

3's Company at the Fair



There was no chance for Madison Homuth of Owatonna to get lonely at the Steele County Fair. In fact, she was found to be in great company with two of her cows Friday afternoon. Homuth nestled right in between both of them with her blanket and straw to keep them company during some down time at the fair. The cows didn't appear to mind the extra company provided by Homuth, who is a member of the Pratt Commandoes 4-H Club.

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Steele's top seniors are humbled

By HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Both outstanding senior citizens for Steele County expressed extreme humility when accepting the 2018 Senior Citizen of the Year awards on Thursday at the Steele County Free Fair in Owatonna.

Mary Larson, 82, of Claremont was selected the top woman senior citizen and Gene Kispert, 87, of Owatonna was selected the top man senior.

Due to downpour of rain, for the second consecutive year, the ceremonies had to be held in

"I thought they had the **wrong guy.**"

Gene Kispert

Top Senior

the Beer Garden.

"I am extremely humbled in receiving this award, and I sure have enjoyed my years of volunteering," remarked Larson, a former educator.

"I thought they had the wrong guy," laughed Kispert when told he was to receive the prestigious senior citizen award. "I've never thought volunteering was work," he added.

The best part of volunteering is the people you meet, Larson and Kispert agreed.

Larson has been involved in "Grandparents for Education" by being an executive board member and volunteering in the Owatonna schools. She helps with fundraising events and volunteers for special occasions at the schools. She also supports mentoring and tutoring.

Since 1992, Larson has been a board member of the Owatonna #761 School District Foundation, serving as secretary and helping with reviewing applications for grants.

Larson currently serves on the Steele County Food Shelf Board. She was a member of the Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation and Development Committee from 1994 to 2015.

Dairying has been a big part of Larson's life, and she has been a lifetime supporter of the dairy industry of Steele County. She was superintendent of the dairy cattle barn for 20 years.

Kispert has been a devout delivery person for Meals on Wheels for over 21 years. He also has volunteered many hours at the Heritage Halls Museum proving education and hospitality.

His current work with the American Legion includes being current Post chaplain. He presents American flags to family members at military funerals.

Kispert is assistant ambassador for astronomy for NASA/JPL. He has given many inspirational talks to area schools who have an interest in astronomy.

He was also a volunteer coach for over 15 years.

SEE TOP SENIORS, A3



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

The top Steele County Senior Citizens awards were presented by the Steele County Exchange Club with the cooperation of the Steele County Free Fair and Senior Place during ceremonies on Senior Day last Thursday. Mary Larson and Gene Kispert received the awards.

SEE ATTENDANCE, A6

Brady's trial averted with guilty plea

By RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A last minute deal has averted a trial for a Steele County commissioner.

On Monday morning, James Brady, 55, entered into a plea bargain by pleading guilty to an Alford plea in



BRADY
a defendant does not

Waseca County District Court just moments before his trial was set to get underway. An Alford plea is a guilty plea in which

admit to the criminal act, but acknowledges the prosecution would be likely to persuade a judge or jury to find the defendant guilty.

As part of the plea, Brady received a petty misdemeanor in which he will be required to pay a \$295

SEE TRIAL, A3

Sheriff's office probes home invasion robbery at rural residence

The Steele County Sheriff's Office is investigating an armed home invasion robbery at a rural residence southwest of Owatonna.

On Aug. 15 at about 11:55 p.m., deputies responded to the home invasion in Lemond Township. The Minnesota State Patrol assisted the

sheriff's office with the call.

Sgt. Gary Okins of the sheriff's office said two unknown men broke into a home and threatened the residents with a gun. During the robbery, cash and jewelry were taken, he said.

No one was injured during the invasion.

"This is an isolated incident and there is no danger to the public," Okins said.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Steele County Tip Line at 866-878-7964.

The case remains under investigation.

\$1.00 | Volume 127, No. 4



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INSIDE

Opinions.....	A2	History.....	B2	Public Safety.....	C4
Public Safety.....	A4	Public Notices.....	B3-4	Comm. Calendar.....	C5
Faith.....	A5	Classifieds.....	B5	Park & Rec.....	C6
Sports.....	B1	Hometown Living.....	C1	Steele Fair Coverage	D1-6

AREA DEATHS

Jose Olivo, 61, Blooming Prairie
David Spinler, 81, rural Austin

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OUR VIEW

Takes a county with dedicated volunteers to make a fair

The Steele County Fair may be a distant memory once again for this year, but before it totally slips out of our minds, we want to recognize a dedicated group of people from every corner of Steele County and beyond that pulls together to make the fair.

With Steele being the largest county fair in the state, it certainly doesn't lack quality and ingenuity. It's the crown jewel of all fairs.

The Steele County Agricultural Society once again pulled off a wonderful celebration, despite a few rainy days during the fair. The association continued a rich tradition that dates back nearly 150 years, including 100 on the current fairgrounds. Over the years, the fair board has found ways to make the fair special for all ages, young and old alike.

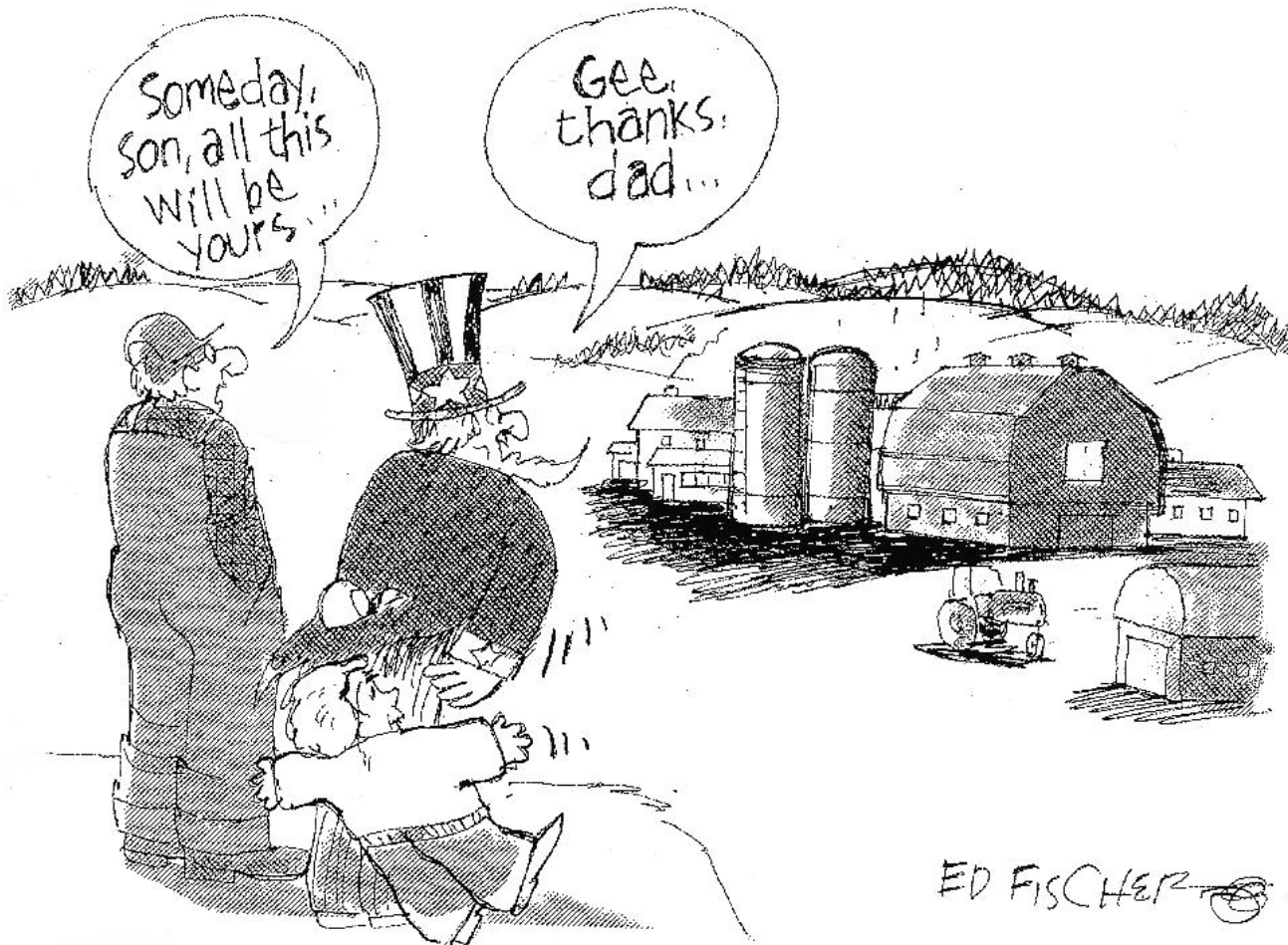
Without the board members, there would be no fair. They tirelessly volunteer to pull together what is the largest celebration for Steele County during the year.

All the fun we had last week, all the chuckles and smiles we received and all the memories we made was because of these folks—our friends and neighbors—who have dedicated countless hours of their time to making the fair.

To the officers and members of our local fair association—Dan Deml, president; Mark Ditlevson, vice president; Tim Arlt, treasurer; Tracy Ignaszewski, Gene Fisher, Rick Ellingson, Glen Meger, Jim Abbe, Bruce Busho, Mike Hamilton, Sandy Jirele, Scott Kozelka, Jim Linder, Doug Meier, Roger Noble, Wayne Steele and Brent Svenby: Thank you!

Hats off to these folks for their hard work and dedication to the Steele County Fair. A special thanks to Dan Deml for leading the organization through some tough times over the past year with the departures and deaths of several key players of the fair.

It truly takes a county to make a fair.



Longevity deeply embedded into Steele County Fair

As fairgoers enjoyed looking through the many exhibits and displays throughout the Steele County Fair last week, there is one exhibit that most likely don't event think about and it's one I wish could be showcased a little easier.

Longevity is the display that appears to be missing, but definitely rich in tradition in Steele County. I know there is many people that fit into that category, but I stumbled across a few that I think are especially noteworthy for their contributions to the fair. They cover three wide-ranging areas, including livestock, entertainment and food.

Our first stop is at the livestock show arena where Jim Grass of Owatonna was back at it helping out the 4-H program like he has been for well I think it's save to say at least 70 years. It's so many he can't even remember. At 89 years old, Grass helps orchestrate one of the most successful 4-H livestock auctions in the state.

Prior to the fair, Grass contacts dozens of businesses around the area encouraging them to support the livestock auction, which is the largest fundraiser for 4-H throughout the year. He calls a lot of business owners on the phone, but he also goes to see many of them in person. "It's not as easy to



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

say no in person," Grass said.

This year Grass ended up with a list of 40 businesses that he purchased animal ribbons for during the auction.

After all these years, Grass isn't about to give up on his zest for supporting 4-H. "I think it's a good organization," he said. "You get involved in something and you just

don't quit."

A fair wouldn't be anything without entertainment. A trip into the Four Seasons Centre finds Luverne Wanous, 82, delivering yet once again music on his concertina. Sorry, Luverne, Jim Grass has a few years on you.

Wanous has only been performing at the fair for 70 years. Yep, that's right he hit the right note in celebrating his 70th anniversary at this year's fair. He keeps playing old-time music. And he still gets a twinkle in his eye and a big smile across his face performing another polka.

"I get complete satisfaction when I can make a crowd dance and make them smile," Wanous said. The other day at the fair Wanous kicked up his leg as a little boy danced next to him.

For most any fairgoer, food is the ultimate satisfaction at the fair. They may not be the longest serving food vendor, but Dean and Kim Goette of Blooming Prairie hit

their 30th anniversary this year of grilling up pork chops on a stick and pork sandwiches.

Kim recalls getting started in 1988 when their stand was on gravel. Once they had their food stand set up, they learned because of health codes they were required to have plywood underneath the stand. So the guys quickly went out to get some plywood in order to make them compliant, and their pork chop days were officially underway.

Another tradition that provides a soothing comfort is the voice of the fair. Todd Hale has been "barkering" as he calls it over the fair's PA system for the past 25 years. Though retired from his official capacity as the fair's publicity director, Hale continued providing fairgoers with his booming voice.

It was reassuring to hear Hale's voice being amplified across the fairgrounds delivering important messages just as he has for many years.

"I'm going to keep a little tradition alive," Hale says. "I'll keep rattling off until I can't do it any more."

Those are just a few examples of how longevity is deep in the fabric of the Steele County Fair. It's impressive to see how so many people are committed in their own ways to going in hot pursuit of making Steele County the best fair in the state.

GUEST COLUMN

Fighting fires, fighting cancer

By AMY KLOBUCHAR

When firefighters like Jeff Laskowske from Albert Lea arrive at a fire, they are fully aware of the dangers they face from the flames and smoke. But Jeff, and millions of other firefighters like him, are exposing themselves to another deadly risk each time they show up to work—cancer.

Three years ago, Jeff was diagnosed with testicular cancer. And he isn't alone. In Moorhead, Assistant Chief Greg Doeden was diagnosed with stomach cancer after over 35 years with the Fire Department. In St. Paul, Steve Shapira was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma after 17 years serving his city. And Jeff's own fire department in Albert Lea saw three of their 16 full-time firefighters develop cancer within roughly a year.

Cancer is now the leading cause of firefighter line-of-duty deaths in the United States, according to the International Association of Fire Fighters. In 2013, researchers studying 30,000 firefighters in three U.S. cities

found that the risk of lung cancer increased as the number of fires fought increased. In fact, firefighters are two and a half times more likely to develop cancer than civilians.

And that's likely because firefighters today face exposure to a more harmful range of toxins than ever before. Structures and homes are now made and filled with much different materials than they were 100, or even 50 years ago. Buildings aren't just made of wood, glass, and metal anymore – they're loaded with electronic devices like laptops and TVs.

These materials have changed the very nature of home, building, and car fires. Firefighters are exposed to these fumes and carcinogens every time they enter a fire. And even after a fire has been put out, black soot and chemicals can stick to gear, lengthening exposure to toxins and increasing the potential for illness.

Research has shown a strong connection between firefighting and an increased risk for several major

cancers, including testicular, stomach, multiple myeloma and brain cancers. As these patterns emerge, we need to take action.

That's why I joined with my colleagues to introduce the bipartisan Firefighter Cancer Registry Act, which was signed into law in early July. Our bill will establish a national cancer registry to collect and track cancer cases in career and volunteer firefighters. Healthcare professionals will be required to submit medical information related to cancer incidences among firefighters and make data available to public health researchers. The registry is the only way we can truly figure out what building materials are causing cancer, if certain regions have greater numbers of cases, and what precautions and safeguards will prevent more diagnoses.

When I visited the Albert Lea Fire Department last month to meet with Jeff and his team of firefighters, I got to tour their station and learn about the

steps they're already taking to prevent exposure to toxins and minimize cancer risks. As the link between cancer and firefighting is becoming better known, fire departments like Albert Lea's are taking safety into their own hands and implementing procedures to protect themselves.

Jeff also told me his good news—he is officially cancer free.

In taking their oath, our firefighters accept an immense responsibility — to put service before self, no matter the hour or challenge. We owe it to them to study the dangerous link between fighting fires and developing cancer and to find ways to prevent it. I am so thankful to the men and women of our country's fire departments for their bravery and am hopeful that the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act will help give us the tools to support the people who risk their lives for us.

Amy Klobuchar is U.S. Senator for Minnesota. She is running for re-election this fall.

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STEELE COUNTY Times

Founded in 1893
Bussler Publishing, Inc.
www.steeledodgenews.com
Email: bptimes@frontiernet.net

USPS 058-340
Published Weekly on
Tuesdays
Postmaster: Send address
changes to:
Steele County Times
P.O. Box 247
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
Phone: 507-583-4431
Fax: 507-583-4445

PublisherRick Bussler
Sports Editor.....Dennis Marshall
Advertising Director.....Annie Anderson
Staff Writer.....Howard Lestrud
Staff Writer.....LeMar Nelson
Graphic Designer.....Molly Urban
Sales.....Tracie Anderson
Bookkeeper/Sales.....Jaye Adams
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ETHICS
The Steele County Times editorial staff strives to present the news in a fair and accurate manner. Please bring any grievances against the Steele County Times to the attention of the Managing Editor.

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News: Noon Fridays.
Web: 11 p.m. (Daily)
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Area teachers receive science kits for classrooms

By DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

With the start of the school year right around the corner, six area teachers are off to head start after participating in the Arkema Science Teacher Program in Blooming Prairie.

Each summer, Arkema shared time, resources and expertise in order to spark students curiosity and generate enthusiasm for the sciences.

Teachers from Blooming Prairie Elementary School, Southland Schools and IJ Holton Intermediate School from Austin attended the three-day event, which took place Aug. 6-8.

“We thought it would be good experience for us to have,” said Hailey Hasleiet, Blooming Prairie fourth-grade teacher.

Each teacher selected a science kit that contains teaching aids and tools related to a specific topic. Each kit includes materials and instructions for classroom science demonstrations that engage students and bring concepts to life.

Teachers were able to choose their areas of interest and work with together with

their Arkema mentors, who provide the teachers with hands-on mentoring to help discover new ways to make science fun and interesting for their students, to master the science kits experiments.

The Blooming Prairie teachers choose the Energy and Electromagnetism kit while IJ Intermediate Schools and Southland selected the Structures of Life and the Soils, Rocks and Landforms Living kits, respectively.

Hasleiet said BP already has the materials from the Rocks, Soils and Landforms Living kits, so they decided to go with the Energy and Electromagnetism kit this year.

“Electromagnetism is something that fourth and fifth graders work with also,” she said. “That’s why we request this one is because it’s stuff that we don’t have very much of, so now she will be able to work on this stuff with our kids more.”

Despite teaching social studies, Hasleiet said she still wanted to attend the event focused around science.

“I could end up teaching science in the future,” she said. “Even though I don’t currently teach science, there could always be a time where we decide to change things or

if I switched grade levels or anything like that.

“Since my students are still doing it, I should understand it and have a good knowledge of what they are working on in science class.”

Hasleiet said it’s been nice to have some time to play with the kits.

“That’s been really nice,” she said. “As a teacher during the school year, we don’t have quite as much time to dive into the material ourselves.”

Hasleiet said it’s important for students to do as many hands-on activities as possible, especially when it comes to science.

“I think that’s the easiest way for them to learn and retain the knowledge,” she said. “It’s so much better than just us standing up there talking. A lot of the time kids can learn and figure out things before we even teach and lecture them about it. We like to let them investigate, teach them and then let them investigate a little more.”

Teachers also learned about Arkema and were given a tour of the plant.

“That was pretty cool,” Hasleiet said. “We are in town all the time, but prior to yesterday I had no idea

what it was that they did here. So that was cool to get a plant tour. It’s good to be able to talk to our students about Arkema and what they do here, and now we know what’s going on.

“Everyone at the school really appreciates Arkema putting this on for us,” she continued. “It’s a really good experience. It’s nice because it kind of helps us get back into our rhythm right before we go back to school. We are really lucky for them to do this for us.”

Reporting annual sales of \$9.4 billion in 2017, Arkema employs approximately 20,000 people worldwide and operates in close to 55 countries.

Since its inception in 1996, teachers who have participated in the Program have shared what they have learned with more than 50,000 students nationwide, most of whom are from socioeconomically disadvantaged homes.

Arkema Plant Manager Michael Green said having a program like this is beneficial for everyone involved because not only are they helping schools, but they are also serving their owns interests in a way.

“Teacher are facing a very



STAFF PHOTO BY DENNIS MARSHALL
Blooming Prairie fourth-grade teachers Haley Haseiet and Kaylenna Miller examine at crayfish during the Arkema Science Teacher Program at the Arkema Plant in Blooming Prairie on Aug. 7.

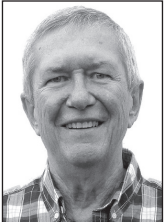
big challenge these days,” he said. “They are tasks with coming up with new creative ideas and ways to get the kids excited and giving them that hands-on experiences that ties back to what they learned from their books. We’re happy we can provide another creative research and take a little bit of the burden off of them then.

“At the same time, hopefully it is creating a bigger talent pool by having more resources and creating more interest

in the sciences, engineering and math,” he continued. “We want to build that in the local community. When I go out to hire someone I would prefer to hire somebody with local connections.”

Teachers receive a stipend for attending the Arkema science camp and their schools receive a \$500 grant to replenish kit materials. Cost of the kits is covered by Arkema.

Popular entertainer Franklin remembered



Reflections
HOWARD LESTRUD

I’m dating myself but must admit that I have seen some fabulous musical entertainers at the Minnesota State Fair Grandstand over the years.

I was saddened to learn of the death of the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, last week. She was the last popular entertainer that I saw perform at the State Fair.

My son Troy, his wife Nancy and I went to a performance by Franklin at the State Fair in September 2014. It took awhile before she came on stage but when she approached the front of the stage, everything seemed to have a touch of royalty.

Aretha Franklin quickly showed us how she earned the title of Queen of Soul.

Prior to Aretha coming on stage, the Four Tops performed and carried that MoTown sound on stage.

Franklin was introduced by her youngest son, Kecalf Cunningham, child of her road manager Ken Cunningham.

The crowd began to swing as Franklin displayed her talented ability to sing low and high notes. She laced that style with a sense of electricity in her voice.

Her first songs onstage at the State Fair included “Respect,” “Chain of Fools,” “Think,” “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman,” “Don’t Play That Song (You Lied)” and “Spanish Harlem.

Franklin appeared in a flowing white dress resembling a wedding dress. She carried herself majestically and carried on a conversation with the audience throughout the show.

Franklin recorded 112 charted singles on Billboard,



SUBMITTED PHOTO
ARETHA FRANKLIN, the Queen of Soul, performs at the inauguration of Barack Obama as President in 2010 in Washington, D.C. Franklin died of cancer last week. She performed often in Minnesota, one of the more memorable times being at the Minnesota State Fair in 2014.

including 77 Hot 100 entries, 17 top-ten pop singles, 100 R&B entries and 20 number-one R&B singles, becoming the most charted female artist in the chart’s history.

She won 18 Grammy Awards, including the first eight awards given for Best Female R&B Vocal Performance from 1968 through to 1975.

Franklin became the first female musical artist to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. She was inducted to the UK Music Hall of Fame in 2005. In August 2012, she was inducted into the GMA Gospel Music Hall of Fame.

Franklin is listed in at least two all-time lists by Rolling Stone magazine, including the 100 Greatest Artists of All Time, and the 100 Greatest Singers of All Time. She was ranked by Rolling Stone as the No. 1

greatest singer of all time.

The evening at the State Fair with Franklin was most memorable. It brought back memories of other performers I saw over the years.

Most memorable was seeing Johnny Cash perform during the peak of his career in 1968. Cash was riding a high wave at that time, hosting a popular TV show. He also was performing with the Statler Brothers and with the Carter Family (including his wife June Carter Cash).

Cash belted out many of his pop tunes, including two new ones at the time, “Folsom Prison Blues” and “A Boy Named Sue.”

Carrying a camera and representing the Albert Lea Tribune, I was able to get some good close-ups of Cash and his entourage.

“Here comes ‘Golden Throat,’” his wife said as she introduced him. June Carter

Cash even pointed at me and asked if I got that photo “with your Brownie.”

The Minnesota State Fair Grandstand shows have headlined some of the most popular vocalists at the time.

