

BP creates a new community foundation

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

Area residents are on a mission to build a better Blooming Prairie. To accomplish that feat, a new nonprofit organization, the Blossoming Community Foundation, has been formed.



Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele is president of the foundation.

For the past several years, about 30 citizens and friends passionate about Blooming Prairie have been meeting to find a way to help the community.

"Current and past Blooming Prairie history is replete with memories of women

and men working hard to make Blooming Prairie a great place to live and work," said Tamzen Johnson, who is one of the board members and serves as the foundation's treasurer. "The efforts of the current good citizens are meant to

build on the past and to embrace the future."

Thiele said a Blooming Prairie businessman approached him a few years ago to chair the committee "due to my leadership ability."

important part of what he represents in his role as the county's top law enforcement official.

The board plans to unveil more details about the foundation in the coming weeks, including a website and email account. See FOUNDATION on A11 ►

Jurrens steps into NRHEG role

BY KAY FATE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After more than a year of changes in nearly every aspect of education, the students at NRHEG Elementary School will have one more new thing when classes start this fall: A new principal.

Nick Jurrens will fill the role left by Doug Anderson, who retired at the end of the school year after spending 36 years in education – the last 11 as principal at NRHEG Elementary.

"The one constant is change," Jurrens said, "and what makes change easier is trust."

Though his first official day on the job is Thursday, July 1, Jurrens has already been working toward that trust, spending time with Anderson and discussing the transition. The district also has a new superintendent in Michael Meihak, who starts Thursday, as well.

"My primary goal in year one is to get to know everyone," Jurrens said. "Mr. Anderson has shared a lot of information with me, and I can tell there isn't anything requiring immediate attention." That, he said, will allow him more time to spend with students and staff, "reflecting on what is going well and what could be improved."

Jurrens last served at United South Central School District in Wells. He's also spent time at Lyle and at Triton Elementary in Dodge Center. Before becoming a principal, he taught fifth grade at Kasson-Mantorville for 12 years.

"I prefer a rural, small town school district, where the focus is on relationships and student learning," he said. "Principal Anderson has done a wonderful job at NRHEG Elementary, and I look forward to transitioning into the positive culture he was a part of creating."

While Jurrens has also taught middle

See JURRENS on A3 ►

Streetscape construction underway



Construction crews removed the concrete pavement on North Cedar Avenue between Pearl Street and Rose Street last week, as shown above in the aerial drone photo taken by Staff Photographer Joey Bunton. Temporary water connections were slated to be hooked up early this week. Plans call for the Pearl Street intersection to remain open for the next couple of weeks, with work in the 200-block anticipated to begin in late July. The concrete debris from the street, shown in a photo on the right taken by Karen Hale, was removed and will be stockpiled offsite until it can be crushed and turned into a reusable product.



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AREA DEATHS

Janet Sargent, 80, Owatonna

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2021

Bloomington, Minnesota

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PUBLISHER

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Thiele said he jumped at the opportunity because Bloomington is an important part of what he represents in his role as the county's top law enforcement official.

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OUR VIEW

Summer: A good time for reading

"There's no such thing as a kid who hates reading. There are kids who love reading and kids who are reading the wrong books."

James Patterson

There are lots of reasons to encourage children to read.

And there's no better time than summer.

In addition to increasing knowledge and expanding a child's vocabulary, reading promotes the development of a child's imagination. By visualizing what they are reading, they develop much-needed social, emotional, creative and problem-solving skills.

Books allow children and adults alike to travel to faraway places and magical kingdoms, make new friends, embrace differences, and learn new things. Books are filled with life lessons and help children discover the differences between right and wrong, good vs. evil and justice vs. injustice.

Reading strengthens critical-thinking skills and, yes, reading can be fun.

As many adults know, there are plenty of good reasons to the lost in a good story. And adults play a critical role in cultivating good reading habits and developing a child's love for reading.

Some tips from the experts include:

- Reading aloud to children from a very young age;

- Keep a variety of reading materials - picture books and storybooks - around the house;

- Encourage your child to read aloud or to a younger sibling;

- Read in front of them; and

- Make time for reading.

Perhaps most important help children who say reading is boring find a book about something that interests them - a sport they love, a person they admire or even a movie they've seen.

The popular and heartwarming movie "Wonder" comes to mind. The film is an adaptation of the book with the same title published in 2012.

Wonder is the kind of book that inspires everyone to be kinder to one another and both the movie and book were hits.

On the New York Times Bestseller list for more than five consecutive years, Wonder also made Time Magazine's list of 100 Best Children's Books of All Times in 2015.

In addition to your local librarian, both lists are a great place to discover book titles that your children or grandchildren might enjoy reading.

And don't forget the events for children hosted at the library.

Blooming Prairie and Owatonna hosted virtual storytime throughout the pandemic. This summer, in addition to the Summer Reading Program, the libraries are hosting outdoor StoryWalk events.

Remember, there's a book out there for everyone.

YOUR VIEW

Working to provide vaccinations

To-the-Editor:

I'm a part of a group of volunteers working to provide access and opportunity for those who are not yet protected with a vaccination against the COVID-19 virus. You can find us putting on vaccination clinics at Central Park in downtown Owatonna from 5-8 p.m. on July 1 and Aug. 5. There is no appointment needed and it's free!

Come enjoy the music at Central Park and the fun on Cedar Avenue. If you or your children aged 12 and older have not yet been vaccinated come meet the nurses who will provide your vaccination. Along with your vaccination, you'll receive coupons donated by these local businesses: Taste of the Big Apple, El Tequila, Old Town Bagel, Wagner's Lunch, Plaza Moreno, Pizza Hut, Cedar Floral, Little Professor Book Store, The Kitchen and Owatonna Hy-Vee. Already vaccinated? Bring a friend or relative to get their vaccination and you will also receive the coupons.

There will be a grand prize drawing of a \$25 Visa gift card at the end of the July 1 clinic. We hope to see you from 5-8 p.m. with your sleeves rolled up.

Peter Connor
Owatonna

How about celebrating and rallying behind the local paper?



Hot Pursuit
RICK BUSSLER

It's sad how the landscape of newspapers has changed over the years, especially since I began in the business in the early 1980s. The past 40 years have been turbulent at best.

Two of the newspapers I worked for during my high school and college days are no longer in existence: the Brownston Bulletin and Gibbon Gazette. They both served farming communities in central Minnesota.

I owned a newspaper in West Concord that was combined with another Dodge County newspaper a few years back.

It seems like the list of papers going out of business has accelerated in recent years. This past week another one made the list. The International Falls Journal, founded in 1911, ceased publication on June 24.

Last week, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar recognized the International Falls newspaper by highlighting the paper's legacy of quality reporting and commitment to delivering trustworthy news on the Senate floor. While giving the recognition, she also reiterated the need to pass a bill currently being debated to help news publishers collectively negotiate better terms with digital platforms such as Google and Facebook.

"As the daughter of a newspaperman (Jim Klobuchar - Star Tribune), I grew up knowing just how important local newspaper like the International Falls Journal are... local papers played an irreplaceable role in my father's life, as they continue to today for countless reads," Klobuchar said in the Senate.

She continued, "But today, newspapers of all sizes are struggling and closing... We can't stand by and watch this happen to our independent press. We must give independent papers the chance to compete."

Ad revenue for U.S. newspapers plummeted from \$49.4 billion in 2005 to \$14.3 billion in 2018. Two other companies, Facebook and

Google - worth over \$2.4 trillion combined - became advertising titans during that time.

Despite the oftentimes hopelessness that radiates with the closures of newspapers, I am committed to battling the good fight. I believe readers want their local newspaper. We hear from different readers every week about the value the newspaper plays in their lives.

In fact, our readership has skyrocketed over the past year. I don't care how many people point to Facebook and other social media. Nothing replaces the local newspaper in providing communities with local news. We have a niche that no social media will ever be able to top or even come close to delivering. We capture the moments, big and small, that together tell a beautiful story of the place we call home.

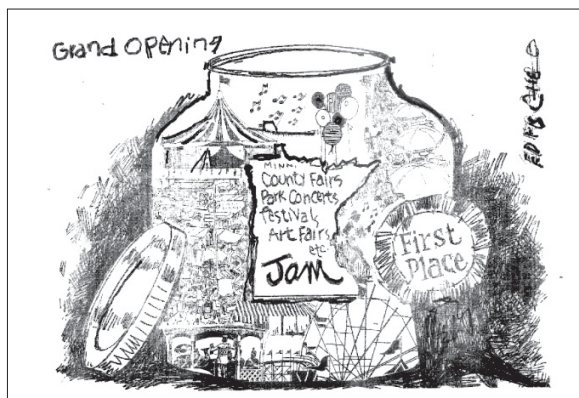
When is the last time Google or Facebook showed up at a local high school graduation or sporting event to provide stories and photos? How about community celebrations like Medford's Straight River Days, Dairy Days in Owatonna, Ellendale Days, the Blooming

Prairie Fourth of July or the Steele County Free Fair? I'll answer that for you: never, and probably never will!

People can get all intimate with Facebook and Google as they want. I chuckle when people rave about how many likes they have received from a Facebook posting they have made. Most of the time, those likes aren't even from the community where they live. That may be fine, but I can assure you the social media giants will not provide hometown news like we do. I challenge anyone to prove to me otherwise.

My only hope is that those people will snap out of the honeymoon stage they have been flirting around with for several years with Facebook and Google. It's time to come to your senses and realize the local newspaper has and always will have the community's best interest at heart. Our newspaper has been doing so for the past 128 years. And, in our case, the community is all of Steele County, not just one particular town.

Now, isn't it time to go in hot pursuit of celebrating and rallying behind the local newspaper?



GUEST COLUMN

Focusing on farmers in the agriculture budget

BY GENE DORNINK

The Senate has worked through this special session, focusing on balancing the budget and helping our communities. Unfortunately, we didn't get everything we wanted and gave up more than I had hoped.

I ran on the idea of 'one bill, one vote', which is completely contradictory to this omnibus bill process we've been working through. I will continue to advocate for a more open process where individual policies can be debated, one at a time, and voted on without

being attached to state funding. I am proud of much of the work we were able to accomplish and will continue working on finalizing our State budget.

We passed the Agriculture Budget, which focuses on farmers in the field instead of bureaucrats in St. Paul. Targeted investments will help farmers recover and ensure our rural communities are able to thrive. Provisions I brought forward this Session are included; we are providing more mental health resources for farmers, funding for county

fairs, and investing in agriculture research and rural development. I am excited to see more advancements being put forward for the agriculture community and look forward to seeing the positive impacts on our community.

I am especially proud of the work done with the Education budget. We have made a point to focus on families, students, and teachers. We reached an agreement to provide the largest education funding increase in 15 years without the burdensome mandates that restrict the

local districts' ability to appropriate their own funds. It was important to us that the money go straight into the classrooms for students. Unfortunately, my bill to expand our school's ability to hire short call substitute teachers, who are in short supply, was blocked by the House Democrats. They don't want local control.

The DVS testing locations in our communities have been a concern for many as the Department of Public Safety considers permanent closures. I authored a bill to ensure See FOCUSING on A11 ►

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Office Manager.....Sherrie Pechan
Sales Specialist.....Wynne Priebe
Staff Writer.....Alex Nuehring
Staff Writer.....Chris Baldwin

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Thursdays.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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A state and national award winning weekly



MINNESOTA
NEWSPAPER
ASSOCIATION

2020 - 18 awards
2019 - 9 state awards
2018 - 7 state awards
2017 - 6 state and 4 national awards
2016 - 5 state and 3 national awards
2015 - 6 state and 6 national awards

2016 - 7 state and 4 national awards
2014 - 3 state and 2 national awards
2013 - 7 state and 2 national awards
2012 - 2 state awards
2011 - 4 national awards

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

Divine intervention? New pastor returns to Ellendale

BY KAY FATE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Sometimes, life is about timing. Take, for example, Kyle Smith and First Lutheran Church in Ellendale.

To appreciate the circumstances, we have to go back to 2010, when Smith graduated from high school in Howard Lake. He wasn't sure just what he wanted to do, and talked to his minister about it.

