy-Vee pharmacies provides customers with a safe and responsible way to dispose of unused, unwanted or expired drugs in communities throughout the Midwest and remove them from the environment.

"Installing drug take back receptacles in all of our pharmacies is one more step Hy-Vee is taking toward combatting the opioid epidemic," said Kristin Williams, senior vice president and chief health officer at Hy-Vee.

In addition, Hy-Vee announces that all Hy-Vee Pharmacy locations will limit the initial quantity of opioids prescribed for treatment of acute pain to seven days – or fewer days where state law or a third-party payor requires.

The new seven-day limit does not apply to chronic pain; pain being treated as a part of cancer care, hospice or other end-of-life care; pain being treated as part of palliative care practices; and medications used to treat opioid addiction.

"We want to be part of solution, while continuing to provide needed care for customers with acute pain and other severe pain management situations in communities throughout the eight states we serve," said Williams.

In January 2019, Hy-Vee announced that its pharmacies would no longer allow a subsequent fill of a Schedule II controlled

substance, or a refill of a Schedule III or Schedule IV controlled substance more than 72 hours early without authorization from the prescriber.

Hy-Vee also offers naloxone without a prescription in all eight states where it operates pharmacies: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Naloxone is available at Hy-Vee pharmacies in nasal spray and injection forms (upon request), although, nasal spray is the most commonly used form. The drug is stored behind the counter and cost varies, depending on the form and whether a customer goes through his or her insurance, or pays cash.

Naloxone can be administered to any person who has overdosed on a wide range of opioids, including hydrocodone, oxycodone, morphine and codeine, as well as heroin.

TRI M FEATURES: photo calendars FROM A6

If anyone is interested in picking up a calendar, just stop in at Tri M Graphics at 625 E. Main St. in Owatonna.

Tri M founder Jon Jensen credits his son Michael for starting the contest. "He thought it would be a good promotion," Jon said. "It has really taken off. I am really proud of him."

Many people, Jon said, show up at the open house just to pick up a calendar. "I think it's a great promotion," Jon says. "This is our major advertising of the year," he added.

"They really did a super job with this contest," said one customer looking through the photo gallery. "Every one of those

TRI M PHOTO CALENDAR WINNERS

Cover: Bud Ryan, Hayesville, N.C.
January: Sandy Scott, Seminole, Fla.
February: Bethany Wissbroecker, Owatonna
March: Roslynn Long, Burnsville
April: Rick Lingo, Cincinnati
May: Sandy Scott, Seminole, Fla.
June: Jacqueline Gerstner, Billings, Mont.
July: Brian Pflanz, Somersworth, N.H.
August: Skye Devoe, Medford
September: Ruth McDaniel, Greenville, Ohio
October: Andi Arnold, Owatonna
November: John LaMere, Waverly
December: Ed Lyon, Bryan, Ohio

photos is award-winning. They are excellent," he said, adding it would be "awfully hard" to make a decision.

As for Max the mascot, he is the third M of Tri M Graphics. The first two Ms stand for Mike and Mary. At the time that Tri M was created, Jon had two children Mike and Mary as well as a dog

named Max. "We thought it is fitting to give Max the limelight and bring him out in to the open to represent Tri M going forward," Mike said.

For the Zamboni twins, they enjoy taking in as many community events as possible. "We're the survivors," Jean said. "That's why we have to get to all these events."

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Holocaust survivor shares his story with Sound of Music cast

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

“The hills are alive, with the sound of music.” These familiar lyrics from one of our most popular musicals, the “Sound of Music,” indeed have come alive for some Blooming Prairie High School students. These students were part of the high school drama department’s production performed last week. To connect this acting experience with some world history, Blooming Prairie High School play director Tamzen Johnson brought in a Holocaust survivor, Fred M.B. Amram, to relate his real life experiences.

Amram is a retired University of Minnesota professor and a noted author. He is an award-winning professor of communication and creativity. Amram, 86, is a tiny physical figure who provides a giant-sized portrayal of his youth, witnessing the early beginnings of the Holocaust.

Johnson, following up on a suggestion by musical director Amelia Harthan, decided to open play practice on a particular Sunday afternoon by introducing this mighty mite of a man to her play cast members. Harthan’s father, Stephen Eskelson of Oak Grove, is a friend of Amram.

The Blooming Prairie High School choir room became a world history classroom for an hour preceding regular play practice.

Cast members were silent as they listened to Amram unravel the parts of Holocaust history that he lived and remembers.

Amram told the cast members that he was “intrigued” with the drama department “marrying my stories” with The Sound of Music.

Amram has authored books and articles about creativity, inventors, robotics and communication. He has been curator of exhibitions about creativity and woman inventors throughout the United States. He has provided worldwide consulting services to industry, government agencies and to educational institutions.

Amram was born in Hannover, Germany, where he

experienced the early years of the Holocaust.

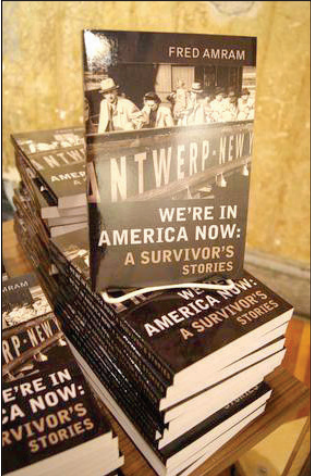
As a child survivor, Amram’s memory of events is surprisingly clear. The transition to a new language and culture was difficult but he emphasizes that the alternatives were worse. He said it was relatively easy to escape the tentacles of a dictatorship and end up in the United States.

Amram has authored several books but the one he is most proud of is entitled “We’re in America Now: A Survivor’s Stories.”

Following his 90-minute Power Point lecture, Amram obliged the many requests by students and adults to get a copy of his book. He graciously autographed each book and inscribed some books when asked.

Amram started his talk by outlining warning signs of the Holocaust and asked the question, “Could it happen in the U.S.?” His lecture centered around deaths, concentration camps and the 6 million Jews who were killed. Overall, 11 million people were killed, he said.

“The question I raise is how did we get here?” Amram remarked.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

College Professor Fred Amram signed books for students and adults who heard his survivor stories about the Holocaust. He was invited to speak to The Sound of Music cast members Sunday, Nov. 3.

“The Holocaust didn’t just happen over night,” Amram said. Hitler became chancellor of Germany on Jan. 30, 1933. Amram was born on Sept. 19, 1933. The Sound of Music was set in Austria beginning in 1938 when Captain Georg von Trapp saw the takeover



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Retired University of Minnesota Professor Fred Amram came to Blooming Prairie High School on Sunday, Nov. 3 to speak to cast members of the play, The Sound of Music performed last weekend.

of Austria by the Germans.

He is ordered to accept a commission in the German navy, but he opposed the Nazis.

Amram was born in a Catholic infants shelter. His birth certificate contains the signature of a nun with her title spelled out as Mother Superior. Jewish hospitals had been closed at this time and Jews were prohibited from using public hospitals. Signs proclaimed Juden Verboten (Jews Forbidden).

Jews were deprived of citizenship rights as American newspapers reported. “In every genocide, there is separation with them and us,” Amram explained. Jews were ordered to wear the Star of David, signifying their identity.

Amram showed a photo of himself at age 5 in 1938. “I look well fed and am not starving yet,” he commented.

He lovingly described his mother as a caring person. “She could whistle with the birds and I believe they had a conversation going on,” Amram chuckles. He talked about separation occurring with benches being designated for Jews and others for Aryians. The Jewish benches were far outnumbered, he said.

“What would you do in Blooming Prairie if you had only one bench?” Amram asked rhetorically. “Would you stretch out the sign?” he asked. He said most people stood by and did nothing. These occurrences happened before the 6 million deaths and before the gas chambers and skeletons, Amram vividly explained.

“People became ashes and smoke.”

Fred Amram
Holocaust Survivor

As a child, Amram recalls going to the ice cream store and being told by the owner that he could not serve Jews any longer.

He asked a question he had posed earlier, “Could this happen in the U.S.?” He answered by showing slides of segregation being practiced in America, signs that labeled areas “white” and “colored only.”

Amram said Americans eventually responded that these atrocities should not happen here.

Jews had to carry identification cards and in 1938, all Jews had to have middle names. Men carried “Israel” as a middle name and women were forced to use “Sarah” as a middle name.

Dehumanization began to occur. Amram showed a photo of himself in front of a synagogue. “I took a selfie,” he laughed, inciting his classroom to join in the humor.

He then told of the synagogue burning on Nov. 9, 1938. He also told of 7,000 Jewish shops being looted by Germans. He called it the “Night of the Broken Glass.”

“What would you do?” Amram asked his listeners. “What you do matters,” he responded.

Amram said there were thousands more people than police. “What if they had said ‘no’, there might not have been 6 million deaths.”

Amram told of the Gestapo visiting his home

after knocking three times. “They were looking for men; my father was never home,” Amram revealed. He tells of the Gestapo taking his family’s radio.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Noted author Fred Amram visited Blooming Prairie High School on Sunday, Nov. 3. He is shown with directors of The Sound of Music, from left, Tamzen Johnson, Kari Bottin and Amelia Harthan.

He also tells of air raids and hearing the monotonous sirens. “We could see the airplanes and bombs being dropped. We hid under a table.”

Amram’s presentation fell into place, chapter by chapter and often was distinguished by a pensive mood.

The genocide then began and people turned into skeletons, Amram said. He said Auschwitz was the worst of the death camps.

It was built in 1941 but did not become functional until 1942.

Amram showed photos of the gas chamber entrance. “People became ashes and smoke,” he said. To make a comparison, he showed death camps existing in Rwanda.

Showing family photos, Amram said these were real people. His grandmother was the family member who took him to the zoo when he was young. His Uncle Jacob taught him how to drive. They were both murdered.

Amram’s presentation became highly emotional as he told about a girl cousin, Aaltje, being murdered at age 3 1/2.

Amram said many people were displaced. “We came to America as refugees, not as immigrants,” he says. “Does that remind you of 2019!” Amram stated.

“What’s the take-away from all of this?” Amram asked. There has to be a call to action, he said.

“Have you had an enough moment?” Amram asked as he offered a comment from one of his students, who said “I’ve had enough and I’m going to do something.”

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A BAKER'S DELIGHT: Making rosettes FROM A1

stressful day at the Austin Medical Clinic? “Why? Because it’s something he’s awesome at and I want to carry on the tradition,” she said. “The rosettes are also delicious,” she added.

Fristedt chose a cold late October day to make the Scandinavian delight. “It’s getting close to Christmas and the orders will be coming in,” he remarked.

The Bakery is a leader in preparing rosettes for the Christmas holiday. “We sold over 500 dozen rosettes between Nov. 1 and Christmas last year,” Fristedt said.

The Scandinavian cookie is made in batches of 20 dozen and 60 dozen. “We have come up with our own recipe and I am really pleased when they turn out the way they are supposed to,” he adds. The rosettes are covered with granulated and powdered sugar.

Rosettes are a Scandinavian pastry treat popular mostly with Norwegians and Swedes, Fristedt says.

Fristedt’s first attempt at making rosettes came when he made a rosette wedding cake for a Blooming Prairie couple. The cake contained 200 individual rosettes, Fristedt said. He said his rosette experience came with self-teaching.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Blooming Prairie baker Gregg Fristedt taught his daughter Alie how to make rosettes the other day at his business, The Bakery. Here, the father-daughter combo prepare the batter.

His recipe (without giving it away) includes eggs, flour, corn starch, sugar, salt, almond flavoring and milk.

The rosettes are made using intricately designed irons. The iron is heated to a very high temperature in oil, dipped into the batter, then re-immersed in the hot oil to create a crisp shell around the metal.

The frying temperature has to be around 350 degrees, Fristedt told Strand. The iron is immediately removed and the rosette is separated from the iron.

The Bakery route is not totally foreign to Strand.

“She fills in occasionally and fries donuts,” Fristedt said. Her children (Gregg’s grandchildren) also help out in The Bakery. Learning the trade are Payton Strand, 16; Carson Strand, 14 and Landon Strand, 6.

Strand’s indoctrination to rosette making began with her cracking eggs for the batter. Fristedt then instructed her on stirring the batter in a huge commercial mixer. He instructed her to use three-fourths of a gallon of milk in the batter.