Here’s a list of some of those big-time performers:

- Sonny & Cher
- The Fifth Dimension
- Neil Diamond
- Alabama
- Mac Davis
- Willie Nelson
- Smothers Brothers
- Bill Medley
- David Cassidy
- Beach Boys
- Glen Campbell

Today’s Grandstand performers may be known to their younger followers but the old, familiar voices still echo in my memory bank.

Thanks Aretha and others for giving me memories I will not relinquish.

TOP SENIORS: honored

FROM A1

“I have received so much from my community,” says Larson. She and husband Bruce had two daughters.

Kispert lost his wife Fern and daughter Karla only three months apart this year. He and Fern had three children.

“I am **extremely humbled.**”

Mary Larson

Top Senior

When asked if they had more volunteering challenges to accept, both said they were “pretty well maxed out” on volunteering. “It’s tough to say no,” said Kispert.

The top Steele County Senior Citizens awards are presented by the Steele County Exchange Club with the cooperation of the Steele County Free Fair and Senior Place.

Bruce Kubicek, former Steele County commissioner, announced the awards.

Larson and Kispert will now compete for the top state award and will be recognized at the Minnesota State Fair on Thursday, Aug. 30.

TRIAL: guilty plea

FROM A1

fine.

“It’s not what I wanted, but I can’t justify wasting everybody’s time and money to fight this,” Brady said shortly after the deal was reached. “I wanted to go to trial to be declared innocent,” he added.

A jury trial was set to get underway Monday in Waseca County. The court had reserved four days for the trial.

Brady said he feels the plea bargain shows that the case wasn’t the strongest. “If they had a slam dunk, they would have taken me to task,” he said.

There had been several attempts over the past year to settle the case prior to trial. A trial was previously set to get underway in March, but last second legal maneuvering prevented it from taking place.

Brady faced a single gross misdemeanor count of holding an illegal interest in county contracts while he served as a county commissioner. The investigation began in 2016 when it was discovered Brady had voted for several county road work contracts that at the time employed Brady as a subcontractor or purchased construction materials from a gravel pit co-owned by Brady.

The case had been handled by Olmsted County to avoid a conflict of interest.

Brady was first elected to the county board in 2014. He is running for re-election this fall and faces a challenge by Sylvia Archer, who lives in Berlin Township.



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OBITUARIES

Jose C. Olivo, 61, Blooming Prairie



Jose "Joseph" C. Olivo, 61, died Saturday morning, Aug., 11, 2018, in Blooming Prairie. Joe Olivo was born March 10, 1957 in San Marcos, Texas, the son of Willie and Ysabel (Cervantes) Olivo. In 1975, Joe graduated from Blue Earth High School. On Aug. 25, 1978, he was united in marriage to Carrie Jean Ogilvie at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Blue Earth. The couple moved to Blooming Prairie in 1986. Joe was employed by TafCo in Blue Earth as a welder, at McNelius in Dodge Center, and then settled at Metal Services in Blooming Prairie. His passion was music. He was the lead singer and rhythm guitarist in the Rambone Band for 44 years. Joe enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and attending their many events. In his free time, he enjoyed singing in his band, fishing and watching Bigfoot on television with his grandkids. Joe will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. Survivors include his children, Candace (Joseph) Roush of Owatonna, Kartina (Ryan) Staska of Blooming Prairie, Kristin (Tom McElDowney) Olivo of Bixby; son, Tyler Olivo of Blooming Prairie; seven grandchildren, Zoie, Averie and Grady Roush, Bradley and Levi Staska, Alexis and Landon Olivo; sisters, M. Vicki (Ken Erickson) Olivo of Owatonna, Gloria (Scott) Steele of Wells, and Catarina (Nieves) Martinez of Northfield; brothers, David Sr. (Fina) Olivo of Blue Earth, and Willie (Crystal Smith) Olivo of Fort Collins, Colo.; sister-in-law, Elizabeth Olivo of Jacksonville, Fla.; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Joe was preceded in death by his loving wife, Carrie Olivo on July 18, 2012; parents Willie and Ysabel (Cervantes) Olivo; stepfather Angel Cervantes; his in-laws, Roger and Leona Ogilvie; sisters, Rosa Gonzales, Mary (Richard) Gonzales, Carmel (George) Jahnke; and brother Polo Sr. Olivo. A Celebration of Life gathering will be held from 3-7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 25, 2018, which would have been Joe and Carrie's 40th wedding anniversary. They are now celebrating together. The celebration will be held at the Blooming Prairie Serviceman's Club in Blooming Prairie with a short service officiated by Father Tom Niehaus at 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the family. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com. Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

David Spinler, 81, rural Austin



David Albert Spinler, age 81 of rural Austin, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2018. He was born Jan. 18, 1937 in Owatonna to Albert and Leone Dorothy (Fiebiger) Spinler. Dave graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1954. Following graduation, he served his country in the National Guard. Dave married Yvonne Brekke on July 3, 1960 in Hope. During their years together they raised three daughters, Pam, Kim, and Cindy. The couple later divorced. Dave successfully started and owned Spinler Construction for over 50 years. He loved the business he created and loved being outdoors. On Nov. 23, 1985, Dave was united in marriage to Karen Rae Miller at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa. They shared many years together until Karen's passing in 2016. One of David's favorite pastimes was restoring John Deere tractors. Especially important to him was time spent with his family and friends. He treasured his time with his daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. Those left to cherish Dave's memory are his daughters Pamela (Scott) Gilson of Savage, Kimberly (Mark) Symes of Blooming Prairie, Cynthia (Craig) Spinler of Austin; three grandchildren, Blake (Becky) Symes, Chelsey (Jim) Fleming, Taylor Gilson; two great-grandchildren, Alec Wangen and Amelia Symes; sister Maurea Spinler of Bloomington; his special companion, Reba Gordon; and many relatives and friends. Dave was preceded in death by his parents Albert and Leone Spinler, and his wife Karen Spinler. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018 at the Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church in rural Austin, with Pastor Lindsay Brennan officiating. Visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 21, at the Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home and will continue for one hour prior to the service at the church on Wednesday. Interment will be held at a later date. Military rites by the Blooming Prairie Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers memorials preferred to the family. Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

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AUG. 23

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CRUZ CHLADEK

AUG. 24

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SAMUEL WEHNER
LANELL SUNDE

AUG. 25

COLE LINDEMAN
RUTHIE AHRENS

AUG. 26

GERRY OSWALD
CHRIS THOMPSON
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AUG. 23

MARK & BONNIE COUGHLIN

AUG. 24

TERRY & KIM TROTMAN
DAVID & RITA GOODNATURE

AUG. 25

JEFF & AMY SCHIECK

AUG. 26

KEITH & JENNIFER THOMAS
BOB & LINDA WOLF
MEINARD & JANICE HABERMAN

AUG. 27

MARV & NORMA AMUNDSON
JOHN & JEANINE HUMPHREY
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AUG. 28

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Kicking addiction

Owatonna hosts semi-finals for Recovery's Got Talent



Leo Ohmann performs his original song "Rehab" at the Recovery's Got Talent semi-finals. The event was held at Bethel Church in Owatonna and featured performers vying for a spot in September's finals in Rochester. Ohmann wrote the song while he was in treatment, and has been sober since June 25.

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

According to a report done by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, global trends in the estimated number of drug users and people with drug disorders rose between 2006 and 2015, with that trend expected to continue its climb.

The United States is no different, recently Americans have struggled with opioid addiction and other narcotic excesses, but more mundane drugs such as cigarettes, alcohol, and marijuana have become an issue for our country.

But at last Friday night's Recovery's Got Talent semi-finals in Owatonna, the theme was on recovery. Several performers gave their best shot in order to earn a spot in the finals at the Rochester Community and Technical College in September.

Jason Stricklin of Keystone Treatment & Outreach Center explained that this is the sixth year the event has been held, and the third year of Owatonna hosting the semi-finals. "Really this is about the recovery community," he said of the competition.

"When people are in the act of addiction, a lot of times they lose sight of the gifts they have and as you go through recovery you start to remember these gifts," Stricklin said. "So, this is a great opportunity to show that you do recover."

Stricklin feels that addiction rates are likely still on the rise. "People can get addicted to anything," he explained. "If its negatively impacting your life, then you have a problem." Stricklin himself struggled with addiction and has been clean for over seven years.

Although many of the performers were people who have gone through recovery, there was also some that were there to support others they knew. Owatonna sophomore Lilly Willcox, who performed Adele's "Rolling in the Deep," said she was there to support her mother.

"My mom is in recovery," she explained. "Being sober is a big part of her life, and so I wanted to come and do this for her." Willcox reports that her mother has been sober for 218 days. "Lilly is someone whose life was impacted by addiction at an early age," Stricklin said of her experience.

Willcox said that she usually performs with a piano, but last Friday she performed without the aid of her keys. "It's the first time I've had to look up at the audience," she said. Willcox also had advice for those interesting in performing. "Take every chance you can, even if you make a fool out of yourself you will still grow and learn." There was no fooling around in her rendition of Adele's tune.

To close the night's performances, Leo Ohmann of Circle Pines, Minn., performed an original piece titled "Rehab." In the song, Ohmann sings about his recovery process, and includes a few barbs at addiction. He wrote the song while recovering at Beauterre Recovery Institute in Owatonna.

Ohmann has been sober since late June, and is proud of his accomplishment. "I was sick of it, every day for two and a half years," he said of his wish to get clean. "I had gone through treatment once and was six months sober but relapsed."

With his family there by his side and friends he met in the recovery community there to cheer him on, Ohmann had plenty of support. When asked whether his family was key in his pursuit of sober living, Ohmann explained, "oh yeah, my daughter inspired me to be sober."

As part of his recovery treatment, he was given some reading material, and told to write songs. Although he says he'd written some tunes while he was using, the song he performed at Friday's semi-finals was well-received.

After the judges convened, three of the performers were chosen to advance to the finals. Erika Trefz, Dale Ulrich, and Leo Ohmann. The finals will be held at the RCTC campus in Rochester on Friday, Sept. 7.

Other semi-finals were hosted throughout southern Minnesota. These were held in Rochester at the Rochester Community Technical College, 851 30th Ave. SE and in Mankato at Ostrander Auditorium, 620 S. RD.

The Owatonna semi-finals were held at Bethel Church. The winners advance to the finals and received a Kwik Trip gas card and a coffee thermos provided by Keystone Treatment.

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AUTO RACING

Bandit Rude has perfect night at historic Hickory

It's hard to have a better night than Ricky Rude. Scratch that. It's impossible.

Completing a perfect 3-for-3 night with wins in his heat, challenge and feature races, the Minimizer Bandit Series points leader stole yet another \$10,000 check in front of some passionate fans at Hickory Motor Speedway Saturday night.

"That's what I'm talking about!" the North Carolina native said. "We go up north and I've never been to those tracks, so these guys beat on me, but we bring them back here to our front yard and here we go. First place, baby."

A yellow caution flag on lap 20 bunched up the field, but Rude was able to hold them off at the World's Most Famous Short Track.

"Years ago, I used to worry about (cautions), but now I know it's going to happen," Rude said.

Even in his own backyard, Rude wasn't the most popu-

lar Bandit during the Bandit Series meet-and-greet.

Susan Lisenbee, making history as the first female Bandit, proved extremely popular with her fellow North Carolinians.

"Her autograph line was one of the longest of the night," Bandit General Manager Jason Johnson said. "Everyone wanted a picture or autograph with the first female Bandit."

Everyone will also want a picture or an autograph from the Diesel Sellerz' Heavy D when the Bandits run Elko Speedway on August 25th.

The star of the Discovery Channel's Diesel Brothers, Heavy D – aka Dave Sparks – will race alongside the Bandits in the Kruckeberg Motorsports #51 truck.

"In addition to Heavy D, we'll also have Diesel Dave and the Muscle on hand to sign autographs," Johnson said. "Go to the Bandit Facebook page to enter the raffle for your chance to win!"



Ricky 'Rude' Proffitt celebrates his Bandit Series feature win with a \$10,000 check at Hickory Motor Speedway on August 11th.

BioDiesel experts Steve Howell and Hun Ge will be at Elko to educate the trucking community on the benefits of BioDiesel.

"The presenting sponsor, Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council, will also bring their

custom Diesel Brothers truck known as Indomitus to the event. It's going to be a great night of racing," Johnson said.

Tickets for the Bandit Big Rig Series Bio Diesel 20 at Elko Speedway are available online.

HOCKEY

Daly commits to Providence

SUBMITTED BY NICK ADAMEK

The Steele County Blades are proud to announce that forward Trevor Daly has committed to play college hockey at the University of Providence in the fall. Trevor finished up his first season with the Blades this past year.

The Roseville native played in 17 total games for the Blades last year. He scored three goals and assisted on two others for a total of five points. He also had a total of four penalty minutes and a plus/minus rating of negative four on the season.

Daly leaves the Blades with high praise from head coach Nick Adamek.

"All of us in Steele County couldn't be happier for Trevor," Adamek said. "He is getting a huge opportunity with a new program where he will have a chance to leave his lasting legacy with his new team like he did here for the Blades. Trevor is a 'team first' guy who will do whatever he can to help his team achieve success. He came in here, did his job, and now he has this tremendous opportunity. Coach Heimel is one of the greats in terms of skill and team development; we are happy to get a guy like Trevor under his watch and hope it leads to more guys getting more opportunity with the University of Providence in the future."

Argo head coach Jeff Heimel echoed Adamek's thoughts, saying, "We are excited to have Trevor join us for the next four years. He comes from a great program under Coach Adamek and we expect him to do great things here at UP."

The University of Providence is located in Great Falls, MT. The Argos compete in the MWCHL (Mountain West Collegiate Hockey League) at the ACHA Division II level. The Argos are embarking on their first season as a program, Having just announcing the team in the past winter.

"Huge thanks to the Blades staff and organization helping me improve as a person and as a player," Daly said. "Because of my season in Owatonna, I've been able to further my dream as player to get the chance to play at the college level and achieve goals I've had since I was kid. Although my time with the Blades was short, I will cherish the memories and bonds I've created during the year forever." Daly joins Blades Kyle Wadden (Morrisville St. College, NCAA Div. III), Tristan Klewsaat (Waldorf University, NAIA), Justin Movalli (Framingham St. University, NCAA Div. III), Nick Mizzen (Kent State University, ACHA Div. I), and Zach Bettmeng (Becker College, NCAA Div. III) in committing to a school from this season.

AUTO RACING

Chateau hosts Kid's Night at the Races

SUBMITTED BY MATTHEW GRAGE

It was Kids Night on Friday at Chateau Speedway in Lansing. What started as the track announcing it would be giving away a pair of bicycles, as well as providing kids a chance to take a lap on the famed oval in one of the cars before the races, turned into much more. As fans and drivers jumped on board with the Kids Night Promotion two bikes turned into six, than into eight and kept growing until 16 Bicycles were brought out to the track for a huge drawing at intermission which also included other prizes as well. Brian Adams of the Y Waste Hornet Class started collecting funds from other drivers and fans until they had enough to get 8 bikes, Mini Mod and WISSOTA Midwest Modified Driver Jaiden Bastyr of Bastyr Landscaping brought in two more as did WISSOTA Street Stock driver Greg Lammers of Glammer and Sons Racing. Fans joined in as well as Carmen Shrock brought one out in memory of her husband Ronnie who was a fan of the track and loved kids. With all the giveaways and rides it wouldn't be surprising if the kids forgot about the racing which continued to be some of the best racing with 3 grooves of action all night long.

Just under 90 cars filled the pits for the six class field of cars and leading the way with a pair of caution free checkers were the WISSOTA Street Stocks and the USRA A Mods both if which were lead by a couple of drivers making their first visit to the track this season.

In what may go down as one of the best races of the season Danny Richards of Mondovi, Wisconsin out-dueled Noah Grinstead of Austin for the WISSOTA Street Stock Feature win. Grinstead started the race on the outside of the front row with T.J. Wahn of Wadena inside him.

The two raced side by side for much of the first five laps with Grinstead holding the advantage at the line each time. As Noah took control of the lead on lap six Richards came along side T.J. for second and came after Grinstead. The two crossed the line completing lap seven side by side with Grinstead to the outside and Richards working the bottom line. The two ran that way for the next ten laps with the lead changing hands several times at the line. Richards finally took the lead for good on lap sixteen and held off Noah for the win. Grinstead, who won a heat earlier in the night, came home in second ahead of Wahn, Kyle Howland of Zimmerman and Kory Adams of Stacyville, Iowa. Adams picked up some ground in the points race on Austin's Jason Newkirk who managed only an eighth place finish. The classes other heat win went to Bernie Adams of

Stacyville Iowa.

Brad Waits of Rochester, capped a perfect night taking home both the Feature win and his heat win in the USRA A Mods. In fact he lead all but the first lap of his heat and lead flag to flag in the caution free main event to make his first visit to the track this season a successful one. Waits was lapping cars by lap ten as he streaked away from the field on a night where he set the fastest lap for the season at the track posting a 16.490 lap time in his heat which equates to an average lap speed of 72.771 miles per hour. He was just a tick slower than that in the feature. Darwyn Karau of Kasson, current point leader in the class, lead the rest of the field in their battle for second followed by Kylie Kath of Claremont, Mark Motl of Owatonna and Joe Horgdal of Kasson who made up the top five. The classes other heat win went to Greg Pfeifer JR of Austin. In WISSOTA Midwest Modified action Michael Wytaske of Hartland grabbed his first Feature win of the season as he our ran Dan Wheeler of Savage for top honors on the night. Jesse Hernandez of Blooming Prairie lead the early few laps of the race before he brought out the first of two cautions in the race when he turned it around in turn four.

Michael, running second at the time, inherited the lead and stayed there the rest of the way Ryan Goergen of Stacyville, Iowa, one of the heat winners on the night, took third followed by Brayten Cisneros of Blooming Prairie and the nights other heat winner Mitch Weiss of Scandia. Weiss continues to the lead the points chase for the class.

Kadden Kath of Owatonna claimed his third feature win of the year in the USRA B Mod class. Matt Brooks of Austin had the early lead before Kath caught and went by him as they completed lap five in the twenty lap main event. Brooks and a good group of cars put on a spirited show behind the leader as they jockeyed for positions two on back. Matt came home in second ahead of Brownsdale's Brody Shaw, St Ansgar Iowa's Hunter Kennedy and Nick Wagner of Osage Iowa. Kath, who padded his points lead on the night, also scored a win in one of the classes two heats. The other win went to Scott Demmer of Ellendale.

In Power 96 Pure Stock action Brady Krohnberg of Walters put an end to Jesse Stahl's impressive four straight feature win streak to open the season. Chris Hotovec of Dodge Center lead the first three leaps of the feature before he spun out in front of the field bringing out the events only caution flag and sending him to the back of the pack.

Krohnberg, who had worked his way up to second from a third row starting spot inherited the lead and lead the rest of the way to score a

sweep on the night as he also picked up one of the classes two heat wins. Stahl had the other heat win for the class on the night and was having a good run in the feature battling with Tyler Peterson of Geneva and Troy Maas of Faribault in a three wide battle for position right behind the leader. As they were coming to the checkers, Stahl, who had a slight advantage for second got sideways causing all 3 cars to spin ending the race with both the checkers and caution flag flying. Peterson was credited for second and Maas third. Stahl was hit with the caution and put tail end of the field of the cars still running which was tenth His points lead took a slight hit but is still pretty solid. Hotovec rebounded for a fourth place finish ahead of Nick Carvelli of Maplewood.

Shawn Grabinger of Farmington, in the Y Waste Hornet class, became the fourth driver to score a clean sweep on the night as took home the checkers in the final feature of the night. Nick Sillman of Minnesota Lake lead the first two laps of the feature before Shawn went to the point. Ashley Bell of Farmington out dueled Brian Adams of Shakopee for second in back and forth battle that not only saw the two swap positions several times but also pull up and run side by side with the leader occasionally. Andy Knutson of Rochester came home in fourth ahead of Sillman. Adams claimed the classes other heat win and continues to lead the point standings for the class.

Racing action resumes next Friday Night at 7:15 with 7 classes of cars taking to the oval which is celebrating its 62nd Anniversary this year. Mini Mods will be making one more appearance during the regular season next week along with the regular USRA A and B Mods, the WISSOTA Street Stock and Midwest Modifieds, the Y Waste Hornets and Power 96 Pure Stocks. The track also has started to release a list of specials that they will be running during the month of September.

So far they have confirmed a complete show will run on Friday Night Sept 7. Although the Track Championships will be decided on Labor Day Weekend, Friday August 31st, drivers in sanctioned classes will still be competing for National Points and of course drivers in all classes will still be running for the enjoyment of the sport, which after all is what its all about. The Track will also be hosting an Enduro on Sunday Sept 8th at Noon in cooperation with Southern Minnesota Promotions which runs several Enduros around the area over the course of the summer.

More information on the September schedule which is still being worked on with the various sanctioning bodies will be released as it becomes available.

PRACTICE GETS SERIOUS

After a week of conditioning and a week without contact, the Blooming Prairie Awesome Blossom football team gets serious this week in preparation for the upcoming season. The 2018 opener is just a little over a week down the line, with Southland due to visit on Friday, August 31. That initiates another tough eight-game schedule that the team hopes will culminate in a deep run in the state playoffs.

This is that time of the year when all the fall sports teams enter the season with a sense of optimism and a real expectation that it will be a successful one. The football team lost some standout performers from this past season, but still returns some excellent performers at the offensive skilled positions. In his usual manner coach Chad Gimbel expects the team to be in the thick of things in one of the toughest districts in the state.

The cross country team lost its premier runner with the graduation of Alec Ille, but coach John Bruns will have his usual complement of energetic and dedicated runners. It will be interesting to see if any boy or girl can step up and become an accomplished competitor. The teams start their seasons on Thursday, August 30, in the Stewartville Invitational.

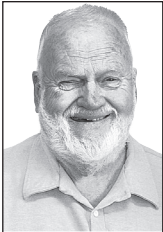
Coach Ranell Kittelson's volleyball team lost much of its offensive power with five seniors graduating, but she, too enters the season with a positive attitude and some talented letter winners returning. The only senior back is Rachel Oswald, but she and her junior teammates will provide good leadership for the squad. The Blossoms travel to Janesville to meet Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton on Tuesday, Aug 28.

Fortunes may change considerably once the season begins, but for now, optimism is the word of the day. Time will tell as to the success or failure of the teams, but one can count on this group of fall athletes to compete hard, play with enthusiasm and dedication, and represent BPHS with honor and excellent sportsmanship.

FALL JUST DAYS AWAY

I don't now about my readers, but about this time every year, I realize that summer is fast slipping away, and fall is just around the corner. Although we have had plenty of rain this summer in our area, lawns are beginning tp show a more faded tint to the deep green prominent earlier in the year. The corn in the fields is showing yellow tints on the leaves, and soybeans also show signs of reaching maturity and a slowness in growing.

A changing season is also evident around the local high school. The practice football field, the school



Outside the Lines
LEMAR NELSON

gymnasium and the track and streets around the community show many signs of hectic activity, as the teams prepare for another entertaining and exciting sports season.

Finally, I can sense a change in my own personality and moods, as the atmosphere undergoes a subtle change. Days are noticeably shorter, I am more content to spend more time inside, and my desire to read grows more evident each day. I may be the only one subject to these phenomena, but it is a reality for me, and I embrace it wholeheartedly.

BANDITS PLACE AGAIN

The next race event for the Bandit big rig semis will be this coming Saturday, August 25, at Elko Speedway, on 35W near Lakeville but local race drivers had recent success at the latest blevent on August 15 at Hickory Motor Speedway in Newton, North Carolina. It marked the sixth event of the season, with Elko and two more dates left on this season's racing schedule.