His minister, in turn, said several couples at Smith's home church had attended Free Lutheran Bible College in Plymouth, a two-year school associated with a seminary.

"He didn't know it, but what he was doing was pointing out all of the people I had a lot of respect for," Smith said, and his decision was made. He was elected Chaplain his second year, and though he was nervous about speaking in front of people, "I really enjoyed sharing God's word with people."

After graduation, he took a part-time position as a youth director in western North

"There are coincidences, I know, but this was something I think God had a hand in."

The Rev. Kyle Smith
First Lutheran Church

Dakota, while working full-time at a bank. "At Bible College, I sensed I should be a minister, but I didn't want to be one," Smith said. He'd been comparing himself to other ministers, including some who had been at it for years.

Eventually, he said, "I realized the reason I didn't want to is because I didn't think I could do it. But I didn't have to be just like my former pastor — I could just be me. So I said, 'OK, God, I guess I'll go to seminary and become a pastor.'"

Smith needed to finish his bachelor's degree before he could attend seminary and was set on heading back to Plym-



STAFF PHOTO BY KAY FATE

The Rev. Kyle Smith returns to the First Lutheran Church in Ellendale, where he served as a youth director in 2017 before attending seminary. After graduating in May, he had three job offers and decided to return to Ellendale with his wife and three children.

outh and Free Lutheran Bible Seminary. He also needed a full-time job that would feed his spiritual needs, just as First Lutheran Church in Ellendale was looking

for a youth director. Smith was hired.

So he moved into a little house across the street from the church, finished his bachelor's degree online, then

two years later headed to seminary — now married and expecting twins with his wife, Alicia.

While he enjoyed his time in Ellendale,

"I never thought I'd be back," Smith said.

Fast-forward another four years. The church and its former pastor parted ways in late 2020

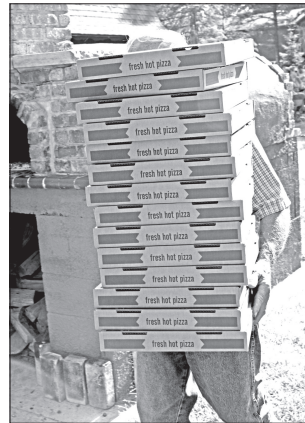
See DIVINE on A14 ►



Berne Pizza Days

The Lost Faculties band, left, play at Berne Pizza Days at the Zwingli United Church of Christ fundraiser. The event, held at Berne on Wednesday night, June 23, attracted first-time attendees, middle left, Zack Ashmore of Rochester and his two children, Autumn, 2 and Annabelle, 4. Center, a couple of pizzas are ready to go into the fire and volunteers, bottom left, take a peek at their progress. Bottom right, a volunteer at the Berne Pizza Days celebration brings some more boxes to be filled with wood-fired pizza.

STAFF PHOTOS BY HOWARD LESTRUO



Jurrens steps into NRHEG principal role

◀ JURRENS from A1 school and coached high school students, he prefers working with students and staff at the elementary level — and knows when he realized it.

"My first year as an administrator, I was a K-12 principal," he said. "I'll never forget that day in October when our third-graders were walking by me in the hall on their way to PE. I got a high five, 'knuckles,' or a hug from every one of them. Elementary students are so much fun to be around; I love the excitement they bring for learning each day."

It's not just about

classwork, though.

"One thing near and dear to me as an educator is teaching the whole child," Jurrens said. "Students come to

school to learn not only the academics, but also the behavioral and social-emotional skills to be great people. Our job in education is to help our children develop the skills they need to be productive adults."

To that end, he describes himself as "pretty hands-on with students and staff. You'll find me roaming the halls, popping in and out of classrooms, and hanging out with students in the lunchroom and at recess."

"The past couple of years I've used a cart as a mobile desk, so I can work in the halls and be more available for students and staff," Jurrens said. That has helped eliminate the negativity that has traditionally surrounded "the principal's office."

He said parents should not be surprised when their child knows him and says hello to him.

"Times have changed since we as parents were in school," he said. "I want our students, staff and parents to see me as another caring adult in our children's lives."

The same approach applies to the staff.

"I enjoy getting to know them as people first and colleagues second," Jurrens said. "Although the daily roles and responsibilities of a teacher and a principal are often much different, our common responsibility is to our students and their learning."

Jurrens and his wife, Kelly, have five boys, and live on 12 acres south of Kasson.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nick Jurrens shares his lunch hour with students at United South Central Elementary School. Thursday is his first day as principal of NRHEG Elementary, where he will interact with students as much as he can — often working from a cart in the hallway instead of at a desk in his office.

**BLOTTER
SPOTLIGHT**

Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 300 block of Rose St. E. at 1:12 p.m. on June 20. They took a subject into custody.

Construction begins on Law Enforcement Memorial

Construction has begun on a new Law Enforcement Memorial for southeast Minnesota.

After a groundbreaking ceremony at Soldiers Field Memorial Park in Rochester last week, construction began Monday on the memorial.

The Memorial honors the 33 fallen officers of the following municipal, state, federal, and military agencies operating within Minnesota Sheriff's Association's Sixth District, which are the following counties: Steele, Rice, Freeborn, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Fillmore, Waseca, Le Sueur, and Houston.

"Reaching this point of finally breaking ground for our Memorial is an amazing feeling," said Olmsted County Sheriff Kevin

Torgerson, who is also president of the Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation of Southeast Minnesota. "This truly has been a team effort and I want to thank the communities of Southeast Minnesota for helping make this a reality. The fundraising will never stop though because of the need to maintain it and unfortunately, likely add future names."

Features of the Memorial include a wall with a variety of etched law enforcement related pictures and references and a 15-foot pillar that will have a blue accent light and names of fallen officers.

Included in the area's fallen officers are one from Steele County: Neil Johnson, Blooming Prairie, 1951 and four from Dodge County: Ole Havey, Hayfield, 1905; Gregory Lange, Cla-

remont, 1988; Douglas Claassen, Hayfield, 1999 and Loring Guenther, Dodge County Sheriff's Office, 2013.

There will be 21 sentinel evergreen trees lining the west hill overlooking the memorial. This number was chosen because of the traditional three volley salute consisting of seven riflemen and the three volleys, the 21 steps taken by the guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as well as the 21 steps taken by the Minnesota LEMA Honor Guard at the State Memorial in St. Paul.

The pillar in the center of the Memorial will have five smooth sides and five rough sides. The number represents five branches of law enforcement - State, Municipal, County, Federal, and Military Police. The smooth

sides represent the start of a law enforcement career, and the rough sides represent how a law enforcement career takes a toll on officers.

There will also be a variety of plantings and intertwined pavers shaped into badges. Kimbely Kautz will create a star (which represents the two most common badges). The pavers create the Memorial Foundation's symbol, which represents agencies coming together to remember fallen officers and a mourning band traditionally worn across a badge when an officer has fallen.

Plans for the Law Enforcement Memorial can be found on the Foundation's website: lawenforcementmemorial.org. Information on donating online or mailing a donation can be found on the website as well.

CRIME BRIEF

Man faces felony domestic assault



Shane Johnson

A man faces a felony charge for allegedly assaulting a woman in Owatonna.

The Steele County Attorney's Office has charged Shane Johnson, 41, of Owatonna with two counts of domestic assault. The charges were enhanced to felonies due to two previous domestic violence-related convictions.

Police responded to a domestic-in-progress on June 20. The victim claimed Johnson threw a flowerpot at her and dumped cleaning chemicals on her, according

to police. Officers found the victim, who was crying and distraught, covered in a white powder. They also saw a red mark

on her right bicep and an apparent bite mark and bruising on her right arm, police said.

The victim told police a scuffle took place while she was removing property from her residence. Johnson allegedly got on top of her and pinned her to the ground. She freed herself and as she gathered more items, he allegedly pushed, bit and poured Comet on her.

**COURT NEWS
Steele County**

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 14 through June 20:

Judge Joseph A. Buellet presiding: Kanyetta Elwoods, 53, Waseca, previously appeared and was convicted of felony theft of motor vehicle, felony theft, felony financial transaction card fraud and gross misdemeanor possession of marijuana. Elwoods was sentenced to \$200, 247 days in county jail, obtain and maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, chemical dependency evaluation, no possession of firearms and 5 years of supervised probation. David L. Klocek, 38, Ellendale, previously appeared and was convicted of felony fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle. He was sentenced to \$550, 10 days in county jail, obtain and maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance, do not enter liquor establishments, psychological evaluation, no possession of firearms, cognitive skill training, obtain permission to leave the state, 45 days of electronic home alcohol monitor and 3 years of supervised probation. The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 14 - 20:

**BLOOMING PRAIRIE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Ignacio G. Fuentes Dominguez, 43, Austin, failure to stop for traffic control signal, \$125; Da E. Gay, 20, Willmar, speeding, \$135; Kristian T. Hautman, 23, Savage, no insurance, \$275; Samantha K. Larson, 19, Clayton, speeding, \$135; James A. Martin, 29, Compton, CA, possession of paraphernalia, \$125; Leonardo Martinez, 19, Austin, revoked license, \$275; Htee H. Say, 18, St. Paul, speeding, \$135; Vah T. Seville, 39, Minneapolis, speeding, \$125.

**MN STATE PATROL
ROCHESTER**

Miguel A. Amaya, 37, Springdale, AR, speeding, \$135; Matthew D.

Andersland, 21, Cedar Rapids, IA, speeding, \$125; Brianna M. Baehman, 27, Lakeville, speeding, \$115; Kristin M. Bellanger, 33, Duluth, improperly worn child passenger restraint system and seat belt, \$150; Kent M. Bergene, 62, Fridley, move over law violation, \$125; Samuel C. Bolton, 23, Owatonna, seat belt, \$100; Larry S. Carda, 64, Brook Park, speeding, \$115; Maurice A. Coleman, 38, Huntville, AL, speeding, \$135; Carol A. Cooper, 59, Rock Falls, IL, speeding, \$135; Arthur D. Davidson, 62, Portsmouth, VA, speeding, \$135; Juan C. De la Cruz, 28, Omaha, NE, speeding, \$135; Anthony D. Franklin, 29, Eagan, expired tabs, \$105; Marcelino Gomez Jr., 26, Faribault, speeding, \$115; Shane S. Gulickson, 21, Albert Lea, speeding, \$215; Carvon T. Gurley, 19, Minneapolis, speeding, \$215; Natasha G. Herrin, 26, Owatonna, revoked license, \$275; Graham J. Hevel, 24, Orland Park, IL, speeding, \$215; Damian E. Holland, 20, Coon Rapids, speeding and suspended license, \$335; Herminio Jimenez Vasquez, 26, Apopka, FL, no license, \$175; Brianna M. Kaiser, 28, New Richmond, speeding and permit violation, \$185; Ashton A. Kane, 25, Owatonna, obstructed license plate, \$105; Crystal A. Kasmskie, 37, Prior Lake, speeding, \$115; Joel A. Kennedy, 57, Edmond, OK, speeding, \$115; Ajay S. Keo, 16, Rochester, unsafe lane usage, \$125; Maral Kesseli, 41, Crystal, speeding, \$115; Brandie A. Kilgore, 36, Claremont, no motorcycle endorsement, \$125; Tiffani M. Koehler-Sear, 27, Albert Lea, speeding and revoked license, \$335; Alan D. Krueger, 39, Lakeville, speeding, \$115; James B. Krukow, 21, Riceville, IA, careless driving, \$175; Lauren E. Kubal, 20, White Bear Lake, speeding, \$115; Brianna K. Kuster, 41, Hayfield, no insurance, \$275; Michael D. Lee, 28, St. Louis Park, speeding, \$135; Moises N. Lelva Delgado, 20, Minneapolis, speeding and no license, \$315; Elizabeth Lopez Ortiz, 47, Inver Grove Heights, no license and child passenger restraint system violation, \$210; Aaron C. Lussier, 33, Virginia, license and parking violation, \$215; Ray W. Copp, 43, Owatonna, \$125; Tiara M. Mitchell, 23, Springfield, IL, child passenger restraint system violation, \$125; Niny K. Moe, 19, Omaha, NE, speeding, \$115; Jovan Morales, 29, Brownsville, TX, speeding and no license, \$315; Gurudatt K. Muppana, 29, Urbandale, IA, speeding, \$215; Rebecca L. Ostendorf, 36, Lakeville, seat belt, \$100; Jeffrey L. Osland, 35, Bayport, speeding, \$135; Cody J. Penrose, 29, Hastings, no license and revoked registration, \$475; Janet E. Presler, 55, Fairmont, speeding and revoked license, \$335; Benjamin A. Ragner, 34, Blaine, speeding, stay of adjudication, \$145 and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Alexis A. Rivera, 25, Eden Prairie, speeding, \$125; Jasmine P. Robbins, 25, Fertile, IA, speeding, \$215; Scott J. Ronnel, 48, Waukegan, IL, speeding, \$125; Johnnie M. Rose, 31, Des Moines, IA, no license and child passenger restraint system violation, \$225; Keith A. Rosendahl, 33, Owatonna, seat belt, \$100; Ashante L. Sampson, 21, Albert Lea, speeding, \$135; Juan L. Sanchez-Garcia, 31, Austin, suspended license, \$275; Kirsten L. Savage, 27, Maplewood, speeding, \$125; Nicole A. Schaub, 41, Owatonna, suspended license, \$275; David M. Schoeneman, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$125; Siela F. Sherman, 53, Crystal, seat belt, \$100; Wendy S. Smart, 53, Des Moines, IA, speeding, \$135; Isalah M. Shnell, 19, Eagan, speeding, \$125; Bill L. Taylor, 59, Bloomington, speeding, \$115; Bee Vang, 46, Brooklyn Park, speeding, \$275; Anthony J. Villareal, 18, Owatonna, seat belt, \$100; Noah D. Westercamp, 19, Ankeny, IA, speeding, \$135; Erika L. Williams, 28, St. Paul, speeding, \$115; Drake T. Williamson, 33, Richfield, suspended license, \$275; Osman S. Wodde, 21, Des Moines, IA, speeding and no license, \$225; Brandon S. Wold, 29, St. Paul, speeding, \$135.