When the batter was believed ready, he brought out two irons containing molds for five rosettes each.

The design is a snowflake pattern, he said.

Fristedt displayed a soft touch in dipping the irons into the thin batter and then placing them into the hot oil. Using his eye as a timer, he would remove the perfectly made rosettes.

Strand caught on very quickly and had a few accidents with the rosette falling off the iron before it was to be removed from the hot oil. Fristedt rescued her by dipping into the oil to get the straying snowflakes. “No harm done,” he smiled.

“Rosettes have become family favorites since we started working here,” Strand admitted. Fristedt and Strand made 23 dozen during one hour of work in The Bakery’s kitchen. These rosettes were sold at the Owatonna Hospital Auxiliary Bazaar last weekend.

Typically, Fristedt uses two gallons of milk to make the batter which will result in creating 75 dozen rosettes.

“It takes practice,” Strand admitted. “You will have plenty of opportunity to make more,” he interjected. “You make it look easier than it is,” she complimented her father.

“Don’t break them,” cautioned Diane Jensen, a mainstay at The Bakery who usually sugars the rosettes.

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Olgar Lon Himle, 90, rural Austin

Olgar L. Himle, 90 of rural Austin, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019, surrounded by his family at home in Udolpho Township.



Olgar Lon Himle

Olgar Lon was born April 29, 1929 to Erick and Bertha (Brekke) Himle near Rock Dell, Minn. He was a graduate of Hayfield High School. On July 27, 1979, Olgar was united in marriage to Judy Beckman at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Waltham. Olgar farmed in Udolpho Township, and for 38 years Olgar worked for Hormel in dry sausage. He was strong labor advocate, and member of the P9 Union & United Support Group. He remained P9 proud! In 1988, he was proud to have been awarded the Mower County Conservation Farmer of the Year. Olgar enjoyed going to auctions and garage sales, cutting trees, helping friends and neighbors move buildings and take down silos. He will be remembered for always being willing to help anyone in need. Olgar was a faithful member of St. Michael's Lutheran Church where he served as financial secretary and property custodian, and longtime member of the Hayfield American Legion Post #330.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Erick and Bertha Himle; sisters, Ellen (Harvey) Fjers-tad, Ethelyn (Bud) Hahn, Mildred (Fred) Alford, Hazel (Norman) Pearson, Jane (Jim) Lepeska, and his sister June who died at age 5; brother, Earl (Gloria) Himle, and his brother Richard who died at age 1; mother-in-law, Alice Schulz; sister-in-law, Joyce Spinter; brothers-in-law, Jack Beckman, Harold Peterson, and Tony Vann.

Olgar is survived by his wife of 40 years, Judy; daughters, Julie Knotts of Austin, Jan Bliss of Rochester; grandsons, Randy Knotts of Rochester, Andrew Bliss of Albert Lea; brother, Lee (Carol) Himle of Spring Valley; brothers-in-law, Jerry (Lana) Beckman of Hayfield, Kevin Spinler (Jo Fiebiger) of Blooming Prairie; sisters-in-law, Jille Peterson of Austin, and Julie Beckman of St. Paul; many beloved nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Monday, Nov. 11 at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Waltham with Pastor Dwight DoBell officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery. Clasen-Jordan Mortuary in Austin handled the funeral arrangements.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Blooming Prairie Elementary

- Nov. 14- Walking taco, BBQ pulled pork sandwich, Mexican street corn.
Nov. 15- Parmesan chicken bites, buttered noodles, crispy chicken salad, green beans, M&M cookie.
Nov. 18- Pancakes with strawberry topping, sausage patty, biscuits and gravy, tri tater.
Nov. 19- Crispy chicken nuggets, whole grain dinner roll, ham deli sub sandwich, broccoli salad.
Nov. 20- Fiesta taco mac, philly flatbread, Firenze corn salad.

Blooming Prairie High School

- Nov. 14- BBQ pulled pork sandwich, Mexican street corn, corn dog, chef salad, ham deli sub, baked potato bar
Nov. 15- Cheesy Italian flatbread, green beans, chocolate chip cookie, crispy chicken nuggets, build your own sub
Nov. 18- Pancakes with strawberry topping, tri tater, crispy chicken sandwich, turkey BLT salad, chicken Caesar salad, pasta bar
Nov. 19- Cheese calzone, broccoli salad, cheeseburger on bun, turkey deli sandwich, turkey BLT salad, taco bar
Nov. 20- Fiesta taco mac, Firenze corn salad, BBQ rib sandwich, turkey deli sandwich, choice of cereal

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

NOV. 10

SAVANNAH FARR
SARAH BUMGARNER
KEN TROM
DANIEL COLEMAN
JULIE EISCHENS

NOV. 11

KAI ROBERT LUNA
LEE TROTMAN
KRISTIN SCHNEIDER
GINA GIMBEL

NOV. 12

JASON WILLIAMSON

NOV. 13

DYLAN HEUER
ERICA NELSON

NOV. 15

CHASE WANGEN
CHLOE JOE TOCKO
KAYLEE KRELL

NOV. 16

DANIEL KRELL
MATTHEW ESPLAN

NOV. 17

TERRI UNDERWOOD
TOM TROTMAN

ANNIVERSARIES

NOV. 4

ROD & MICHELLE KRELL
CARL "JR." & DIANE SWENSON

NOV. 5

KEVIN & ROBYN IVERSEN

NOV. 7

GLORIA & ROBERT SALINAS

NOV. 11

DOUG & KRISTI MINER
STEVE & BECKY BRAATEN

NOV. 12

RICKY & NANCY HANSEN

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Sippin into the holidays

STAFF PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Willie Huebner of Phillips Wine Co. serves a wine sample to Marcy Sundine at the annual Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce Wine Tasting Party (Holiday Dazzle) on Thursday, Nov. 7 at the BP Servicemen's Club.

These three women were enjoying a wine tasting party sponsored by the Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, Nov. 7 at the BP Servicemen's Club. Shown from left are Breauna Rieive, Jackie Schlichter and Wanda Edge. Wanda just turned 60.

BLOTTER: FROM A4

ARRESTS

Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE

Kevin James Welsh, 42, arrested at 5:01 p.m. Nov. 3, warrant arrest, body only.
Dawn Angel Wocelka, 43, arrested at 10:06 p.m. Nov. 7, controlled substance and paraphernalia, held for court.
Brandon Charles Froid, 33, arrested at 10:06 p.m. Nov. 7, order for protection violation, held for court.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Jonelle Suezette Hill, 38, arrested at 11 a.m. Nov. 1, felony probation violation, held for court.
Brant Michael Gregoire, 32, arrested at 11:20 p.m. Nov. 1, DWI, \$12,000 bail.
Donald Jacob Logas, 58, arrested at 4:51 p.m. Nov. 3, warrant arrest, held for court.

MN STATE PATROL

Lit Baw Po, 22, arrested at 7:20 p.m. Nov. 3, DWI, held for court.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Alanson D. Bingold, 29, Byron, stop sign and possession of marijuana, \$180; Jason R. Goodman, 47, Pine Island, seat belt, \$105; Lucien P. Jay, 24, Hollywood, SC, speeding, \$220; Sterling S. Larson, 82, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Steven A. Michog, 47, Kasson, seat belt, \$25; Robert M. Murphy, 67, Kasson, seat belt, \$105.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Eric L. Bermea, 31, Hayfield, revoked license, \$280; Matthew G. Coleman, 49, Wayne, NE, axle weight violation, \$380; Brian R. Fredrickson, 56, Faribault, speeding, \$130; Riley S. Kispert, 30, Kasson, suspended license, \$280.

WEST CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kristopher A. Krueger, 25, Ankeny, IA, speeding, \$220.

OWATONNA FIRE

Nov. 4 Gas Leak: At 11:42 a.m., a natural gas leak occurred in the 1200 block of NE Bellflower Lane.
Nov. 5 Bomb Scare: Firefighters responded to a bomb threat in the 1000 block of 21st Ave. NW at 9:01 a.m.
Nov. 6 Gas Leak: Fire personnel responded to a natural gas leak in the 100 block of 15th St. NE at 11:16 p.m.
Nov. 7 Bomb Scare: Firefighters responded to a bomb threat in the 300 block of Park Dr. NW at 4:56 p.m.
Gas Leak: At 11:55 p.m., a gas leak occurred in the 7000 block of Crane Creek Road.

BOOK NOOK

eBooks available at the library

While we are always happy to see you at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library, we understand that there are times you can't make it into the library. For those times and for occasions when you need an eBook to read, remember that as a library card holder you have three free options to download eBooks.

The first option is Libby by Overdrive. Easily downloaded on phones, computers, and e-readers, Libby has become easier to navigate. There are thousands of books, both text and audio, to choose from.

The second option, Hoopla, not only offers books but also audiobooks, movies, and music. You will need your Blooming Prairie or Owatonna library card to get signed in. There are many options available through Hoopla.

The third option is Ebooks Minnesota, an online ebook collection for all Minnesotans. The collection covers a wide variety of subjects for readers of all ages, and features content from our state's independent publishers. Ebooks Minnesota just released their top ten reads for the year. They include The Bohemian Flats: a novel by Mary Relindes Ellis, Vacationland: a novel by Sarah Stonich, The Latehomecomer: A Hmong family memoir by Kao Kalia Yang, Dayton's Department Store by Mary Firestone, Minneapolis Madams by Penny A. Petersen, and Once There Were Castles: Lost Mansions and Estates of the Twin Cities by Larry Millet.

All of these eBooks are available for free. If you need help getting these programs set up on your devices, please stop in or call the library to arrange a time. See you at the library!

NANCY VAILLANCOURT

Word Search Corner

Happy Thanksgiving!

NOVEMBER
PLYMOUTH
THANKSGIVING
NATIVES
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CRANBERRIES
FAMILY
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Recipe Corner

Not Your Grandma's Pumpkin Pie

This is not your Grandma's pumpkin pie recipe, unless your grandmother is creative enough to bake pumpkin pie with milk chocolate chips. Save time by using a pre-made graham cracker crust.

INGREDIENTS

1 (6 oz) packaged chocolate flavored crumb crust
1 egg yolk, slightly beaten
1 egg, slightly beaten
1 can(15 oz.) pumpkin
1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed milk (not evaporated milk)
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
3/4 Cup milk chocolate chips. Divided.
Whipped cream and additional milk chocolate chips for garnish

DIRECTIONS

- Heat oven to 350° F. Brush bottom and side of crust with egg yolk to seal crust. Place crust on baking sheet; bake 5 minutes.
- Blend remaining whole egg, pumpkin, sweetened condensed milk and pumpkin pie spice in large bowl. Stir in 1/2 cup milk chocolate chips; pour into crust.
- Place remaining 1/4 cup chips in small microwave-safe bowl. Microwave at MEDIUM (50%) 30 seconds; stir. If necessary, microwave at MEDIUM an additional 10 seconds at a time, stirring after each heating, until chips are melted and smooth when stirred. Drizzle melted chocolate over pie in decorative pattern.
- Bake on baking sheet 50 to 55 minutes or until wooden pick inserted into center of pie comes out clean. Cool 1 hour. Serve topped with whipped cream; garnish with additional milk chocolate chips, if desired. Cover; refrigerate leftover pie. Makes 8 servings.

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PASTOR’S COLUMN

Being manly in church



Pastor Jake Hanson

UNITED METHODIST & PLEASANT CORNERS KASSON

1st Corinthians 16:13-14: “Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”

In honor of the coming hunting season, and the statistical fact that most hunters are men, this article is targeted at my fellow Christian men who like some of the traditional “manly” things in life. Hunting, fishing, weightlifting, football, and tools... maybe this describes some of you men out there like it describes me. (Oh, and yes I am aware that many women like these things too, and that this is not a comprehensive list of all things “manly.”) However, many often wonder what place a man has in today’s churches. It doesn’t take a rocket scientist to notice that most churches these days have more women than men

in the pews, and statistically more men are leaving the church than women. The question is, are we needed in today’s church? Is there a place for us? Speaking to all you men out there, know that you are vital and that you are needed.