Blooming Prairie's Craig Kruckeberg placed second in the feature race at Hickory Motor, and local veteran Mark Noble finished right behind Kruckeberg in third place. I may be wrong, but I think local drivers have placed in the top five of every big rig race in the season. That is quite an achievement for this community in the Minimizer-sponsored series of races.

UPCOMING

I hear that items for the big two-night cancer group auction are coming in at a fast pace. This biggest fundraiser for that group continues to have big success with this event, thanks to the tremendous support by the community and the many volunteers who work hard to make this a reality. September 7 and 8 are the dates for the auction and several other activities are also on tap for the affair.

That Saturday also marks the presentation of the flag field along Highway 218 across from Main Street. The flags, in honor of cancer victims and cancer survivors, number at least 250, and offer a loving tribute to all those honored. It presents a beautiful spectacle for all those traveling the highway through our community.

Two other events on the horizon include the opening contests for the high school sports teams the last week in August and the annual Chamber of Commerce and Blossoms Forever banquet coming up in later September. It would be well to put these on calendars now and then look forward to an entertaining fall. Go, Blossoms, and we'll talk again.



Dr. Deborah J Lien

132 2nd Ave NE • Blooming Prairie, MN

ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST

DDS, MBS

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History from the News Archives

10 Years Ago
Aug. 19, 2008

DAN EVANS, PUBLISHER

On Aug. 11, the Blooming Prairie City Council unanimously agreed to hire Terri Zwiener as the new Deputy City Clerk for Blooming Prairie. After 20 years of service, Deputy City Clerk Barb Molland has retired. Terri has been working as the city secretary for almost two years and states that she enjoys working for Blooming Prairie.

After taking a few years off from the truck pulls, David O' Connor, Blooming Prairie, has returned this year with a new truck (Nasty Boys). He unveiled it for the first time in this area at the Steele County Free Fair last week. He came in fourth at the fair with a pull of 278.5. His truck is the only one running on the National Tractor Pulling Association circuit with 99.9 percent Ethanol—an effort to promote renewable energy.

20 Years Ago
Aug. 18, 1998

ELSIE SLINGER, PUBLISHER

The Steele County Free Fair is celebrating three different anniversaries this year: its 80th anniversary, starting in August of 1918; the 50th anniversary of Merriam; and the 40th anniversary of the FFA Storybook Farm. This year also marks the dedication of a newly renovated grandstand, where there will be 12 shows. Over 180,000 people are expected to crowd the 70-acre fairgrounds over the six-day run of Minnesota's largest county fair.

Fourth Street Southwest in Blooming Prairie will be extended after the city council voted to approve the project. The local board agreed to spend the \$45,060 to extend to street one block to the east of Memorial Drive. This also means sewer and water will be extended along the route. The project is being pursued by Merlyn Olson of Savage and is expected to be finished by October 1.

50 Years Ago
Aug. 15, 1968

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJCI, PUBLISHERS

Over 580 students registered during the two-day period at Blooming Prairie High School last week, according to principal LeMar Nelson. There will be around 650 students enrolled in the six grades when school begins on Wednesday, August 28th—a slight increase from last year. The incoming freshman class will be the largest in the high school's history, at around 120 students.

This year's Steele County Free Fair, the Golden Jubilee Edition, is acclaimed to be "bigger and better than ever." Favorable weather is expected to bring in record crowds. Fair officials have spared neither effort nor money in order to bring the very best entertainment and exhibits to the 1968 fair. Local businesses will close to enable employers to attend the fair.

Blooming Prairie area youths were winners of the FFA Tractor Driving Contests staged at both the Mower and Steele County Fairs. Gilmer Peterson won the Mower County competition, and David Grant placed first in Steele County. The contest is based on safety and skill in handling the tractors in both 2-wheel and 4-wheel implements. Both competitors are members of the Blooming Prairie FFA Chapter.

75 Years Ago
Aug. 19, 1943

FRANK KREJCI, PUBLISHER

As predicted, the B.P. Gun Club took first in the league shoot. They beat Thompson's Chevrolet by a single target. Following are the scores recorded in the finals event Monday night: Ray Zwiener, 25; Geo. Zwiener, 23; A.L. Fosteson, 15; Jake Grass, 24; Obed Ulland, 14. Average for season, 302.

With a semi-surprise blackout due in Minnesota sometime in the next week, it will be necessary to become familiar with new "Public Air Raid Warning Signals" approved by the Seventh Service Command and the Central Defense Command of the U.S. Army. These signals have been adopted in nine states, and a thorough understanding is essential for public protection in the event of a real emergency.

Retirement Planning
Tips for Single Women



THE SAVVY SENIOR

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Blooming Prairie
583-4434

Dear Savvy Senior,

What retirement planning tips can you recommend to single women? I'm 54 and divorced with a teenage daughter and very little saved for retirement.

Financially Behind

Dear Behind,

It's an unfortunate reality, but most single women – whether they're divorced, widowed or never married – face much greater financial challenges in retirement than men. Why? Because women earn less money – about 80 cents for every dollar that men make, on average, and they have shorter working careers than men due to raising children and/or caring for aging parents. And less money earned usually translates into less money saved and a lower Social Security benefit when you retire.

In addition, women live an average of five years longer than men, which requires their retirement income to stretch farther for living expenses and healthcare costs. And, according to some studies, women tend to be less knowledgeable and more intimidated about financial issues than men, which means they don't always handle their money as well as they should.

Because of these issues, it's very important that women educate themselves on financial matters and learn how to save more effectively. Listed below are some tips and resources that may help you.

START SAVING

If your employer offers a retirement plan, such as a 401K, you should contribute enough to at least capitalize on a company match, if available. And if you can swing it, contribute even more. By law, you can save as much as \$18,500 in a 401(k) in 2018, or \$24,500 to those 50 and older, due to the catch-up rule.

If you don't have a workplace plan, consider opening a Traditional or Roth IRA. Both are powerful tax-advantaged retirement savings accounts that let you contribute up to \$5,500 annually, or \$6,500 when you're over 50. And if you're self-employed, consider a SEP-IRA, SIMPLE-IRA and/or a solo 401(k), all of which can help reduce your taxable income while putting money away for retirement.

Also, if you have a high-deductible health insurance policy, you should consider opening a health savings account (see HSAsearch.com). This is an excellent tool that can be used to sock away funds pre-tax and use them before or after retirement to pay for medical expenses.

FIND YOUR NUMBER

It's also important to get a handle on how much you need to save for a comfortable retirement. You can do this through a number of free online calculators like ChooseToSave.org or FinancialMentor.com/calculator.

PAY OFF DEBT

If you have debt, you need to get it under control. If you need some help with this, consider a nonprofit credit-counseling agency that provides free or low cost advice and solutions, and can help you set up a debt management plan. To locate an agency, use the National Foundation for Credit Counseling website at NFCC.org or call 800-388-2227.

FIND HELP

To help you educate yourself on financial matters like retirement planning, saving and investing, health care, annuities and more, a top resource is the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement at WiserWomen.org.

And to help you get up to speed on Social Security, visit SSA.gov/people/women. This web page, dedicated to women, provides helpful publications like "What Every Women Should Know," along with links to benefit calculators and your personal Social Security account to help you figure out your future earnings at different retirement ages.

You should also consider getting a financial assessment with a fee-only financial advisor. Costs for these services will vary from around \$150 to \$300 per hour; but this can be very beneficial to help you set-up a retirement plan you can follow. See NAPFA.org or GarrettPlanningNetwork.com to locate an advisor in your area.

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.

Last leg of cable barrier on I-35 to be installed in Freeborn County

Motorists traveling southbound on Interstate 35 will encounter a left lane closure between Freeborn County Road 35 and Albert Lea beginning Monday, Aug. 20, as construction crews install high tension cable barrier, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Southbound I-35 will be reduced to one lane through the work zone to allow road construction work, work on the shoulder and in the median. Delays are possible, so motorists should plan ahead based on time of day and level of traffic using the road.

This will be the final stretch of cable median barrier to be installed on I-35 in southern Minnesota, meaning that motorists will be protected from the Iowa border to just south of the Twin Cities by this low-cost, highly effective safety tool.

Lane closures for this project will not occur between Friday, Aug. 31 and Monday, Sept. 3 to allow for the Labor Day holiday. Crews will resume construction on Tuesday, Sept. 4.

H & R Construction of South Sioux Falls, Neb., is the prime contractor on this \$770,000 project. Construction is scheduled to be completed in early October, weather permitting.

To learn more about cable median barriers and the role they play in traffic safety in Minnesota, please go to MnDOT's web page: www.dot.state.mn.us/trafficeng/reports/cmbarrier.html.

Cable median barriers can reduce fatal crashes by 95 percent. The barriers are made of three or four steel cables strung on posts. When a car hits the barrier, the posts break and the cables flex, absorbing much of a crash's kinetic energy. This redirects the vehicle along the median, preventing a cross-median crash.

Maintenance crews can repair the damaged section quickly and the cable barriers cost less than permanent concrete barriers. MnDOT urges motorists to always be attentive, drive with caution, slow down in work zones and never enter a road blocked with barriers or cones.



Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney



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Recipe
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Mediterranean
Beef Ragoût

Makes 8 servings

- 2 pounds trimmed stewing beef, cut into 1-inch cubes and patted dry
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 2 onions, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons ground cumin (see note 2 below)
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest (optional)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

- 12 teaspoon cracked black peppercorns
- 1 cup beef stock
- 1/2 cup dry red wine
- 1 14-ounce can no-salt-added diced tomatoes, including juice
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 roasted red bell peppers, thinly sliced, then cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/2 cup sliced pitted green olives
- 1/2 cup finely chopped parsley leaves

- In a skillet, heat 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over medium-high heat. Add beef, in batches, and cook, stirring, adding more oil as necessary, until browned, about 4 minutes per batch. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware as completed.
- Reduce heat to medium. Add onions and garlic to pan and cook, stirring, until onions are softened, about 3 minutes. Add cumin, thyme, lemon zest, if using, salt, and peppercorns and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add beef stock, wine, tomatoes with juice, and bay leaves and bring to a boil. Add to slow cooker and stir well.
- Cover and cook on low for 6 hours or on high for 3 hours, until mixture is bubbly and beef is tender. Stir in roasted peppers, olives and parsley. Cover and cook on high for 15 minutes, until peppers are heated through. Discard bay leaves.

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Steele County Times Professional Directory

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FORECLOSURE

18-109767

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: March 2, 2004 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$95,400.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Gregory R. Moxon, a single man MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed March 8, 2004, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A 319910 ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wilmington Trust Company, Not In Its Individual Capacity but Solely as Successor Trustee to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, Successor in Interest to Wachovia Bank, N.A., as Trustee for Mastr Alternative Loan Trust 2004-6 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot Nine (9) and the South Half (S 1/2) of Lot (10), in T.H. Kelly's Addition to the Village of Bixby. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 10230 Bixby Pl, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 04-103-0009 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$68,785.54 THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 18, 2018, 10:00am PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not

reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on March 18, 2019, or the next business day if March 18, 2019 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: July 26, 2018

Wilmington Trust Company, not in its individual capacity but solely as Successor Trustee to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, N.A., as Trustee for MASTR Alternative Loan Trust 2004-6 Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road,
Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

7/31,8/7, 8/14,
8/21,8/28,9/4

FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: November 4, 2005 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$102,500.00 MORTGAGOR(S): John T. Knudsen, a single person MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware Corporation as nominee for USA Funding Corp., a Wisconsin Corporation DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on November 29, 2005 as Document Number A000337218 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: US Bank National Association, as Trustee for Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage

Securities Corp., Home Equity Asset Trust 2006-3, Home Equity Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006 by assignment recorded on June 27, 2012 as Document Number A000385386; as corrected of record to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Securities Corp., Home Equity Asset Trust 2006-3, Home Equity Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-3 by Corrective Assignment of Mortgage recorded on February 4, 2013 as Document No. A000389519 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 12 and 13, Block 2, Olson's Addition to the City of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota. STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 304 3RD STREET SE, BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN 55917-1417

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele County, Minnesota. THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$67,357.35 TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: USA Funding Corp., a Wisconsin Corporation RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 14-105-0212 AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100272405092735760 THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM. PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of sale. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on September 18, 2019.

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: July 24, 2018

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON MORTGAGE SECURITIES CORP., HOME EQUITY ASSET TRUST 2006-3, HOME EQUITY PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-3 Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/

Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(16-0766-FC02)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

7/31,8/7, 8/14,
8/21,8/28,9/4

FORECLOSURE

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF STEELE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CASE TYPE 14: OTHER CIVIL MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

Court File Number: 74-CV-18-242

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER JUDGMENT AND DECREE

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Plaintiff,

vs.

Brian L. Petersen, Lynnette A. Petersen, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, John Doe and Mary Roe, Defendant(s).

DATE OF MORTGAGE: February 24, 2012 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$106,729.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Brian L. Petersen & Lynnette A. Petersen, husband and wife MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., thereafter assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association LENDER: Mortgages Unlimited, Inc.

SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. Loss Mitigation Phone Number: 866-550-5705 DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorder April 24, 2012, Steele County Recorder's Office, as Document No. A000384240. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 10551 89th Ave SE, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917 PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS: 04-036-2401 AMOUNT DUE UNDER JUDGMENT & DECREE: \$103,395.68 DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 27, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff, Civil Division, 204 East Pearl St., Owatonna, MN 55060

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order for Judgment and Judgment entered in the above-cited action on the 11th day of June, 2018, a certified copy of which has been delivered to me directing the sale of the premises hereinafter described to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to said Plaintiff in the above-entitled action from said Defendants Brian L. Petersen; Lynnette A. Petersen, the Sheriff of Steele County will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, on September 27, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., at the Steele County Sheriff, Civil Division, 204 East Pearl St., Owatonna, MN 55060, the premises and real estate described in said Judgment and Decree:

All that part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 36, Township 106 North, Range 19 West, Steele County, Minnesota, described by:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Southeast 1/4; thence S 00 degrees 14 minutes 55 seconds East, assumed bearing 532.90 feet along the West line of said Southeast 1/4 to the true point of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 14 minutes 55 seconds East 388.00 feet along the West line of said Southeast 1/4; thence North 89 degrees 45 minutes 05 seconds East 399.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 14 minutes 55 seconds West 388.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 45 minutes 05 seconds West 399.00 feet to said true point of beginning.

to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorney's fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of the confirmation of sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns. TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, will be six (6) months from the date of the sale confirmation.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 582.032 DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A

RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN 5 UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

Steele County Sheriff

By:/s/ Jane Christenson Special Deputy

By:/s/ Kristine M. Spiegelberg Nelson Kristine M. Spiegelberg Nelson - 0308845 David R. Mortensen – 032906X Attorneys for Plaintiff 12550 West Frontage Road Suite 200 Burnsville, MN 55337 Telephone: (952) 831-4060 Facsimile: (847) 954-4800

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR

DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THIS OFFICE IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT AND DOES NOT IMPLY THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT MONEY FROM ANYONE WHO HAS DISCHARGED THE DEBT UNDER THE BANKRUPTCY LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

[NOTICE OF SALE FOR 10551 89TH AVE SE, BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN 55917]

8/14,8/21,8/28
9/4,9/11,9/18

NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No: 74-PR-18-1430

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

Estate of Ella B. Jepson Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on September 17, 2018, at 3 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at 111 East Main Street, Owatonna, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, May 31, 2007, ("Will"), and for the appointment of Ruth Ann Jepson, whose address is 470 Hill St. N., P.O. Box 148, Isle, MN, 56342 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.

BY THE COURT Joseph A. Bueltel Judge of District Court

Robin Hoesley Court Administrator

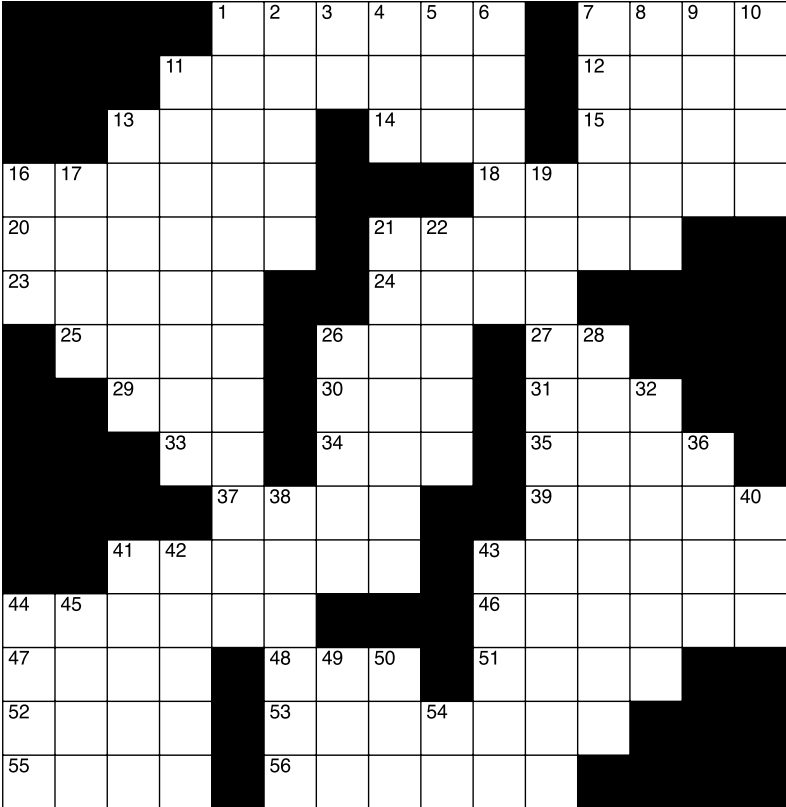
Attorney for Petitioner David L. Einhaus Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A. 202 N. Cedar Avenue Owatonna, MN, 55060 Attorney License No: 26190 Telephone: (507) 451-3580 FAX: (507) 451-3532 Email: einhaus@owatonnalawyers.com

8/14, 8/21

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- Longest river in Ayrshire
- Sodium
- Lion sign
- Southwest Airlines (abbr.)
- Kilometers per hour
- Of, French
- Atomic #50
- Body of poetry
- Spanish cubist painter Juan
- Grandmothers
- City of The Un. of the Punjab
- A roll of parchment
- What a ghost does
- Looked intently
- Swedish rock group
- Don't know when yet
- Hostelries
- Golf ball holders



- With a sincere intent
- Alicante's 7th largest city
- A disorderly crowd

CLUES DOWN

- A later idea
- Jabs
- Hello

- Frost a cake
- Decaliter
- Genus Gallinago birds
- Auspices
- A short-lived fashion
- This (Spanish)
- Bambi and her mom
- Emphasized a syllable

- Limit the inheritance of a property
- 2nd month (abbr.)
- Wyatt __, OK Corral
- Given with gold & muhr
- In any manner at all
- Large tropical carnivorous lizards
- Up and out of bed
- Readily seen or understood
- Respects
- Clearance, fire or garage
- A list of names
- Sealed (abbr.)
- Lubricated
- Squash bug genus
- Sales line
- Feel aversion toward
- Cain's brother
- The cry made by sheep
- An arbitrageur
- Atomic #41



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FORECLOSURE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 25, 2007
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$128,300.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Paul J. Newhouse and Deena M. Newhouse, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation as nominee for Equity One, Inc., a Minnesota corporation
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on June 13, 2007 as Document Number A000350325, as modified of record on November 03, 2009 by Document No. A000367511 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Goldman Sachs Mortgage Company by assignment recorded on August 9, 2010 as Document Number A000372735 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to MTGLQ Investors, L.P. by assignment recorded on May 5, 2016 as Document Number A000407421 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for Legacy Mortgage Asset Trust 2017-GS1 by assignment recorded on December 26, 2017 as Document Number A000416342 in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Beginning 10 Rods North of the SE corner of Lot 29 in NE 1/4 of Section 16, Township 107 North, Range 20 West, thence West 120 feet; thence South and parallel with the East line of Lot 29, 55 feet; thence East 120 feet; thence North 55 feet to beginning. Subject to street easement of record.
AND
All that part of Lot 10, Block 1, Kum-meth Addition, City of Owatonna, Minnesota, described by: Beginning at the NE corner of said Lot 10; thence South 0 degrees 44 minutes 30 seconds East, assumed bearing 20.05 feet along the East line of said Lot 10; thence South 89 degrees 31 minutes 30 seconds West 25 feet; thence North 0 degrees 44 minutes 30 seconds West 2.10 feet to the Northerly line of said Lot 10; thence North 53 degrees 45 minutes 20 seconds East 30.71 feet along the Northerly line of said Lot 10 to beginning. Containing 277 square feet, more or less.
AND
All that part of Lot 11, Block 1, Kum-meth Addition, City of Owatonna, Minnesota described by: Beginning at the NE corner of said Lot 11; thence South 0 degrees 44 minutes 30 seconds East assumed bearing 34.95 feet to the Southeasterly corner of said Lot 11; thence South 53 degrees 45 minutes 20 seconds West 30.71 feet along the Southerly line of said Lot 11; thence North 0 degrees 44 minutes 30 seconds West 52.90 feet to the North line said Lot 11; thence North 89 degrees 31 minutes 30 seconds East 25 feet to the beginning; containing 1098 square feet, more or less, Steele County, Minnesota.
STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 732 LINN AVE, 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: \$122,869.80
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Equity One, Inc., a Minnesota corporation
RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Rushmore Loan Management Services, LLC
TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-016-1403
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100046600008782345
THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.
PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 4, 2018 at 10:00 AM.
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota.
to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises

by 11:59 p.m. on March 4, 2019.

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: July 11, 2018

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR LEGACY MORTGAGE ASSET TRUST 2017-GS1
Mortgagee

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

By: /s/ Rebecca F. Schiller, Esq.
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Corbin C. Smith, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
The Academy Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(18-0534-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

7/17,7/24,7/31,
8/7, 8/14,8/21

FORECLOSURE

12-081815

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 1, 2008
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$127,806.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Brandon L. Klemmensen and Aana E. Spurgeon, both single persons
MORTGAGEE: Advisor's Mortgage, LLC
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Advisor's Mortgage, LLC
SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed May 2, 2008, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000356965, Thereafter modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded on October 22, 2014 as document number A000399216
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.; Dated: May 1, 2008 filed: May 2, 2008, recorded as document number A000356966
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Commencing at a point 2 rods West and 1384 feet South of the Northeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 106 North, Range 20 West, thence West 142 feet to the East line of the Right of Way of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway; thence Southwest along said Right of Way line 130 feet, thence East approximately 162 feet to the West line of Highway, being a point 1512 feet directly South of the North line of said Northwest Quarter, thence North along the West line of Highway to the point of commencement. Subject to easements of record. Except: The North 66 feet thereof
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 9184 37th Ave SW, Hope, MN 56046
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 05-030-4202
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$130,318.57
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof, PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 18, 2018, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060
to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on March 18, 2019, or the next business day if March 18, 2019 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.
"THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE

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

Dated: July 20, 2018

JPMorgan Chase Bank,
National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

By: Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
Shapiro & Zielke, LLP
12550 West Frontage Road,
Suite 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

7/31,8/7, 8/14,
8/21,8/28,9/4

FORECLOSURE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEELE

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT

CASE TYPE: OTHER CIVIL/ MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.,

Plaintiff,

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT

Case No.: 74-CV-18-440

vs.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CINDY K. ROGNESS, SCOTT J. ROGNESS, JOHN DOE and MARY ROE,,

Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 2, 2018 at 10:00 AM, at the Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, Minnesota, the Steele County Sheriff will sell the real property legally described as:

Lot Three (3), Block One (1), in Stormo Addition to City of Owatonna, Minnesota, Steele County, Minnesota.