**OWATONNA POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

Miguel A. Astacio Torrealba, 45, Owatonna, invalid license, \$175; Jacqueline M. Carlson, 55, Owatonna, hands free violation, \$125; Issi R. Centeno, 43, Owatonna, invalid license and parking violation, \$215; Ray W. Copp, 43, Owatonna,

failure to stop traffic control signal, \$125; Steven A. Dausey, 57, Nine Miles Falls, WA, following vehicle too closely, \$150, substance abuse screening inventory and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Eric M. Dorman, 44, Albert Lea, suspended license and no insurance, \$475; Kimberly K. Duestsch, 58, Owatonna, failure to yield, \$125; Jose L. Garcia, 22, Owatonna, theft, \$193 and 59 days in county jail; Julio C. Garza, 37, Owatonna, suspended license, \$275; Tiffany M. Gilbertson, 24, Medford, domestic assault, \$200, 2 days in county jail, obtain and maintain employment, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, obtain permission to leave the state, no possession of firearms and 1 year of supervised probation; Edgar J. Gonzalez Diaz, 21, suspended license and no insurance, \$475; Gage T. Gourhan, 26, Owatonna, careless driving, \$175; Brandon A. Hendrickson, 22, failure to stop for school bus, \$275; Tarah C. Holseth, 37, Osage, IA, suspended license, \$275; Jason L. House, 39, Owatonna, hands free violation, \$125; Holly A. Kuebel, 30, Faribault, 1 year of unsupervised probation; Hanneh E. Fowler, 25, Dodge Center, speeding, \$135; Maria M. Hedges, 35, Minneapolis, speeding, \$135; Dustin C. Hensrud, 20, Blooming Prairie, stop sign, \$125; Dominic J. Marshall, 36, Albert Lea, revoked license, \$275; Robert A. Martin, 60, Minneapolis, speeding, \$125; Stephanie L. Peller, 22, Dassel, speeding, \$115; Kevin L. Peterson, 54, Dodge Center, speeding, \$135; David J. Polier, 21, Rochester, speeding, \$115; Bonifacio Rojas, 49, Austin, speeding, \$135; Brenda Salgado Vatterez, 21, Brooklyn Park, speeding, \$125; William T. Stutsman, 21, Opheim, SD, speeding, \$105; Lincoln R. Summer, 17, Geneva, speeding, \$135; Amanda J. Tennyson, 31, Chaska, speeding, \$125; Angel Tiburcio Lara, 34, Wanamingo, revoked license, stay of adjudication, obtain license and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Jose Vargas Hernandez, 47, Waseca, invalid license, \$175; Adam M. Vlasaty, 18, Austin, speeding, \$125; William R. Wheeler, 34, Waseca, revoked license, \$275.

**STEELE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Daniel G. Adams, 55, Austin, DWI, \$406, 30 days in county jail; Riley J. Becker, 20, Owatonna, DWI, \$375, 4 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, substance abuse screening inventory, do not enter liquor establishments and 1 year of supervised probation; Andrew J. Bigbee, 55, Minneapolis, revoked license and speeding, \$335; Guse M. Dammann, 18, Waseca, speeding, \$215; Jennifer D. Eckart, 41, Faribault, cancelled license, \$275 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; James P. Fitzpatrick, 75, Egan, speeding, \$115; Benjamin E. Fossum, 33, West Concord, revoked license, stay of adjudication, \$150 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Hannah E. Fowler, 25, Dodge Center, speeding, \$135; Maria M. Hedges, 35, Minneapolis, speeding, \$135; Dustin C. Hensrud, 20, Blooming Prairie, stop sign, \$125; Dominic J. Marshall, 36, Albert Lea, revoked license, \$275; Robert A. Martin, 60, Minneapolis, speeding, \$125; Stephanie L. Peller, 22, Dassel, speeding, \$115; Kevin L. Peterson, 54, Dodge Center, speeding, \$135; David J. Polier, 21, Rochester, speeding, \$115; Bonifacio Rojas, 49, Austin, speeding, \$135; Brenda Salgado Vatterez, 21, Brooklyn Park, speeding, \$125; William T. Stutsman, 21, Opheim, SD, speeding, \$105; Lincoln R. Summer, 17, Geneva, speeding, \$135; Amanda J. Tennyson, 31, Chaska, speeding, \$125; Angel Tiburcio Lara, 34, Wanamingo, revoked license, stay of adjudication, obtain license and 1 year of unsupervised monitoring without conviction; Jose Vargas Hernandez, 47, Waseca, invalid license, \$175; Adam M. Vlasaty, 18, Austin, speeding, \$125; William R. Wheeler, 34, Waseca, revoked license, \$275.

**POLICE BLOTTER
Steele County**
**BLOOMING PRAIRIE
POLICE**

June 18
Crash: Police responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at Highway 218 and Highway 30 E. at 2:55 p.m. They issued a citation to one of the drivers.

June 20
Arrest: Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at Highway Ave. N. and 3rd St. NE at 7:48 p.m.

OWATONNA POLICE

June 18
Arrest: Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at 26th St. NW and 4th Ave. NW at 4:06 a.m.

Vandalism: Property damage was reported at the law enforcement center at 4:10 a.m.
Criminal Sexual Conduct: Police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 200 block of Oak Ave. N. at 8:14 a.m.

June 19
Drugs: Police responded to drug activity in the 2300 block of 43rd St. NW at 10:09 a.m.

Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 500 block of 11th St. SE at 11:09 a.m.

June 20
DWI: Officer made a DWI arrest at Mount St. SW and Bryan Ave. SW at 1:19 a.m.

Theft: Police received a theft report from the 300 block of Bryan Ave. SW at 12:57 p.m.

June 21
Arrest: Police arrested a motorist during a traffic stop at State Ave. NW and 12th Ave. NW in Owatonna Township at 5:59 a.m.

Restraining Order: Police issued a citation for a restraining order violation in the 300 block of 16th St. NE at 11:52 a.m.

Shoplifting: At 11:56 a.m., a shoplifting incident occurred in the 2100 block of Bridge St. W.

Child Protection: Police received a child protection report from the 1800 block of Hartle Ave. SE at 5:08 p.m.

June 22
Assault: Police responded to an assault in the 400 block of Oak Ave. S. at 1:59 a.m. They issued a citation.

Crash: Paramedics and officers responded to a motor vehicle accident

See **BLOTTER** on A11

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JayLee Larson, 7, creates a special tie dye shirt for herself at Ellendale Days on Saturday, June 26.

STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

'55 Chevy wins Best of Show at Ellendale Days

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Thirty-nine antique and collector cars were entered in the Ellendale Days Car Show at the Ellendale Methodist Church on Saturday, June 26.

Jeff Quam of Albert Lea won Best of Show, the day's top prize. Quam entered his 1955 Chevrolet Nomad maroon-colored station wagon.

Quam is a 1974 graduate of Ellendale High School.

He owns four more 1955 Chevrolets and a 1934 Chevrolet pickup truck and a 1949 Chevy pickup.

Rick and Robin Christensen organized the show. They also entered their 1967 Camaro 94/700 in the show. Robin presented all of the awards at the show, which went on despite a steady rainfall.

Trophies were given to the Top 25 in the show. Two trophies were also presented in memory of Russell Reistad and in honor of Al Lee.

Lorna Reistad presented a special award to Jim Miller, owner of a 1962 Chevrolet Impala. Al Lee, former owner of Al's Body Shop, presented a trophy to Chris and Tammy Brandt of Minnesota Lake.

Both Reistad and Lee were founders of the Memories Car Club.

A popular car entered in the show was a 1935 Ford owned by Andy Lerberg of Ellendale. Lerberg said he bought the car in 1962 and dated his future wife Mary in this car.

Sponsors of the car show were: Ellendale: Help U Sell, Deb Schmidt, Misgen Trucking, Wayne's Seeds, Misgen Auto Parts, Ellendale Fire Dept. and Karen Briggs, in memory of Phil Briggs and Blooming Prairie: J & H Liquors, Sue Zwienen of New York Life and Darrick's Preferred Auto. Other Saturday events at Ellendale Days included a bake sale and tie-dye event.

The parade was canceled because of weather.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Jeff Quam of Albert Lea won the Best of Show prize at the Ellendale Days Car Show held last Saturday, June 26. He won the trophy for his 1955 Chevrolet Nomad, a maroon wagon.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Al Lee (center), owner of Al's Body Shop, gave a special award to Chris and Tammy Brandt of Minnesota Lake at the Ellendale Days Car Show held at the Ellendale Methodist Church.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Andy Lerberg of Ellendale won a Top 25 award for his 1935 Ford. He said he and his late wife Mary dated in this car which he bought in 1962.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Travis Ladwig and son Bodie, 6, show off their 1954 Ford truck entered in the Ellendale Days Car Show Saturday, June 26.



STAFF PHOTO BY HOWARD LESTRUD

Lorna Reistad presents a trophy in memory of her husband Russell. The recipient is Jim Miller, owner of a 1962 Chevrolet Impala. Reistad was a co-founder with Al Lee of the Memories Car Club.



Senior Focus

Health & Fitness
Retirement
Money/Investment
Activities & Hobbies

Scuba diving enthusiast sees something new each time

BY LOLA SHAFFER
TIMES INTERN

Scuba diving enthusiast Don Matejcek is committed to sharing his love of the underwater sport with the community.

A founding member of the Owatonna Diving Club, Matejcek said a group of about 10 local scuba divers formed the club more than 50 years ago. Before the club's inception, the group dove together, often looking along the bottoms of nearby lakes for lost or discarded treasures, said Matejcek.



Don Matejcek

It wasn't until the divers wanted to have their own air compressor, close to home, that they decided to make the Diving Club official, according to Matejcek.

Matejcek said his experiences of looking

at shipwrecks in Lake Superior feed his curiosity to teach him the history of the ships.

On each dive, Matejcek said, "I see something new."

Matejcek said that he wants more people in the community to know about the Owatonna Diving Club. He said that even experienced local divers have no idea that the Diving Club exists. And, he said he'd like to get more young people involved.

Matejcek signed up for his first scuba diving class during his senior

year of high school. When Adult Education advertised the course, Matejcek said he had already read about the sport in Popular Mechanics and Popular Science magazines. He also was interested in how things work or what was in the local rivers and lakes.