My fellow men, you have a much needed place in today’s church, and it isn’t just to open pickle jars or paint stuff. You, as men, are called to stand firm in the faith and be strong in the faith for your family, friends, church, and community. In fact, being strong in your faith is by far the “manliest” thing that you can do! A man who is grounded in his faith will honor his wife, love his neighbor as himself, and protect all those around him. Men, you are needed for that!

Perhaps most importantly, if you value a moral lifestyle that

is Christ-centered, if you want your children to grow up knowing Jesus, and if you want to be a great role-model as a Christian man, then know that the best way to do this is to be Christ-centered yourself. What fathers/husbands do helps to lead the way. If Dad goes to church, the kids learn that it is important. If Dad takes his faith seriously and reads his Bible, the kids learn that they should too.

If the husband loves Jesus with all his heart, it puts his wife at ease knowing that her favorite guy is sound morally. Know that the inverse of this is often true too, if you don’t hold your faith as all that important then it will likely not be important to those around you. Men, you are needed in God’s kingdom. You are needed in the church,

you are needed in the community, and you are needed in your family. There are no replacements for you, and you are called by the Lord to stand firm in the faith.

As a fellow man I love all the manly things like hunting, fishing, football and tools, but I also love Jesus too. More than any other quality, it is that love for Jesus and my family’s faith that defines me as a man. For all of you, no matter what manly things you may be into, know that you are called by the Lord to stand firm as a man for His kingdom as well. After all, as it says in 1st Corinthians 16:13-14 “Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”

God Bless you folks, enjoy the hunting season, and we will see you in church.

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 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	CEDAR CREEK 30 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Aaron de Neui 507-477-2255 www.cedarcreekchurch.org Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN 109 E. Main St., Hayfield Pastor Kirk Johnston 507-477-2631 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
FIRST LUTHERAN – AFLC 503 Third St., 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.	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 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 Klawiter and Jacie Richmond 507-451-7293 stjohnowatonna.org Worship: 5 p.m. Thursday & Saturday; 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday Summer Services: 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Sunday	CATHOLIC CHRIST THE KING 205 Second Ave. NW, Medford 507-451-6353 Father James Starasinick Deacon Patrick Fagan Mass: 5:30 p.m. Sat. Mass: 9 a.m. Mon. & Fri.	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	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	SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 2373 Seventh Ave. NE, Owatonna Pastor Brian Beavers 507-340-7143 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sat. Bible Study: 11 a.m. Sat.
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 Arokiam 507-234-6244 Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday	CHRISTIAN CHRIST COMMUNITY COVENANT 540 SE 18th St., Owatonna Dr. V. Brent Carlson, Pastor 507-451-1032 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun. Sunday Connections: 10:15 a.m.	NEW BEGINNINGS 332 14th St. NE., Owatonna Pastors Scott & Joan Peterson 507-413-0209 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.	CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 211 Main St. S., Medford Rev. Richard Waters 507-451-4596 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.	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	PENTECOSTAL 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	ASSEMBLY OF GOD VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 702 Third St. S., Ellendale Pastor Patrick Stitt 507-684-3421 www.vibrantlifeag.com Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Kids Church: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
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.	TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA 609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna 507-451-4520 tlcowatonna.org Senior Pastor: Rev. Todd Buegler Associate Pastor: Rev. Amanda Floy Deacon: Kris Oppegard Worship: 5 p.m. Saturday; 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Sunday Sunday School: 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.	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	METHODIST BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST 43089 180th St., Medford (Seven miles west of Medford on CR 23) Pastors JJ & Stefanie Morgan 507-835-8726 Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.	MORMON THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS 404 31st St. NW, Austin Bishop Rick Bremner 507-433-9042 Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.	BAPTIST FIRST BAPTIST 104 First Ave. NE, Blooming Prairie Pastor Matt Fennell 507-583-2673 Worship: 10 a.m. Sun. & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Sunday School: 9 a.m. Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.
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.	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.	SACRED HEART PARISH 810 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna Father John Sauer Parochial Vicar 507-451-1588 www.sacredhearttowatonna.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.	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.	ASSEMBLY OF GOD VICTORY LIFE 105 2nd St NE Geneva Pastor Diane Butler 507-402-0960 Worship on Sundays Prayer Service: 7:30 a.m. Church Service: 9:30 a.m. Children’s Church: 9:45 a.m.

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Is This the 'New Normal' for Farmers?



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Dr. Mark Seeley
Climatologist
University of Minnesota



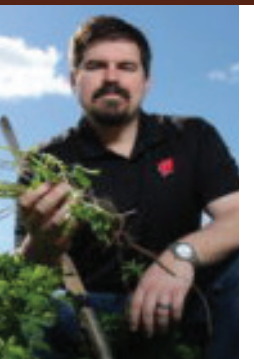
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POWER PUNCH

Boxing aims to slow Parkinson's disease

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RICK BUSSLER

Left, right, left right. With boxing gloves strapped on while in a fighting stance, Roland Truelson throws yet another jab. The 77-year-old isn't afraid to let the jabs fly.

He's a fighter, but not in the boxing ring that most boxers throw their punches. Truelson is punching Parkinson's disease, a progressive nervous system disorder that has affected his movement for the past seven years. On this particular day, he's in a workout room at the Owatonna Fitness Center.

But Truelson isn't alone. At his side is Ann, his wife of 49 years, throwing in just as many jabs. Together they are going through a vigorous workout to punch out Parkinson's.

"Why am I creaking in my shoulders, old age?" Ann asks her trainer. "That's what our joints do," the trainer responds. "I want to get it faster." she retorts back. But her trainer warns, "Faster doesn't mean it's better."

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 to 2 p.m. the Truelsons join about a dozen other Parkinson's patients and their spouses for a mass workout session. The oldest patient is 92 years old. They have been coming together since the classes started back in April. The lead instructor is Nicole Hartman. It's appropriately named, "Punch Class for Parkinson's."

Truelson's aggressive stance and punch has inherited him the nickname of "trouble maker" during the workouts. "He enjoys it. He's social," Ann said. She stands by his side working out "for the socialization and to support my husband," she said, adding he may not do it if he was on his own.

The class is believed to be the only one of its kind in the area.

"They are strong individuals," Hartman says of her class members. While she points out they have good days as well as some bad days, one thing is quite clear. "They are amazing. They are not quitters," she said.

Things get a little tense at times as some of the Parkinson's patients have fallen during workouts. "They are vulnerable in a safe place," Hartman said.



Roland Truelson, 77, punches out Parkinson's at the Owatonna Fitness Center during a recent workout.

In between the punching bags, weights and poles, there is a sign reminding everyone, "Push yourself-no one is going to do it for you."

Midway through a recent session, Hartman yelled out, "I feel like you guys are losing some steam. (Clap, clap), come on."

The group picks up steam with Hartman pushing them. "Left jab, right gap, squat. Right jab, left cross, knee, knee," Hartman yells out. She then turns to the patients encouraging them to yell out louder as they go through the motions.

At the end of the session in honor of Owatonna's homecoming, they all huddled together and yelled, "Huskies."

SCIENCE BEHIND BOXING

For many years, there has been widespread speculation that boxing caused or contributed to the late heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali's long battle with Parkinson's disease. After all, head trauma is known to increase the risk of Parkinson's, a chronic and progressive disorder that affects an estimated 7 to 10 million people around the world, according to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation.

So it may come as a surprise to discover that boxing training is now being used as a form of therapy for people who already have Parkinson's like Truelson.

The trend started after former Indiana prosecutor Scott Newman, who was diag-

nosed with early-onset Parkinson's at age 40, began training one-on-one with a boxing coach and noticed dramatic improvements in his physical health, agility and daily functioning. In 2006, Newman founded Rock Steady Boxing, a program that uses modified professional boxing techniques to help people with Parkinson's. Since then, the program has spread across the country.

Hartman is quick to point out she has no medical expertise, but she has learned

They perform various cardiovascular exercises during the 90-minute workout.

"This is so important for aging adults, but so much more for Parkinson's patients," she said.

The muscles of Parkinson's patients begin to deteriorate with the disease, according to Hartman. "They start to shuffle when they walk and this keeps their muscles strong," she said.

Of the workout sessions and boxing, Hartman said: "It's trying to help slow the progression (of the

walk in the door," she said. "I think they help me more than I help them."

By the end of the class, Hartman finds that the patients are "just wiped" from doing a lot of moving and thinking. "You're pushing us too hard is what I heard at first," she said. Now, six months later, she has found a night and day difference from when they started. "Their confidence and excitement is so much different."

The class "keeps them active and creates an amazing community," Hartman said.

A POWERFUL PUNCH

For the Truelsons, they have found the benefits pack a powerful punch not only from a physical standpoint, but also an emotional standpoint. "I can't believe how strong we are in six months," Ann Truelson said. "If we weren't here, we would be at home in bed."

Boxing, Ann says, is their favorite during the entire workout. "It gives you some power and makes you feel strong," she said. There is also a little yelling mixed in with the workout. "Yelling is good for Parkinson's," Ann said. "I'm the one that yells the loudest because I'm the one yelling at home," she said with a smile.

Ann said they are relieved to find others with the same problem. "It's nice to know you have other people in the same boat," she said. "You think you're so alone."

The Truelsons have found the Parkinson's

group to be a very caring group of people. "They are all really caring about us and that makes a world of difference," Ann said.

Ann credits Hartman for making the class fun and for having a caring attitude. The Truelsons hope to slow the progression of the Parkinson's, which Roland has noticed some physical changes in recent years. According to his wife, he shuffles more when he walks, his hands shake and there is a lot of drooling.

But she has noticed his condition has not gotten any worse since they started working out. "Being active is the best thing," Ann said.

She likes that the workout is an activity they can do together as a couple. Her only wish is that all spouses would take part in the fitness.

"You deal with it like anything else," Ann says. "It could have been a lot worse." She noted that Parkinson's is often considered hereditary, but nobody else in their family has it.

Ann pauses and says, "It's hard." But she is quick to point out that her sons and grandsons all who live close by are good at helping them out.

While Parkinson's can be challenging to live with, the Truelsons are thankful to have this outlet pushing them away from the rigors of battling the disease even if it's only for a brief time. "It gives us a break for 90 minutes twice a week," she said.

Perhaps most importantly, Hartman says, the class members have grown to be a tight knit group. "We laugh and goof around together," Hartman said. "It gives them an opportunity to let their guard down. They have made a deep connection together."

In addition to the fitness sessions, there is also a support group that meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

Doctors have told Parkinson's patients to not stop boxing. For the Truelsons, that's the only motivation they need to deliver one punch at a time on the fitness floor where everyone is considered a fighter in hopes of punching out Parkinson's.

"We love coming," Ann says. "I feel bad if I can't come. It's a nice out."



Ann Truelson joins her husband, Roland, in punching out Parkinson's, a disease that he has been battling for the past seven years.

a significant amount regarding the correlation between boxing and Parkinson's over the past few months.

"It forces the brain to rewire itself," she explains. "When you cross the mid-line, it helps rewire the brain," she said.

Hartman says the boxing and other fitness exercises help with balance, coordination and memory.

disease) and keeping them stronger. It doesn't help cure anything, but it slows down the progression of the disease."

Hartman said the class is "nothing like I have ever seen before." She always finds the Parkinson's patients smiling and determined to finish their routines. "It makes my heart so happy every time I



Nicole Hartman helps Ann with an exercise involving a pole. Everyone in the class wears special "Punch Parkinson's" t-shirts during their workouts.

"It gives you some power and makes you feel strong."

Ann Truelson
Punching Parkinson's member



Trainer Nicole Hartman, left, teams up with Carissa Garza in helping Parkinson's patients during their workout sessions.

"It doesn't help cure anything, but it slows down the progression of the disease."

Nicole Hartman
Punching Parkinson's Trainer

Power line project sparks request for state funds

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN

Members of the Minnesota State Senate's Capital Investment Committee paid a visit to the Steele County fairgrounds last week as part of their bonding tour.

They made the stop to hear from local officials about the Fair Board's application for a \$750,000 matching grant to enable the fair to move all the above-ground power lines underground. The move of power lines underground is mandated by Minnesota statute.

The annual electrical inspection before the 2019 fair highlighted the need for speeding up the project of getting the lines underground.