Property Address: 1314 N CEDAR AVENUE, OWATONNA, MN 55060
Tax ID: 17-157-0103

to the highest bidder by auction pursuant to the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order for Judgment and Judgment entered in the above-entitled action on July 10, 2018; to satisfy the judgment entered for Plaintiff in the amount \$99,272.06 plus interest, applicable costs, disbursements, and attorneys' fees. A certified copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Order for Judgment and Judgment has been delivered to the Steele Sheriff.

The redemption period from the sale will be six (6) months from the date of confirmation of the sale by the Court. The real property must be vacated by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the redemption period.

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.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dated: July 30, 2018

By: /s/ Jane Christenson
Special Deputy

THE ACADEMY LAW GROUP, P.A.

Dated: July 26, 2018

By: /s/ Samuel R. Coleman
Samuel R. Coleman (#389839)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
The Academy Professional Building
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
Telephone: (651) 209-9785
samuel@theacademylawgroup.com
(17-1292-LIT02)

8/7, 8/14, 8/21
8/28, 9/4, 9/11

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Cancer Corner

Blooming Prairie Cancer Group

File Photo
Barb Kraling has been the organizer of Cut for a Cure, an event woven around activities near the Field of Flags during Cancer Auction activities. Here, Kraling cuts the hair of Bob Wolf.

Cut for a Cure planned for Sept. 8

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Nine years ago, hair stylist Barb Kraling asked Cheri Krejci of the Blooming Prairie Cancer Group if there was anything she could do to help with the annual cancer auction.
“Sure,” Krejci replied and told Kraling to come up with some ideas. That she did, and now we look forward to the ninth Annual Cut for a Cure promotion at the Field of Flags on Highway 218.
This fun event under the white tent is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. with crazy hair, face painting, chair massages, manicures, games and lofts of fun stuff.
Registration also begins at the Cut for a Cure tent for the 5K Run/Walk at 9 a.m.
Kraling and her staff will offer hair cuts for \$5.
“We are trying to think of something

new all the time,” remarked an enthusiastic Kraling. “We all have personal connections to someone who has been battling cancer and this is a way for us to help,” she explained.
To make the event successful, it is important to involve lots of people, Kraling says. Her husband John and son Jonathan are helpers, as is her sister, Mary Olson.
Kraling’s daughter Samantha Laures will do manicures, Ari Olson will do face painting and Haley Behne, Emily Allison and Barb will be cutting hair.
Last year’s Cut for a Cure fundraiser brought in \$1,205.
Customers are also invited to donate hair to the Locks of Love campaign. Last year, Emily Allison cut off 8 1/2 inches of Marquette Millam’s hair.
“We all have a common goal and that is to prevent cancer,” said Kraling, expressing delight with the involvement of caring for people in her Cut for a Cure Event.

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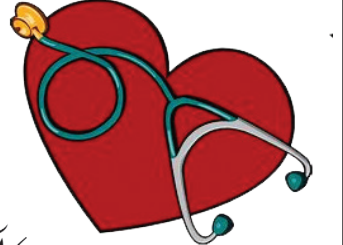
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STEELE COUNTY OPEN CLASS RESULTS 2018

Editor's Note: This is a partial list of Open Class results from last week's Steele County Fair. The rest of the results will be published in next week's Times.

CULINARY:
Yeast Bread Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Yeast-Sweet Dough Class Champion – Marilys J. Stark, Owatonna; Yeast-Bread Machine Class Champion – Kylie Wencl, Claremont; Yeast Bread Division Champion – Marilys J. Stark, Owatonna; Quick Breads-No Yeast Class Champion – Ruth Volkmann, Medford; Quick Bread Division Champion – Ruth Volkmann, Medford; Gluten-Free Class Champion – Brittney Stockwell, Owatonna; Gluten Free Division Champion – Brittney Stockwell, Owatonna; Scones Class Champion – Timothy Van Gelder, Owatonna; Scones Division Champion – Timothy Van Gelder, Owatonna; Unfrosted Cake Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Unfrosted Cake Division Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Decorated Cake Class Champion – Jodi Ovrebø, Medford; Decorated Cake/Item Division Champion – Jodi Ovrebø, Medford; Frosted Cupcakes Class Champion – Timothy Van Gelder, Owatonna; Frosted Cupcakes Division Champion – Timothy Van Gelder, Owatonna; Drop Cookies Class Champion – Sue Ann E. Holz, New Richland; Rolled or Molded Cookies Class Champion – Beth M. Decoux, Owatonna; Other types of cookies Class Champion – Beth M. Decoux, Owatonna; Cookies Division Champion – Sue Ann E. Holz, New Richland; Bars Class Champion – Beth M. Decoux, Owatonna; Bars Division Champion – Beth M. Decoux, Owatonna; Pies Class Champion – Denise Lage, Owatonna; Pies Division Champion – Denise Lage, Owatonna; Mixes Class Champion – Sue Ann E. Holz, New Richland; Mixes Division Champion – Sue Ann E. Holz, New Richland; Candy Class Champion – Pat Fischer, Owatonna; Candy Division Champion – Pat Fischer, Owatonna; Holiday Favorites Class Champion – Lora Isackson, Owatonna; Holiday Favorites Division Champion – Lora Isackson, Owatonna; International Foods Class Champion – Darlene Noble, Owatonna; International Foods Division Champion – Darlene Noble, Owatonna; Refrigerated Class Champion –



Jenna Herget, 6, of Owatonna scrubs her calf Saturday afternoon at the Steele County Fair in preparation for the Open Class Dairy Show.

Grand Champion – Debbie Nelson, Owatonna; Reserve – Mary L. Schenk, Owatonna; Culinary Creations Adult Division Champion – Debbie Nelson, Owatonna; Cookies & Bars Juniors Class Champion – Ericka B. Jaster, Medford; Cookies & Bars Jr. Division Champion – Ericka B. Jaster, Medford; Assorted Sweets Junior Class Champion – Lileigh Nguyen, Owatonna; Assorted Sweets Jr. Division Champion – Lileigh Nguyen, Owatonna; Chocolate Desserts Junior Class Champion – Ella Simon, Faribault; Choc, Choc, Choc, Jr. Division Champion – Ella Simon, Faribault; Culinary Creations Junior Class Champion – Ava Cox, Owatonna; Grand Champion – Ava Cox, Owatonna; Reserve – Cole Balvitsch, Ellendale; Culinary Creations Jr. Division Champion – Ava Cox, Owatonna; Canned Fruit Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Canned Fruit Division Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Jellies Class Champion – Chris Minske, Owatonna; Jellies Division Champion – Christ Minske, Owatonna; Jams and Preserves Class Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Jams and Preserves Division Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Sour Pickles Class Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Sweet Pickles Class Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Mixed Pickles and Relished Class Champion – Bernice Bartsch, Owatonna; Pickles Division Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Sauces Class Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Meats Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Sauces, Soups, Syrups, Meats Division Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Canned Vegetables Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Tomatoes Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Canned Vegetables Division Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Dried Foods Class Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Dehydrated or Dried Foods Division Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna.

FINE ARTS:
Grand Champion – Heidi L. Haugen, Farmington; Reserve – Kevin Y. Chen, Waseca.

FLOWERS:

Gladiolus Grand Champion – Kathy A. Flicek, Owatonna; Reserve – Bob J. Granowski, Owatonna; Rose Grand Champion – Shirley Nelson, Owatonna; Reserve – Daniel Dahle, Owatonna; Garden Flowers Annuals Grand Champion – Cecelia Lauer, Owatonna; Reserve – Nizhoni Walter, Owatonna; Garden Flowers Prennials Grand Champion – Shirley Nelson, Owatonna; Reserve – Daniel Dahle, Owatonna; Dahlia Grand Champion – John Davis, Faribault; Reserve – John Davis, Faribault; Hostas Grand Champion – Marcia Dahle, Owatonna; Reserve – Marcia Dahle, Owatonna; Potted Plants Grand Champion – Kelli Naatz, Blooming Prairie; Reserve – Dianne Lawson, Owatonna; The Strange and Unusual Grand Champion – Whitney Noble, Blooming Prairie; Reserve – John McDonough, Owatonna; Adult Non-Professional Arrangement Grand Champion – Lonna Lysne, Owatonna; Reserve – Ruth E. Tibesar, Rochester; Professional Design and Arrangements Grand Champion – Barb Timlin, Owatonna; Reserve – Jodi Klecker, Owatonna; Junior and Senior Child Arrangements Grand Champion – Sophia Warner, Owatonna; Reserve – Anna Hagenson, Owatonna; Junior and Senior Flower Arrangements Grand Champion – Josaphine Nguyen, Owatonna; Reserve – Lileigh Nguyen, Owatonna; Table Artistry 18 and younger Grand Champion – Maria Mollenhauer, Owatonna; Table Artistry 19 and older Grand Champion – Ruth E. Tibesar, Rochester.

FRUIT CROPS:
Apples Champion – Gary L. Johnson, Ellendale; Pecks of Apples Champion – Veronica Rypka, Owatonna; Vine Fruit Champion – Jules E. Brady, Medford.

GRAINS & GRASSES:
Corn Class Champion – Brent Broulik, Blooming Prairie; Small Grains Class Champion – Scott S. Balzer, Medford; 2018 Sheath Grain Class Champion – Jerry Katzung, Owatonna; 2018 Grasses Class Champion – Cali Nelson, Ellendale; 2018 Baled Hay Class Champion – Luke Broulik, Blooming Prairie; 2018 Haylage Class Champion – Scott S. Balzer, Medford; 2018 Green Stalk Corn Class Champion – Brent Broulik, Blooming Prairie; 2018 Green Hill Corn Class Champion – Brent Broulik, Blooming Prairie; Grains & Grasses Grand Champion – Brent Broulik, Blooming Prairie.

HOBBIES:
Needlework Class Champion – Pat E. Cupkie, Owatonna; Reserve – Lori Wencl, Owatonna; Fabric Crafts Class Champion – Marian Parr, Geneva; Reserve – Bernie Jensen, Owatonna; Quilted Wall Hanging Class Champion – Laura M. Wertwijn, Owatonna; Reserve – Maryjo Pramann, Owatonna; Miniature Quilts Class Champion – Nancy Spindler, Hope; Reserve – Bernie Jensen, Owatonna; Dolls and Toys Class Champion – Anita Smith, West Concord; Reserve – Julia Smith, Owatonna; Woodcraft Class Champion – Robert Skalicky, Owatonna; Reserve –

Mike W. Schaffner, Owatonna; Painting Crafts Class Champion – Elda A. Krause, Owatonna; Reserve – Geraldynne Berg, Blooming Prairie; Basketry Class Champion – Pat Raetz, Owatonna; Reserve – Bev Wacek, Owatonna; Paper Craft Class Champion – JoAnn Stolpa, Owatonna; Reserve – Lileigh Nguyen, Owatonna; Stamp Art Class Champion – Shawn J. Russell, Owatonna; Reserve – Vickie Vavra, Owatonna; Scrapbooking Class Champion – Julie M. Wanous, Owatonna; Reserve – Vickie Vavra, Owatonna; Jewelry and Beading Class Champion – Stacy Billings, Claremont; Reserve – Diane M. Reese, Owatonna; Creative Class Champion – Bradley M. Ahrens, Claremont; Reserve – Bill Stenzel, Owatonna; Miscellaneous Class Champion – Alex Nilsson, Burnsville; Reserve – Sam Hager, Owatonna; Hobbies Grand Champion – Pat Raetz, Owatonna; Reserve – Robert Skalicky, Owatonna.

ORGANIC CROPS:
Corn Class Champion – Will Noble, Kenyon; Small Grains Class Champion – Finnegan A. Noble, Kenyon; Small Grains Beans Class Champion – Ella Seykora, Owatonna; Shelled Corn Class Champion – Finnegan A. Noble, Kenyon; Sheaf Grains Class Champion – Geherg Burns, Coon Rapids; Sheaf Grains Class Champion – Larry Spinler, Morristown; Grasses Class Champion – Larry A. Schultz, Owatonna; Baled Hay Class Champion – Claire Noble, Kenyon; Bailed Straw Class Champion – Dillon J. Noble, West Concord; Stalk Corn Class Champion – Audrey Schroht, Owatonna; Largest/Tallest Class Champion – Adeline M. Schroht, Owatonna; Live Plants Class Champion – Jay Peterson, Blooming Prairie; Haylage Class Champion – Wayne Wencl, Blooming Prairie; Organic Crops Grand Champion – Ella Seykora, Owatonna.

PHOTOGRAPHY:
Enlargements Class Champion – Bobby Duehring, Mankato; Snapshots Class Champion – Jennifer Harbal, Faribault.

TEXTILES:
Crochet Class Champion – Aurbrey Wetzel; Reserve – Kathy Lee, Owatonna; Hand Knit Class Champion – Tammy Zimmerman Prohask, Owatonna; Reserve – Janet M. Dixon, Owatonna; Hardanger Class Champion – Eva Bickell, Waseca; Reserve – Eva Bickell, Waseca; Embroidery Class Champion – Bobbie Hager, Medford; Reserve – Sherrolynnne M. Robinson, Kenyon; Machine Embroidery Class Champion – Nancy Spindler, Hope; Reserve – Nancy Spindler, Hope; Machine Quilted Twin or Larger Class Champion – Jacques Meillier, Owatonna; Reserve – Jacques Meillier, Owatonna; Mid or Long Arm Quilted Twin+ Class Champion – Bernie Jensen, Owatonna; Reserve – Jackie Getting, Owatonna; Other Quilted Items Class Champion – Jess Wacek, Owatonna; Reserve – Cathy Torrey, Owatonna; A Best Challenge Class Champion – Bev Wacek, Owatonna; Reserve – Maryjo Pramann, Owatonna; Garments & Accessories Class Champion – Pat Raetz, Owatonna; Reserve – Anita Smith, West Concord; Textile Grand Champion – Bernie Jensen, Owatonna; Reserve – Tammy Zimmerman Prohask, Owatonna.

VEGETABLES:
Potatoes Champion – Carsyn B. Brady, Medford; Reserve – Annette Balzer, Owatonna; Display of Vegetables Champion – Alexis Weinzel, Owatonna; Reserve – Annette Balzer, Owatonna; Root Crops Champion – Amelia Schultz, Owatonna; Reserve – Carson A. Ahrens, Owatonna; Greens & Salad Crops Champion – Kathy A. Flicek, Owatonna; Reserve – Audrey Schroht, Owatonna; Legume Crops Champion – Kathy A. Flicek, Owatonna; Reserve – Kathy A. Flicek, Owatonna; Vine Crops Champion – Carson A. Ahrens, Owatonna; Reserve – Annette Balzer, Owatonna; Squash Champion – David R. Schroht, Owatonna; Reserve – Kelly Schwartz, Owatonna; Bush Crops Champion – Taylor E. Brady, Medford; Reserve – Audrey Schroht, Owatonna; Other Crops Champion – Darlene Noble, Owatonna; Reserve – Timothy Van Gelder, Owatonna; Novelty Class Champion – Cole Balvitsch, Ellendale; Reserve – Kimberly Gwin, Owatonna; Vegetables Grand Champion – Kathy A. Flicek, Owatonna; Reserve – Alexis Weinzel, Owatonna.

WINE:
Grand Champion – Gar Olson, Owatonna; Reserve – Gar Olson, Owatonna.



Pittman Percherons of Claremont captured grand champion in the draft horse competition during the fair. Owner Marc Pittman shows one of his nine Percherons that competed in the horse show. The Pittmans will be traveling to the Minnesota State Fair this week.

Brian L. Patterson, Rochester; Refrigerated Division Champion – Brian L. Patterson, Rochester; Baking Light/Baking Healthy Class Champion – Tami Seykora, Owatonna; Baking Light/Baking Healthy Division Champion – Tami Seykora, Owatonna; Secret Recipe Class Champion – Karla J. Ihrke, Owatonna; It's a Secret Division Champion – Karla J. Ihrke, Owatonna; Butter Cookies Class Champion – Pat Fischer, Owatonna; Butter Cakes Class Champion – Tracy Ackman-Shaw, Owatonna; Butter Pastries Class Champion – Pat Fischer, Owatonna; Everything's Better with Butter Division Champion – Candee E. Fischer, Rochester; Other Class Champion – Candee E. Fischer, Rochester; Fair Theme Class Champion – Irene Standke, Geneva; Fair Theme Division Champion – Irene Standke, Geneva; Chocolate Desserts Adult Class Champion – Tracy Ackman-Shaw, Owatonna; Choc, Choc, Choc Adult Division Champion – Tracy Ackman-Shaw, Owatonna; Culinary Creations Adult Class Champion – Debbie Nelson, Owatonna;

Darlene Noble, Owatonna; Sweet Pickles Class Champion – Katherine Scultz, Owatonna; Mixed Pickles and Relished Class Champion – Bernice Bartsch, Owatonna; Pickles Division Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Sauces Class Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Meats Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Sauces, Soups, Syrups, Meats Division Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Canned Vegetables Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Tomatoes Class Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Canned Vegetables Division Champion – Betty Hager, Owatonna; Dried Foods Class Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna; Dehydrated or Dried Foods Division Champion – Katherine Schultz, Owatonna.

FINE ARTS:
Grand Champion – Heidi L. Haugen, Farmington; Reserve – Kevin Y. Chen, Waseca.

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Operation Extra Eye

Citizens step up to help keep children safe at fair

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Sheriff Lon Thiele and his deputies weren't the only ones keeping a watchful eye on activity during last week's Steele County Fair.

A group of concerned parents reached out to the sheriff on the night before the fair wanting to provide some assistance in keeping children safe during the fair. Most notably the parents were concerned about the recent attempted abduction at the Freeborn County Fair in Albert Lea.

Thiele met with the group to outline how they could be of benefit to the sheriff's office during the fair. "We discussed having all eyes out there to watch children," he said.

When the parents came to the fair, they reported to the sheriff's office where they presented their identification. Thiele provided them with a high visibility vest to wear on the grounds. They were instructed to call the sheriff's office if they ran into anything suspicious.

"We tried a neighborhood watch program inside the fairgrounds," Thiele said.

Within the first hours of the program, the group found a lost child wandering around and helped reunite the child with parents. Thiele said there were no other incidents involving the group for the rest of the fair.

"It was already a success with just finding one child," Thiele said. "They didn't put themselves in harm's way. They were purely an extra set of eyes."

Thiele said he is appreciative of the efforts of the neighborhood group, which he did not want to identify. "This is amazing," he said. "We have amazing communities in our county that step up and care for children," he added.

The sheriff said supplementing the largest county fair in the state with additional eyes for safety is beneficial to everyone. "Anytime we can give people the piece of mind and enjoy the reason they came to the fair is beneficial to all," Thiele said.

SEE SECURITY, C2



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Security was a high priority for Sheriff Lon Thiele and his deputies during the Steele County Fair. Thiele received additional help this year when a group of parents contacted him just before the fair to offer help in keeping a watchful eye on children. The project was called Operation Extra Eye. No major incidents involving children was reported during the fair.

Cycling for a cure

Owatonna couple leads MS River Road Run

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

With a passion to help others, Carl and Denise Wieman of Owatonna are on a crusade to find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis.

The Wiemans have found a unique way of combining their love for motorcycling as well as helping raise money for MS research. They are one of the organizers for the 33rd annual MS River Road Run.

This past weekend they led a motorcycle tour from Lakeville through southeastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin. About 55 motorcyclists joined in on the tour in an effort to raise money to aid in the search for a cure for MS.

Prior to the road tour, the Wiemans send out a fundraising request letter to everyone, including "friends, family and even enemies," Carl said with a chuckle. "They can't say yes unless you ask them."

And their strategy appears to be working. Carl and Denise raised \$3,300 alone for this year's River Road Run, and in the 17 years they have been involved with the tour, the Wiemans have raised nearly \$68,000 by themselves.

In all, the fundraiser typically brings in about \$35,000 per year. Since the tour began 32 years ago, it has raised \$2 million for MS research, according to Holly Anderson, president of the Upper Midwest Chapter of the MS Society.

"Our challenge is to get people to do fundraising like we do," Carl said.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Carl and Denise Wieman of Owatonna organized this year's annual MS River Road Run. Motorcyclists left Leo's South in Lakeville Saturday morning and traveled 280 miles across southeastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin. The Wiemans say they ride for one reason — to help those with MS.

MS motorcycle runs for MS began in Minnesota in 1986. For years it had been the only state in the nation to do such fundraising. A few other states have joined in within the past 10 years. Iowa is currently trying to get a MS run going.

In addition to orchestrating aggressive fundraising, the Wiemans designed this year's motorcycle route. The ride goes for 280 miles on the "scenic back roads," Carl said. The tour is unique in that it is self guided where motorcyclists leave as one big group but then do the rest of the tour at their own pace.

"We ride because we can and for

those that cannot," Carl said.

Anderson appreciates the devotion the Wiemans have to this run. "They are champions of this event," she said. The MS organization, she added, depends on "amazing volunteers" like the Wiemans.

Anderson had no personal connection to MS when she became involved with the MS Society. "I have gotten to know people with MS, and they have changed the world for me," she said, adding she quickly found that working with MS was her life's work.

For the Wiemans, they have a personal stake in the ride. Denise's niece, Lori Serbus, had MS for

about 23 years and died in 2004 from complications caused by MS. "We want to help others like Lori that have this devastating disease," Carl said. "We believe in the quote of W. Hall Wendell, Jr.: 'Work hard, play hard, give generously.'"

The Wiemans are still accepting tax-deductible contributions. They may be mailed to 524 Glendale St., Owatonna, MN 55060.

MS is a chronic, often disabling disease of the central nervous system. Most people with MS are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50, but the unpredictable physical and emotional effects can be lifelong.

BP Council approves updated 5-year Reconstruction Plan

BY DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Blooming Prairie City Council approved the amended Five-Year Reconstruction Plan at its monthly meeting Aug. 13.

The plan was updated to include the addition of 1st Avenue East and 1st Avenue West from 3rd Street South to 3rd Street North.

Anticipated reclaim and repave improvements for these roadways are tentatively scheduled for the summer of 2019.

The anticipated capital outlay from the city for these improvements is \$216,515.06 for 1st Avenue West and \$187,964.81.

The original plan laid out projects the city should consider in the first five years of the plan. The first project was East Main Street, which has been completed.

The next big project is the 2nd Street South Project, which will include underground utilities replacement, along with the street reconstruction. The 2nd Street South project is still on the Public Priority List and is waiting for funding assistance.

Another project included in the plan is the reconstruction of 2nd Avenue West, which is anticipated to take place sometime in 2019 or 2020.

A public hearing was held on Aug. 9 to discuss the issue.

In other news, the council:

- Approved the 2019 Wage Grid reflecting a 3 percent Cost of Living increase for all city employees.
- Reviewed the engineer's estimate of the 2019 Street Reclaim and Repave.
- City Administrator Mike Jones discussed with council members the city administrator replacement time frame. Jones said he would be willing to continue working with the administration staff at an hourly rate until January.
- The MMUA Annual Summer Conference is scheduled for Aug. 20-22.