When Matejcek returned from the military four years later, he said he was surprised to see the club's tradition of New Year's Day dive alive and well, adding that "diving in Minnesota is definitely

See SCUBA on A7 ▶



STAFF PHOTO BY LOLA SHAFFER

Don Matejcek, a founding member of the Owatonna Diving Club, attaches the air compressor to an oxygen tank.



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Scuba diving enthusiast sees something new each time

◀ SCUBA from A6 a hard sport.

When they first started teaching certification classes, Matejcek said the Owatonna Diving Club had to turn away students because the interest was so high. Now, on average, he said there are less than 10 students a year.

The Diving Club hosts a free Discover Scuba Night, where people are invited to try it out to promote the sport and entice new members. Classes are also available twice in the fall—starting in November—and once in the spring. Matejcek said the teaching method is slower-paced and more personal, adding that several people have returned from vacation and finished earning their certification through the Diving Club.

Anyone interested in more information can go to the Owatonna Diving Club's website. Otherwise, he said a club member is usually at their building on 1357 Front Street in Owatonna on Thursday evenings. Class registration is through Community Education which is also available online.

How to pick the best place to retire

Dear Savvy Senior, My husband and I will both be retiring in a few years and are interested in relocating to a warmer climate but could use some help. What resources can you recommend for locating and researching good places to retire in the U.S.? Retiring at 65

Dear Retiring, If you're interested in relocating when you retire, like millions of other baby boomers, there are a wide variety of books and online resources that can help you find and research a new location that meet your wants, needs and budget. Here are several to help you get started.

Where to Retire? If you're at the beginning of your search, a good starting point is to take the "Find Your Best Place" retirement quiz at Sperling's Best Places (BestPlaces.net/fybp). This free quiz asks 10-questions on your preferences such as climate, recreation, community size and more, and suggests possible destinations that match your answers. MarketWatch also has



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a new matchmaking tool called, "Where's the best place for me to retire?" at MarketWatch.com/graphics/best-place-to-retire/.

Media resources like U.S. News & World Report, Kiplinger's, Forbes and Money Magazine also publish "best places to retire" lists on their websites each year. And be sure you check out Milken's "Best Cities for Successful Aging" (SuccessfulAging.MilkenInstitute.org), which ranks 381 U.S. metropolitan areas based on factors that are important to older adults.

You should also consider getting a copy of "America's 100 Best Places to Retire" (the sixth edition book; \$25 at Amazon.com) that looks at a range of destinations, and groups some in

college towns, mountain towns, undiscovered towns and main street towns.

Once you find a few areas that interest you, your next step is research them. Here are some important areas you need to investigate.

Cost of living: Can you afford to live comfortably in the location where you want to retire? Numbeo.com and BestPlaces.net offers tools to compare the cost of living from your current location to where you would like to move. They compare housing costs, food, utilities, transportation and more.

Taxes: Some states are more tax friendly than others. If you're planning to move to another state, Kiplinger's has a tax guide for retirees at Kiplinger.com/links/retiretaxmap that lets

you find and compare taxes state-by-state. It covers income taxes, sales tax, taxes on retirement income, Social Security benefits taxes, property taxes, and inheritance and estate taxes.

Crime rate: To evaluate how safe a community or area is, websites like AreaVibes.com provide crime data for certain localities.

Climate: To research the climate in the areas you're interested in moving, Sperling's Best Places is again a great resource that offers a climate/weather compare tool BestPlaces.net/climate.

Healthcare: Does the area you want to relocate have easy access to good healthcare? To locate and research doctors and hospitals in a new area, use Medicare's compare tool at Medicare.gov/care-compare. Also see Healthgrades.com, which provides detailed information on U.S. hospitals and doctors.

Transportation: If you plan to travel much, or expect frequent visits from your kids or grandkids, convenient access to an airport or

train station is a nice advantage. You should also investigate alternative transportation options, since most retirees give up driving in their eighties. To do this visit RidesInSight.org, a free website that provides information about senior transportation options in local communities throughout the U.S.

Once you have narrowed your choices down to two or three, spend a couple weeks in each location at different times of the year so you can get a feel for the seasonal weather changes, and so you can carefully weigh the pros and cons of living there. You may find that you like the area more as a vacation spot than as a year-round residence. It's also a good idea to rent for a year before buying a home or making a commitment to a retirement community.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC *Today* show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



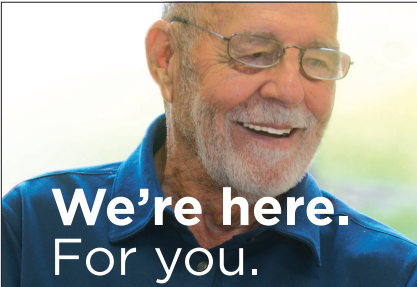
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BP's Bobbie Bruns earns one of softball's top honors

BY ALEX NUHRING
SPORTS WRITER

Only 14 Class A softball players were named first-team All-State by the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association and thanks to her strong hitting and fielding Blooming Prairie shortstop and center-fielder Bobbie Bruns is a part of that elite company.

One of the reasons she's earned this honor is due to her strong hitting. She led the Blossoms in nearly every offensive statistic, including batting

average (.538), on-base percentage (.579), hits (28), doubles (4), triples (2), home runs (4) and runs batted in (20). Even though she spearheaded Blooming Prairie's offense, she said she was still super surprised to find out she made first-team All-State.

"It's exciting and an honor to be on that team. It means a lot because it shows that my hard work has paid off," she said.

Bruns, who has playing on the varsity team since eighth grade, credits her coaches in helping her become one

of the Minnesota's best Class A players.

"[Head Coach] Jenna [Volgarino], my dad [Assistant Coach John Bruns], Tyler Krekling and former Head Coach Lonnie Lembke have all helped me a lot. They've helped me become a more confident hitter, and I've been putting in the extra time to be more confident in myself and my game. The more confident you get, the better you play," she said.

She also believes that her experience of playing on varsity for two prior seasons and having more at-bats and

more reps in the field helped her be better prepared and ready for each game.

In addition to having more experience under her belt, she noted that she's become a better fielder by working on her drop step to get balls that land behind her in the outfield and working on the little things and making sure she's doing those right.

Last but not least, she mentioned that her teammates' encouragement has also played a role in helping become an All-State player. "Every day we're

pushing each other to get better. It will be really tough to be successful without those teammates around you," she said.

Since her teammates helped her reach this honor, she wants to repay the favor by helping the team be as successful as it can be next spring.

"My main goal is to just have a fun season with the girls because it will be my last one and be as successful as we can be," she said. "As long as we're playing hard and having fun, good things will happen."



FILE PHOTO
Blossoms softball player Bobbie Bruns

Rain forces Gopher 50 cancellation



These young racing fans were having some fun at the Gopher 50 race at the Deer Creek Speedway near Racine Friday night. Shown eyeing Carson Ingvalson's (seen from left) slice of pizza are Brayton Ingvalson, Lukas Derherder, Derek Miner and Ryder Smith. The Gopher races Friday and Saturday were eventually cancelled because of rain.



Tim McCreddie, 2021 Lucas Oil late model dirt series point leader, takes a tour of the track during hot lap warmups at the Deer Creek Speedway.



Blossoms Prairie Lions volunteers Paul Dale, left, and Howard Lestrud hand out will-call tickets at the Gopher 50 race at the Deer Creek Speedway.



Jolene and Dean Zilm were on duty selling shirts at the Deer Creek Speedway on Friday, June 25. They were representing the Blossoms Prairie Lions.

Chateau challenge cut short by rain

BY MATTHEW GRAGE
RACING CORRESPONDENT

The first annual Chateau Speedway "WISSOTA Midwest Mod vs. USRA B Mod Challenge Event" got underway Friday Night with night one of what was to be a two-night event.

The weekend was set up as a challenge weekend between the two sanctioning bodies of "B Mods," WISSOTA Midwest Modified and the USRA B Mods. Drivers were to compete to accumulate the most points over the course of the two nights to qualify for a "Challenge Event." After Saturday's races, the top eight cars in each division were to be combined for one \$500 to win event pitting the two sanctioning bodies against each other. However, Mother Nature brought some much needed rain to the area and washed out the second half of the two nights turning the Friday's show into just a regular night.

On Friday it was Adam Martinson of Blaine in the Action Builders WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds and Dustin Steinbrink of Austin in the USRA B Mods who got a leg up on the rest of the cars by taking the opening night features. Kylie Kath of Ellendale, Billy Steinberg of Kasson and Cory Asmussen of Gary, S.D. took the Midwest

Modified Heats while John Ross of Mankato and Channing Warner of Owatonna took the USRA B Mod Heats.

Drury Outlaw Mini Mods joined the show and it was Nathan Kilwine of Glenville by a nose over Ben Kraus of Britt, Iowa for their feature win. Kraus and Matthew Grube of Austin grabbed heat wins for the group.

In Adams Graphix WISSOTA Street Stocks, Dustin Doughty of Oakdale in his first appearance this season brought the broom with him as he swept to a heat and feature win. The other heat win went to Zach Elward of Hayfield.

Power 96 Pure Stocks were led again by Andrew Eischens of Taopi. George Schrumph of Rochester and Jack Maas of Faribault garnered heat wins.

In the Skjeveland Sanitation and Roll Off Service WISSOTA Hornets, Matt Wieman of Owatonna picked up his first feature win of the year. Wieman was also credited with a heat win after a disqualification. Daniel Bjornfald of Bloomington and Taylor White of Rochester also had heat wins while Brian Schott of Red Wing grabbed the B Main win.

Action continues at Chateau Friday at 7:15 p.m. with the regular six classes back in action.

Chateau Speedway Results

June 25

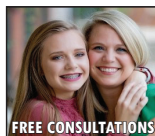
USRA B MODIFIED

A Feature 1 (20 Laps): 1. 33S-Dustin Steinbrink-Austin[3]; 2. 02K-Hunter Kennedy-St Ansgar IA[6]; 3. 35JR-Garitt Wytaske-Austin[4]; 4. 99-Noah Grinstead-Austin[8]; 5. 1Z-Zach Davis-Lonsdale[2]; 6. 20J-Jeremy Grantham-Allison IA[11]; 7. 54-Jett Sorensen-Rochester[10]; 8. 81K-Caleb Korpi-Claremont[12]; 9. 95S-Lucas Grosinger-Chaska[7]; 10. 15-Zach Elward-Hayfield[16]; 11. 45-Cole Lonergan-Dexter[13]; 12. 64-John Ross-Mankato[1]; 13. 27-Channing Warner-Owatonna[5]; 14. (DNF) 4-Brayten Clansros-Bloomington[15]; 15. (DNF) B3R-Kullen Kath-

Owatonna[9]; 16. (DNF) 71-Jamie Tapp-Myrtle[14]
Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1. 64-John Ross[1]; 2. 95S-Lucas Grosinger[2]; 3. 54-Jett Sorensen[5]; 4. B3R-Kullen Kath[6]; 5. 33S-Dustin Steinbrink[8]; 6. 20J-Jeremy Grantham[4]; 7. 45-Cole Lonergan[5]; 8. 4-Brayten Clansros[7]
Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1. 27-Channing Warner[1]; 2. 99-Noah Grinstead[2]; 3. 35JR-Garitt Wytaske[3]; 4. 02K-Hunter Kennedy[6]; 5. 1Z-Zach Davis[9]; 6. 81K-Caleb Korpi[4]; 7. 71-Jamie Tapp[5]; 8. (DNF) 15-Zach Elward[7]

DRURY OUTLAW MINI MOD

A Feature 1 (15 Laps): 1. 15-Nathan Kilwine-See CHATEAU on A9 ▶



Dr. Deborah I. Lien
DDS, MBS
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALIST
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Bloomington