Fair Manager Scott Kozelka told the senators that the state statute says that portable structures cannot be located within 15 feet of overhead electrical lines and boxes. That requirement is almost impossible to meet as the number of vendors and the height of some of the displays continues to increase. This is a problem not only during the fair itself but also at the numerous events that happen on

the fairgrounds during the year, including the Farm and Power Show in March.

Kozelka, along with Mayor Tom Kunz, Chamber of Commerce and Tourism President Brad Meier, Committee Member State Sen. John Jasinski, R-Fairbault, and State Rep. John Petersburg, R-Waseca, spoke about the economic impact and its importance to Steele County and the surrounding area.

More than 300,000 people attend the fair annually with 100,000 of them from out of Steele County. An estimated \$5.5 million is spent by those visitors.

Meier said the fairgrounds has about a \$10 million economic impact on the area over the year.

The speakers also pointed out that with work scheduled to begin next spring on the Hwy.14 upgrade, the economic impacts will be even greater.

Owatonna Fire Chief Mike Johnson, who is also Steele County Emergency Management director, told the committee that putting the power lines underground is important in terms of public safety. The fairgrounds, he said, is a

SEE POWER LINE PROJECT, B3



STAFF PHOTO BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN

Sen. David Senjem, R-Rochester, chairs the Senate Capital Investment Committee. He said that with work on Hwy. 14 slated to begin next spring, it is time to get to work on other infrastructure projects in the state.



STAFF PHOTO BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN

While Leon Bohlman of Legacy Monuments in Owatonna smooths the sand around the flags, Brandyn Bohlman, who owns Hidden Creek Hardscapes in Owatonna, brings over a paver for installation at the new veterans memorial in Claremont.

New vets memorial dedicated in Claremont

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN
COUNTY WRITER

It was just over a year ago that the Claremont American Legion broke ground for its Veterans Memorial.

And now the memorial was dedicated on Veterans Day this past Monday. The memorial is located on Front Street in downtown Claremont.

The memorial is complete, said Mike Berg, commander of Claremont's American Legion Post

422, with the exception of adding the names to the pavers.

The post has been raising money for the memorial since it was able to acquire the vacant lot between its building and the bank.

In the weeks before the dedication, Leon Bohlman, who along with his wife Lori has the franchise for Legacy Monuments in Owatonna, and with his son, Brandyn, who owns Hidden Creek Hardscape, also in Owatonna, were at the location putting in

the pavers and getting the surrounding landscaping under way in anticipation of the dedication.

The Legion purchased the granite for the monument through his company, Bohlman said. The two granite pillars are etched with the symbols of the U.S. Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Navy, Marines and Merchant Marines. The pavers encircle the U.S. flag pole that stands in the center of the monument. There are also benches at the side of the circle of pavers. Pavers also line the

sidewalk from the memorial to the street.

When spring comes flowers will be planted in a circle immediately around the flagpole.

The Claremont Legion Post, officially called the Albert Dennis Connell Post 422, was named in honor of the only soldier from Claremont who was killed in action in World War I, Berg said.

Thirty-two soldiers from the area went off to the war, he said, but Connell was the only one who died as a result of hostile fire, he said.

Good year reported for fair at annual meeting

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN
COUNTY WRITER

Despite a year of challenges, it was a good year for the Steele County Free Fair in 2019, members of the Steele County Agricultural Society were told last week.

The society met Thursday night at the Steele County History Center to hear a year-end report on the fair and other activities on the fairgrounds and elect members of the board of directors.

Following the annual meeting, the directors met to elect officers for the coming year.

Treasurer Tim Arlt reported that it was basically a good year for the county fair. Increased income was reported from total liquor sales and the carnival during the fair and from non-fair rentals during the remainder of the year.

Beer Garden income, including the grandstand, came to \$191,402.56

SEE GOOD YEAR, B3

Tis' the season to GIVE

As the holidays approach it seems the mailboxes fill with requests for "gifts."

How do we decide where to contribute? Sometimes it is overwhelming, and the easiest decision is to simply recycle all the requests and focus on family plans, like the tradition of a Black Friday shopping spree.

Daily the majority of us our touched by a nonprofit organization in some way, it could be the facility that cares for a loved one, a community-based program, a local school or other education-



Steele Talkin'
STEPHANIE KIBLER

al program. Nonprofits help us to build vibrant, sustainable communities, they advocate for health and safety, celebrate and support arts,

historical and science museums, and protect our planet generations to come.

There are so many worthy causes and programs out there in need of donations, picking the one that is right for you can be difficult as you sift through the many

SEE TIS' THE SEASON, B3

Center helps solve child abuse in families

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Ensuring the well-being of children and families over a five county area has become the sole mission of a organization celebrating 35 years of service.

The Exchange Club Center for Family Unity based in Owatonna serves Steele, Dodge, Rice, Waseca and Freeborn counties. The center provides assistance with two programs: parent mentoring and supervised visitation, according to Annette Duncan, executive director of the center.

The primary program offered by the Center is parent mentoring, which is a child abuse prevention and intervention program that reduce risk factors and promote protective factors. The goal of parent mentoring is to ensure the well-being of children and families, Duncan said. "We work with families who are struggling and in need of additional support," she noted.

"We go directly into the home and work with families at risk to work with families who have experienced child abuse or neglect in homes," said

Duncan, who started as a volunteer nine years ago and has served on staff for the past three years.

Parent mentors provide families with the skills and resources they need to provide their children with a loving and nurturing environment, which enables them to thrive. In 2018, the Center for Family Unity worked with 113 families, including 272 children through the mentoring program. The program is provided to families at no charge, and the majority of the referrals come from child protection, court orders and school social workers.

The other important component of the Center is supervised visitation. In that program, the Center worked with 55 additional families and 119 children last year. Between the two programs, the Center served 94 families (106 adults and 222 children) in Steele County and 15 (19 adults and 29 children) in Dodge in 2018.

"It's a team effort" at the Center for Family Unity, Duncan said. There are three part-time workers handling visitations while



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Annette Duncan is the executive director of the Exchange Club Center for Family Unity based in Owatonna. Her team works with families from a five county area.

two other staff members take care of the mentoring. "This is not a one man show. Teamwork is a big part of it," she said.

The Center, Duncan said, is severely understaffed and has a huge waiting list. "We have a pretty big need. My team is at capacity," she said. "I could have two more full-time parent mentors."

Duncan said the Center has been busier because society has an overall greater awareness to child abuse. She pointed out

that neglect is the largest form of abuse, mostly at the hands of chemical and mental health issues.

The Center's goal is to help families break the cycle of abuse and get them back on track so they can be the best parents. "The majority of people we work with are not malicious people," Duncan said. "It's all based off stress, and we help them identify their stressors. We help them manage their stress better so they can make better choices."

Duncan has found the Center has a "pretty high" success rate with its programming. "We try to empower the parents and children," she explained. "Let's be the people we want to be," she added.

Children, Duncan said, are a valuable commodity. "If we don't have children, we don't have a future," she said. "We do our work for the children, and the parents are the tools we use to accomplish it."

Duncan said they usually work with a parent on average for about 18 months, but noted they will stick with parents as long as it is needed. "We don't have a cookie cutter program," she said. "We develop our program around that family depending on what needs they have."

The Center recently moved to a new office on Austin Road next to Michaelson Funeral Home. However, Duncan pointed out that not much takes place in the office. Staff and volunteers are usually in the community and going into the homes of families. She said this unique concept is what separates them from other supervised vis-

itation services, which are generally center based.

Duncan said it's best to go into the homes, which offer a "more natural setting" so they can see how parents respond in a crisis situation. "We can also see what the environment looks like," she said. But they also accompany families to other locations outside of the home, including a park or library.

The Center operates on a budget of about \$200,000. Funding comes largely from grants and all Exchange Clubs in the area. In Owatonna, there are three clubs: Owatonna Exchange Club, Steele County Exchange Club and the Moonlighters Exchange Club. There are also some fundraisers during the year, including a 5K to prevent child abuse in April and a golf event in June. People can also make personal donations through the center's website at www.centerforfamilyunitymn.com.

Duncan noted for every \$1 donated to prevention programs, taxpayers save \$10. Tax-deductible gifts help break the cycle of child abuse, she added.

Knights help needy families get bundled up

On Nov. 7, the Owatonna Knights of Columbus distributed 72 new coats to families in need.

This was conducted as a part of the Supreme Council's "Coats for Kids program." Coats for both boys and girls in various colors and sizes were available. The KCs coordinated the distribution with the help of Maureen Schlobohm, executive director, and her staff at the Steele County Clothes Line.

Many children throughout the United States and Canada go without a coat each winter. Many low-income families use their scarce resources to meet the most basic essentials and they need help to provide this vital winter necessity.

That's why the Knights of Columbus developed the "Coats for Kids" program, which allows councils across North America the opportunity to purchase new winter coats for children and to distribute them to children in need in their local communities.

Since the program's launching in 2009, nearly 500,000 coats have been distributed in 49 states and all 10 Canadian provinces.



Several people came together to distribute "Coats for Kids" on Thursday, Nov. 7. The project is an initiative of the Owatonna Knights of Columbus. Involved in the distribution include, from left: Maureen Schlobohm, executive director of Steele County Clothesline, Ellyn Jardine, Lee Jardine, deputy grand knight, Owatonna Council 945 and Tim Rice, KC project chairman.

GOOD YEAR: reported for fair at annual meeting

while the revenue from the first year of the Steele Saloon was \$53,773.25.

Another area that saw an increase was in cash ATM transactions. Income from the transactions increased by 14.6% as more than \$200,000 in \$20 bills was dispensed.

Sponsorships were also up and increased by almost 20%, Arlt said.

Expenses were also up in several areas.

Liquor expenses were up, primarily because of the start-up costs for the new Steele Saloon.

Entertainment expenses were also higher by about \$11,000. The increase was due primarily to the grounds entertainment, which included the dog show and the return of the Cannonball.

Maintenance and repair costs were also up

as would be expected with the project that removed the north end of the race track, he said. That project cost \$97,500.

For the year, the fair showed a net income of \$70,479.14.

That amount did not figure in the cost of building two new cattle barns. That unexpected expense came about when a March snowstorm took down one of the old barns with the fair directors deciding to take down the second aging barn and replace them with one new building.

When the cost of the new barns was added in, the fair showed a loss of \$155,110.42. That amount was taken from the reserve funds, prompting Arlt and several others to point out that "the barn is paid for."

In his annual report, Fair Manager Scott Kozel-

TIS' THE SEASON: to GIVE

requests that come this time of year. And, as you allocate your budget for the upcoming holidays.

My advice – follow your passion! Whether you feed the homeless, give winter gear to children, support Toys for Tots, your church, your community, your museum—bottom line is you are sharing your blessings with others. There is no right or wrong answer, but there are some guidelines that might help:

- Give with your heart – what project do you want to see funded, where would you like to see your community focus on
- Good rule of thumb is to start locally for your charitable giving, there are many valuable organizations within our community, this keeps the funding local
- Discuss your donation as a family, children often feel strongly about programs and events in their communities—a great way to involve children is to offer a giving allowance allowing your children to set money aside to give away to a charity or nonprofit of their choice.
- Give what you can – giving doesn't have to break the bank, every dollar matters.

If you would prefer to not give money, give time. Every hour you donate allows a program to save on staff time which means more of your dollars goes into the program itself and not administration. Most nonprofits and schools have a wide-range of volunteer opportunities available. And, many offer ways

where you can volunteer with your children or as a family.

If time and money are not an option, simply send a notecard to your favorite charity letting them know you appreciate the work that they are doing.

Whatever method you choose to give, know that the organization receiving your time or money greatly appreciates your generosity and support.

Stephanie Kibler serves on the Ellendale City Council, and she is also the executive director of the Freeborn County Historical Museum in Albert Lea. Steele Talkin' is a regular column featuring authors from various organizations throughout Steele County.

Cashwise Liquor donates to Owatonna Foundation

Cashwise Liquor recently made a donation of \$2650 to the Owatonna Foundation.

"We are extremely grateful to Cashwise Liquor for their continued support of our Wine and Beer Fundraiser," said Laura Resler, executive director of the Foundation.