Everybody loves the fair

The first few days of a fair are filled with awe and wonder, the weekend brings a new level of energy, and when the final day arrives there is a calm that seems to filter through and a level of exhaustion sets in. A combination of corn dogs, mini doughnuts, rides old and new, the entertainment from the USB stage to the Village of Yesteryear, reminiscing with old friends and making new, impersonators and butterflies, the list is endless.

As someone who works on the grounds for SCFF week, it is a wonderful experience to watch the ebb and flow of visitors, young and old; to listen to the excited chatter of unforgettable memories being made; to get to know all of the volunteers it takes to run this weeklong adventure.

The behind the scenes activity, the routine of a regular work day, and the energy of the fair at times can be overwhelming. This had me pondering how many people really know what it takes to put on a fair. I know that I cannot answer that question. However, I can share some perspective from the Steele County Historical Society (SCHS). During fair week, SCHS has more than 350 volunteer spots to fill ensuring the Village of Yesteryears 19 historic structures are open



Steele Talkin'
TRACY IGNASZEWSKI

Toys for Tots campaign in BP hits \$14K

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

It was a historic moment, the largest donation ever made by the BOB (Bikes of Blooming) Motorcycle Ride was given to Toys for Tots of Steele County at a recent special presentation. Harvey Farr, far left, presents the check to Nancy Levisay, Don Overlie and Jerry Shore of the Toys for Tots of Steele County.

A new record donation to Toys for Tots of Steele County was etched in dollars and cents by the BOB (Bikes of Blooming) ride on July 21.

A check for \$14,568 was presented to Toys for Tots of Steele County officials on Saturday, Aug. 18.

The BOB ride has been an annual contributor to Toys for Tots since it was started 19 years ago by Harvey and Nancy Farr of J & H Liquors.

"A group of guys were in the store one day and said they wanted to start a motorcycle ride," recalls Nancy. "I made a few more contacts and the ride was born," added Harvey.

Over the 19-year period, Farr says he believes the BOB ride has contributed over \$115,000 to Toys for Tots.

Jerry Shore of Toys for Tots of Steele County was in attendance for the check presentation and was dressed in his U.S. Marines uniform. The Marines started the Toys for Tots program in 1947.

Volunteer Don Overlie, Toys for Tots treasurer Nancy Levisay, Shore and Harvey Farr participated in a photo shoot for the historic moment.

The county Toys for Tots officials quickly agree that the BOB ride is the biggest contributor for the Steele County Toys for Tots program.

SEE STEELE TALKING, C2

Owatonna Foundation approves new donor policy

The Owatonna Foundation Board of Trustees recently held its 60th Annual Meeting at the Steele County History Center. During the annual meeting, the trustees conducted their business of annual committee reports, adopting new policy and donor opportunities, and electing trustees and officers.

“The Foundation has gone through a period of incredible growth in the last few years. The establishment of a staffed office located in downtown Owatonna and the incredible support from business and individual donors that has grown our assets to almost \$6 million and has brought us to the place we are at today,” said Betsy Lindgren, president of the foundation.

Lindgren said the foundation’s commitment to the mission of “improving the quality of life for present and future generations by supporting Owatonna projects that focus on community, arts, recreation and education” is taken very seriously by trustees.

At this annual meeting a new donor policy and donor opportunities were adopted. This will give donors the opportunity to fund their passions while staying within the parameters of the Foundation’s grant making policy. Donors will now have the options of creating an endowed fund that will carry their vision into perpetuity, a donor advised fund which will enable donors to fund a specific Foundation approved project, or a non-endowed option that will allow the donor to fund a specific area of interest.

“There are no words to express our gratitude to everyone that has contributed to date. No matter the size of your gift, each gift given truly reflects our donor’s commitment to making Owatonna a better place. The Owatonna Foundation is truly your community foundation,” said Lindgren.

At the annual meeting, the board revised a new donor policy that was adopted in June of 2017. This will allow donors to fund specific areas of interest they are passionate about. Typically, when donations are received they are pooled together for the purpose of awarding grants in four primary areas: community, arts, recreation, and education. The new policy allows for the formation of “Field of Interest Policies”. There are now three types of specific donor funds available:

Non-Endowed Field of Interest Fund:

The Foundation would receive non-endowed gifts to support a donor’s specific area of interest. A minimum gift of \$10,000.00 would be required.

Endowed Field of Interest Fund:

The Foundation would



July Plemel (left) and Dean Velzke are the Owatonna Foundation Board of Trustees newest members, elected at the recent annual meeting.

receive gifts intended as endowed gifts to support a donor’s specific area of interest. A minimum gift of \$100,000.00 would be required. Endowed funds are funds where only the accrued interest is used for grants so that the fund’s principle remains intact and the fund continues into perpetuity.

A Donor Designated Field of Interest Fund:

The Foundation would receive gifts for a specific Foundation approved grant project that the donor wishes to contribute to that is within the four Foundation areas of interest: community, arts, recreation or education. A minimum gift of \$10,000 would be required.

Lindgren stated: “As the Foundation continues to grow, we are excited to be able to offer these new donor opportunities. There is nothing more gratifying than being able to empower an idea or project that you are passionate about! These “Field of Interest” funds will enable donors to be more specific in their giving. A wonderful example of this is the June A. and Melanie Nelson Scholarship fund that was established several years ago to offer support to women of diversity and single mothers. This gift has meant that we can now offer two, \$1,500 scholarships each year to women working towards their education. This is in addition to the \$30,000 that we already award each year for both traditional and non-traditional students.”

These new funds compliment the Foundation’s Legacy Society initiative where donors state their intent to leave a bequest to the Foundation or contribute a \$10,000 “Living Legacy “gift in their lifetime. The public is invited to learn more about these new donor opportunities and the Legacy Society. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the Foundation office at 507-455-2995.

At the Annual Meeting Trustees and Officers are also elected. Trustees that were reappointed to the Board for



a five-year term included: Carol Nelson, Bob Heers, and Denny Meillier. Trustees Robert Jungbluth, Sabra Otteson and Ken Wilcox were recognized for their many years of service towards the mission and betterment of the Foundation and all have been granted Emeritus Status for their outstanding contributions while serving on the Foundation’s Board of Trustees.

Two new Trustees were elected at the annual meeting. They are Dean Velzke and July Plemel. Velzke is a lifelong resident of Owatonna and is the owner of an Ameriprise Financial Services office. He has served on numerous Boards such as St. Mary’s School, the Owatonna Arts Center, and Owatonna EDA among others and he has coached for various youth sports. He is married to his wife, Kelly and they have three children.

“I have always been impressed with the accomplishments of the Owatonna Foundation, their vision for enhancing the quality of life in Owatonna and the generosity of our community and business to support these initiatives. I’m proud to be a part of this wonderful Owatonna Tradition,” said Velzke.

Plemel is the CEO and owner/agent of State Farm Insurance-Plemel Agency. She has served on the United Way Board, Owatonna Chamber Board, Chamber Ambassadors, and as a prior

Trustee for Sacred Heart Church and is a graduate of Leadership Owatonna. She and her husband, Joe, have three adult children and six grandchildren. Judy states, “I am honored to be a Trustee and am personally excited to be part of an organization that supports the community presently and in the future.”

The following trustees were re-elected to serve as officers: President: Betsy Lindgren, Vice President: Dennis Meillier, and Secretary/Treasurer: Ray Stawarz.

Other members of the Board of Trustees include: William Beer, Dr. Brian Bunkers, Gerald Deetz, Gregg Draeger, Tom Dufresne, David Einhaus, Dale Gandrud, Todd Hale, Charles Herrmann, Mike Jensen, Jay Johnson, Kent Kienholz, Matt Kottke, Chad Lange, Tim McManimon, Corey Mensink, Gene Michaelson, Andy Michaeletz, Monte Mitchell, Jolayne Mohs, Julie Rethemeier, Dave Seykora, Stephen Smith, Dennis Von Ruden, Sharon West, Dr. Carol Winter, and Dr. Bob Wottreng.

Business at the annual meeting also included the approval of a grant to the Owatonna Soccer Association for \$40,000 to be used towards the development of a new soccer field. Other grants that were awarded recently include: Owatonna Tennis Association - \$3,800 for improvements to the Indoor Tennis facility, ISD 761 - \$25,000 towards the purchase of a new scoreboard at OHS, Steele County Historical Society- \$8,754 for new roofs for the large and small cabins at the village of Yesteryear. The Annual Meeting is also the official “Kick-off” to the fundraising season and the Business Fundraising Campaign.

Incorporated in 1958, the Foundation has served the Owatonna community and is celebrating its 60th Anniversary this year. Since then, the Foundation has provided over \$11.9 million dollars in financial support to meet the ever-changing needs of the community.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Mike and Izzy Taylor will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary with an open house, Saturday, August 25 beginning with music and a short program at 2:00 p.m. at Bethlehem Church, 1500 4th Ave., SE Austin, MN. Food and fellowship will follow the program. Family and friends are warmly invited to attend. The couple requests no gifts.

David & Rita Goodnature’s

50th

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Chamber Foundation receives workforce grant

The Bosch Community Fund recently awarded the Owatonna Chamber Foundation a grant for \$5,490 to fund the Made in Owatonna Days program.

Made in Owatonna Days enters its seventh year this school year with a focus of giving students an in-person look at jobs in Steele County.

The Bosch Community Fund grant funds marketing, meals, transportation, and material costs for the program.

Made in Owatonna Days is conducted during three separate days in the fall, winter and spring and includes students from Owatonna High School, Owatonna Alternative Learning Center, Blooming Prairie High School, and Medford High School. In total, more than 150 students participate each school year.

“We focus on three of the six career areas each year in this program and primarily work with 11th and 12th graders,” said Brad Meier, President of the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism. “During the 2018-19 school year we will cover IT/Business, Human Services and Manufacturing giving students a real look at jobs in these areas.”

The Made in Owatonna Days program is organized in partnership with the United Way of Steele County, Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest, Owatonna High School & ALC, and the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism.

STEELE TALKING: Grateful

FROM C1

as well as the History Center. Each volunteer puts in close to three hours, equaling more than 1,000 hours of volunteer time.

My co-workers and I are extremely grateful for the many people that help us bring the village to life each year for the fair. Without their commitment to SCHS, we would not be able to showcase our campus to the thousands of visitors we receive during fair week.

On the final day, as the buzz on the grounds turns to more of a hum, I welcome its closing and look forward to getting back into my routine. Thank you to all who volunteered and those who visited SCHS during fair week. We look forward to seeing you next year at the fair.

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

SECURITY: high priority

FROM C1

Because of the success of Operation Extra Eye, Thiele hopes to keep the program going during future fairs.

In addition to the volunteer civilians, Thiele also received extra help from Owatonna Police and the Dodge County Sheriff’s Office to provide more security throughout the fair.

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

Group says more can be done to improve soil conservation

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

Soil conservation and water quality were discussed at length during a special field event sponsored by the newly formed Cedar River Watershed Partnership on Friday, Aug. 17.

The event was held at the Krell Family Farm north of Blooming Prairie on Highway 218.

Formed in 2017, the partnership is a first of

its kind collaboration in Minnesota that aims to improve water quality and farmer profitability through the implementation of precision agricultural practices and conservation.

Partnership members seek to address important water resource challenges such as flooding and sedimentation in the Cedar River Watershed in southern Minnesota.

Attendees included area farmers and agricultural specialists. The three-hour

forum features keynote speakers, field demonstrations and a panel discussion featuring partnership members.

Steve Lawler, soil scientist for the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District and Bert Strayer of Cover Crop Lead, LaCrosse Seed, were featured speakers on agronomy, benefits and implementations.

Speakers provided tips on how maximizing soil health can economically benefit farm operations and protect water quality at the same time.

Cedar River Watershed Partnership members include Central Farm Service, Hormel Foods, Land O'Lakes SUSTAIN, the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program, the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District and Environmental Initiative, a non-profit that convenes and facilitates the Cedar River Watershed Partnership.

Changes in agricultural practices are always present and welcomed by many local farmers.

"We are stewards of the land and will incorporate new changes including strip tillage and integration of cover crops," remarked Justin Krell, part of the Krell Family Farm

operated by himself, his wife Kristin, father Rodney and mother Michelle.

Justin Hanson, district manager for the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District, said conservationists are most appreciative of the willingness of the Krells to offer their property as a location for this gathering of farmers and ag specialists.

Some winter wheat was just recently harvested on the Krell land and thus provided some acreage to do village demonstrations with the help of farm machinery loaned by local farmers.

Krell and Hanson were part of a panel discussion that followed some field demonstrations on strip tillage.

Other participants in the panel discussion were: Matt Kruger, precision conservation sales specialist, Land O'Lakes SUSTAIN; Brad Radin, program manager for the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program, Minnesota Department of Agriculture and Ashley Schmeling, precision ag agronomist for Central Farm Service.

Krell said changes in farming practices are welcomed. He said



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Bert Strayer of Cover Crop Lead, LaCrosse Seed, talked about soil types at a special soil conservation forum held on Friday, Aug. 17 at the Krell Family farm north of Blooming Prairie.

management of these practices is most important. He emphasized that labor is short and these changing ag practices can lead to more efficiency and less dependability of labor.

Calling himself a fifth generation farmer, Krell said farmers should work together to incorporate these new conservation practices.

Conservation can solve lots of problems, Krell believes, saying a new management style is sometimes warranted.

Hanson said he was excited to work alongside of land owners in making improvements in soil conservation. "Knowledge is what will drive change," Hanson said during the panel discussion.

A goal of the Cedar River Watershed Partnership, Hanson said, is to grow it and create a better job of communicating conservation needs.

SEE SOIL DAY, C6



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Blooming Prairie area farmer Justin Krell discusses new conservation practices during a demonstration on his farm property north of Blooming Prairie.

Waltham family honored for farm conservation

Rod Moe realized he would be losing rented acres for his farming operation when the landowner unveiled his plans to convert cropland into prairie.

When the landowner asked for his thoughts, however, Moe told him, "I'd be more disappointed if you didn't put that land into the conservation program. That's what you should do with that land."

That conservation-minded perspective has guided Moe in his farming for years no matter whether it involved his own land or acres he rented for growing corn and soybeans in northern Mower County's Waltham Township. This has involved Moe making changes to his farm that stand differently

than other area farms and the way his late father, Richard, approached farming.

"Rod is a little bit of a different cooperater in that he has been quietly adopting conservation practices and transforming his farms into a sustainable model for what he thinks is the right thing to do," said Justin Hanson, district manager for Mower Soil & Water Conservation District. "He embraces the challenge of figuring things out for himself and trying innovative ways to farm."

For these efforts, the Rod Moe Family is the 2018 Conservationist of the Year for Mower County as chosen by Mower SWCD's Board of Supervisors. Moe along with his wife, Colleen, and daughter, Rachel – who all



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Rod Moe family of Waltham Township has been honored as the 2018 Conservationist of the Year for Mower County. Moe, along with his wife, Colleen, and daughter, Rachel, were recognized at the Mower County Fair on Aug. 7.

help with farm work in spring and fall – were honored Aug. 7 by Mower SWCD at the Mower County Fair's opening ceremonies.

Local SWCDs annually nominate farmers, individuals, conservation organizations and other groups for implementing conservation practices and improving the natural

resources. The Moe family will be honored with other SWCD honorees in December at the 82nd annual convention of the Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts.

Moe started farming with his father in 1985 – the same year he graduated from high

SEE FARM CONSERVATION, C6

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MN Crop Report

Minnesota farmers made substantial progress on small grain harvest during the week ending August 5, 2018, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Field activities for the week included cutting hay, small grain harvest, and scouting and spraying for aphids.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 4 percent very short, 15 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 3 percent very short, 12 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus.

Ninety-seven percent of the corn crop was in or beyond the silking stage, 6 days ahead of the five-year average. Forty-five percent of the corn has reached the dough stage, 6 days ahead of average. Corn crop condition fell slightly, to 77 percent good to excellent. Soybeans blooming reached 95 percent, 4 days ahead of average. Eighty-one percent of soybeans were setting pods, over a week ahead of average. Soybean condition rated 74 percent good to excellent.

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
Days suitable.....	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.6

	Very short (percent)	Short (percent)	Adequate (percent)	Surplus (percent)
Topsoil moisture.....	4	15	72	9
Subsoil moisture.....	3	12	69	16

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Barley	0	2	19	58	21
Corn	2	5	16	51	26
Dry edible beans	2	3	16	47	32
Oats	1	3	22	56	18
Potatoes, all	0	0	6	39	55
Soybeans	2	5	19	53	21
Spring wheat	0	1	16	58	25
Sugarbeets	3	6	18	14	59
Sunflowers, all	0	0	26	55	19
Pasture and range	2	6	24	55	13

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BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT

BLOTTER SPOTLIGHT: Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 100 block of Broadway St. W. at 10:24 a.m.

Residents urged to look out for IRS scam hitting area

Police are warning residents in Steele County to look out for a scam involving the IRS.

On Aug. 17, Owatonna Police and the Rice-Steele 911 Center received an unusually large number of calls from citizens reporting receiving calls from the IRS threatening arrest for unpaid taxes, according to Capt. Eric Rethemeier.

Callers claim to be IRS employees, using fake names and bogus IRS identification badge numbers, Rethemeier said. “They may know a lot about their targets, and they usually alter the caller ID to make it look like the IRS is calling,” he noted.

Rethemeier said victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a gift card or wire transfer. Victims may be threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver’s license. In many cases, he pointed out, the caller becomes hostile and insulting.

The scam also involves victims being told they have

a refund due to try to trick them into sharing private information, Rethemeier said. He added if the phone isn’t answered, the scammers often leave an urgent callback request.

Police want residents to know that the IRS doesn’t do any of the following:

Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Generally, the IRS will first mail you a bill if you owe any taxes.

Threaten to bring in local police or other law enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

Demand payment without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.

Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

“If you receive a call from someone purporting to be the IRS, it is highly likely a scam and you’re better to hang up,” Rethemeier said.

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court with Judge Karen R. Duncan presiding the week of Aug. 6:

Christopher J. Johnson, 53, Blooming Prairie, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of firearm. He was sentenced to \$131, 1 year in county jail, no possession of firearms, cognitive skill training, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments and 5 years of supervised probation.

Jesse A. Tollefson, 26, previously appeared and was convicted of felony motor vehicle theft and gross misdemeanor DWI. The defendant was sentenced to \$581, 38 days in county jail, no possession of firearms, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, attend MADD impact panel and 5 years of supervised probation.

Daniel D. Webster, 57, Owatonna, previously appeared and was convicted of felony burglary. Webster was sentenced to \$131 and 23 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of Aug. 6 – 10:

MN DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Brent H. Martin, 26, Owatonna, take fish without license, \$181.

MN STATE PATROL ROCHESTER

Jaden J. Adermann, 23, Mankato, revoked license, \$281; Trevor W. Arndt, 37, Blooming Prairie, trailer inspection decal violation, \$181; Renee E. Baldwin, 36, Rosemount, speeding, \$121; April R. Batten, 30, Claremont, seat belt, \$106; Robert D. Bender, 62, Blooming Prairie, speeding, \$121; Noah A. Bremer, 35, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Anthony L. Evans, 21, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Matthew L. Gustin, 24, Ames, IA, speeding, \$221; Riley J. Hill, 16, Owatonna, speeding, \$181; Dylan M. Hoover, 18, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Derek D. Jensen, 23, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$106; Nicole M. Jensen, 35, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Raymond J. Kubat, 73, Medford, seat belt, \$106; Taylor G. Maricle, 22, Austin, suspended license, \$281; Kathleen L. Maxwell, 69, Albert Lea, unsafe lane usage and no license, \$231; Bronson D. McLeod, 19, Brooklyn Park, window tint violation, \$131; Monica G. Morales Gonzales, 39, Austin, seat belt, \$106; David L. Olivas Lira, 26, no license, \$181; Harsh B. Patel, 22, Brooklyn Park, no insurance, \$281; Rafael P. Reyes, 72, Waseca, stop sign, \$131; Angel A. Rivera Anariba, 21, Hampton, IA, no license

and no insurance, \$381; Ruben Rivera, 37, Ruskin, FL, speeding, \$141; Benjamin J. Voracek, 52, Kenyon, revoked license, \$281; Christian D. Weber, 20, Faribault, wrong class/endorsement violation, \$181; Randolph E. Wright, 59, Thief River Falls, speeding, \$121.

OWATONNA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jared L. Aas, 44, Owatonna, tampering with vehicle and revoked license, \$381 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Abdul W. Ahmed, 40, Des Plaines, IL, stop sign, \$131; Candace K. Bertolino, 47, Waseca, suspended license, \$281; Makenzie J. Boone, 27, Albert Lea, seat belt, \$106; Cameron K. Burns, 48, Owatonna, no front plate, \$111; Sean M. Cicero, 38, Owatonna, restraining order violation, \$581, 10 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, obtain permission to leave the state, domestic diagnostic abuse and 2 years of supervised probation; Jordan T. Cosgrove, 29, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Adolfo Deluna, 44, Claremont, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Lindsey L. Dwyer-Rodewald, 26, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Tina M. Eisen Kimbro, 51, Waterville, no insurance, \$181; Kristina R. Findley, 33, Owatonna, assault, \$131, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation, no contact with victim and 1 year of supervised probation; Jay B. Fuentes, 22, Owatonna, suspended license and possession of marijuana, \$331; Carlos Gonzalez, 19, Faribault, minor consumption, \$181; Jose L. Gutierrez, 17, Owatonna, stop sign, \$131; Robert L. Hagmann, 37, Owatonna, theft, \$202.89 and 25 days in county jail; Vanessa J. Hoffmann, 37, Ankeny, IA, failure to stop for traffic control signal, \$131; Erica L. Huskey, 35, Janesville, revoked license, \$281; Nicole M. Jensen, 35, Owatonna, no insurance and expired tabs, \$311; Martin T. Lampkin, 21, suspended license, \$281; Delaney J. Lewis, 18, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Rebecca B. Maas, 35, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$181, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of supervised probation; Alicia M. McNiel, 38, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Gary D. Mosley, 27, Owatonna, DWI, \$381, 2 days in county jail, chemical dependency evaluation, no alcohol or controlled substance use and 1 year of supervised probation; Scott D. Olson, 61, Owatonna, no insurance, \$281; Arletha J. Powell, 26, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Michael F. Ryan, 32, Owatonna, failure to obey traffic control device, \$131; Caleb Z. Stewart, 30, Owatonna, revoked license, no insurance and possession of marijuana and paraphernalia, \$581; Stacey S. Thomas, 26, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Albert Torres, 29, Claremont, give peace officer false information, \$181 and 16 days in county jail; Travis L. Tritle, 20, Owatonna, controlled substance crime,

stay of adjudication, \$100, 67 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, maintain employment, cognitive skill training, chemical dependency evaluation, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain permission to leave the state and 2 years of supervised probation; Derrick D. Waldner, 27, Hayfield, theft, \$381 and 2 days in county jail; Glenn A. Weidendorf, 29, Owatonna, seat belt, \$106; Lesandra P. Whitehead, 31, Owatonna, no insurance and suspended license, \$481; Sallie M. Wilson, 35, Owatonna, cancelled license, \$281; Cody J. Wood, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$141.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Abang A. Agwa, 46, Worthington, speeding, \$121; Junior J. Andino Diaz, 29, Burnsville, no license and keeping to the right on roadway, \$231; Taylor J. Bauernfeind, 26, La Crosse, WI, speeding, \$121; Joel M. Chambers, 42, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Jose L. Garcia, 19, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Brandi M. Grant, 38, Owatonna, no license, \$181; Teresa K. Haberman, 54, Blooming Prairie, revoked license and no insurance, \$481; Cain E. Hutchins, 44, Albert Lea, suspended license, \$281; Nancy A. Maas, 57, Medford, failure to yield, \$131; Cresse T. McCarren, 24, Austin, speeding, \$121; Daniel P. Parrott, 27, Waseca, revoked license, \$281; Paulina L. Rivera, 20, Owatonna, littering, \$181; Melinda Rodriguez, 39, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Antonio M. Ruiz Mendez, 19, Le Center, speeding, \$381; Vanessa M. Setzer, 20, Lakeville, speeding, \$121; Aaron A. Sletten, 33, Owatonna, speeding, \$121; Cristian E. Soto Ramos, 29, Medford, speeding and no license, \$231; Travis L. Tritle, 20, Owatonna, interference with 911 call and restraining order violation, \$131, 90 days in county jail, no contact with victim, no possession of firearms and 2 years of supervised probation.