Chateau Speedway Results

► **CHATEAU** from A8
Glenville [8]; 2, 9-Ben
Kraus-Britt IA[6]; 3.
16-Donald Kirchhoff-
Bladwin WI[1]; 4.
111-Matthew Grobe-
Austin[5]; 5, 14-Micheal
Bryant-Mason City IA[2];
6, 65-Logan Brown-Clear
Lake IA[7]; 7, 31-Spencer
Nelson-Rockwell IA[4];
8, 58-Devin Medes-
Rochester[5]; 9, (DNF)
11-Levi Randt-Siren WI[9]
Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1, 9-Ben
Kraus[2]; 2, 14-Micheal
Bryant[3]; 3, 65-Logan
Brown[4]; 4, 31-Spencer
Nelson[5]; 5, (DNF)
58-Devin Medes[5]
Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1,
111-Matthew Grobe[2]; 2,
5-Nathan Kilwine[3]; 3,
16-Donald Kirchhoff[4]; 4,
(DNF) 11-Levi Randt[1]

POWER 96 WISSOTA PURE STOCK

A Feature 1 (15 Laps):
1, 7X-Andrew Elschens-
Taopi[8]; 2, 17P-Jack
Paulson-Morristown[5];
3, 31S-Jack Maas-
Fairbault[4]; 4, 96-Kyndra
Guttmerson-Chatfield[9];
5, 17-Michael Wick-
Fairbault[7]; 6, 00-Bobby
Crews-Austin[12]; 7,
31-Raej Hastings IV-
Austin[2]; 8, 33-Jim
Briggs-Waseca[10];
9, 08-Kyle Kotek-
Owatonna[3]; 10,
63-Bailey Wolff-
Janesville[13]; 11, 44-Troy
Hoppe-New Richland[11];
12, (DNF) 75N-Dylan
Nirk-Bloomington Prairie[1];
13, (DNF) 88S-George
Schrumpf-Rochester[6]
Heat 1 (6 Laps):
1, 88S-George
Schrumpf[2]; 2,
7X-Andrew Elschens[4];
3, 17-Michael
Wick[3]; 4, 75N-Dylan
Nirk[5]; 5, 96-Kyndra
Guttmerson[7]; 6, 44-Troy
Hoppe[6]; 7, 63-Bailey
Wolff[11]
Heat 2 (6 Laps): 1,
31S-Jack Maas[6]; 2,
17P-Jack Paulson[4];
3, 08-Kyle Kotek[1]; 4,

31-Raej Hastings IV[2];
5, 33-Jim Briggs[3]; 6,
00-Bobby Crews[5]

ADAMS GRAPHIX WISSOTA STREET STOCK

A Feature 1 (18 Laps):
1, 01-Dustin Doughty-
Oakdale[5]; 2, 1R-Cole
Richards-Mondovi
WI[6]; 3, 01-Kory
Adams-Stacyville IA[7];
4, 15-Zach Elward-
Hwyfield[8]; 5, 32-Jason
Newkirk-Austin[4]; 6, 36-
Ross Spitzer-Bloomington
Prairie[3]; 7, 43-Tony
Shaner-Owatonna[10];
8, 38-Dan Klingus-
Austin[1]; 9, 42-Cody
Hjatt-Waseca[11];
10, 99-Greg Lammers-
Owatonna[2]; 11,
147-Brent Holland-
Glenville[9]
Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1,
15-Zach Elward[1]; 2,
32-Jason Newkirk[4]; 3,
36-Ross Spitzer[6]; 4,
99-Greg Lammers[2]; 5,
147-Brent Holland[5]; 6,
(DNF) 42-Cody Hjatt[5]
Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1, 01-
Dustin Doughty[3]; 2,
01-Kory Adams[2]; 3,
1R-Cole Richards[4]; 4,
39-Dan Klingus[1]; 5,
43-Tony Shaner[5]

ACTION BUILDERS WISSOTA MIDWEST MODS

A Feature 1 (20 Laps): 1,
24M-Adam Martinson-
Blair[2]; 2, 83X-Kadden
Kath-Ellendale[7]; 3,
00JR-Greg Pfeifer Jr-
Austin[6]; 4, G12-Ryan
Goergen-Stacyville IA[8];
5, 1M-Josh Mattick-
Rose Creek[10]; 6,
33-Kenny Wyatska-
Austin[11]; 7, 97-Cory
Asmussen-Gary SD[3];
8, 5G-Patrick McCarthy-
Bloomington[13]; 9,
79-Jeremy Misgen-
New Richland[5]; 10,
7W-Charlie Wilren-
Stillwater[18]; 11,
29G-Bobby Gulickson-
Kasson[16]; 12, 5-Tyler
McFarland-New Richland
[17]; 13, 25B-Britt



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Matt Wieman of Owatonna dominated the Chateau Speedway Friday night by earning the top spot in the Skjeveland Sanitation and Roll Off Service WISSOTA Hornets race. Shown on Victory Lane are, from left: TJ Barnett, Nick Sillman, Evan Wieman, Matt Wieman, Amanda Van Ryswyk, Mason Van Ryswyk and Denise Wieman.

Olson Jr-New Richland
[15]; 14, 22H-Jayme
Hiller-Waterville[12];
15, 33-Darryl Hainka-
Wannamingo[11]; 16,
40-Colton Kramer-Pine
Island[20]; 17, (DNF)
79H-Luke Hainka-
Wannamingo[9]; 18,
(DNF) 83-Billy Steinberg-
Kasson[4]; 19, (DNF)
98D-Christopher
Deno-Kasson[14]; 20,
(DNS) 83K-Kobie Kath-
Owatonna
Heat 1 (8 Laps): 1,
83-Billy Steinberg[1]; 2,
24M-Adam Martinson[4];
3, G12-Ryan Goergen[5];
4, 1M-Josh Mattick[5]; 5,
5G-Patrick McCarthy[6];
6, 29G-Bobby
Gulickson[2]; 7,
40-Colton Kramer[7]
Heat 2 (8 Laps): 1,
7W-Charlie Wilren-
Stillwater[18]; 11,
29G-Bobby Gulickson-
Kasson[16]; 12, 5-Tyler
McFarland-New Richland
[17]; 13, 25B-Britt

7W-Charlie Wilren[7]
Heat 3 (8 Laps): 1, 97-
Cory Asmussen[1]; 2,
00JR-Greg Pfeifer Jr[3];
3, 33-Darryl Hainka[2];
4, 22H-Jayme Hiller[5]; 5,
25B-Britt Olson Jr[4]; 6,
(DNF) 83K-Kobie Kath[6]

SKJEVELAND SANITATION AND ROLL OFF SERVICE WISSOTA HORNET

A Feature 1 (15 Laps):
1, 16M-Matt Wieman-
Owatonna[2]; 2, 59-Andy
Knutson-Rochester[6];
3, 15-Bo Noble-
Fairbault[5]; 4, 20K-Zach
Korpi-Ellendale[12];
5, 169-Taylor White-
Fairbault[3]; 6, 08-Troy
Johnson-Medford[7];
7, 21S-Brian Schott-
Red Wing[16]; 8,
19C-Colin Wittenberg-
Hastings[10]; 9, 02-Bryce
Lisowski-Fairbault[19];
10, 63-Bailey Wolff-
Janesville[17]; 11,
6-Timothy Barnett-
Owatonna[14]; 12,

21-Brandon Downs-
Brownsdale[18]; 13,
16X-Carter Magedanz-
Fairbault[11]; 14,
151-Shawn Morris-
Kikenny[15]; 15,
511-Shawn Poston-Red
Wing[20]; 16, 45-Matthew
Welch-Waseca[13]; 17,
(DNF) 42-Cody Hjatt-
Waseca[4]; 18, (DNF)
3X-Brandon Blanchard-
Bloomington[8]; 19,
(DNF) 511JR-Maison
Poston-Red Wing[8]; 20,
(DNF) 3D-Daniel Bjornfeldt-
Bloomington[1]
8 Feature 1 (10 Laps):
1, 219-Brian Schott[10];
2, 63-Bailey Wolff[4]; 3,
21-Brandon Downs[7]; 4,
02-Bryce Lisowski[8]; 5,
511-Shawn Poston[11];
6, 5-Trystan Hagen[9];
7, 66-Tate Bauer[2]; 8,
(DNF) 55-Nick Sillman[6];
9, (DNF) 3-Jack Schrot[5];
(DNF) 77-Aaron
Morgan[3]; 11, (DNS)
19-Robert Schmidt
Heat 1 (5 Laps): 1,

3D-Daniel Bjornfeldt[2];
2, 42-Cody Hjatt[4]; 3,
08-Troy Johnson[7]; 4,
19C-Colin Wittenberg[6];
5, 45-Matthew Welch[8];
6, (DNF) 77-Aaron
Morgan[11]; 7, (DNS)
3-Jack Schrot[8]; 8, (DO)
21-Brandon Downs[5]; 9,
(DO) 5-Trystan Hagen[3]
Heat 2 (5 Laps): 1,
16M-Matt Wieman[9];
2, 15-Bo Noble[2]; 3,
3X-Brandon Blanchard[8];
4, 63-Bailey Wolff[7]; 5,
16X-Carter Magedanz[1];
6, 6-Timothy Barnett[3];
7, (DO) 511-Shawn
Poston[6]; 8, (DO)
21S-Brian Schott[5];
9, (DO) 02-Bryce
Lisowski[4]
Heat 3 (5 Laps): 1,
169-Taylor White[3]; 2,
59-Andy Knutson[5]; 3,
511JR-Maison Poston[8];
4, 20K-Zach Korpi[4]; 5,
151-Shawn Morris[6]; 6,
19-Robert Schmidt[1];
7, 66-Tate Bauer[2]; 8,
(DNS) 55-Nick Sillman

OWATONNA HIGH SCHOOL 2020-21 B HONOR ROLL



Grade 9

Molly Achterkirch
Elyn Ackman
Ayan Ali
Aleah Anderson
Idalia Anderson
Joshua Bartkowiak
Justin Beman
Lola Berg
Natalie Bernal
Faith Black
Samantha Bogen
Jaylen Bremer
Jacob Busho
Benjamin Buytaert
Ava Carroll
Joslyne Caudillo
Nythong Chan
Nolan Church
Ethan Clark
Mariah Cuelar
Hoodo Driye
Oran Dowling
Kaiden Dreyling
Maurice Dui
Ethan Eichten
Madison Engels
Faisal Farah
Ethan Fitch
Ava Flemeke
Ruby Garza
Kasim Gazali
Aaron Ginnetti
Fisher Glauvitz
Isabella Gonzalez-Wright
Alexander Gorden
Kevin Helget
Britta Henderson
Thomas Herzog
Rowen Highberg
Henry Hildebrand
Neveah Hofbauer
Isiah Hooper
Caleb Hullpeter
Eli Hunt
Abigail Jaramillo
Emma Johnson
Miah Jones
Gabriel Kasten

Grade 10

Jawahir Abdulle
Angel Anderson
Breanna Arndt
Henry Bell
Brayden Bentley
Matthew Bernea
Madison Bernier
Mariana Boelter
Katrina Butler
Aidan Charles
Taylor Concannon-Born
Ellen Eckert
Audra Enger
Damon Erickson
Kayleigh Norbeck
Logan O'Connor
Halle Oldefordt
Jayden Omangi
Nolan Church
Ethan Clark
Mariah Cuelar
Hoodo Driye
Oran Dowling
Kaiden Dreyling
Maurice Dui
Ethan Eichten
Madison Engels
Faisal Farah
Ethan Fitch
Ava Flemeke
Ruby Garza
Kasim Gazali
Aaron Ginnetti
Fisher Glauvitz
Isabella Gonzalez-Wright
Alexander Gorden
Kevin Helget
Britta Henderson
Thomas Herzog
Rowen Highberg
Henry Hildebrand
Neveah Hofbauer
Isiah Hooper
Caleb Hullpeter
Eli Hunt
Abigail Jaramillo
Emma Johnson
Miah Jones
Gabriel Kasten