"For several years they have organized and sold tickets for a wine and beer tasting for us. The tasting has been an important annual fundraiser for the Foundation. Their continued commitment helps us to continue the Foundation's mission of improving the quality of life for present and future generations by supporting Owatonna projects that focus on community, arts, recreation, and education."

The Foundation, now in its 61st year of serving the Owatonna community, provides capital grants in Owatonna and its environs.

The Foundation was established in 1957 with the goal of improving the quality of life for present and future generations of Owatonna residents. Since then, the Owatonna Foundation has committed more than \$12 million in grants to Owatonna projects and annually awards \$30,000 in scholarships for both traditional and non-traditional students.

For more information about the Owatonna Foundation, please visit its website at: www.owatonnafoundation.org, or call 507-455-2995.



Cashwise Liquor in Owatonna has donated \$2,650 to the Owatonna Foundation. Involved in the donation were, from left: Sharon West and Ray Stawarz, Foundation trustees; Dave Issacson, manager of Cashwise Liquors and Dave Einhaus and Bill Beer, trustees.

Serving our veterans

Becky Larson of the United Methodist Church of Ellendale pours coffee for two veterans at a special Veterans Dinner sponsored by NOW (Nurture Outreach and Witness Committee). She is serving Dave Jellum and Earl Parriott.



Support on the way to help struggling farmers

U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith (D-Minn.) announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded \$480,000 to fund a project to give farmers, ranchers and agri-businesses the tools they need to deal with economic and emotional stress brought on by the difficult farm economy.

The funding will allow the University of Minnesota Extension to partner with seven other cooperative extension services in the upper Midwest to develop online resources people can turn to for help. It will also help expand programs including stress assistance classes, a stress assistance hotline and prescription drug abuse education.

Right now, Minnesota ag is facing significant challenges, leaving many folks feeling stressed and overwhelmed. The median net farm income was \$26,055 in 2018, according to the University of Minnesota Extension—the lowest since the school started collecting data—and trade uncertainty continues to hurt markets and bottom lines.

"Our farmers in Minnesota have experienced a lot in the past year – from flooding impacting their ability to plant and harvest crops, uncertainty with export markets and ongoing trade disputes, and low prices across the board. That's why these grants are so critical in helping ensure that they have access to important stress assistance programs," said Sen. Klobuchar. "We must continue to advocate for our farmers and ensure that they can sustain their livelihood for generations to come."

"We need to find solutions to help people living in Minnesota's farming and rural communities during this climate of uncertainty, and that includes helping folks manage any financial and emotional stress they may be facing," said Sen. Smith, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. "I fought to reauthorize funding to support projects like this during the 2018 Farm Bill because I'm committed to being a partner in helping lift up the ag community during hard times."

POWER LINE PROJECT: sparks request for state funds

public assembly area and the project makes sense to keep people safe.

Kozelka said that initial estimates put the cost of moving all the power lines underground at about \$1.5 million. The fair, he said, operates as a non-profit organization, meaning all the money earned over the year goes back into the fair and leaves little to accomplish such a large project.

The fair is not asking for the entire amount, he added.

State Sen. David Senjem, R-Rochester, chair of the committee, said that the committee has received \$5.3 billion in requests including more than 400 projects. With Highway 14 funding now done, he said, it is time to get to the rest of the infrastructure projects.

If approved, the request from the fair would be included in the state bonding bill that will be considered during the Legislative session that begins in February 2020.

Annual FFA Fruit Sales

November 1 – November 15

This year we are offering many varieties of APPLES, PEARS, ORANGES, GRAPEFRUITS.

Other items that will be part of the fruit sales will be the ever popular BUTTER BRAIDS, HERRING, GOURMET POPCORN, CHOCOLATES AND NUTS.

STEVE'S MEATS WILL BE PROVIDING MEAT STICKS AND OTHER COMBO ASSORTMENTS.

The products will be arriving to the BP High School on December 13.

These products would make perfect Christmas Gifts!

If you have any questions, or would like an FFA member to stop by your home or place of employment, please feel free to contact Mr. Rinkenberger at the BPHS Ag Dept. at 583-4426 ext. 468

NRHEG

PANTHER

of the Week

Hailly Sanchez

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NRHEG Elementary- Ellendale

This week's Panther of the Week is Hailly Sanchez. She is the daughter of Heather Johnson and they reside in Clarks Grove. She is in Mrs. Johns third grade class and was nominated by Mrs. Williams.

Hailly always walks in the classroom with a positive attitude and a smile on her face. She's shows up ready to work and and doesn't give up when something is challenging.

Hailly used to live in Florida and loves riding bike. Keep up the great work Hailly!

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

- NOV. 14**
4 p.m. – Police Commission Meeting
Turkey Bingo, Pizza Cellar

NOV. 18
6:30 p.m. – Friends of the Library Meeting, BP Library
7 p.m. – School Board Meeting, BPHS Media Center
- NOV. 19**
10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP Library
5 p.m. – Ambulance Commission Meeting

NOV. 20
Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting

NOV. 24
7 p.m. – Community Thanksgiving Worship, First Lutheran

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

- NOV. 15**
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

NOV. 18
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building
6:30 p.m. – NRHEG School Board Meeting, Ellendale Media Center
- 7 p.m. – Berlin Township Meeting, Community Building

NOV. 19
6:30 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do, Ellendale Elementary Gym

NOV. 20
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

- NOV. 14**
2 p.m. – Movies at the Library, Owatonna Library
5 p.m. – Airport Commission Meeting, Airport Lounge
5:30 p.m. – Holiday Wine & Beer, Michaelson Funeral Home
5:30 p.m. – Pizza with the Chef, Owatonna Country Club
6:30 p.m. – Family Storytime, Owatonna Library

NOV. 15
7 p.m. – Medford School “Addams Family” Fall Play, Medford Auditorium

NOV. 16
9 a.m. – Make and Take Christmas Ornaments, Arts Center
7 p.m. – Medford School “Addams Family” Fall Play, Medford Auditorium
- NOV. 17**
2 p.m. – Shattuck Student Concert, Arts Center
2 p.m. – Medford School “Addams Family” Fall Play, Medford Auditorium

NOV. 18
4 p.m. – Owatonna HRA Meeting, City Admin Building
7 p.m. – Medford Zoning Board Meeting, City Admin Building
7 p.m. – Medford Board of Education Meeting, High School Community Room

NOV. 19
9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Preschool Storytime, Owatonna Library
4:30 p.m. – Library Board Meeting, Owatonna Library
7 p.m. – Owatonna City Council Meeting, City Admin Building

Legion, Auxiliary to sponsor scholarships

American Legion Post Commander Bruce Kubicek and Auxiliary President Becky Noble announce that the two organizations will each sponsor a \$500 scholarship again this year.

This will be the 25th year that the scholarships have been furnished by the local American Legion units.

Criteria for eligibility include:

- Applicant must have completed at least one semester of their higher education.
- The school they are attending must be an approved institution of higher learning.
- Applicant can be a “traditional” or a “non-traditional” student.
- There are no age limits for these scholarships.

The scholarships are made possible in part by the popular Fourth of July raffle. “We thank all veterans and others who work on this raffle and also those who support the raffle by purchasing tickets,” said Ken Trom of the American Legion.

Scholarship applications may be picked up at the Servicemen’s Club, Blooming Prairie Public Library or the Blooming Prairie High School Guidance Counselor office. Applications must be filled out and returned by Monday, Dec. 2.

Taste of Norway supper comes to Owatonna

The Nortonna Lodge 1-638 of the Sons of Norway meets Monday, Nov. 18, at 6 p.m. at the Owatonna Elks Lodge, 126 East Vine Street.

The annual Taste of Norway supper features favorite Norwegian foods such as herring, meatballs, fruit soup, rommegrot, lefse, and Scandinavian sweets. Serving begins at 6 p.m. Cost is \$8 per member or guest; free if you bring a Norwegian dish to share.

The event also includes a silent auction with items donated by lodge members. Proceeds from the auction are used for lodge programs and events.

If you would like more information regarding the Nortonna Lodge of the Sons of Norway, contact Cindy or Paul Hokanson at 507-451-9301.

Hold the fire calls, pancakes first



The Blooming Prairie Fire Department sponsored a delicious pancake breakfast at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen’s Club. Here, Adalynn Holtan, 4, gets ready to taste the yummy breakfast.



Dan Miner of the Blooming Prairie Fire Department makes pancakes for the annual department breakfast at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen’s Club on Sunday, Nov. 10.

STAFF PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Shattuck to perform music in Owatonna

The Owatonna Arts Center will host students from Shattuck St. Mary’s Pre Conservatory of Music on Sunday, Nov. 17, at 2 p.m. in the Performing Arts Hall. The concert is open to the public.

A varied program that includes the Felix Mendelssohn “Serious” Variations, Carmen Fantasy by Sarasate, some Paganini (violin), and other works will be performed. The students are from all over the world, including Costa Rica, China, Venezuela, Russia, and some local talent from right here in Minnesota: Duluth, Northfield, and Owatonna.

Community Thanksgiving service planned

A community Thanksgiving worship will take place on Sunday, Nov. 24 at 7 p.m. at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie.

The guest preacher will be Pastor Suzanne Froelich, who currently serves at Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church in rural Austin.

An offering will be taken benefiting the Blooming Prairie Ministerium Emergency Fund.

Fellowship will follow the service.

Albert Lea Community Theatre announces upcoming auditions

Albert Lea Community Theatre (ACT) announces auditions will be held Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 9 and 10, at 7 p.m. for the drama “Irena’s Vow” at the Marion Ross Performing Arts Center, 147 N. Broadway in Albert Lea.

Based on a remarkable true story, this play takes the audience through the eyes of a strong-willed woman and exemplifies the triumphs of the human spirit over devastating tragedy. Irena Gut Opdyke is a 19-year-old housekeeper in the home of a Nazi officer when she finds out that the Jewish ghetto is about to be liquidated. Determined to help 12 Jewish workers, she decides to shelter them in the safest place she can think of: the basement of the German commandant’s house. Over the next two years, Irena uses her wit and courage to hide her friends until the end of the German occupation – concealing them in the midst of countless Nazi parties, a blackmail scheme and even the birth of a child.

Directed by Glen Parsons, eight performances of this play are scheduled for Feb. 13-22. This drama contains some scenes that are not suitable for young children. At least four women and six men of various ages will be cast for this play. There are no roles for children. Those auditioning should be prepared to read from the script. Rehearsals will be scheduled weeknights, with some weekend involvement closer to the performance dates. Tickets and more information regarding auditions are at actonbroadway.com.

Ornament making featured at Arts Center

The fifth annual “Make and Take Christmas ornament making” at the Owatonna Arts Center will be on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Guests will be able to make one ornament or all seven and will be guided through how to make the ornament or purchase the kit to take home.

This event will also feature a kids table with ornament making specifically for their age ranges. Come enjoy a sweet treat and make a memory and keepsake.

The cost for Arts Center members is \$35 for all 7 or \$5 apiece. Non-members price is \$40 for all seven or \$6 each.

Drop-off sites set for Operation Christmas Child

This month, sites in the Steele County area will be among 5,000 U.S. drop-off locations collecting shoebox gifts for children overseas during Operation Christmas Child’s National Collection Week, Nov. 18-25.

Steele County families, churches and groups are busy transforming empty shoeboxes into fun gifts filled with toys, school supplies and hygiene items. The Samaritan’s Purse project partners with local churches across the globe to deliver these tangible expressions of God’s love to children affected by war, disease, disaster, poverty and famine. For many of these children, it will be the first gift they have ever received.

This year, Steele County-area residents hope to collect more than 12,877 gifts to contribute to the 2019 global goal of reaching 11 million children.

“I love seeing the local community rally together for a global impact,” said Regional Director Gia Moser. “We see all ages getting involved – and more and more every year.”

Area collection sites include:

- **Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church, 1500 18th St. SE, Owatonna:** Nov. 18, 20 & 22- 3-7 p.m.; Nov. 19, 21 & 23- 8 a.m.-12 p.m.; Nov. 22- 3-7 p.m.; Nov. 24- 12-3 p.m. and Nov. 25- 8-10 a.m.
- **Bridge Community Church, 2016 Bridge Ave., Albert Lea:** Nov. 18-22- 2-4 p.m.; Nov. 23 & 24- 12-2 p.m. and Nov. 25- 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- **Seventh Day Baptist Church, 203 Main St. E., Dodge Center:** Nov. 18-20 & 25- 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; Nov. 18-20- 5-7 p.m.; Nov. 21- 4-7 p.m.; Nov. 22- 9-11 a.m.; Nov. 23- 1-4 p.m. and Nov. 24- 12-6 p.m.