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE

Aug. 10

Pursuit: At 1:10 a.m., police pursued a subject at Glendale St. NW and Adams Ave. NW. They took the subject into custody.

Restraining Order: Officers responded to a restraining order violation in the 400 block of Grove Ave. N. at 11:02 a.m.

DWI: Police arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated in the 200 block of Mill St. W. at 10:03 p.m.

Aug. 11

Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance at 20th St. NE and Hemlock Ave. NE at 5:46 a.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Juvenile: Police received a juvenile complaint from the

1000 block of Grandview Ave. SW at 6:49 a.m.

Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 4100 block of 66th St. NW in Medford Township at 11:51 a.m.

Hit and Run: At 4:16 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 600 block of Bridge St. W.

Warrants: Police made warrant arrests in the 200 block of Beech Ave. NE at 6:39 p.m., the 500 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 9:35 p.m. and the 500 block of Oak Ave. S. at 9:56 p.m.

Trespassing: Officer arrested a subject for trespassing in the 200 block of Rice St. E. at 7:06 p.m.

Probation: Police arrested a subject for violating his or her probation in the 400 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 11:59 p.m.

Aug. 12

Restraining Order: Officers responded to a restraining order violation in the 400 block of Oak Ave. S. at 12:42 p.m.

Aug. 13

Theft: At 5:13 a.m., a theft occurred in the 1000 block of 21st Ave. NW.

Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 100 block of Broadway St. W. at 10:24 a.m.

Assault: Officers responded to an assault at 21st Ave. NW and Frontage Rd. W. at 12:02 p.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 100 block of 22nd St. NW at 12:46 p.m.

Burglary: Police began a burglary investigation in the 400 block of Academy St. E. at 2:05 p.m.

Shoplifting: At 2:35 p.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W.

Disturbance: Police responded to a disturbance in the 500 block of Grove Ave. N. at 4:31 p.m. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Hit and Run: At 8:45 p.m., a hit and run accident resulting in property damage occurred in the 100 block of Phelps St. E.

Theft: A motor vehicle was reported stolen from the 100 block of Landmark Dr. NE at 9:09 p.m.

Aug. 14

Disturbance: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 1:32 a.m. They issued a citation.

Mental Health: Police responded to a mental health incident in the 1300 block of Cherry St. NE at 5:33 p.m.

Crash: Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W. at 5:41 p.m.

Welfare: Officers conducted a welfare check in the 200 block of 18th St. SW at 10:48 p.m. They issued a citation during the check.

Aug. 15

Theft: Police arrested a subject for theft in the 400 block of 16th St. SW at 8:44 a.m.

Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 500 block of Braemar Place NE at 11:17 a.m.

Crash: At 3:57 p.m., a motor vehicle accident with injuries occurred in the 2200 block of

CRIME BRIEF

PASSENGER NABBED AFTER FOOT PURSUIT



WILMES

A man suspected of stealing a cell phone is facing charges after getting into a foot pursuit with officers.

Blake Wilmes, 27, of Faribault has been charged with theft and fleeing a police officer on foot. He also was a wanted fugitive with several outstanding warrants.

Owatonna Police responded to Brown Park where the high school girls’ soccer team tryouts were taking place Aug. 15. One of the girls reported her cell phone missing. The team’s coach noted a suspicious person in the area of the player’s bags and obtained a license plate number of the vehicle he left in.

A short time later a detective spotted the vehicle near the fairgrounds. As the officer stopped the vehicle, a passenger hopped out of the car and took off running through the Federated parking lot. With the assistance of the sheriff’s office, officers caught the Wilmes and took him into custody.

Officers searched Wilmes and found the stolen cell phone, according to police.

Cedar Ave. N.

Restraining Order: Police responded to a restraining order violation in the 800 block of 14th St. NE at 7:16 p.m.

Aug. 16

Restraining Order: At 8:31 a.m., officers responded to a restraining order violation in the 300 block of Allan Ave. SVV.

Hit and Run: Hit and run accidents resulting in property damage occurred in the 1100 block of Austin Road SE. at 12:59 a.m. and the 1000 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 7:22 p.m.

Shoplifting: A shoplifting incident occurred in the 100 block of Broadway St. W. at 3:35 p.m.

Warrant: Officer arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 600 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 3:42 p.m.

Child Protection: Police received a child protection report from the 1600 block of Mosher Ave. SW at 5:14 p.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 300 block of 18th St. SE at 7:52 p.m.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Aug. 10

Restraining Order: Deputies responded to a restraining order violation in the 54000 block of 52nd Ave. NW in Deerfield Township at 3:12 p.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 400 block of 6th Ave. W. in Ellendale at 4:18 p.m.

Aug. 13

Warrants: Deputies made three warrant arrests in the 100 block of Main St. E. in Owatonna at 8:53 a.m., 10:13 a.m. and 2:42 p.m.

Suspicion: At 9:15 p.m., deputies responded to suspicious activity in the 93000 block of 37th Ave. SW in Somerset Township. They took a subject into custody.

Aug. 14

DWI: Deputies arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated at County Road 45 S. and Highway 14 E. in Owatonna Township at 11:09 p.m.

Aug. 15

Arrest: Deputies assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 400 block of 16th St. SW at 9 a.m.

Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 1:56 p.m.

Burglary: At 11:56 p.m., deputies responded to a burglary in the 63000 block of 73rd Ave. SW in Lemond Township.

Aug. 16

Warrant: Deputies arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 1500 block of Cedar Ave. S. at 7:16 p.m.

ARRESTS Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE

Brian Joseph Maestre-Reavis, 31, arrested at 7:15 a.m. Aug. 11,

domestic assault, held for court.

Kristina Rose Findley, 33, arrested at 7:49 p.m. Aug. 11, probation violation, held for court.

Brandon Charles Froid, 32, arrested at 9:38 p.m. Aug. 11, warrant arrest (probation violation), body only.

John Dale Dahle, 54, arrested at 8:47 p.m. Aug. 11, warrants arrest, body only.

Tony Terrence Fisher, 40, arrested at 10:10 p.m. Aug. 11, warrant arrest, \$6,000 bail.

Timothy Odell Williams, 48, arrested at 12:10 a.m. Aug. 12, probation violation, held for court.

Brian Keith Schnagl, 35, arrested at 8:58 p.m. Aug. 13, warrants arrest, \$23,000 bail.

Blake Mitchell Wilmes, 27, arrested at 9:12 a.m. Aug. 15, felony fleeing on foot and theft, held for court.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

Carla Erin Coke, 43, arrested at 1 a.m. Aug. 15, DWI-refusal and obstruction, held for court.

Benjamin Jacob Hunt, 28, arrested at 10:20 a.m. Aug. 15, warrant arrest, \$1,000 bail.

Jose Margarito Arriga, 46, arrested at 7:18 p.m. Aug. 16, warrant arrest, body only.

MN STATE PATROL

Austin Lee Kriegel, 21, arrested at 10:45 a.m. Aug. 11, give peace officer false name, \$1,000 bail.

COURT NEWS Dodge County

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

DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Scott A. Bowman, 41, Pine Island, revoked license and no insurance, \$480; David P. Brooks, 60, Mantorville, assault, \$380, write letter of apology, anger management and 6 months of probation; Richard L. Green Jr., 35, Stewartville, assault, \$380, no possession of firearms, anger management, domestic abuse evaluation, mental health screening, write letter of apology and 1 year of supervised probation; Ethan R. Hillsman, 16, Mantorville, speeding, \$120; Ashley A. Klatt, 20, Rochester, speeding, \$120; Mariah L. Matrouis, 23, Rochester, speeding, \$120; Corwin Thurman, 28, Rochester, revoked license, \$280; Bladimir Ventura, 49, Alexandria, VA, speeding, \$220; Bailey M. Wolff, 22, Janesville, open bottle, \$180.

KASSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Carey S. Ball, 46, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105; Eleanor E. Engesser, 74, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105; Larry J. Fennert, 34, Waldorf, speeding, \$140; Corey L. Greening, 38, Rochester, seat belt, \$105; Joann L. Hines, 51, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Mishelle E. Hrstka, 57, Kasson, speeding, \$130; Keith

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

1. Dmario Holmes – financial card fraud - \$3,000 bail

2. Damian Hortop-Rocha – burglary – no bail

3. Brittany Hoverkamp – disorderly conduct - \$1,000 bail

4. Renant Hubbard – controlled substance crime – no bail

5. Andrew Hull – DWI - \$3,000 bail

6. Spencer Hutchinson – aggravated DWI – no bail

7. Trung Huynh – drugs – no bail
8. Gloria Ibarra – warrant - \$30,000 bail

9. Nicolas Ibarra – DWI – no bail

10. Michelle Jarvis – worthless check - \$1,000 bail

11. Angela Jellum – DWI - \$12,000 bail

12. Darrel Jensen – revoked license - \$6,000 bail

13. Jose Jimenez Jr. – domestic assault – no bail

14. David Johnson – dishonored check - \$1,000 bail
15. Lawrence Johnson – domestic assault - \$1,000 bail

16. Robert Johnson – criminal vehicular - \$10,000 bail

17. Brandi Junak – DWI - \$12,000 bail

18. Mikael Kaijansinkko – DWI, speeding - \$500 bail

19. Tongyik Keirkow – DWI - \$12,000 bail

20. Marie Kinard – DWI – no bail

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

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

AUGUST 23
1 p.m. – August Book Fair, BP Library

AUGUST 25
4 p.m. – BPFDF Brat & Sweet Corn Feed, Fire Hal

AUGUST 27
1 p.m. – Movie Mondays, BP Library

AUGUST 28
10:30 a.m. – Storytime, BP

Library

2 p.m. – Chess and Board Games Teen Tournament, BP Library

5:30 p.m. – Ambulance Commission Meeting

AUGUST 30
6 p.m. – 55+ Driver Improvement Program Refresher Course, BP High School

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AUGUST 23
7:30 p.m. – Ellendale City Council Meeting, Community Building

AUGUST 24
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

AUGUST 27
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building

AUGUST 28
6:30 p.m. – Karate, Community Center

AUGUST 29
10 a.m. – SEMCAC, Community Building



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OWATONNA/MEDFORD

AUGUST 23
10 a.m. – August Book Fair, Owatonna Library

2 p.m. & 7 p.m. – Movies at the Library, Owatonna Library

AUGUST 25
7 a.m. – Farmers Market, Central Park

8:30 p.m. – Degner Regional Airport Family Night Movie, Airport

AUGUST 26
7 a.m. – Airport Fly-In/ Drive-In Breakfast, Airport

AUGUST 27
4 p.m. – Owatonna HRA Meeting, City Admin Building

7 p.m. – Medford City

Council Meeting, City Admin Building

AUGUST 28
11 a.m. – Early Edition Rotary Club Corn Feed, Owatonna Eagles

4 p.m. – Owatonna Public Utilities Meeting, OPU

5 p.m. – Steele County Board Meeting, County Admin Building

5:30 p.m. – Owatonna Planning Commission Meeting, City Admin Building

5:30 p.m. – Business After Hours

AUGUST 29
9:30 a.m. – Garden Time, Owatonna Library

Albert Lea Theatre sets auditions for upcoming play

Albert Lea Community Theatre (ACT) announces auditions will be held Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 27 and 28, at 7 p.m., for the musical “Forbidden Broadway” at the Marion Ross Performing Arts Center, 147 N. Broadway in Albert Lea.

In this long-running Off-Broadway hit musical revue, Broadway’s greatest musical legends meet Broadway’s greatest satirist in this hilarious, loving and endlessly entertaining tribute to some of the theatre’s greatest stars and songwriters. Performers will parody show tunes, actors, characters and plots of some of Broadway’s biggest hits, such as “Chicago,” “Annie,” “Wicked,” “Into the Woods,” “Spamalot,” “Mamma Mia” and many more.

Directed by Rory Mattson, eight performances of this musical comedy revue are scheduled for Oct. 18–27. The director is looking to cast up to 12 men and women of various ages. There are no roles for children in this show. Those auditioning should be prepared to sing, learn a simple dance routine and 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.

fee is \$30 the day-of-race and \$1 for Kids 400M/800M (race day registration only). The awards ceremony will begin at 10:15 a.m.

55+ driver improvement program offered

The Minnesota Highway Safety Center will be offering a 55+ Driver Improvement Course on Thursday, Aug. 30 from 6-10 p.m. at the Blooming Prairie High School.

This is a four-hour refresher course.

The Driver Improvement course is open to the public; pre-registration is required. A MN Highway Safety & Research Center certified instructor teaches this class. By utilizing the most up-to-date research in the field, participants will be provided the latest information in regards to driver safety, new laws, and vehicle technology. This class has something for everyone! The fee for the four-hour refresher course is \$22.

For more information or to register, visit our website at www.mnsafetycenter.org or call 888-234-1294.

Persons age 55 and older who complete the course qualify for 10 percent discount on their auto insurance premiums for three years, according to Minnesota law. First time participants must complete the initial eight hours of training and a four hour refresher class every three years to maintain the discount.

Molly Kate Kestner returns to Austin for ArtWorks festival

Austin native Molly Kate Kestner, who rose to national fame in 2014 when her song “His Daughter” went viral, returns to her hometown to close the Austin ArtWorks Festival outdoor stage on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Kestner agreed to perform as a last-minute replacement for country blues musician Charlie Parr, who injured his shoulder early in August and is unable to play his guitar.

In addition to Atlantic recording artist Kestner, the outdoor stage will feature **Gaelynn Lea** winner of the National Public Radio Music’s 2016 Tiny Desk Contest, the **Austin Symphony Orchestra**, R & B soulsters **Funktion Junction**,

Twin Cities-based GLBTA **Freedom Jazz**, Americana quartet **The Tinder Box**, **Wicked Renegades** and **Ventura Highway**.

In addition to the outdoor stage off 2nd Ave NE and 1st St NE, there will be an acoustic stage in the Paramount Annex (former Park and Rec) and an acoustic stage at the ArtWorks Center. **Josh Whalen & Friends** will jam in the alley behind Dusty’s on Saturday in the afternoon. **Puddles Pity Party** will celebrate the life of Dick Schindler at the Paramount Theatre at 7 p.m. Saturday. With support from Mayo Clinic Health System Austin tickets are \$25. This reserved-



Molly Kate Kestner.

seating show is 70 percent sold at press time. A full schedule of the music is available at www.austinareaarts.org.

Harvester’s Evening to celebrate Czech heritage

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
STAFF WRITER

Turn back the clock to the good old days when the Blooming Prairie Czech community celebrated its harvest.

A special Harvester’s Evening is being planned by the Blooming Prairie Sons of the American Legion Squadron #52 from 5:30-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22 at the Blooming Prairie Servicemen’s Club.

The special event will replicate the Czech celebration of the harvest with good food, good music and friendly conversation. Tickets at \$20 each are now on sale at Farmers & Merchants State Bank,

US Bank, the Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce office and at the Servicemen’s Club. Seating is limited, “so get your tickets early,” said Tom Peterson of the SAL.

Proceeds from this special event featuring the Dan Stursa Band will support the BP Servicemen’s Club and veterans activities.

The dinner menu will feature roast pork, potato dumplings, sauerkraut, corn, buchty (pastry), coffee and milk.

Steve Wencil will have displays on local Czech history for public viewing and he will welcome questions from the guests.

Mission of Mercy to offer free dental care

The Minnesota Dental Association and the Minnesota Dental Foundation will be bringing the Minnesota Mission of Mercy to the Minneapolis Convention Center on Friday, Sept. 7 and Saturday, Sept. 8.

Minnesota Mission of Mercy is a community event that provides free dental care, over a two-day period, for patients facing barriers to care. Financial support for the event comes from the generosity of several organizations, including Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation as the leading sponsor with a \$225,000 grant.

The Minneapolis Convention Center will host over 1,500 committed volunteers, including dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, dental therapists, translators and lay volunteers. Organizers of the event plan to welcome as many as 2,000 patients seeking care. Services provided include cleanings, fillings, root canals on select teeth, extractions and oral hygiene instruction.

Dr. Alejandro Aguirre, chair of the 2018 Mission of Mercy event, says, “We are proud to offer free dental care to the underserved population in the state of Minnesota. Many Minnesotans, including dentists, are generously donating their time and talents to give back to our community in a meaningful way. The number of people that come together to make this event possible is simply overwhelming.”

PATIENT INFO

Dental care will be offered to adults and children of all ages. Doors open at 5:30 a.m. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Early arrival is encouraged as patients will be seen on a first-come, first-serve basis until capacity is reached each day. Those seeking treatment should be prepared to spend the entire day at the event. Full dentures, root canals on molars, crowns, extractions of unexposed wisdom teeth and dental implants will not be provided. Patients will be given a registration and release form to complete, however they will not be checking IDs or any other personal documentation. To learn more about the event, or to volunteer, visit www.mnmom.org.

“Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation is honored to help make this event possible again this year, and proud to say that in addition to this financial support, nearly all Delta Dental employees will volunteer at the event,” says Joe Lally, executive director of Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation. “We are so grateful to the generous dental professionals who donate their expertise and time for people in need.”

This is the sixth year a Mission of Mercy event is being held in Minnesota, with free care provided being valued at over \$8 million since 2012. To support the cause, text Smile10 or Smile25 to 20222 to make a donation of \$10 or \$25.

LIBRARY BOOK NOOK

Library’s fall author series coming up

Most of you know that the library here in Blooming Prairie is officially named the Blooming Prairie Branch Library. We are a branch of the Owatonna Public Library, which means its staff helps us with the ordering of books, technical assistance, and staff support. We rely on their expertise when we have questions or concerns.

So it seems appropriate to share with the Blooming Prairie readers the Owatonna Public Library Fall Author Series. All these events will take place in Owatonna at the library. Car pools could be arranged for Blooming Prairie residents to take advantage of these four author visits during September and October.

On Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 6:30 p.m., Chad Lewis will speak on The Bizarre History of Minnesota. Chad has spoken here several times on strange topics and is always interesting.



NANCY VAILLANCOURT

On Thursday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. Michael Perry, author of Population 485: Meeting Your Neighbors One Siren at a Time, will tell of his experiences returning to a small town in Wisconsin.

Barry Adams, former Gettysburg interpreter and history buff, will share the stories he gathered in his book Steele County in the Civil War on Tuesday, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m.

Finally, Curt Brown will speak on his book, Minnesota 1918: When Flu, Fire, and War Ravaged the State. The book even mentions Blooming Prairie in two contexts: the town that had its saloons shut down and the home of a woman who survived the Moose Lake fires. This program will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 9.

All of these books can be requested for you through our library.

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June 23 “Cruise for Cancer” Raised **\$2,568.00**

July 21 “B.O.B. Ride... Toys for Tots” As of Aug 13 **\$13,318.00**

Thank You Volunteers, Riders, Businesses & Organizations that Donated Money to Make these Two Rides Successful

Mark your 2019 Calendar:

June 22: Cruise for Cancer Ride

July 20: B.O.B. Ride “Toys for Tots”

Aug 27, Sept 10, 17, & 24 Bar Bingo Monday @ 6:30

August 28 Bloomin' Grapevine Wine Club Summer get Together 7-8:30pm

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Hatching fun at the fair

STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

Butterflies are often found to be beyond your grasp, but that wasn't the case for Chloe Weber, 10, of Blooming Prairie Friday afternoon at the Steele County Fair when she caught eight butterflies on her nectar feeding stick. The sticks allowed fairgoers to have close-up interaction with the butterflies. Chloe went through the new Butterfly Encounter at the fair with her mother. The special exhibit featured about 300 butterflies from five different species.

EXTENDED COVERAGE INSIDE:

- D2 & D3: 4-H Results
- D4: New Brat Stand
- D4: Junior Fair Board
- D5: Open Class Results
- D5: Livestock Hall of Fame
- D6: Photo Tribute to Fair

We didn't have space for everything this week. Don't worry, watch next week's Times for more fair coverage from the Century Scene in 2018.

BREAKFAST OF CHAMPS AND BIG BUCKS

Livestock sale drums up \$86K for 4-H program

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The Breakfast of Champions has rolled in some big bucks for the Steele County 4-H program.

It's actually called the 4-H Market Livestock Sale, but it may as well be the Breakfast of Champions as organizers dine the bidders with a breakfast before they get their hands on purchasing champion animals and other show placings during the Steele County Fair.

Once the auction begins, the money seems to come pouring in from all directions. The champion beef steer produced a whopping \$4,100. In all, 120 animals were sold during the auction for \$86,000 with the money not only benefiting the individual 4-H members, but also the 4-H organization as a whole.

More than 100 bidders turned out to purchase the top animals exhibited by 4-H members from around the county Saturday morning. It's a tradition that has been going on for 73 years in Steele County.

At the center of the auction is a familiar face who has been involved with the fundraiser for more years than he can remember. Jim Grass of Owatonna is an avid promoter of the auction and goes out before hand to drum up support for the auction.

"He's the face of the auction," said Tracy Ignaszewski, Steele County's 4-H program coordinator. "I remember him at the auction when I was a kid."

This year Grass, 89, handled auction purchases for 40 businesses from around the region. While many businesses send representatives to the auction, Grass takes care of the 40 businesses he received commitments from ahead of



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER

The 4-H Livestock Auction was held Saturday morning at the Steele County Fair in Owatonna. Auctioneers donated their services with selling animals belonging to 4-H members. This year's auction brought in \$86,000 for the 4-H program.

the fair.

It has become such a challenge juggling all the paperwork of 40 buyers that Grass relies on his daughter, Julie Grass, a former 4-Her, and another family friend to help sort everything out during the auction. With clipboards and papers in hand,

in the first year and now spends close to \$3,000 in the auction.

Some of the bidders have a limit of what they want to spend while others instruct Grass to buy whatever he wants.

Of his 40 bidders, Grass said, "The majority of these

auction are valuable, according to Grass. "It rewards the kids for a job well done with their livestock project," said Grass, who has been involved himself with 4-H since he was 7 years old. "It teaches a kid responsibility. It's not like other projects where you work on them for an hour and forget about them for a week. You can't do that with livestock."

Proceeds from the auction go into the general budget for 4-H, according to Ignaszewski. The auction is the largest fundraiser, and one of only about three fundraisers, for 4-H during the year. The money helps pay for camps and day camps among other things. "Without an auction, our program would look a lot different," Ignaszewski admits. She is more than appreciative of the work done by the Grass family over the years. "We would lose buyers without the Grasses," Ignaszewski said. "There would be some buyers that wouldn't respond unless Jim contacted them," she added.