Grade 11

Noah Roberts
Milagros Rodriguez Palacios
Trever Schirmer
Emily Schmidt
Grace Schroer
Laney Spindler
Sierra Spindler
Thomas Stanton
Jillian Stauffer
Joshua Sterling
Morgan Suarez
Christopher Theis
Collin Vick
Jackson Vogt
Ayden Walter
Jaxon Wells
Olivia Yates
Grade 11
Bianca Avalos
Guillermo Barajas
Payton Bauer
Avery Becker
Marayah Behne
Elijah Bissonette
Jacob Bochmann
Taylor Bogen
Jedyn Buenavida
Nolan Cederstrom
Logan Chandler
Andru Cigonini
Heather Clark
Mason Cocchiarella
Jada Cole
Tyrel Creger
Jenna Dallienbach
Jorge Delgado
Corey DeHans
Makenzie Dempsey
Gavin DeWitt
Joseph Dub
Marlee Dutton
Kamron Eaton
Maesa Farah
Samira Fearn
Kaden Finholdt
Evan Foxness
Hector Funes Altamirano
Ryan Gander

Grade 12

Catherine Sager
Taylor Schlauderaff
Maria Schwab
Liam Smith
Lauren Sommers
El Spurgeon
Aiden Stowe
Cade Strawmatt
Makalia Tzymanski
Dominique Timmerman
Samuel Tolzman
Anora Vang
Oscar Vazquez
Izaya Vazquez
Erika Vortherms
Evan Weippert
Jacob Wieman
Nicholas Williams
Wylie Yates
Mason Zirngible
Grade 12
Gabriel Adams
Alexis Akemann
McKenna Baker
Chloe Beede
Caleb Belting
Carter Breckenridge
Ava Breti
Connor Budach
Tyler Cobban
Matthew Cook
Chase Dallman
Julia Dietz
Aaron Dorr
Cole Earles
Madison Effertz
Kayla Eschenbrenner
Farah Farah
Thomas Frandke
Candice Goodsell
Isiah Grube
Brynn Hackerson
Brody Homan
Mia Hoskin
Ama Hussein
Hafsa Ilgaye

Grade 13

Margret Jacott
Casey Johnson
Travis Johnson
Jenessa Juarez
Jordan Kalbach
Joshua Kiefer
Klaire Kieseberger
Richie Lee
Thomas Leon
Logan McGaheran
Muna Mohamed
Hong Nguyen
Gage Olson
Logan Olson
Jonathan Perez
Calbey Podien
Jacob Wieman
Nicholas Williams
Wylie Yates
Mason Zirngible
Grade 12
Gabriel Adams
Alexis Akemann
McKenna Baker
Chloe Beede
Caleb Belting
Carter Breckenridge
Ava Breti
Connor Budach
Tyler Cobban
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Farah Farah
Thomas Frandke
Candice Goodsell
Isiah Grube
Brynn Hackerson
Brody Homan
Mia Hoskin
Ama Hussein
Hafsa Ilgaye

Editor's Note: Because of a production error, the A Honor Roll was inadvertently published in both the A and B Honor Roll spots in last week's Times. This week we have printed the B Honor Roll in its entirety. We apologize for this error and any inconvenience it may have caused. Congratulations to the B Honor Roll students.

Recipe Corner

Raspberry Crisp

1 qt raspberries, fresh or thawed frozen
1/3 C sugar

Mix together:

1/4 C butter
1/3 C flour
1/3 C brown sugar
3/4 C rolled oats

Pour over raspberries.

Bake at 350° for 30 to 40 minutes until fruit is bubbly and topping is brown.

Sponsored by

STEELE COUNTY Times

Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Declare your financial freedom

Independence Day is almost here. And as we make progress in moving past the COVID-19 pandemic, more of us will be able to enjoy Fourth of July activities. However you observe the holiday, it's important to recognize all the liberties we enjoy in this country. But you may still need to work at one particular type of freedom – and that's financial freedom. How can you achieve it?

There's no one instant solution. But you can work toward financial independence by addressing these areas:

Retirement savings – Approximately 45% of Americans think the ideal retirement involves "enjoying my well-earned freedom," according to the March 2021 Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study. But when you're retired, the risk to this freedom is obvious – the paychecks have stopped but the bills haven't. Furthermore, you could spend two or three decades in retirement. That's why it's so important to contribute as much as you can afford to your tax-advantaged retirement accounts, such as your IRA and your 401(k) or another employer-sponsored plan. At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered. Whenever your salary goes up, try to increase the annual amount you put in your 401(k) or similar plan. And if appropriate, make sure you have a reasonable percentage of growth-oriented investments within your 401(k) and IRA. Most people don't "max out" on their IRA and 401(k) each year, but, if you can consistently afford to do so, and you still have money you could invest, you may want to explore other retirement savings vehicles.

Illness or injury – If you were to become seriously ill or sustain a significant injury and you couldn't work for an extended period, the loss of income could jeopardize your ability to achieve financial independence. Your employer may offer disability insurance as an employee benefit, but this coverage is typically quite limited, both in duration and in the amount of income being replaced. Consequently, you may want to consider purchasing private disability insurance. Keep in mind that this coverage, also, will have an end date and it probably won't replace all the income lost while you're out of work, but it will likely be more expansive and generous than the plan provided by your employer.

Long-term care – Individuals turning 65 have about a 70% chance of eventually needing some type of long-term care, such as a nursing home stay or the assistance of a home health aide, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. And these services are quite expensive – the average annual cost for a private room in a nursing home is more than \$100,000, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Medicare typically covers only a small part of these expenses, so, to avoid depleting your savings and investments (and possibly subjecting your grown children to a financial burden), you may want to consider long-term care insurance or life insurance with a long-term care component. A financial advisor can help you choose a plan that's appropriate for your needs.

By addressing these areas, you can go a long way toward attaining your financial independence. It will be a long-term pursuit, but the end goal is worth it.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor.

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To learn more, call today.

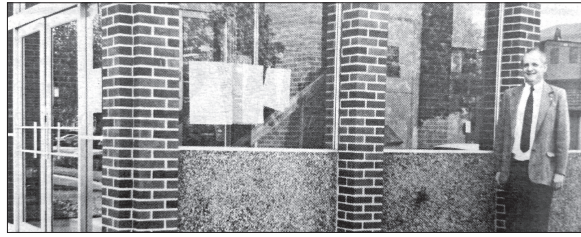


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History from the News Archives

Post Office remodeling



Dick Farnell, Owatonna postmaster, showed the area at the Owatonna Post Office where remodeling was about to get underway in July 1991. The west side of the Post Office was set to have a ramp installed to make the building accessible to the physically handicapped.

10 Years Ago

June 28, 2011

RICK L. BUSSLER, PUBLISHER

A popular event has been brought back and the excitement is in the air. Lianna Doocy and Mandy Doocy are co-chairs of the 2011 Blooming Prairie Little Miss Firecracker Pageant. Six girls ranging from second grade to sixth grade have been practicing two times a week for the last month in preparation for the event. This year's team of girls include: Marissa Larson, Jessica Gwilt, Jordan Harmon, Gemini Johnson, Kaya Thompson and Marti Snider.

It was over three decades ago when Blooming Prairie resident, Gladys Burr heard about the opportunity to volunteer at SEMCAC. Burr recently decided to retire after 35 years of service to the senior citizens of Blooming Prairie. Gladys spent her time washing dishes, helping with Meals on Wheels and so much more throughout the years. Barr, 97, credited the volunteer work to giving her more strength in her arms, but as the years went on she noticed that strength getting less so she decided it was time to retire. "Gladys' help over the years has been a real asset to the community," said Ann Fairbairn. "She deserves all of our recognition for the 35 years she spent helping others."

20 Years

June 26, 2001

ELSIE SLINGER, EDITOR

Bud Hansen has been around enough to know that not just every town can pull off a great festival. He should know – his dedication and hard work was the impetus to starting what is known as the finest celebration in Southern Minnesota in the Old Fashioned Fourth of July back in the 1970's. Now, after seeing every Fourth of July in Blooming

Prairie for almost all of his 83 years, Bud will be honored with a front row seat as this year's Grand Marshall of the parade. Margaret Noble was in for some good-natured ribbing at the BP Chamber of Commerce Dinner on June 20. Her daughters, Amy (Seitz) and Michelle (Turner), made her feel like one of the family by applying a wig. The Noble clan was on hand to honor Margaret at the dinner, after she announced she was retiring after 41 years of hair/beauty business.

50 Years Ago

June 30, 1971

VICTOR, VERNON & VRYLE KREJO, PUBLISHERS

Merry Lane 4-H Club wins Steele County Softball Title in Intermediate Division. They edged Beaver Lake Beavers 12-8 to win the title. Team members are: Roberta Jante, Kathy Busho, Suzie Klemmensen, Tom Wend, John Kleebarger, Jerry Wend, Glen Velek, Anita Hansen, Dale Jacobson, Randy Klemmensen, Tim Pirkil, Dennis Wend, Gary Turnmire, Roger Busho, Brad Hansen and Mike Turnmire. The team is managed by Paul Thorager.

Carolyn Kubick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kubick, of Blooming Prairie has been selected by the American Field Service as a student to Belgium. Carolyn will be leaving July 14 and will spend a week of orientation in one of Belgium's larger cities before meeting her host family. She will be speaking the Dutch language. Carolyn will be spending a year in Belgium and return July 1972.

75 Years Ago

June 26, 1946

FRANK KREJO, PUBLISHER

The Morton Garage building is soon to have a new, modern

front and display room. Lynse Construction started laying block on the south side of the building. The building addition will be converted into an appliance display room.

A tornado struck the Joel Johnson, Bennett Christianson and George Overton farms in the Red Oak Grove community. Considerable damage was done to buildings and groves at all places.

Over 120 relatives, neighbors and friends called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Hensel in observation of their silver wedding anniversary.

Owatonna Photo News

31 Years Ago

June 28, 1990

TOM SHEA, PUBLISHER

Cindy Mulert, daughter of Clarence and Dorothy Mulert, and Sean Wocelka, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wocelka, both of Owatonna were members of the Steele County General Livestock Judging 4-H Team and took top honors. Contestants from five states participated at the Fairgrounds in Rochester. Other members on the team included: Mark Schoenfeld, Fairbault, who placed first overall for individuals; Jim Arthur, Ellendale. The team is coached by Bret Oelke.

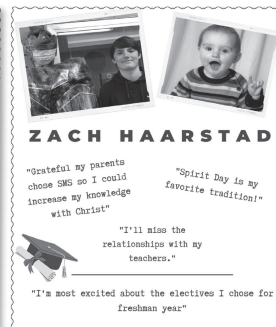
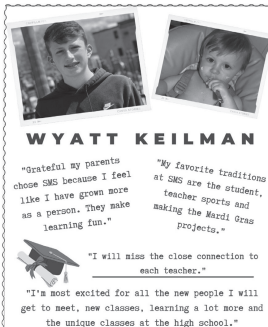
The April, May and June showers may have drowned the flowers, but have left us with a great swimming pool. For the first time since it was drained three years ago, Lake Kohlmeier is finally full to its brim. It had been drained in order to re-contour the bottom, eliminate drop-offs and make it safer. The beach was enlarged, shoreline work was done and scavenger fish eliminated and restocked. The lake was opened on Memorial Day and activities include swimming, canoeing, paddle boating, sand volleyball, fishing and hiking.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

"Home of the Shining Knights"

8TH GRADE GRADUATES



Congratulations!

This feature sponsored by a proud St. Mary's alumnus.

GUEST COLUMN

Investing in our region's smallest communities

BY TIM PENNY

At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF), one of our central tenets is a commitment to the future of rural Minnesota. While we continue to make our programming and resources accessible to communities of all sizes in our 20-county region, we know that many of our smaller towns can benefit from additional financial resources to help them grow and address challenges. Several ways we invest in small towns is through our Community Foundations, our Rural Entrepreneurial Venture program and our Small Town Grant program.

SMIF currently supports 30 small town community foundations. SMIF acts as the fiscal host for these foundations in addition to providing board education, marketing assistance,

planned giving support and matching grants to further their local efforts. These foundations provide direct support for projects and programming important to their community, ranging from tourism amenities and marketing, early childhood projects, community events and much more. In the early days of the pandemic, many of the community foundations quickly mobilized to raise money to address local needs such as food assistance and technology for distance learning. When people invest in these community foundations, they are leaving a legacy for their town's future.