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WINTER EVENTS

Holiday Hours

Dec. 6: Holiday Dazzle Downtown Festivities 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Dec. 7: Chili Cook-Off 5 p.m.-7p.m.

Dec. 14: Harvey's Holiday Cheer 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Dec 21: EUCHRE 1 p.m.

Dec. 24: Open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Dec. 25: CLOSED..Merry Christmas

Dec. 31: New Years Eve Munchies 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Champagne @ Midnight
Jan. 1: Closed..Happy 2020!!

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Amanda Honsey

Kayleigh Walock
- Izzy Reuvers

Alyvia Johnson

Kiley Nihart

Emma Kniefel

Brooke Purrier

Julia Niles
- Mackenzie Kellen

Rachael Luebbe

Morgan Langeslag

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Jenna Berg

Kinsey Cronin

Head coach: Missy Underdahl



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Hometown Sports

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2019

BACK TO THE BANK

Unbeaten
Blossoms
roll past
Springfield in
state playoff
opener

BY LEMAR NELSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior quarterback Kaden Thomas threw for four touchdowns, and the Awesome Blossom football team punched its ticket to the state semi-finals with a convincing 42-20 victory over Springfield-Comfrey.

The game at Janesville on Saturday, Nov. 9, marked No. 11 in a row for the Blossoms on their inexorable march to U. S. Bank Stadium Saturday, Nov. 16, in an 11:30 a.m. contest.

In what has become a BP trademark, the team put up 21 first quarter points, added 14 in the second quarter, and went into the halftime break with a comfortable 35-7 lead. The defense took over in the second half, giving up a lot of yardage, but keeping Tiger points to a minimum. Two late touchdowns made the final score respectable, after a 74-yard run in the second quarter had given Springfield its first touchdown.

Blooming Prairie's 21 first quarter points were all that they really needed to secure the victory. With about 9:15 left in the first quarter, Matthew Pryor shoved his way across the goal line to score the first touchdown of the game.

BP added another touchdown with 5:20 left in the first.

Karson Vigeland brought some excitement to the field when he had a 64-yard reception with 2:10 left in the first quarter. With:29 left, Pryor scored the third touchdown for the Blossoms with a short one yard run.

The Tigers got on the scoreboard early in the second quarter on a 74-yard run, closing BP's lead to 21-7.

With 1:06 left in the second, Alex Baldwin executed a 39-yard reception for

BP's fourth TD on the afternoon. Colin Jordison added his fourth extra point kick to put the Blossoms in a comfortable 28-7 lead.

Just:06 before halftime, BP added yet another touchdown on a 15-yard reception by Baldwin and extra point by Jordison to give them a 35-7 at halftime.

Springfield put up two touchdowns in the fourth quarter while the Blossoms added another insurance TD.

Thomas found Gabe Hagen and Alec Baldwin for two touchdowns each, one of Baldwin's a 49-yard heave, and Matthew Pryor scored twice on the ground. The team piled up 427 total yards, with Pryor rushing for 132 yards and Thomas tossing the ball for 296.

Hagen caught 7 of 8 attempts for 123 yards, Baldwin caught 10 of 12 for 104 yards, and Karson Vigeland received 4 of 5 for 34 yards. Springfield's offense rolled up 413 total yards, 173 through the air, but the BP defense did not break and held the Tigers to the two touchdowns after the half.

Coach Chad Gimbel again credited the whole team for the win, noting that the absence of turnovers kept the offense on the attack the entire game.

"I thought the defense played well, despite giving up a lot of yardage," he said.

Zach Archer and Garrett Larson both had 10 tackles in the game, but the defense that Gimbel credited was led by Mitch Fiebigler, with a whopping 21 stops. Dylan Nirk added 8 tackles to boot. The defense really did step up, and every Blossom did his part in controlling Springfield. It was a great win that advanced the team to semi-final action.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Mitchell Fiebigler (on the ground) wrestles a Springfield ball carrier to the ground in Saturday's state playoff game with help from Luke Rennie (21) and Bradley Simon (7). The Blossoms scored 21 points in the first quarter and cruised to a 42-20 victory to advance to the state semifinals Saturday at U.S. Bank Stadium.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Karson Vigeland (15) shoves his arm out in an attempt to hold off a Springfield player in Saturday's state playoff thriller in Janesville. BP rolled to its 11th straight victory this season by defeating Springfield 42-20.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Gabe Hagen (8) attempts to pull down and tackle a Springfield ball handler with Bradley Simon (7) coming up from behind.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

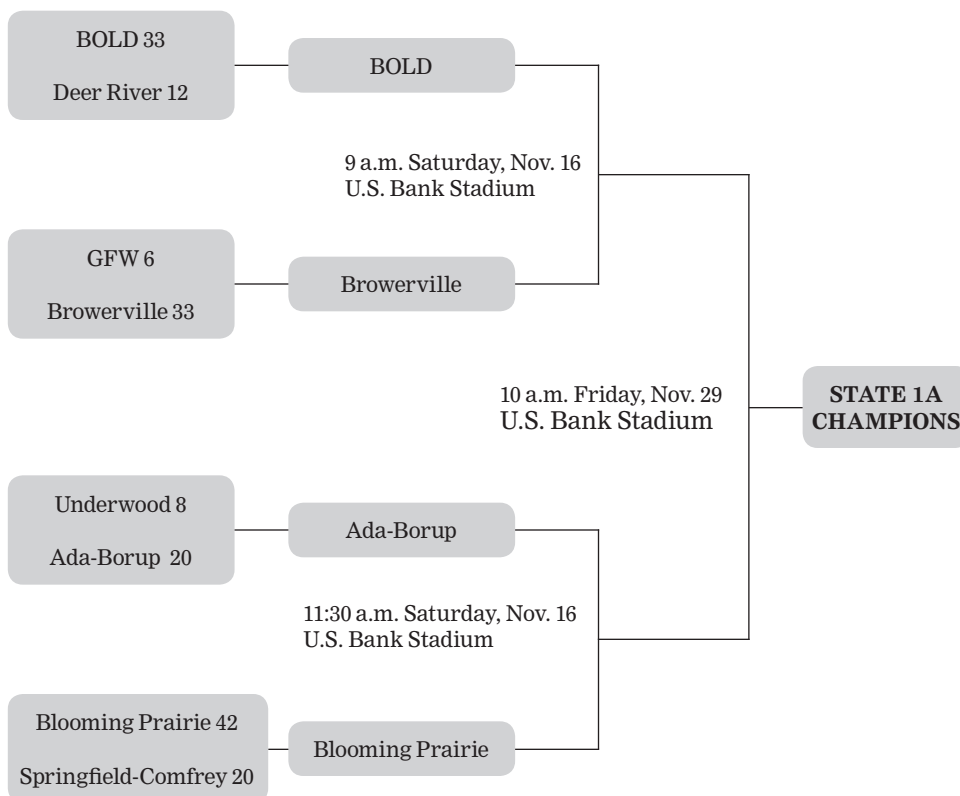
The Blossoms' Gabe Hagen (8) handles the ball while trying to escape the grip of a Springfield player and another awaiting defender. Hagen caught 7 of 8 attempts for 123 yards in the game.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

With only seconds left in the first half, Alex Baldwin (6) cruises into the end zone after a 15-yard reception for another Blossom touchdown. Alex Piller (84) watches as Baldwin scores the touchdown. Blooming Prairie led 35-7 at half time.

Class 1A Football



Medford snags third at state

BY ALEX NUEHRING
SPORTS WRITER

After sweeping Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa 3-0 in the first round of the state tournament, the Medford Tigers faced a familiar foe, fellow Gopher Conference member Waterville-Elysian-Morristown (W-E-M), in the state semi-finals on Friday, Nov. 8.

It was the fourth meeting between the two teams this season and unfortunately for the Tigers, the fourth time ended the same way as the first three as the W-E-M Buccaneers earned the win, this time via a three-game sweep.

Based on her team's previous matches versus W-E-M, Medford Head Coach Missy Underdahl knew her team would have to get off to a strong start and keep it up throughout the match.

"We knew we had to stay aggressive, keep swinging, and let our cover be there if they did block us. I felt like we did a good job of that most of the game, but then at points we'd get really timid and we weren't attacking as hard as we could have. Then, it just kind of gets to be a mental game and it just kind of breaks you down a little bit," she said.

Due to those breakdowns and the Buccaneers surging offense, W-E-M won the first set 25-21.

She said the Buccaneers have a knack of finding and exploiting the Tigers' weakness.

"W-E-M has been our bugaboo probably the last two years. We start out very confident and then for some reason they just do a good job of kind of slowly breaking us down and finding maybe it's a hole in our defense or maybe one of our weaker serve receivers and they attack her. As the game progresses, it seems to change our confidence and we break down contin-



STAFF PHOTO BY ALEX NUEHRING

Medford's Kinsey Cronin, left center, and Morgan Langeslag, center, celebrate after winning their first point in set one against Waterville-Elysian-Morristown in the state semi-finals. Unfortunately for the Tigers, the W-E-M Buccaneers won each of the first three sets to advance to state championship game.

"I just really hope that they can walk away from here realizing the impact that they have made on Medford."

Missy Underdahl
Medford Volleyball Coach



STAFF PHOTO BY ALEX NUEHRING

Tigers' setter Morgan Langeslad sets the ball up for teammate Clara Kniefel, left.



STAFF PHOTO BY ALEX NUEHRING

Medford outside hitter Emma Kniefel goes up to hit the ball over two W-E-M blockers.

ually and we can't seem to get past that," Underdahl said. "We start fresh every set and then there's one little thing that might go wrong and then it kind of just deflates from there."

It was more of the same in the second set as the Buccaneers won 25-20 to take a commanding two set lead.

W-E-M got off to a hot start in the third set as they quickly built a 9-2 lead with Medford's two points coming on two net errors by the Buccaneers.

The Tigers rallied to tie the set at 19-19, but after that it was all W-E-M as they went on to win the third and final set 25-20.

Senior Emma Kniefel said the Tigers' defense didn't do a good enough job limiting W-E-M's runs.

"Honestly, we just let them go on too many runs. The runs were too long and at that point you have to keep coming back it's hard to get that lead back," she said.

Senior Kiley Nihart said the Buccaneers' offense also deserves credit for its runs.

"They always had one good server in each set of

the game that got us out of rhythm, pulled us out of system which makes it hard to come back from that," she said.

Despite losing in the semi-finals, Underdahl hopes her players understand how far they've come.

"It's the first time ever in Medford history that a girls' team has ever made it to state, let alone to have a repeat year even with a different team, some girls are new, some girls are playing different positions but for the majority of the part they've all been around the team," she said. "I just really hope that they can walk away from here realizing the impact that they have made on Medford. Win or lose, that community really doesn't care how the outcome of the season or state went, they're just so dang proud of these girls and these girls should be so dang proud of everything they've accomplished in their career here at Medford volleyball. These girls have been just a blessing to be a part of their lives."

Kniefel led Medford with 13 kills and 22 serve

receives with no errors. Junior Kinsey Cronin collected seven kills and senior Alyvia Johnson had six kills. Senior setter Morgan Langeslag recorded 29 assists and 11 digs. Nihart registered 21 digs and an ace serve.

The Tigers' seniors ended their high school careers on a high note by sweeping the Fosston Greyhounds in the third-place game.

Medford won both of the first two sets by the same score, 25-16. The Tigers then won the third and final set 25-17 to earn third place and improve their record to 26-9.

Kniefel again led the way, this time she collected 15 kills, nine digs, and two ace serves. Cronin recorded 17 kills, Johnson tallied eight kills, and Clara Kniefel registered six kills. Langeslag hit six kills, 45 assists, and nine digs. Nihart led the team in digs with 11.

After finishing runner-up last year, the Tigers bring a trophy and individual medals back to Medford for the second straight year.