4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION BY THE NUMBERS

- Began in 1945
- 120 animals sold this year
- Raised \$86,000 for 4-H
- Top animal: Champion Beef Steer \$4,100
- More than 100 auction bidders

Saved from extinction

Volunteers step up to keep Steely and Stella as the fair's mascots

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

As the fair was getting underway in the preceding months, the fair board saw that it had a dearth of volunteers to perform as the iconic Steely and Stella.

The fair's two mascots are nearly as recognizable as the rides, attractions, grandstand, and a bag of Tom Thumb donuts and in the weeks leading up to the fair plenty of Steele County residents offered their time to don those famous costumes and bring our beloved bovines to life.

On Saturday it was Coleen Hougas and Don McCann as the pair. It was Coleen's first year as Stella while Don has played the role of Steely for three or four years. "I've been in Owatonna all my life," Hougas said.

One of her main reasons for volunteering was the comradery and friendship of the fair board and all those who help to put on the largest county fair in Minnesota. "They're good friends and great people," she said.

McCann tells a similar story, "Some of my friends were doing it and so I started." He originally volunteered with his wife, but as the costumes can lead to some claustrophobia and heat can take its toll, his wife sat out this year. However, she still enjoys the fair. "She's a nut about the fair," McCann said. "She asks to come here every night."

In order to combat the heat, the pair revealed that they have fans installed into the headpieces and ice packs hidden within their costumes. "The heat does get to you," McCann said as he took a brief reprieve from the crowds to answer some questions and free himself from the Steely headpiece. "I feel like I've lost 10 pounds," he said.

Both he and Hougas admit that their favorite part of playing the famous duo is seeing the joy of the people they encounter along the way, especially the young people. "The faces of the kids," Hougas said, when asked her favorite part so far. "Some are just so excited, and its cool to

see that excitement."

Although they do attest to the fact that both kids and adults enjoy the pair, it's the children who seem most enthusiastic. "You get to be a big kid," McCann said. According to McCann, there's also some fun to be had in messing with the people they know under the guise of the costumes. "Its kind of fun to have that anonymity."

Each of them has fond memories of the fair, and have spent summers attending it from a young age. "It's a great place to see everybody, and people will even plan stuff around the fair, like reunions," Hougas said. "The food is always good, too," McCann added.

Prior to performing as the duo in this year's fair, they tested out their Steely and Stella skills at a few events, like the Ellendale parade and Crazy Days in Owatonna. "It's really about just trying to give back to the community and be involved," McCann said of his role as Steely.

While McCann had worn the costume at past fairs, this was Hougas' first. "I heard on the radio that they needed more volunteers and I thought I would try it," she explained.

"It got to the point where we weren't sure if we could do it," McCann said of their initial lack of volunteers. "But a lot of people stepped up."

This year the fair divvied up the roles between 12 volunteers, each of whom wore the costumes at different times on different days.

As they put their costumes back on and begun to wade through the crowds near fair square, children and fairgoers all wanted a photo with the mascots. As McCann explained, "it can take over 20 minutes for us to make it through the Four Seasons."

With great volunteers like McCann and Hougas and their fellow costumed colleagues, Steely and Stella were able to continue their tradition of entertaining fairgoers and brought a little bit of extra fun for young people and adults at this year's fair.



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

Steely and Stella greet several children and their families on their way through fair square. Don McCann and Coleen Hougas were behind the costumes for that day's events. The mascots nearly became extinct earlier this year when it didn't appear there would be enough volunteers. But true to form with Steele County, people stepped up and saved the iconic mascots.



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STEELE COUNTY 4-H
LIVESTOCK RESULTS



Lauren Arthur of the Meriden Meadowlarks 4-H Club with her champion market beef.

Beef:

Champion Cow/Calf Knowledge - Brenna Clarey, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – Ava Kylo, Straight River Stars; **Champion Cow/Calf Exhibit** - Ava Kylo, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Maryn Cowell, Straight River Stars; **Top Junior Dairy Steer** - Alexandra Herget, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Top Junior Beef Calf** - Ericka Jaster, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Beef Prospect Market Calf** - Ericka Jaster, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Emma Gillis, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Breeding Heifer** - Ethan Arett, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Morgan Styndl, Merry Lane; **Champion Market Heifer** - Joseph Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** - Mikayla Dinse, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Champion Beef Steer** - Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Jacob Klecker, Straight River Stars; **Champion Dairy Steer** - Jacob Katzung, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** - Joshua Katzung, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Champion Market Beef** - Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Joseph Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Junior Champion Beef Showmanship** - Emma Gillis, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Bo Zweiner, Merry Lane; **Intermediate Champion Beef Showmanship** - Ava Kylo, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** - Jacob Klecker, Straight River Stars; **Senior Champion Beef Showmanship** - Mikayla Dinse, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Alivia Kubista, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Rate of Gain Market Beef** - Jacob Klecker, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Mallory Olson, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Champion Rate of Gain Dairy Steer** - Gavin Lewison, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** - Grace Lewison, Straight River Stars; **Junior Beef Interview Champion** - Gavin Lewison, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Anna Mollenhauer, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Beef Interview Champion** - Maryn Cowell, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** - Ethan Arett, Merry Lane.

Dairy:

Champion Junior Ayrshire – Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars; **Champion Senior Ayrshire** – Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars; **Champion Junior Brown Swiss** – Kellen Nelson, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Lilly Zollner, Pratt Commandoes; **Champion Senior Brown Swiss** – Lilly Zollner, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Kylie Kruckeberg, Pratt Commandoes; **Champion Junior Guernsey** – Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars; **Champion Senior Guernsey** – Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars; **Champion Junior Registered Holstein** - Ryan Haberman, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Jack Bruns, Merry Lane; **Champion Junior Grade Holstein** – Wyatt Garten, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Hannah Mundt, Pratt Commandoes; **Champion Senior Registered Holstein** – Jerome Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – Abby Haberman, Straight River Stars; **Champion Junior Jersey** – Maggie Bruns, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Bobbie Bruns, Merry Lane; **Champion Senior Jersey** – Jerome Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Junior Milking Shorthorn** – Anthony Manderfeld, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Anthony Manderfeld, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Senior Milking Shorthorn** – Anthony Manderfeld, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Junior Red & White** – Samantha Fredin, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – Jayden Jirele, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Senior Red & White** – Jerome Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Junior Crossbreed** – Marcus Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Katelyn Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Champion Senior Crossbreed** – Amelia Manderfeld, Medford Go Getters; **Grand Champion Dairy** – Jerome Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Best Uddered Dairy Animal** – Jerome Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Dairy Champion Production** - Kelton Erler, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve Champion & Special Dairy Production Premiums** – Kiya Erler, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Dairy Genetics** – Madi Murphy, Meridan Meadowlarks, **Reserve** – Mitchell Seykora, Straight River Stars; **Junior Champion Dairy Showmanship** – Jack Bruns, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Dizel Butler, Pratt Commandoes; **Intermediate Champion Dairy Showmanship** – Bobbie Bruns, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Jerome Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Senior Champion Dairy Showmanship** – Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Maggie Bruns, Merry Lane; **Junior Champion Dairy Interview** – Kaden Homuth, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Adeline Schroht, Deerfield Get There; **Senior Champion Dairy Interview**– Lacey Nelson, Straight River

Stars; **Reserve** – Anthony Manderfeld, Medford Go Getters; **Kottke Achievement Award in Dairy** - Lacey Nelson, Straight River Stars.

Dog:

Champion Dog Obedience Foundation Class - Addison Mongeau, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Mackenzie Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes; **Champion Beginner Dog Obedience** - Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Kaylee Butler, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Graduate Beginner Dog Obedience** - Josie Lorenz, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Morgan Styndl, Merry Lane; **Champion Graduate Novice Dog Obedience** - Bailey Purrier, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** - Jasmine Willette, Happy Hustlers; **Junior Novice Showmanship Champion** - Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Mackenzie Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes; **Elementary Agility Champion** - Abby Hefling, Merry Lane; **Senior Agility Champion** - Bailey Purrier, Medford Go Getters; **Advanced Agility Champion** - Kayla Crawford, Happy Hustlers; **Jumpers 1 Agility Champion** - Abby Hefling, Merry Lane; **Jumpers 2 Agility Champion** - Bailey Purrier, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Madilyn Styndl, Merry Lane; **Jumpers 3 Agility Champion** - Kayla Crawford, Happy Hustlers; **Foundation Rally Champion** - Mackenzie Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Addison Mongeau, Straight River Stars; **Pre-Novice Rally Champion** - Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Brooke Purrier, Medford Go Getters; **Novice Rally Champion** - Abby Hefling, Merry Lane; **Reserve** - Kayla Crawford, Happy Hustlers; **Pre-Advanced Rally Champion** - Madilyn Styndl, Merry Lane; **Reserve** - Kayla Crawford, Happy Hustlers; **Junior Champion Dog Interview** - Avry Hoffman, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Allison Bruggeman, Merry Lane; **Senior Champion Dog Interview** - Kayla Crawford, Happy Hustlers; **Reserve** - Mackenzie Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes.



Zach Finholdt of the Medford Go-Getters shows off his champion meat breed goat. He also received champion senior showman.

Goat:

Champion Junior Dairy Doe - Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Kaitlyn Resler, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Senior Dairy Doe** - Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** - Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Champion Dairy Goat** - Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** - Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Champion Meat Doe (Junior Show)** - Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Meat Doe (Senior Show)** - Zach Finholdt, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Kallen Hoffman, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Market Goat (Sr. Show)** - Tory Buck, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Kallen Hoffman, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Market Goat (Jr. Show)** - Finley Loveless, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Intermediate Champion Meat Goat Showmanship** – Afton Nelson, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Shad Lambert, Medford Go Getters; **Senior Champion Meat Goat Showmanship** – Zach Finholdt, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Tory Buck, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Junior Champion Goat Interview** - Finley Loveless, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Addison Mongeau, Straight River Stars; **Senior Champion Goat Interview** - Mikayla Spinler, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** - Tory Buck, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Horse:

Horse Achievement Award - Alexa Sommers, Ellendale Husters; **Champion Horse Training** - Melanie Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes; **Champion Junior Horse Showmanship** – Katie Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Christina Bell, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Intermediate Horse Showmanship** – Gabrielle Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Lauren Sommers, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Senior Horse Showmanship** – Alexa Sommers, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** – Grace Wolfe, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Top Walk-Trot Beginner Rider** – Christina Bell, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Top**

Walk-Trot Advanced Rider – Aubree Coulter, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – Alexa Esplan, Pratt Commandoes; **Sr. Champion English Overall** - Grace Wolfe, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Bailey Purrier, Medford Go Getters; **Intermediate Champion Horsemanship** – Gabrielle Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Champion Horsemanship** – Grace Wolfe, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Alexa Sommers, Ellendale Hustlers; **Intermediate Champion Western Pleasure** - Gabrielle Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Champion Western Pleasure** – Grace Wolfe, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Alexa Sommers, Ellendale Hustlers; **Junior Games Champion** – Addison Poe, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Abigail Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes; **Intermediate Games Champion** – Kanin Hable, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – John Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Games Champion** – Brynn Hable, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Melanie Suchanek, Pratt Commandoes; **Horse Novice Champion** – Isabella Steffen, Medford Go Getters; **Junior Champion Horse Interview** – Allison Bruggeman, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Aubree Coulter, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Senior Champion Horse Interview** – Elizabeth Deml, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Isabella Steffen, Medford Go Getters.

Poultry:

Champion Show/Hobby Bird – Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Young Bird Pigeon** - Josie Lorenz, Merry Lane; **Champion Pigeon** - Josie Lorenz, Merry Lane; **Champion Chicken** – Collin Clarey, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Market Chicken** – Hudson Aase, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** - Parker Aase, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Standard Breeding Chicken** – McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** – Alia Kubicek, Straight River Stars; **Champion Bantam Breeding Chicken** - Alia Kubicek, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** - McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion White Egg Production Chicken** - Collin Clarey, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – Anna Mollenhauer, Pratt Commandoes; **Champion Brown Egg Production Chicken** - Mikayla Spinler, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Olivia Wencil, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Duck** – Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** – Kayden Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Market Duck** - Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** - Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Standard Breeding Duck** - Kayden Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** - Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Bantam Breeding Ducks** - Shan Hansen, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** - Kendra Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Goose** – McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** - McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Market Goose** - McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Breeding Goose** - McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Turkey** – Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** – Annabelle Petsinger, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Market Turkey** – Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** - Annabelle Petsinger, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Breeding Turkey** - Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Junior Champion Poultry Showmanship** – Gavin Seykora, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** - Kayden Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Intermediate Champion Poultry Showmanship** – Annabelle Petsinger, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Evan Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Senior Champion Poultry Showmanship** – Mikayla Spinler, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – McKenna Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Junior Poultry Interview Champion** – Gavin Seykora, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** - Kayden Melby, Ellendale Hustlers; **Senior Poultry Interview Champion** – Mikayla Spinler, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Collin Clarey, Owatonna Victory Boosters.



Lexie Ignaszewski of Lemond Snappy Boosters displays her champion breeding rabbit.

Rabbit:

Champion Fur and Wool - Marissa Larson, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Neela Wencil, Ellendale Hustlers; **Champion Market Rabbit** – Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Parker Aase, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Best Junior Buck** – Ariah Mowers, Ellendale Hustlers; **Reserve** – Neela Wencil, Ellendale Hustlers; **Best Junior Doe** – Marissa Larson, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Teagan Sutter, Merry Lane; **Best Intermediate Buck** – Annabelle Petsinger, Lemond Snappy Boosters;



Annabelle Petsinger of Lemond Snappy Boosters captured champion intermediate buck with her rabbit.

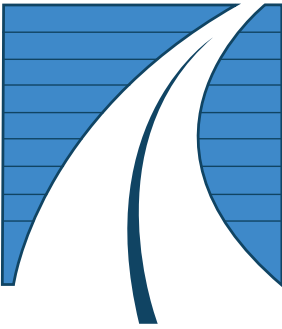
Best Intermediate Doe – Carter Oltmans, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Nikolas Petsinger, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Best Senior Buck** - Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Tristan Simon, Record Busters; **Best Senior Doe** - Tristan Simon, Record Busters; **Reserve** – Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Breeding Rabbit (Junior Show)** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Miley Ahrens, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Breeding Rabbit (Senior Show)** - Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Tristan Simon, Record Busters; **Champion Junior Rabbit Showmanship** – Jack Bruns, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Jayden Wencil, Merry Lane; **Champion Intermediate Rabbit Showmanship** – Sierra Larson, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Adelyn Quaintance, Happy Hustlers; **Champion Senior Rabbit Showmanship** – Marissa Larson, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Hudson Aase, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Junior Champion Rabbit Interview** – Jayden Wencil, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Jaquain Yciano, Happy Hustlers; **Senior Champion Rabbit Interview** – Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Marissa Larson, Merry Lane.

Sheep:

Junior Champion Lamb Lead – Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Fleece** – Lynn Larson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** - Lynn Larson, Deerfield Get There; **Champion Ewe Lamb** - Kallie Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Champion Breeding Ewe** - Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Wether Dam** - Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion White Face Market Lamb (Jr. Show)** - Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Amelie Tolle, Straight River Stars; **Champion Speckle Face Market Lamb (Jr. Show)** - Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Miley Ripka, Merry Lane; **Champion Natural Market Lamb (Jr. Show)** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Reid Wildgrube, Medford Go Getters; **Champion Black Face Market Ewe Lamb(Jr. Show)** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Miley Ripka, Merry Lane; **Champion Black Face Market Wether Lamb (Jr. Show)** - Finley Loveless, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Market Lamb (Sr. Show)** - Kaden Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Natural Market Lamb (Sr. Show)** - Kaden Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Black Face Market Ewe Lamb (Sr. Show)** - Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Katelyn Crabtree, Straight River Stars; **Champion Black Face Market Wether (Sr. Show)** - Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** - Grace Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Champion Market Lamb (Sr. Show)** - Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** - Grace Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Champion Trio of Lambs** - Kaden Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Junior Champion Sheep Showmanship** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Hailey Chambers, Medford Go Getters; **Intermediate Champion Sheep Showmanship** - Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Brenna Sommer, Straight River Stars; **Senior Champion Sheep Showmanship** - Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Gabriel Dahle, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Rate of Gain Market Lamb** - Lynn Larson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** - Lynn Larson, Deerfield Get There; **Junior Champion Sheep Interview** - Finley Loveless, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** - Reid Wildgrube, Medford Go Getters; **Senior Champion Sheep Interview** – Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Swine:

Champion Purebred Barrow – McKenna Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Miriam Buck, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Champion Crossbred Barrow (Jr. Show)** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond



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STEELE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK RESULTS

Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - Malia Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Champion Breeding Gilt** - McKenna Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Parris Hovden, Straight River Stars; **Champion Pen of Three** - Mariah Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Mitchell Seykora, Straight River Stars; **Champion Crossbred Barrow (Senior Show)** - Mariah Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Kaden Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Market Gilt (Junior Show)** - Malia Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Champion Market Gilt (Senior Show)** - Mariah Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Walker Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Junior Champion Swine Showmanship** - Darian Stransky, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – Joseph Klecker, Straight River Stars; **Intermediate Champion Swine Showmanship** - Jenna Klecker, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** - Parris Hovden, Straight River Stars; **Senior Champion Swine Showmanship** - McKenna Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Luke Kubicek, Straight River Stars; **Junior Champion**



Miriam Buck of the Owatonna Victory Boosters earned reserve champion with her purebred market barrow.

Swine Interview - Grady Steckelberg, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Cole Lindeman, Merry Lane; **Senior Champion Swine Interview** - Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** - McKenna Schroht, Meriden Meadowlarks.

STEELE COUNTY 4-H GENERAL PROJECTS RESULTS



Michael Kanner of the Deerfield Get There was honored with the champion in tractors.

Aerospace:
Champion – Isabel Miller, Happy Hustlers; **Reserve** – Jack Walburn, Record Busters.

Cat:
Champion – Josie Hoffmaster, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Isabella Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Child Development:
Junior Champion – Grace Walburn, Record Busters; **Senior Champion** – Derek Klecker, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Reserve** – Abby Munns, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Other Purples** – Jessica Willette, Happy Hustlers; Katlyn Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Citizenship:
Champion – Jack Walburn, Record Boosters.

Clothes You Buy:
Junior Champion – Anna Mollenhauer; **Junior Reserve** - Katherine Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Champion** – Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Reserve** – Baylee Sorensen, Merry Lane.

Clothes You Make:
Champion – Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** - Nicole Behne, Happy Hustlers; **Other Purples** – Kaitlyn Resler, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Club Banner:
Champion – Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve Champion** – Medford Go-Getters; **Third Place** – Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Club Go-For (Gopher) Display:
Champion – Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve Champion** – Happy Hustlers; **Third Place** – Medford Go-Getters.

Club Project – Container Garden:
Champion – Happy Hustlers.

Club Scrapbook:
Champion – Happy Hustlers; **Reserve Champion** – Pratt Commandoes; **Third Place** – Meriden Meadowlarks.

Computer:
Champion – Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Derek Klecker, Pratt Commandoes.

Consumer Education:
Champion - Isabel Miller, Happy Hustlers; **Reserve** – Isabel Miller, Happy Hustlers.

Crafts:
Junior Champion – Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Junior Reserve** – Hailey Chambers, Medford Go Getters; **Senior Champion** – Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Reserve** – Kiara Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Other Purples** – Alexandra Herget, Meriden Meadowlarks; Mason Klecker, Pratt Commandoes; Micah Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; Rachel Bluhm, Deerfield Go-Getters; Baylee Sorensen, Merry Lane; Adrianna Bermea, Merry Lane; Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Nicole Behne, Happy Hustlers; Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks; Isabel Miller, Happy Hustlers.

Demonstrations:
Junior Champion – Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Junior Reserve** - Khloe Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Champion** –

Kaden & Kalli Nelson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Reserve** - Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Dog:
Champion – Josie Hoffmaster, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Engineering:
Engineering Design Champion – Morgan Camery, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Micah Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Robotics Champion** – Derek Klecker, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Mason Klecker, Pratt Commandoes.

Entomology:
Champion – Christian Sorensen, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Other Purples** – Jack Walburn, Record Boosters.

Exploring Animals:
Champion – Logan Keilen, Medford Go Getters; **Reserve** – Ruth Weckman, Pratt Commandoes.

Exploring the Environment:
Champion – Alex Kindseth, Lemond SnappyBoosters.



Lacey Nelson of the Straight River Stars exhibited the champion Ayrshire during the fair.

Fashion Revue:
Clothes You Make Fashion Revue Champion – Nicole Behne, Happy Hustlers; **Reserve** – Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There; **Junior Clothes You Buy Fashion Revue Champion** – Anna Mollenhauer, Pratt Commandoes; **Junior Reserve** - Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Clothes You Buy Fashion Revue Champion** – Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Reserve** – Katelyn Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Fashion Revue Court of Honor Members** - Nicole Behne, Happy Hustlers; Hailey Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Katlyn Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Elizabeth Roesner, Happy Hustlers.

Fine Arts:
Junior Champion – Micah Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Junior Reserve** – Gracelyn Anderson, Straight River Stars; **Senior Champion** – Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Senior Reserve** – Alexander Miller, Merry Lane; **Other Purples** – Ethan Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Micah Allen-Haas, Meriden Meadowlarks; Micah Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; Samantha Miller, Medford Go Getters; Elliott Rysavy, Straight River Stars; William Behne, Happy Hustlers; Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Miya Weber, Medford Go Getters; Ashlynn Schwering, Deerfield Get There; Abigail Bunce, Deerfield Get There.

Fishing Sports:
Junior Champion – Sam Bartness, Straight River Stars; **Junior Reserve** – Juaguin Yciano, Happy Hustlers; **Senior Champion** – Carter Oltmans, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Reserve** – Luis Yciano, Jr, Happy Hustlers; **Other Purples** – Sean O’Brien, Merry Lane.

Flower Garden:
Junior Champion – Sophie Ewald, Pratt Commandoes; **Junior Reserve** – Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Senior Champion** – Parker Erickson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior**

Reserve – Kiara Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Other Purples** – Katelyn Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Anna Haberman, Merry Lane; Brianna O’Connor, Deerfield Get There.

Food & Nutrition:
Junior Champion – Katie Trenda, Pratt Commandoes; **Junior Reserve** – Malaki Weber, Medford Go Getters; **Senior Champion** – Miya Weber, Medford Go Getters; **Senior Reserve** – Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars.

Food Review:
Champion – Elizabeth Karl, Straight River Stars; **Reserve** – Sophia Mrotz, Ellendale Hustlers.

Food Preservation:
Junior Champion – Isabella Schultz, Pratt Commandoes; **Junior Reserve** – Jayden Wencf, Merry Lane; **Senior Champion** – Melanie Winzenburg, Merry Lane; **Senior Reserve** – Katelyn Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Other Purples** – Ruth Weckman, Pratt Commandoes.

Forest Resources:
Champion – Scott Weckman, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Isabel Miller, Happy Hustlers; **Other Purples** – Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Geology:
Champion – Charlie Tucker, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Aaron Dahlin, Ellendale Hustlers; **Other Purples** - Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Global Connections:
Champion – Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Health:
Champion – Kiara Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Abby Munns, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Other Purples** - Kiara Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; Abby Munns, Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Home Environment:
Junior Champion - Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Junior Reserve** – Callie Iverson, Merry Lane; **Senior Champion** – William Behne, Happy Hustlers; **Senior Reserve** – Baylee Sorensen, Merry Lane; **Other Purples** - Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Rachel Bluhm, Deerfield Get There; Sophie Woodfill, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Horseless Horse / Horse Related:
Champion – Sierra Larson, Merry Lane; **Reserve** – Allison Bruggeman, Merry Lane.