Another program that focuses on small towns is the Rural Entrepreneurial Venture (REV) program. REV started as a pilot here at SMIF, with the goal of helping small towns develop innovative ap-

proaches for long-term economic growth. The first cohort of the REV program, which began in 2018, saw successes in youth retention efforts, tourism campaigns and building more supports for local entrepreneurs. SMIF's second REV cohort began the program this year and includes the communities of Montgomery, Springfield, Wells and a collaborative of the Maple River School District towns (Mapleton, Amboy, Good Thunder and Minnesota Lake). Coaches from SMIF Region Nine Development Commission and University of Minnesota Extension are working with each of these communities for a three-year period to provide tools and guidance as they determine how REV can create a pathway for sustainable economic growth in their towns. A third way that

SMIF supports small town growth is through the Small Town Grant program, an opportunity that we are currently seeking applications for. Every year we are excited to provide funding of up to \$10,000 to communities with populations under 10,000. These grants have funded a wide variety of projects including a trail system, community gardens, the development of a town brand identity and marketing approaches to attract new residents. In St. James, volunteers formed a group called United Cultures/Uniendo Culturas which plans programs and events to bring people together to create a welcoming environment. La Cresent used the grant for a branding and marketing planning process to enhance the town's image. The City of Preston focused their grant on creating resources to showcase

current and future affordable workforce housing initiatives. The beauty of this grant is that it can often be tailored to fit the needs of the community, with the goal of fostering engagement and collaboration.

Applications for the Small Town Grant program are due on July 15. Contact Jennifer Heien at jenniferh@smifoundation.org or 507-214-7040 with questions. More details, including guidelines and application, can be found at smifoundation.org.

org/smalltowngrants. Small towns are the fabric of our region. At SMIF, we are honored to play a part in supporting their growth.

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

Tim Penny is president and CEO of SMIF. He is also a former Congressman, serving Minnesota's First District in the U.S. House from 1982-1994.

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Focusing on farmers in the agriculture budget

FOCUSING from A2 those locations stay open and fully operational for years to come. My bill has been included in the Transportation budget. People in our rural communities are entitled to the same public services granted to those in larger cities. Freeborn County Commissioner Ted Herman has been a tireless advocate for this legislation, even speaking to the Senate Transportation committee. I greatly appreciate his support.

On Wednesday, June 23, it was announced that New York Governor Cuomo will not be even mentioned that emergency powers as they expire this week. This is almost laughable to most Minnesotans, I think. Governor Walz is continuing to hold onto emergency powers even as the most radical governors in the country agree that the emergency is over. Protocols have been in place for months and numbers are at an all-time low - Governor

Walz is not following the science as he claims. Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman has even mentioned that Walz must, at some point, come to the same conclusion. When will that be? What political goal is he chasing? I look forward to the ninth vote to remove the emergency powers and will celebrate when the House joins us. Budget agreements are wrapping up and I am confident that we will have a budget by July 1, avoiding shut-

down. I encourage you to reach out to me with any legislative questions, comments, or concerns you may have. I can be reached by email at Sen.Gene.Dornink@Senate.MN or call me at 651-296-5240.

Gene Dornink is a Minnesota senator for District 27, which includes the City of Blooming Prairie, southern Dodge County and most of Freeborn and Mower counties. He lives in rural Hayfield.

PUBLIC SAFETY

BLOTTER from A4
with injuries at Main St. W. and Oak Ave. S. at 9:56 a.m.
Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 100 block of Vine St. W. at 1:53 p.m.
Domestic: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance at 26th St. NE and 7th Ave. NE at 6:56 p.m.
June 23
DWI: Officer made a DWI arrest at Grove Ave. N. and Vine St. E. at 12:55 a.m.
Fraud: Officer took a report of a fraud incident in the 2100 block of 5th Ave. NW at 12:09 p.m.
Arrest: Police assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 100 block of Rice St. E. at 5:01 p.m.
June 24
Mental Health: Police responded to a mental health incident in the 700 block of Paris Place SE at 11:09 a.m.
Arrest: Police arrested a subject in the 300 block

of Meadow Lane SW at 2:19 p.m.
Theft: At 4:05 p.m., a motor vehicle was reported stolen from the 5900 block of Cabela Dr. NW.
Child Protection: Police responded to a child protection incident in the 700 block of State Ave. NW at 4:19 p.m. They took a subject into custody.
Welfare: Police arrested a subject during a welfare check in the 100 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 8:07 p.m.
Theft: Officer took a theft report in the 100 block of Rose St. W. at 9:38 p.m.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF

June 18
Warrants: Deputies made warrant arrests at the detention center at 6:06 a.m. and the 100 block of Main St. E. in Owatonna at 3:52 p.m.
Theft: Deputy took a report of identity theft in the 5400 block of Rose

St. in Havana Township at 12:54 p.m.
Mental Health: At 5:31 p.m., a mental health incident occurred in the 4100 block of 66th St. NW in Medford Township.
June 19
DWI: Deputy made a DWI arrest at Oak Ave. S. and McKinley St. SW in Owatonna at 11 p.m.

June 21
Burglary: Deputies began a burglary investigation in the 600 block of 50th St. NE in Clinton Falls Township at 8:10 a.m.

June 22
DWI: Deputy made a DWI arrest in the 4100 block of County Road 45 S. in Owatonna Township at 3:01 a.m.

Warrant: Deputy made a warrant arrest at the detention center at 9:19 a.m.

June 24
Vandalism: Property damage was reported in the 3700 block of Havana Road in Havana Township at 2:09 p.m.

Criminal Sexual Conduct: Deputies began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 4100 block of 66th St. NW in Medford Township at 2:59 p.m.

ARRESTS Steele County

OWATONNA POLICE
Klayton Ray Ament, 40, arrested at 12:54 p.m.
June 23, felony assault, domestic assault and false imprisonment, held for court.

STEELE COUNTY SHERIFF
Kyle Rodney Boock, 36, arrested at 10:49 a.m.
June 22, warrant arrest, body only.
Terrah Vachon Lee Wells, 34, arrested at 2:50 p.m.
June 22, warrant arrest, body only.
James Dean Steenhart, 38, arrested at 12 p.m.
June 23, warrant arrest, \$10,000 bail.

New community foundation

FOUNDATION from A1 Thiele said the foundation will be modeled after the Owatonna Foundation, which has been in existence for 55 years when it became one of the first community foundations in Minnesota. During that time, more than \$11 million in grants and scholarships have been disbursed. The Owatonna Foundation has helped with various capital projects in Owatonna, including Central Park Band Stand, Steele County History Center, trails, scoreboards and much more.

Beyond providing financial support, the Owatonna Foundation takes a strong leadership role by offering fresh perspectives on emerging community needs. When the Foundation grants funds to innovative programs, it can often launch fundraising

initiatives that engage the community and jump-start a group of volunteers with energy and enthusiasm to provide the impetus for success. "We will be the Blooming Prairie Foundation to raise money for needs in the Blooming Prairie community," said Thiele.

Besides Thiele and Johnson, there are three other executive officers of the newly formed Blooming Prairie foundation: co-vice presidents Stormy Trom and Sue Zwerner and secretary Dan Peach. Other board members include Lisa Bruns, Caleb Ostrander, Jim O'Connor, Doug Miner, Doug Myers, Greg Skillestad, Chris Staloch and Jackie Vorloek. Johnson said all board members welcome questions and invitations to speak at community events about the foundation.



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ASK THE MOTOR MEDICS
By Shannon Nordstrom and Russ Evans
Dear Motor Medics, There's smoke coming from near my steering wheel at times right out of the column. It's not a lot of smoke but I can see it and smell it and it scares me. All my vehicle systems seem to be working fine now but a few months ago my turn signals were not working. The car is a 2001 Buick Regal. Is this something I should be concerned about or can I let it go?

Robert in Sheldon Iowa
Dear Robert, Your car is smoking. There is no way we would let that go without a thorough check out for safety. Without seeing the car hands-on it's hard to say but we have seen smoke generated in this way due to failing turn signal switches. The switch can fail simply because it is old or it can be stressed by things like shorted wiring, failed bulbs or adding an extra load to the system such as a trailer which has an added load of extra lighting that has to be carried by the car wiring. The first step will be verifying where the smoke is coming from. That will require someone experienced with the system to open it up and inspect the parts. If any parts are found to be burnt they will need to be replaced then the rest of the effected system will need to be diagnosed to make sure that what caused the first failure does not happen again.

Take care, the Motor Medics
Dear Motor Medics, I listen to your Under The Hood radio show here in Branson almost every week and you guys have some of the most useful car advice I have ever found, and it's free which is the best thing in my book. I read your column each week too and a while back you had talked about readers car that had a fueling issue. When the car was being filled with gasoline it would not fill quickly, it would fill for a few seconds then click off the pump and it would do this over and over again. My 2008 Impala is doing this now. What was it and could it be the same thing with my car?

Doug in Branson Missouri
Dear Doug, It is common on many cars especially GM cars and trucks to have this happen and it is often caused by a failure in what is called the evaporative emissions system. The fuel system is a closed system which prevents fuel from evaporating into the atmosphere which would cause pollution and also be a waste of your money as your fuel would simply disappear over time. The system does need to vent at times for things like filling the tank and also when fuel is being consumed by the engine or it would back up like you're doing. Also, in the case of the engine using fuel the tank would eventually collapse. This is just one possible problem.

Take care, the Motor Medics
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BOOK NOOK

Library now offers ticket to state parks

NANCY
VAILLANCOURT

Do you enjoy exploring nature? Do you have a Blooming Prairie Branch Library card? Thanks to a new program developed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, you can now use your library card to check out a 7-day pass to enter any State Park. Both Owatonna Public Library (OPL) and Blooming Prairie Branch Library (BPBL) are participating in the Minnesota State Parks Library Program. The DNR has implemented this program to reach new park users and expand access to State Parks.

OPL has two passes available, and BPBL has one. Library staff are anticipat-

ing waiting lists for available passes so it is recommended that you reserve a pass. Search the Library Catalog for "state parks pass" or call 507-583-7750 to place a request. Library staff will call when the pass is available.

When it is your turn, bring your library card to your library to check out the State Parks pass (one per family). Park users will be given a pass to place on their vehicle's dashboard with an expiration date seven days out from the checkout date.

The Minnesota State Parks Library Program will run for a year, through June 30, 2022. Based on evaluations, the program may be expanded and continued. Participants can assist by filling out a brief survey at <http://mndnr.gov/LibraryPass>.

Your library card is your ticket to so much - books, movies, online databases, and now the Minnesota State Parks!

Young entrepreneurs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kayla and Ethan Hullopeter ran a lemonade/cookie stand at their Garage Sale during Ellendale Days celebration this past weekend.

LTO awards Mollenhauer scholarship

Little Theatre of Owatonna announces its 2021 Sarah Foreman Post-Secondary Scholarship winner, Kayla Mollenhauer, 2020 Owatonna High School graduate.

Mollenhauer will receive a \$1,000 scholarship in honor of Foreman, a long-time LTO leader, who died in February 2006. Foreman's work as director extended 30 years, directing 18 shows and serving 11 years on the LTO Board during three separate terms. Her extensive contribution and dedication to theatre in Owatonna is memorialized in this scholarship.

This scholarship recognizes and supports a Steele County resident whose studies and/or participation in theatre distinguish him/her and that offer promise of continued participation in community theatre.

Mollenhauer will be a sophomore at the University of Northwestern, St. Paul. She is a theatre major with a concentration in musical theatre. She

also plans to complete a marketing major with a communications concentration.

"I chose 'these majors' because I want to work in a theatre one day. I want to learn how to run and market a business, so I am able to help run a theatre," Mollenhauer said.

Her theatrical resume includes performances at the University of Northwestern, St. Paul; Paradise Community Theatre, Faribault; and Owatonna High School. Mollenhauer also has technical experiences at Northwestern and Owatonna High School.

She is currently the technical apprentice for the July production, *Frumpled Fairy Tales*, at Little Theatre of Owatonna. Mollenhauer is being mentored by Technical Director Sandee Hardy-Hagen and Director Sarah Friesen.

Mollenhauer said, "I want to teach others how life-changing this art is. I want to show people how it has changed my life, and I want to help change their lives too."

Comments lauding

her leadership, enthusiasm, and hard work were noted in her recommendations. One stated that her best attribute was "Teachability - she'll try anything and will work on her directions, notes, etc. outside of rehearsals! She leads both by her amazingly positive attitude and by her hard-working example."