STAFF PHOTO BY ALEX NUEHRING

Tigers' outside hitter Alyvia Johnson blocks a hit in the first set of Medford's three-set loss to Waterville-Elysian-Morristown.

SILENCING ACT



Up 7-0 at halftime, St. Thomas Academy controlled the ball for most of the second half thanks to its running game. Wiese, center, tried to contain the Cadets' ball carrier while Matt Seykora, left, Carter DeBus, right center, and Zach Stransky, far right, came up in run support.



STAFF PHOTO BY ALEX NUEHRING
It was that kind of day for the Owatonna Huskies as the ball and the game was just out of reach. The Huskies were held back by missing two field goals, not scoring a touchdown from the seven-yard line in the fourth quarter, and being victimized by a blocked punt during its 21-0 loss to St. Thomas Academy on Saturday, Nov. 9.

Cadets end Huskies repeat title hopes, 29-game winning streak

BY ALEX NUEHRING
SPORTS EDITOR

All good things must come to an end, and after winning their last 29 games the Owatonna Huskies run at becoming state champions for a third straight year came to an end at the hands of the St. Thomas Academy Cadets. The Cadets used a stingy defense, a momentum-shifting special teams play, and a perseverant offense to win 21-0 in the state quarterfinals on Saturday, Nov. 9 in Woodbury.

Saturday's state quarterfinal game between the two schools was a rematch, of sorts, from last year's Prep Bowl showdown, which the Huskies came out on top 14-3.

Owatonna Head Coach Jeff Williams said his defense was able to stifle the Cadets until late in the second quarter.

"They didn't do anything in the first half until we gave them the short field and that was obviously very unfortunate," he said.

The short field was caused by a blocked punt that the Cadets recovered at the Huskies' seven-yard line. St. Thomas scored its first touchdown on a three-yard run three plays later.

On the blocked punt, Williams said, "There was penetration where there ought not have been and that happens every once in a while."

However, that hadn't happened to Owatonna in quite a while as Williams

said the last time the Huskies had a punt blocked was back in 2009.

"Part of the deal too is we don't punt very often. The last two weeks now you start to see tougher competition and you got to punt more frequently," he said.

After both teams punted frequently in the first half, the Cadets held a 7-0 lead at halftime.

Williams hoped that the Huskies' defense would keep the score that way and give their offense an opportunity to tie the game.

"I wanted the opportunity to have the ball with a chance to win, obviously late in the fourth quarter that just wasn't there for us," he said.

Having a chance to win in the fourth quarter wasn't there because St. Thomas' offense was able to move the ball better than they had in the first half.

"You have to at least take it into consideration the fact that they had the ball for nine minutes of the third quarter. Obviously, a couple penalties helped extend it, but we couldn't get off the field," Williams said. "Maybe they [Owatonna's defense] were a little run down, a little bit tired. We're asking a few of those defensive linemen/offensive linemen to go both ways and they definitely started to take over the line of scrimmage at that point."

The Cadets exploited their advantage at the line of scrimmage by scoring

two rushing touchdowns in the second half.

Meanwhile, the Huskies' offense was held in check by St. Thomas' defense.

"Their defensive line was very tough, very aggressive. Their linebackers were very tough and in order for us to get holes we've got to be able to get two hats on a defensive lineman and then come off to a linebacker late. Their defensive line was so aggressive we weren't able to come off on their linebackers very frequently. Their linebackers were good," he said.

He thinks the Cadets' quality front seven was one of the reasons they were

able to consistently harass Owatonna quarterback Brayden Truelson in the second half.

However, Williams mentioned that a couple other reasons were it was getting late in the game and with the Huskies trailing the Cadets knew a pass was coming.

"I think our kids started to get a little bit tired. We were having to pass more frequently and so they're able to pin their ears back and come after us. We didn't have too many other options at that point and they can come after you if you don't have a real threat to run it," he said.

Despite losing, he was proud of the contributions from his team, especially the seniors.

"A lot of those guys played a role in the 2017 championship. Obviously, a lot of returning starters from the 2018 team so I think they had high expectations," he said.

Even though they fell short of their expectations, Williams said the Huskies can still hold their heads high.

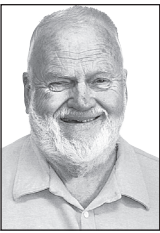
"That was a very good St. Thomas team. We consider ourselves one of the best teams in the state. I think we can still hang our hat on that, we just weren't as good as St. Thomas today," he said. "I don't think that's anything to apologize for. They were very, very good today."

This year marked Owatonna's ninth state tournament trip with three titles, including championships in the past two seasons.

GAME SUMMARY				
Cadets 21, Huskies 0				
Owatonna	0	0	0	0-0
St. Thomas	0	7	7	7-21



Huskies' returner Payton Beyer eludes a St. Thomas Academy tackler during the first half.



Outside the Lines

LEMAR NELSON

For the second year in a row the Awesome Blossom football team advances to the state semi-finals at U.S. Bank Stadium, and we can hope that this is the year that the Blossoms can break through and pick up that vital win that sends them to the finals.

I thought that Springfield would be tough, but a fast start for another straight game got them off on the right foot. The pass to Gabe Hagen earned the first touchdown, and they added two more before the end of the quarter. Nobody could ask for more than that.

One of the Tiger scores featured a long pass and run, but the last two could somewhat be attributed to a softer defense. Now they have reached the big part of the initial goal of the season. Wins in the semi-finals and finals would complete their goals and make it the most memorable football season in school history.

The overall and equal strength on offense and defense can carry them through. Good luck!

WHAT CAN ONE ADD?

Besides a section championship, the victory over Goodhue marked the second time this season that the Blossoms prevailed over the always-tough Wildcat team. In the last half dozen years, the two teams have almost taken turns defeating each other for the section title, and their rivalry has been one of intensity and respect-

Take it to the bank

fulness. A victory over Springfield-Comfrey will advance the team to U.S. Bank Stadium and would be the second year in a row that the team has been undefeated all the way to the state playoff semi-final contest without a loss.

SOUND OF MUSIC

The fourth presentation of the all-school musical entertained large audiences again over the weekend, and some very good high school talent performed admirably. Each time that very favorable musical has been on the BPHS schedule, the play has provided a unique little touch, and this year I think the addition of the large orchestra that provided the background music made a big difference.

Congratulations are in order for Amelia Harthan and directors Tammy Johnson and Kari Bottin

for accomplishing that difficult task. The cast and crews did a great job, as usual, but there is no doubt that tuneful background music makes a difference kudos to everyone for making the hills come alive again with the sounds of music.

THANKS TO VETS

Although it has gone by different names over the years, it is pretty well accepted that the special day to honor veterans, both living and dead be recognized as Veterans Day. Blooming Prairie always does a great job in honoring veterans, and this year was no exception. Especially moving this year was the dedication ceremony of the Veterans' Memorial.

A number of people worked tirelessly to get that memorial planned and erected, and it provides a moving and fitting monu-

ment to the Blooming Prairie community. The morning coffee, and the dinner and program Monday evening all came together to make this Veterans' Day a memorable experience for that assemblage. Well done to all involved.

THIS AND THAT

This Thursday brings us another installment of Turkey bingo. Just as Ham Bingo has been so popular in December, so Turkey Bingo has filed that niche. It will be held at the Pizza cellar at 7 p.m. with 25 games of bingo on the docket. Better get there early for a seat at the table.

I think the older one gets, the more that distant memories pop into our heads unannounced. Last week, I wrote about November really being a month of transition, and I still have random thoughts running in and out of my

brain at odd moments. Thanksgiving is still almost two weeks away, and I will hold those thoughts for a while, but they are circulating for sure.

Those of us of a certain age still remember the Armistice Day blizzard that caught literally hundreds off guard, most of them hunters, and killed over a hundred people. As I mentioned last week, November is one of those months in which a lot of things can happen that change our outlook of the days ahead.

Let's hope we can bring a huge crowd to the semi-finals this week, and the team can play its usual good game with very few mistakes. That would bode well for the team and the multitude of fans that hopefully will follow them to U.S. Bank Stadium. Whatever happens, we'll talk again.



Dr. Deborah I. Lien

DDS, MBS

ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

583.6613

132 2nd Ave NE

Blooming Prairie

www.drdeborahlienorthodontics.com

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TOREY'S FINE DINING
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STEELE-DODGE
PIGSKIN MANIA 2019

WINNER: David Grunklee from Waterloo Iowa

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 _____

7. Minnesota at Iowa*

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 dcj@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. Minnesota at Northwestern

2. Purdue at Wisconsin



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

3. Illinois at Iowa

4. Penn State at Ohio State





Large Selection & Low Prices
Right To Your Door!
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5. Michigan at Indiana

6. Kansas at Iowa State

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. Indianapolis (NFL) at Houston

8. Tampa Bay at Atlanta



Kasson American Legion Post 333
LUNCH AT THE LEGION
Come grab a home-cooked meal on
Monday and Tuesday from 11AM to 1:30PM.



Choose from the
Special of the Day,
Hamburger or
Cheeseburger



Includes soup or salad, dessert & beverage \$9

Check our facebook page (Kasson American
Legion Post 333) for weekly specials.

9. New York Giants at Chicago

10. Detroit at Washington



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DEALER 

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

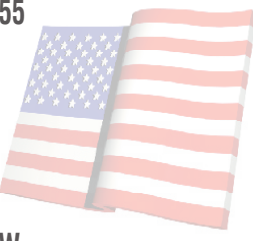
11. Carolina at New Orleans

12. Oakland at New York Jets



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. Jacksonville at Tennessee

14. Dallas at New England



Tradition. Excellence.

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

15. Green Bay at San Francisco

16. Seattle at Philadelphia

NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 27, 2017 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$142,373.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Alan Dominguez, an unmarried person. MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mortgage Lenders of America, L.L.C. DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on November 1, 2017 as Document Number A000415593 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on January 31, 2018 as Document Number A000416786 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North half (N 1/2) of Lot 13, Block 2, Kelly's Addition to the City of Owatonna, Minnesota, Steele County, Minnesota. STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 409 E MAIN ST, OWATONNA, MN 55060 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota. THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO

BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$163,311.09 TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Mortgage Lenders of America, L.L.C. RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-103-0213 TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1002782-0000227993-2 THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part. PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 7, 2020 at 10:00 AM. PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060. to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemp-

tion is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on July 7, 2020. THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED. MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: October 25, 2019

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C. /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Michael van Muelken, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (19-0124-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

10/30, 11/6, 11/13 11/20, 11/27, 12/4

NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 6, 2010 ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$148,265.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Jody L. Kewatt, a single man MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for American Mortgage & Equity Consultants, Inc. DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on May 10, 2016 as Document Number

A000407488 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded on September 16, 2019 as Document Number A000425435 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 11, Block 2, and the East 28 feet of Lot 10, Block 2, Pine Corner Addition to Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota. STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 520 18TH ST SE, OWATONNA, MN 55060 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota. THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$147,634.79 TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: American Mortgage & Equity Consultants, Inc. RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Freedom Mortgage Corporation TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-212-0211 TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1008671-0000042934-8 THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part. PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 7, 2020 at 10:00 AM. PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060. to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on July 7, 2020. THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED. MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: November 7, 2019 FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION Mortgagee TROTT LAW, P.C. /s/

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Michael van Muelken, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (19-1305-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4, 12/11

NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 27, 2018 MORTGAGOR: Raul Padilla, a single person MORTGAGEE: Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union, a credit union organized under the laws of the United States of America DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: recorded on April 30, 2018, as Document No. A000417987, in the Office of the County Recorder in and for Steele County, Minnesota. TRANSACTION AGENT: None TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: None LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: N/A MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 835 Mineral Springs Road, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060 TAX PARCEL I.D. NO. 17-195-0105 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 5, in Plotz's 1st Addition, City of Owatonna, Steele County, Minnesota. COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$104,000.00 AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$106,761.20 INTEREST RATE AND PER DIEM: Current interest rate is 4.50%, with a per diem of \$12.62. That prior to commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 2, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Steele County Law Enforcement, Center, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060, to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor, their personal representatives or assigns. DATE AND TIME MORTGAGOR MUST VACATE

N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Michael van Muelken, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (19-1305-FC01)

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N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Michael van Muelken, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (19-1305-FC01)

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N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. *Michael van Muelken, Esq.* Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (19-1305-FC01)

THE PREMISES: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by July 2, 2020, at 11:59 p.m.