Indoor Gardening:
Junior Champion – Sawyer Erickson, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Champion** – Abigail Bunce, Deerfield Get There; **Senior Reserve** – Ashlynn Schwering, Deerfield Get There; **Other Purples** – Bailey Keck, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Lawns & Landscape & Design:
Champion – William Behne, Happy Hustlers; **Reserve** – Bailey Keck, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Needle Art:
Senior Champion – Kiera Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Reserve** – Brianna O’Connor, Deerfield Get There.

Performing Arts:
Champion – Jacob Pfeifer, Pratt Commandoes; **Reserve** – Carson Van Gelder, Pratt Commandoes.

Pets:
Champion – Josie Hoffmaster, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Reserve** – Lowell Schultz, Pratt Commandoes.

Photography:
Junior Elements of Photography Champion – Grace Walburn, Record Busters; **Junior Reserve** – Tyler Sheehan, Happy Hustlers; **Intermediate Elements of Photography Champion** – Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Intermediate Reserve** – Katlyn Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Elements of Photography Champion** – Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Senior Reserve** – Brianna O’Connor, Deerfield Get There; **Junior Photo Manipulation Champion** – Evin Ohnstad-Willis, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Junior Reserve** – Grace Walburn, Record Busters; **Intermediate Photo Manipulation Champion** – Kiara Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Intermediate Reserve** – Jack Walburn, Record Busters; **Senior Photo Manipulation Champion** – Rebekah Bendorf, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Senior Reserve** – Baylee Sorensen, Merry Lane; **Other Purples** – Kaitlyn Resler, Lemond Snappy Boosters; Cody Shaw, Meriden Meadowlarks; Kaylee Sammon, Medford Go Getters; Cole Sheehan, Happy Hustlers; Grace Krejci, Emily Miller, Merry Lane; Anastasia Carreon-Sorensen, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Rachel Miller, Medford Go Getters; Kiara Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; Aspen Ascheman, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Journey Uptadal, Ellendale Hustlers; Rebekah Bendorf, Meriden Meadowlarks; Baylee Sorensen, Merry Lane; Grace Arthur, Meridan Meadowlarks; Brooke Purrier, Medford Go Getters; Abigail Bunce, Deerfield Get There; Chloe Schroeder, Pratt Commandoes; Elliott Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Collin Clarey, Owatonna Victory Boosters.

Video/ Filmmaking:
Champion – Luke Rennie, Merry Lane.

Plant / Soil Science and Crop Sciences:
Crop Science Champion – Mikayla Spinler, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Tim Wolf, Merry Lane; **Plant & Soil Science Champion** – Ashlynn Schwering, Deerfield Get There; **Senior Reserve** – Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Other Purples** – Casey Chambers, Medford Go Getters.

Potato:
Junior Champion – Carson Ahrens, Owatonna



Alex Kindseth of the Lemond Snappy Boosters won senior champion in the craft project.

Victory Boosters; **Senior Champion** – Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Reserve** – Scott Weckman, Pratt Commandoes.

Quilting:
Champion – Brianna O’Connor, Deerfield Get There; **Reserve** – Lauren Arthur, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Other Purples** – Hailey Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Chloe Quiggle, Meriden Meadowlarks.

Safety:
Junior Champion – Tyler Sheehan, Happy Hustlers; **Reserve** – Josie Hoffmaster, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Senior Champion** – Abby Munns, Victory Boosters; **Reserve** – Cole Sheehan, Happy Hustlers.

Self-Determined:
Junior Champion – Mason Klecker, Pratt Commandoes; **Junior Reserve** – Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Champion** – Gabriel & Elliott Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Senior Reserve** – Katlyn Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Other Purples** – Carter Oltmans, Pratt Commandoes; Abby Munns, Owatonna Victory Boosters; Elliott Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Gabriel Rysavy, Straight River Stars; Anna Haberman, Merry Lane; Beth Ann Hanson, Deerfield Get There.

Shooting Sports / Wildlife Management:
Junior Champion – Marcus Rysavy, Straight River Stars; **Junior Reserve** – Grace Walburn, Record Boosters; **Senior Champion** – Ashlynn Schwering, Deerfield Get There.

Shop:
Junior Champion – Curtis Knutson, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Junior Reserve** – Alia Kubicek, Straight River Stars; **Intermediate Champion** – Noah Kubicek, Happy Hustlers; **Intermediate Reserve** – Trayton Fisher, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Champion** – Lexie Ignaszewski, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Reserve** – Luke Kubicek, Straight River Stars.

Small Engines / Tractor:
Small Engines Champion – Ethan Schubert, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Reserve** – Lucas Schammel, Merry Lane; **Tractor Champion** – Michael Kanne, Deerfield Get There.

Vegetable Garden / Fruit:
Junior Champion – Carson Ahrens, Owatonna Victory Boosters; **Junior Reserve** – Halle Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters; **Senior Champion** – Scott Weckman, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Reserve** – Ruth Weckman, Pratt Commandoes; **Other Purples** – Charlea Underwood, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Veterinary Science:
Junior Champion – Lowell Schultz, Pratt Commandoes; **Senior Champion** – Erin O’Brien, Merry Lane; **Senior Reserve** – Anton Schroeder, Pratt Commandoes.



Evan Melby of the Ellendale Hustlers showed the champion duck.

Water / Wetlands:
Champion – Alex Kindseth, Lemond Snappy Boosters.

Wildlife Biology:
Junior Champion – Micah Gentz, Pratt Commandoes; **Junior Reserve** – Conor Rennie, Medford Go Getters; **Senior Champion** – William Behne, Happy Husters; **Senior Reserve** – Lydia Kath, Meriden Meadowlarks; **Other Purples** – Sierra Larson, Merry Lane.

Youth Leadership:
Champion – Isabel Miller, Happy Hustlers.

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Junior fair board allows youth to develop leadership skills

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

It's not all fun and games for at least some teenagers when it comes to the Steele County Fair.

For the first time ever, teens got the opportunity to showcase their leadership abilities through a Junior Fair Board. Steele County is the first county in Minnesota to offer such a board. There are 25 youth members on the advisory board.

Veteran 4-H member Lexie Ignaszewski is one of the junior board members. "I think it's good at a young age to work with people you may not get along with," she said. "That's something I will carry on for life."

The board was formed in April after Tracy Ignaszewski, 4-H program coordinator for Steele County, got the idea at a national fair convention last winter. Ohio has a similar junior fair board.

She said the board is still in the developing stages, but board members started out this year by leading educational tours through the various livestock barns on the fairgrounds in an effort to teach fairgoers about the different species.

Zach Finholdt led a scavenger hunt on Friday for younger kids to learn more about animals. The hunt featured iPads with an app on virtual farming.

Asked what they hope fairgoers learned

from the project, Lexie Ignaszewski said, "Learning something more about agriculture."

Finholdt said the junior board has allowed him to broaden his horizons and develop greater skills. "I've learned more about goals and leadership," he said. "It teaches me how to be a good leader and teach others," he added.

Evan Melby's mother encouraged him to get involved with the junior board. And he's glad she did as he's finding he gets to do additional things for the fair and teaching other people about his projects.

"It makes me take on more responsibility and helps me branch out more," Melby said, adding sometimes it gets a little nerve-racking trying to make all the right choices.

While the board is currently comprised of 4-H members, Tracy Ignaszewski hopes to expand out and bring in non-4-Hers as well. "We're looking for kids outside of 4-H," she said. "We want kids that want to be connected to the fair."

Over the next year, Ignaszewski hopes to grow the board to 45 members.

The goal with the board is to develop future leaders, Ignaszewski said. "Our hope is that they will be the future senior fair board members and be able to contribute to the community," she said, noting she has already seen some current junior members who would make great senior members in the future.



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER
Three of the new Steele County Junior Fair Board members are Lexi Ignaszewski, Zach Finholdt and Evan Melby. There are currently 25 members on the board, which was formed for the first time in April. Steele County is the first county in Minnesota to have a junior fair board.

Love for outdoors inspires friends to open brat stand



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER
Josh Wells, left, of Owatonna and Randy Splett opened a new stand featuring brat dogs this year at the Steele County Fair. The pair says their love for the outdoors inspired them to open the stand. They utilized brats from Steve's Meat Market in Ellendale.

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

A passion for the outdoors has led a couple of buddies to develop Minnesota's Original Brat Dogs.

As Josh Wells of Owatonna and Randy Splett of Morristown revealed their first attempt at a food stand this year, they stayed true to their passion and kept an outdoors theme for the stand. They unveiled brat dogs for the first time at this year's Steele County Fair. They utilized brats from Steve's Meat Market in Ellendale to add a batter around. The end result is a deep friend brat dog on a stick—similar in appearance as a corn dog.

The stand featured three types of brats made by Steve's, including original, wild rice and cheddar and jalapeno and pepper jack.

Wells said they shopped around at different meat vendors before settling on Steve's. "We wanted something homemade and old-fashioned," he said. "It's the best," he said of Steve's products.

The brat dog stand started out on a simple with a tent-style stand. While Wells admits a trailer would be nice, he likes the idea of a tent stand. "Everything is open and the tent is a lot more personable," he said, noting that tent stands

generally do better with sales than big trailers. "For starting out, it's perfect," he added.

"I've always wanted to be a part of something from nothing," Wells said.

Wells and Splett were thrilled to bring their product to the Steele fair. "Just for us it's an awesome accomplishment to take a product like this and present it to this many people," Wells said.

"I've always wanted to be a part of something from nothing."

Josh Wells
Brat Dog Stand Owner

They are keeping their focus on one product instead of cluttering up the menu with several different items. "We want to do one thing and knock your socks off," Wells said.

Besides the Steele fair, Wells and Splett have also done festivals in Elysian and New Richland. They will be doing Shooters Roundup this weekend in Morristown.

The brat stand is just Wells' latest way to be in the outdoors. Wells also promotes the outdoors through Minnesota Outdoor

Journal, which he has been involved with for the past seven years. He is an avid hunter and fisherman.

"I want to inspire people to get back outdoors," said Wells. "I'm trying to save our wildlife by inspiring people."

Wells credits his love for the outdoors to his late grandfather, who had a big influence on him during his childhood. "I got to shadow him a lot and learn about good conservation," he said. "I want to carry on his legacy," he added.

"It's something I do from here," Wells said pointing to his heart.

Recognizing that it's tough to get into the Minnesota State Fair, Wells hopes that some day they can get into the state fair with their food stand.

As the business grows, Wells hopes to donate a portion of the proceeds to an outdoors group. "We want to be known for donating to conservation," he said.

They also would like to explore expanding into beer and brats in the future.

Wells brings a strong positive attitude into the business. Since they kicked things off earlier this year, it has been going phenomenal. "For the first year, it couldn't be going any better than it is," he said, adding the best part has been to network with people.

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

"We usually can find room for another car," said Steele County Free Fair parking lot attendant Larry Lester, 83, of Owatonna.

Lester, 83, parks cars in a lot maintained by Healthy Seniors of Owatonna. It just so happens that Lester's daughter, Edna Ringhoffer, is director of Healthy Seniors.

"I enjoy what I do and work every day of the fair," Lester remarked.

He takes charge of the lot located just two blocks west of the fairgrounds. He usually sets up his collection station at about 9 in the morning and parks cars steadily until just after 3 p.m.

"Follow me and I will find thou a good spot," Lester tells a fair visitor. He said everyone deserves a good parking place, and he strategically parks the cars in six different rows.

"We can get 200 cars in this lot, or maybe more," Lester says. At \$5 a pop, the Healthy Seniors raise close to \$1,500 each day of the fair. Lester has worked for Healthy Seniors since 2008.

After parking cars from 9 to 3, Lester says he is ready to go home. He admits that he liked his rib eye steak sandwich sold at a stand near the beer garden. "They are really good," he says.

Lester takes pride in saying he grew up in the Blooming Prairie area.

After working for DeBough High School Lockers for 35 years, Lester retired.

He and his wife Jean lived in Colorado for many years before returning to Minnesota. The Lesters have been married for 61 years.

Make a note to park in Lester's Healthy seniors lot at next year's Steele County Free Fair. God willing, he says he will be there.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD
Larry Lester is ready to park another car at the Steele county Free Fair. He has managed a Healthy Seniors lot for the past 10 years. He says his lot is one of the best, location wise, at the fair.

Build your future



STAFF PHOTO BY RICK BUSSLER
With hammer in hand, Natalie Berndt, 10, of Owatonna got the opportunity to build her future by putting together a bird house Friday at the Steele County Fair. The building project was organized by Builders Association of Minnesota.



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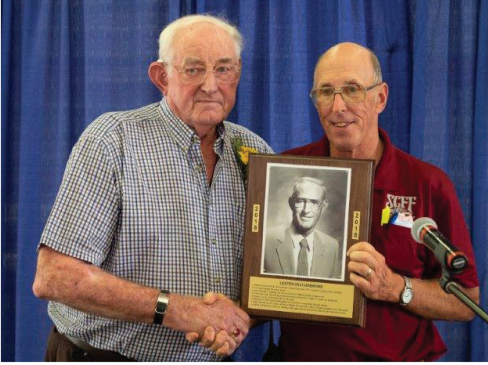
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Three inducted into Steele County Livestock Hall of Fame



Richard “Rusty” Paulson was inducted into the Livestock Hall of Fame at the Steele County Fair Aug. 14. Fair president Dan Deml, right, presented the award to Paulson.



Lester Oeltjenbruns of Owatonna was inducted into the Livestock Hall of Fame Aug. 14. Presenting him with the award was fair president Dan Deml, right.



Thomas Burke, formerly of Blooming Prairie, was given the Hall of Fame Service Award Aug. 14. Making the presentation was Dan Deml, fair president.

By DENNIS MARSHALL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Steele County Livestock Hall of Fame marked its 15th year of honoring local legends of agriculture when it inducted three new members on Aug. 14 in Livestock Arena on the Steele County Fairgrounds. Hall of Fame Inductees Lester Oeltjenbruns and Richard “Rusty” Paulson and Hall of Fame Service Award winner Thomas Burke were among those honored in the presentation that took place hours before the official opening of the 2018 Steele County Free Fair. The 2018 inductees were selected because of their impact and influence on the livestock industry on a county, state and national level; their leadership in the livestock industry; length of service and they are respected, ethical and of high character. Oeltjenbruns was recognized for being a Steele County 4-H and Futures Farmers of America (FFA) member, a state champion FFA Livestock judging team member, 4-H club leader for many years, instrumental in building the Aurora Diner on the Steele County Fairgrounds, Owatonna High School Agricultural Advisory Board for seven years (two as chairman), Steele County Commissioner for 18 years, recipient of the Minnesota Association of Counties Outstanding Service Award, dairy farmer for 40 years, active with Steele County

America Dairy Association (ADA), the dairy princess program and malt stand and he’s active in extension service, hosting many agricultural and environmental demonstration plots. Paulson was the coach of the 4-H Dairy Bowl Team for 15 years. He led the team to three state championships and one reserve national championship. He was also the coach of the 4-H Dairy Judging Team for 15 years, in which time the team captured two state and one national championship. Paulson chaperoned the national champion 4-H Dairy Judging Team to international competition in Europe, and he was member of the 4-H Dairy and Knowledge Bowl Development Committees. He served Southern Minnesota dairymen, as an IAB distributor with supplies, products, services and problem solving to enhance their business. Paulson was also the SCFF Superintendent of the Open Class Dairy Show for several years. Burke, a native of Blooming Prairie and 1961 Minnesota FFA State Star Farmer, was honored with the Service Award. Burke was a 2017 inductee in the Saddle and Sirloin Portrait Gallery, which is the highest honor given in the livestock industry. He has conducted more than 10,000 Angus sales in 47 states and eight Canadian provinces, while being the chairman of Angus Breeders

Futurity for 47 continuous years. Burke has addressed students at 18 universities and colleges. He is a character member and was the first President of Minnesota Junior Angus

Association, has emceed National Junior banquet for 49 years and was recognized by USA Today as one of the 25 Most Traveled People in America.

Other awards at Steele County Fair Opening Day- Aug. 14

- Farm Family of the Year: Brian and Jodi Keck
- Outstanding Conservation Farmer: Aaron Schroht
- Outstanding Windbreak: David Jochim
- Outstanding Wildlife Conservationist: Willow Ridge Farm, Tom Sexton
- Century Farms winners: Tom and Elaine Trotman and David, Jean and Louise Krause
- America FFA Degree winners: Jack Skalicky (NRHEG), Angela Edel (Owatonna), Desi Svoboda (Owatonna), Holly Larson (Medford), Amelia Manderfeld (Medford), MiKayla Spinler (Medford) and Cassie Larson (Medford)
- State FFA Proficiency Award winners: Beth Ann Hanson (Medford) for Agriculture Management and Holly Larson for Small Animal Production
- Minnesota State FFA Degree winners: Ethan Arett (Blooming Prairie), Jerry Hocking (Blooming Prairie), Haley Ryks (Blooming Prairie), Greg Larson (Medford) and Kayla McGivney (Medford)
- Robert Chladek Scholarship/761 School District Foundation winner: Arett.

The fair's green team



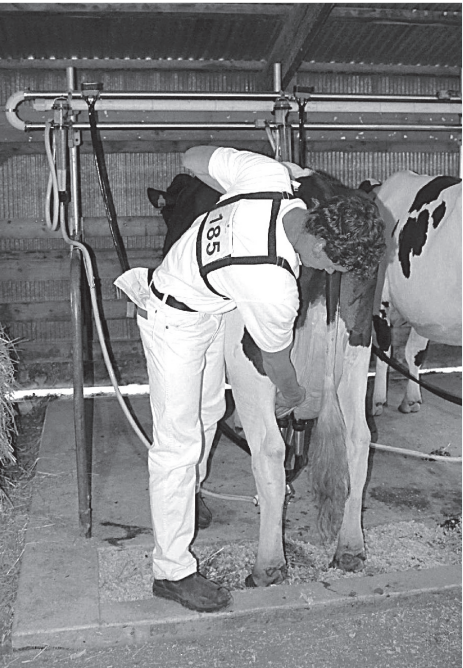
STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Lauren Arthur, Owatonna High School senior and member of the Meridan Meadow Larks 4-H Club, is a member of the green team going around to water plants in the 4-H building at the Steele County Fair in Owatonna.

4-Her: ‘It’s for the big, lovable animal’

By MARISSA LARSON
STAFF WRITER

Steele County 4-Her Jacob Slater has been involved with dairy since he was just 10 years old. During that time he has uncovered a passion for these animals. He spends a good portion of the summer working at his uncle’s Holstein farm, and although his 4-H career began just three years ago, Slater has been very successful and takes pride in sharing the knowledge he has since acquired. This year at the 4-H dairy show, Slater exhibited a steer, a heifer, and two cows, all of which earned blue ribbons. In his past experiences at the State Fair, what he enjoyed the most was the increased competition amongst all the counties. On top of his 4-H cattle, he and his family collectively showed 17 registered Holsteins in the open show that took place on Saturday. Slater’s typical day starts at 6 a.m., when he wakes up to milk the cows. “On a good day, chores take a minimum of three hours. On a bad day, it could be five or six,” he said. They are milked again in the evening. After milking, the cows are released into the freestyle barn where they are fed total mixture ration (TMR). TMR is beneficial in helping dairy cows consume close to their actual energy requirements while maintaining the feed’s physical characteristics, which is essential to gut health. In addition to feeding, Slater takes time to walk his cows daily and wash



STAFF PHOTO BY MARISSA LARSON

Steele County 4-Her Jacob Slater rubs his cow’s udder to see if she is done milking. During the fair, Slater wakes up at 3 a.m. every day to milk his cows.

them whenever necessary. When asked, “Why dairy?” Slater responded with “It’s for the big, lovable animal.” He enjoys getting to know each animal’s individual routine, and appreciates how, like people, each one has a unique personality and temperament. “Catching onto this aspect has really

been a key to my success when it comes to establishing a good relationship with my animals,” Slater commented. Slater sees that a common misconception of the public regards the way in which dairy animals are treated by their owners. “People who abuse their animals should not be allowed to have them,” he said. He wants people to know that animals deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. For Slater, one of the best parts about the dairy project is the public education piece. He likes sharing knowledge with not only the public, but also with the judges during shows. “It’s so rewarding to show off my animals to the judge after putting so much hard work into it,” he said. He graduated from Owatonna High School this June and will be attending South Central College in Mankato this fall to study culinary arts. As a post high schooler, Slater will be showing in 4-H one final time next year. “I really like how 4-H has taught me how to be responsible for my own animals,” Slater stated, “but even more so, I have learned to appreciate the community aspect.” The 4-H program is vastly about helping others achieve their goals as well as one’s own, and this year Slater relished an overall feeling of increased commitment to the dairy project. In his last year of 4-H, he is looking forward to putting it all together and ending on a high note. He is the son of Chris and Andrea Slater.

Bruns kids make it a team win

By HOWARD LESTRUD
STAFF WRITER

The Bruns kids of Blooming Prairie scored a team win in cattle judging at the Steele County Fair in Owatonna last week. Maggie Bruns showed the champion junior jersey, Jaded, a fall yearling. Bobbie Bruns showed a reserve champion junior jersey. Maggie also showed a reserve champion senior showmanship.

Bobbie showed champion intermediate showmanship. Jack showed a reserve champion registered Holstein and was junior champion showman. Jeffrey showed a Holstein in the Clover Buds Division. The Bruns kids showed seven animals, including four Jerseys and three Holsteins. Emerson Nelson, Neila Nelson and Raegan Nelson also showed animals at the fair.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

The Bruns family scored well in 4-H last week at the Steele County Fair. It was a family effort with Maggie, Bobbie, Jeffrey and Jack all working together to bring home some top Showmanship honors.

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W-5018029 10/17

A Century Scene in 2018

Photos by Rick Bussler and Howard Lestrud



The Steele County Fair officially opened Tuesday afternoon with the flag raising ceremony. Veterans from around the county joined in the ceremony, which finished just in time before a downpour of rain came.



Former Steele County Fair manager Jim Gleason attended the opening ceremony of the fair with his wife. Gleason was forced to step down from his position after coming down with brain cancer last fall.



Pastor Gregory Schlicker of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Owatonna ventured into the Celebrity Cow Milking Contest Wednesday afternoon at the fair. He tied with Brad Kubat of KOWZ Radio, but lost in a milk-off. Kubat has won the milking contest for the past three years.



Veterans from the area saluted the flag during the opening ceremony Tuesday.



And they're off... the pig races proved to be a big hit once again.



Steely and Stella, the fair's long-time mascots, entertained fairgoers throughout the six-day run. The mascots brought smiles to the faces of Violet Hamer, left, and her cousins, Jake and Ellie Joachim of Owatonna as they posed with them.



Elle Oeltjenbruns, 5, of Owatonna enjoyed a pony ride with her mother at her side.



Jaxon Meier of Blooming Prairie pedaled with all his might during the pedal pull Saturday afternoon. He finished third in the 8-year-old competition.



Mom and kids stayed dry thanks to their trusty umbrella during a rainstorm at the Steele County Fair. Shown with Triera Buhrow are her children, Sophie, 6 and Mason, 9.



Two-year-old Beckham Elton, Owatonna, enjoys some delicious french fries at the Steele County Fair. He likes ketchup, too.



Lilly Struss, 7, poses next to her older brother, Kaiden Struss, 10, who is behind the hotdog, by the Wienermobile Saturday afternoon.