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

Dated: November 8, 2019

MESSERLI & KRAMER P.A.

By:/s/ Michelle R. Jester

Michelle R. Jester (Lic. #247479) 1400 Fifth Street Towers 100 South Fifth Street Minneapolis, MN 55402-1217 (612) 672-3600

Attorney in Fact for Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union 15845-954

IMPORTANT NOTICE This communication is from a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4, 12/11

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

DISTRICT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Case No:74-FA-19-1913 Case Type: Domestic

Notice of Issuance of Emergency (Ex Parte) Order for Protection by Publication (Minn. Stat. 518B.01, subd. 8)

In the Matter of

Melissa Maas Petitioner

vs.

Clayton Buchberger Respondent

To Respondent named above:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an Ex Parte Order for Protection has been issued in the above matter. You may request a hearing if you contact the court administrator's office within 12 days of the date of publication of this notice. You may obtain a copy of the Ex Parte Order for Protection and the form to request a hearing from the court administrator's office at the following address:

Steele County District Court, 111 East Main, Owatonna MN 55060

Failure to request a hearing or to obtain a copy of the Ex Parte Order will not be a defense to prosecution for violation of the Court's order. Date: 11/4/2019

Christi Ketcher Court Administrator/Deputy

11/13



CLUES ACROSS

1	2	3	4			5	6	7		8	9	10
11				12			13			14		
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	45	46	47									
48						49			50	51	52	53
55						56				57		58
59						60				61		
62						63				64		

CLUES ACROSS

- Fall down
- Walmart founder Walton
- Los Angeles time zone
- Gallantry
- Early Supreme Court justice Bartlett
- One-time governor of Maryland
- Act of imitating
- Popular basketball player Jeremy
- Round Dutch cheese
- S. American rodents
- Comic opera "Princess"
- Commodities buyers and sellers (slang)
- Hovers
- Having had one's head cut off
- One-time monetary unit of Greece
- Not no
- Beloved Cubs third baseman Ron
- Shapes
- Giants signal caller Man-

CLUES DOWN

- Polyvinyl acetate
- Canadian folk musician
- Evergreen trees and shrubs
- Meat from a pig (French)
- Secrecion
- Quality of yielding nothing of value
- Aquatic mammal

CLUES ACROSS

- Father
- Protective crusts
- Caps
- Handwoven rug
- Soil-like material
- Not wide
- When you aim to get there
- Hold molecules
- Tooth caregiver
- Amount of time
- Beverage container
- Perform
- Appollo's grandmother
- Obsolete home entertainment device
- Serbian mythological demon
- Bulgarian currency
- Midway between south and southeast
- Makes sense
- A way to single out
- Criminal (slang)
- Former Tigers third baseman Brandon
- Wobbled
- Singapore's second highest peak
- Grossly overweight
- Radioactivity units
- Famed Spanish painter
- Internet router algorithm
- Expression of sorrow or pity
- Druidic mother goddess
- Electronic counter-counter-measures
- Midway between east and southeast

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ASK THE MOTOR MEDICS®

Syndicated Newspaper Column

By Shannon Nordstrom And Russ Evans

Dear Motor Medics,

I'm tired of the high fuel prices as I bet we all are. What's even worse than the high fuel prices is a car that gets bad fuel mileage. I have a 2004 Ford Taurus with the 3.0 engine that's well taken care of and I have about 110,000 miles on it. I average about 24 mpg per tank which my shop tells me is about right for this car and my driving habits but many vehicles get much better. I would like to improve my fuel mileage and have been looking into changing my air filter to one of those lifetime filters you see advertised everywhere. I have had many different conflicting reports as to how this will affect my car ranging from raving fans to don't do it. What is your opinion as guys who work on cars every day? I'm sure you've had this question before.

Don in Carroll Iowa

Dear Don,

Aftermarket air filters have been around a long time. There are several different filter manufactures and many are similar in performance. Most all of these are washable units that allow repeated use for many years before replacement is necessary so you won't have to purchase another one. Many are also oiled and the biggest problem we see is over oiling which can cause problems with the intake sensor if the oil reaches it. As for performance, you may gain a small amount of mileage with the filter.

Take care, the Motor Medics

Dear Motor Medics,

Daily Car Repair and Advice Tips Question 48 Adding Power Windows

Dear Motor Medics,

I have a 2005 Dodge Caravan SE that we bought used and it was not equipped with power windows, door locks, or power sliding doors. We would really like to add these features and keyless entry. Can this be done for a reasonable price and where do we go to get it done?

Janet in Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Brandon,

Power features have become standard on vehicles or at least it seems that way. More and more vehicles, especially ones that are used for hauling the family like a van seem to almost always have full power in them. It is a rarity for one to come into our shop that does not have at least power windows and locks but they are out there. The cost of the accessories will be dependent on the shop and the quality. As for adding them to the front doors that should not be that big of an issue. Many companies offer aftermarket power windows and lock kits and remotes can be added easily as well. The power sliding doors are another story and I have not seen anyone who makes an aftermarket unit for those but there may be out there.

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It's a memory to treasure forever

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Everybody's favorite musical, "The Sound of Music," took the stage for four performances last week at Blooming Prairie High School.

The production directed by Tamzen Johnson and Kari Bottin officially kicked off what hopefully will be another 50 years of musicals at BPHS. Amelia Harthan directed the orchestra. Viridiana Villarreal was student conductor, the first time a student conductor led the orchestra.

This year's production became the fourth time that BPHS actors have performed "The Sound of Music." The fourth time proved to be a charm and signaled a celebration for 50 years if musicals at BPHS.

"We couldn't do this show without the support of the community."

Tamzen Johnson
Musical Director

Twenty-four cast members turned in exceptional performances each time the production was given. First performance came on Wednesday afternoon before Blooming Prairie Elementary School students. Then, came evening performances Thursday and Friday (dinner show) and a matinee on Sunday.

These performances will indeed be memories to treasure forever. The quality of Blooming Prairie High School's drama department has always been par excellence.

Director Johnson introduced the musical, saying "It's humbling to be here." She saluted past alumni actors by asking them to stand. She also called attention to The Empty Chair, a tribute to the late Anthony Nelson who acted in several productions.

Johnson brought attention to a Holocaust display brought to the school by Holocaust survivor Fred Amram. Survivor Amram spoke to the cast, orchestra members and to production crews prior to a play practice on Sunday, Nov. 3.

"We couldn't do this show without the support of the community," Johnson remarked before the curtains opened for Act I.

Johnson praised her students, saying she was "so excited and proud of these kids for the hard work" they put into the musical.

The church bells rang and "The Sound of Music" began with six nuns of the Nornberg Abbey bringing music to life.

We were then introduced to Maria (Cortney Espe) singing The Sound of Music anthem. Her beautiful voice captivated all audiences. The 19-piece orchestra's sound was amazing in an auditorium/gymnasium setting that is not the best venue for a high school play.

To see the audience's approval of the music, one just had to look at his/her neighbor and see them swaying from side to side with the song, "Do-Re-Mi."

Maria was not afraid to turn up voice inflection when it was needed.

A fun part early in Act I came when Maria was introduced to the seven von Trapp children by Captain George von Trapp (Jacob McHenry): Liesel (Reese Millam), Friedrich (Charlie Heimerman), Louisa (Greta Sunde), Kurt (Bradley Simon); Brigitta (Olivia Anderson), Marta (Isabelle Sunde) and Gretl (Anika Sunde).

The seven children each displayed a winning personality. Their singing of "Do-Re-Mi" was met by loud applause.

Captain von Trapp quickly came across as a sharp disciplinarian with the use of a shrill whistle. "I won't need it Captain," Maria said convincingly, saying she could not answer to a whistle.

The directors of the musical did an excellent job of utilizing the entire stage featuring a backdrop of colorful props.

A cute vocal and dancing scene featured Liesel (Reese Millam) and Rolf Gruber (Ethan Ehlers). The twosome completed some impressive dance steps.

Maria and the children then sang "The Lonely Goatherd" in Maria's bedroom.

"How Can Love Survive?" was performed splendidly by Max Dehweller (Luke Larkoski), Elsa (Riauna Bishop) and Capt. von Trapp (Jacob McHenry). Elsa displayed a very strong voice. She requested a dinner, "nothing special just lavish," she said.

The pace of the production kept rising to another crescendo as the children sang "So Long, Farewell."

The singing Nuns performed "Morning Hymn" and "Climb Ev'ry Mountain." Mother Abbess was played by Melanie Winzenburg, Sister Bertha Mistress of Novices by Julia Worke, Sister Margaretta Mistress of Postulants by Kisha Aquino, Sister Sophia by Halle Strunk, A New Postulant by Clare Rennie and a Nun by Marquette Millam.

Franz the butler was played by Jack Matson and Frau Schmidt the housekeeper was portrayed perfectly by Baylee Sorensen. Herr Zeller's part was said by Dominick King and Sam Pirkel played two roles, Baron Elberfeld and Admiral Von Schriber.

Act II moved very quickly with the children and Maria singing "My Favorite Things." Elsa, Max and Capt. von Trapp sang "No Way to Stop It" and Maria and Capt. von Trapp sang "An Ordinary Couple."

The wedding scenes were very reverent and featured Maria in a beautiful, white wedding dress.

The music continued to flow smoothly as the nuns performed "Gadeamus Domino", a reprise on "Maria" and an excellent delivery on "Confitemini Domino."

"Sixteen Going on Seventeen" by Maria and Liesl started the audience swaying again to the catchy tune.

Scene 6 featured Maria, Capt. von Trapp and the children doing a reprise of "Do-Re-Mi."

Edelweiss was done eloquently by von Trapp, Maria and the children.

The von Trapp family performed in a concert competition, which they scored a first. This is where the cast of "The Sound of Music" did a few ad libs.

Winning third prize were the Trio of the Heimermans from Blooming Prairie. Frau Schwartz was second and thanked the audience over, over and over.

The entire company performed Finale Ultimo to a rousing cheer.

This production deserves an "A-plus" in critical acclaim.

The cast carried the show but it would not have been so successful if it wouldn't have been for the direction of Johnson, Bottin and Harthan.

The orchestra consisted of Amelia Harthan, Viridiana Villarreal, Vanessa Rotchad, Deb Knutson, Stephen Fennell, Grace Magnuson, Ellen Sunde, Troy Anderson, Dawn Hutziga, Amy Wightkin, Carol Hodapp, Asha Lighthizer, Ethan Wightkin, Ross Reishus, Ethan Fennel, Samuel Michaud, Sam Fennell and Tyrone Suhl.

Every successful show also has a dedication production crew. Members of that crew included Kathy Anderson, Amy Trotman, Judy Bishop, Heidi Thompson, Kelli Kittleson, Morgan Kittleson, Megan Oswald, Lauren Schammel, Rachel Winzenburg, Alison Kohnberg, Micalyn Trihus and Margo (Meyerhoefer) White, Michelle Southworth, Kari Bottin, Danny Muzik, Alex Johnson, Mary work, Nate Pillar and Art Club, Bill Rinkenberger and BPHS shop Class.



Twenty-two cast members are part of the Sound of Music production, which performed this past weekend in the Blooming Prairie High School gymnasium. The cast included: front row, from left: Dominik King, Ethan Ehlers, Sam Pirkel, Jacob McHenry, Cortney Espe, Marquette Millam, Melanie Winzenburg, Halle Strunk and Kisha Aquino; second row: Jack Matson, Baylee Sorensen, Isabel Sunde, Olivia Anderson, Anika Sunde, Julia Worke and Claire Rennie; back row: Reese Millam, Charlie Heimerman, Greta Sunde, Payton Simon, Luke Larkoski and Riauna Bishop.



The von Trapp Family Singers bring music to life during the Blooming Prairie High School production of The Sound of Music. Pictured from left are: Jacob McHenry, Cortney Espe, Charlie Heimerman, Isabel Sunde, Bradley Simon, Anika Sunde, Olivia Anderson, Greta Sunde and Reese Millam.

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