Mollenhauer herself writes, "Theatre is the most heart-filling thing that I have had the privilege to be a part of and experience."

LTO plans to recognize Mollenhauer and the 2021 Veta Alexander Scholarship recipient, Sam Buegler, Owatonna, at *Frumpled Fairy Tales* opening night, Friday, July 16.

LTO is committed to providing dramatic arts opportunities and incentives to citizens of Steele County. This scholarship is funded by donations and memorials. A portion of each show's profits is directed to the scholarships offered by LTO through the generous supports of its patrons and the Owatonna community.

AAUW awards scholarships

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Owatonna has announced this year's scholarship recipients.

The AAUW Owatonna Dorothy Meyer Scholarship recipients of \$1,200 each are Hannah Gebur, Julia Dallenbach and Kelsie Simon. Gebur is currently completing a Chemical Engineering

degree at Iowa State University. Dallenbach is working towards a degree in nursing at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Simon is also working towards a Nursing degree at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

AAUW works in cooperation with the Riverland Foundation to provide the AAUW

Owatonna Riverland Scholarship. The recipients of \$800 each are Te'a Friesen and Alex Olivo. Friesen is currently working toward a degree in nursing while Olivo is finishing a LPN degree.

Jenna McMains virtually attended the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

Group changes name to BetterLife Lodge 127

While they may not be new to Steele County, Lodge Owatonna 127 is sporting a new name. The group has become BetterLife Lodge 127.

The group's roots go back to Lodge 127 of the ZCBB, founded in Owatonna on Oct. 5, 1902 as a fraternal organization to provide insurance and financial security to immigrants of Czech heritage as well as preserve their Czech heritage. Perhaps you remember the lodge hall on the KOA Road (SW 28th St) south of Owatonna. In recent years, the group was known as Lodge Owatonna 127 WFLA.

On Jan. 1, 2021, the Western Fraternal Life

Association (WFLA) and National Mutual Benefit combined. The result is a bigger, stronger company, providing better life insurance products, better service and better membership benefits. The fraternal activities and donations of this organization will continue to help support a better community.

BetterLife invites area residents to celebrate its new name and join in a signature event, a Walk To End Hunger, in partnership with Community Pathways Marketplace. The kick-off event is an Ice Cream Social at 8:30 p.m. on July 4 in the parking lot in front of the Community Path-

ways building on Oakdale S. in Owatonna. Come and enjoy an ice cream treat before the Owatonna Fireworks and learn more about our fundraising for Community Pathways.

BetterLife's signature main event will be a Walk to End Hunger on Aug. 8 from 2 to 4 p.m. The event starts with a short ceremony in front of the Community Partnership building in Owatonna, continuing to Kaplan Woods Parkway Trail on 18th Street and looping back to the start. If you would like to register for the walk or donate towards the cause, go to betterlifewalktoendhunger@dojiggy.io.

OBITUARIES

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Janet Sargent, 80, Owatonna

Janet Ann Sargent was born Feb. 7, 1941. She died of cancer on June 17, 2021 at the Homestead Hospice House.

Janet was born to James and Evelyn Karas. She was born and raised in the Ellendale area, and graduated from Ellendale High School in 1958.

She worked various jobs. Janet married Dale Larson in 1962. They later divorced. She married Mike Sargent in 1994.

He preceded her in death in 2002.

She is survived by two sons: Kody (Jessica) Larson, Ellendale and Dean Larson, Faribault; three grandsons: Jeff Larson, Amos Larson, and Drew Larson. She is also survived by two step-sons: Matt Sargent of Rapid City, S.D. and Mark Sargent, Stillwater and their families. Also surviving is a brother, Jim Karas, Lake Ha-

vasu City, Ariz.; a sister Jackie (Eddie) Winzenburg, Owatonna and sister-in-law, Judy Karas, Owatonna.

Janet was preceded in death by her husbands, parents, James and Evelyn Karas, brother Jerry Karas, and daughter-in-law Joyce Larson.

A Memorial Service was held at St. John Church, Owatonna, on June 22. Interment was at Memorial Gardens, Owatonna.

BIRTHDAYS	
June 30 Jeremy Hocking Gracelyn Anderson July 1 Imogene Symes Barb Lorenzen Brittany Schewe Mia Amborg Nichole Borg LaVerne Klecker July 2 Steve Ingvalson Kaden Thomas Haley Ann McIntosh Steve Braaten July 3 Benton Prouty Mark Noble Hilary Jones Ashley Valek Ashton Chase Greene Luke Larkoski	July 4 Shella Wiese Kelli Natz Jay Braaten Bernice Stender July 5 Brenna Peterson John Hines July 6 Sarah Esplan Micalyn Tribus Rachel Klemmensen Breanna Koster Nick Schiefert Orene Dennis

ANNIVERSARIES	
June 30 Mike & Mandy Trom Roger & Joanne Sorenson Andrew & Sam Hardecourt July 1 LaVerne & Linda Klecker	July 2 Nancy & Brad Clark Rob & Margo White Chuck & Betty Iherdina July 6 Bob & Loretta Ingvalson

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STEELE COUNTY Times

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Rev. Heidi Heimgartner
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
BLOOMING PRAIRIE

One balmy weeknight after supper, I had a whim: *I wonder what is playing at the Owatonna movie theater?* Eureka—we realize we'd only catch the show if we left Blooming Prairie in two minutes. Walking into an already-darkened theater felt like a vacation, as our family of four hadn't been inside that familiar place in

18 months. My husband and recently-vaccinated sons quickly re-learned how to use the reclining chairs, and off we went to the upper west side of New York, for Lin-Manuel Miranda's Broadway musical *In the Heights*. (I will not share any spoilers. I promise.) The grandmotherly figure in the show, Abuela Claudia, is the matriarch of a changing Latin neighborhood. She dispenses advice as well as delicious food for the young adults on the block, each one struggling to find their identity and place in the world. Several times in the movie, we observe Claudia undertake small acts of kindness and appreciation. Through song, we learn that as an immigrant,

Claudia's commitment to small acts helped her maintain her own dignity when the world did not see her value. Claudia lamented how the bulk of her life was spent where the city's light pollution prevented her from seeing constellations in the sky, so far from the beaches and stars of Cuba. To cope with a dingy, difficult existence in Washington Heights, New York, Claudia set her sights on smaller moments of beauty instead. The song *Alabanza* is testimony to her perspective. The young people surrounding her capture Claudia's legacy when they sing: *Abuela Claudia had simple pleasures. She sang the praises of things we ignore*

Glass Coke bottles, bread crumbs, a sky full of stars. She cherished these things, she'd say: 'Alabanza.' *Alabanza means to raise this Thing to God's face And to sing, quite literally: 'Praise to this.'* Psalm 150 proclaims, "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!" And Psalm 96 announces, "Declare God's glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised." Proverbs 2 goes further: "for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul," and 1 Thessalonians 5:18 affirms, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks

in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." I wonder what *small* things you are singing praises to God for on these waning-pandemic days? Alabanza to cold cherry cokes and buttery popcorn, and comfortable chairs in the air conditioning. Alabanza to a refreshing rain showering our tender farm fields and gardens. Alabanza to the squeals and splashes of swimmers at Pine Springs Manor to say hello. Alabanza to business- and volunteers preparing for the 4th of July. Alabanza to the brief winning streak for the Minnesota Twins. Alabanza to members and visitors returning

my smile when we begin worship on Sunday mornings, for live music, and for each other. Nearly two millennia ago, one of the earliest Christians, St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430) declared, "A Christian should be an 'Alleluia' from head to foot." Whether it's alleluia, or alabanza—no matter what language you speak—whether you long for home, or feel at peace right where you are—those who claim the faith of Jesus are united in one, universal inclination: Praise God today! *Pastor Heidi Heimgartner serves as senior pastor of First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. Read more about First Lutheran's current ministry by visiting first-lutheranbp.com.*

AREA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

LUTHERAN
AURORA LUTHERAN
6329 SE 28th St., Owatonna
Interim Pastor: Rev. Dale Swendsen
507-451-2819
office@auroralutheranchurch.org
Worship: Sunday at 9 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
106 Third St. SE, Geneva
Pastor Kristen Venne
507-256-4288
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sunday

FIRST LUTHERAN – ALC
503 Radel Ct., Ellendale
Pastor Kyle Smith
507-484-2451
Men's Bible Study: 8 a.m. Saturday
Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday (Kids church- 9 a.m. and Confirmation- 10:15 a.m.)
Jesus and Me: 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday
Call to Prayer: 7 p.m. Tuesday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday
Wednesday School: 6:15-7 p.m. followed by Youth Group: 7-9 p.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN – ELCA
434 First St. SW, BP
Senior Pastor: Rev. Heidi Heimgartner
Associate Pastor: Rev. Mike Valerius
507-583-6821
firstlutheranbp.com
Worship Service- 9 a.m. Sunday School- 10 a.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN – LCMC
8953 SW 37th Ave., Hope
Pastor Sandy Miller
507-451-3854
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School, Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m. Sun.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN – LCMC
2500 7th Ave. NE, Owatonna
Pastor Greg Schlicker
507-451-4125
goodshepherdowatonna.com
Indoor Worship: Sundays 9 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Online Worship: Sundays 9 a.m. or anytime on website

MOLAND LUTHERAN – ELCA
7618 NE 84th Ave., Kenyon
Pastor Nancy Edwardson
507-789-6861
Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN – ELCA
9651 SW 75th St., Ellendale
507-465-8366
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sun.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN – LCMC
1054 Truman Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Kirk Grabel
507-451-2720
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.
Education Hour: 10:15 a.m. Sun.

RED OAK GROVE LUTHERAN – ELCA
30456 Mower-Freemont Road, Austin
Leandra Anderson, Pastor
507-583-0389 or 507-437-3500
www.rdg Lutheran.org
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMC
4532 SE 84th Ave., Claremont
Pastor Alan Broadwell
507-528-2404
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN – LCMC
28959 630th Ave., Sargeant
Pastor Collin Duling
507-251-5568
Worship: 10:15 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN-ELCA
1301 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
Pastors Dave Klaviter and Jackie Richmond
507-451-7293
stjohnowatonna.org
Worship: 5 p.m. Thursday & Saturday; 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Summer Services: 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Sunday

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA
30450 570th Ave., Waltham
Vicar Jackie Short
507-567-2474
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – LCMC
202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 8:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN – ELCA
2781 SW 92nd Ave., Meriden
Interim: Deacon Billie Jo Wicks
507-451-2165
Sunday worship: 10 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
609 Lincoln Ave., Owatonna
507-451-4520
tclowatonna.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Todd Buegler; Associate Pastor: Rev. Amanda Flou
Deacon: Kris Oppgaard
Worship: 8:15 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. - Sanctuary and 10:45 a.m. - Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. - Live Stream at facebook.com/tclowatonna and tclowatonna.org/ worshiplive
9:30 a.m. - Live broadcast on KJLH 32.1 FM
Video on Spectrum (Ch. 181), Jaguar TV (Ch. 900) and owatonnaive.com - Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – ELCA
104 First St. SE., Hayfield
Pastor Paul Hauschild
507-477-2348
www.trinityhayfield.org
Worship: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMC
106 Third Ave. SW., Medford
Pastor Mark Bieghausen
507-451-0447
Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday (Outdoors on south side of church)

TRINITY LUTHERAN – LCMC
57043 3500th St., Waltham
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
507-567-2272
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN – ELCA
7126 SW 98th St., Ellendale
Interim: Deacon Billie Jo Wicks
Sunday worship: 8:30 a.m.

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN – ELCA
1909 St. Paul Road, Owatonna
Senior Pastor: John Weisenburger
Associate Pastor: Lisa Carlson
507-451-4853
oursaviorsowatonna.com
Worship: 8:15 a.m. - Traditional, 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School/ Adult Education
10:45 a.m. - Contemporary

CATHOLIC
CHRIST THE KING
205 Second Ave. NW, Medford
507-451-4845
Father James Starasich
Mass: 5:30 p.m. Sat.
Mass: 9 a.m. Mon. & Fri.

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS
307 SW First St., New Richmond
Father Brian Mulligan
507-234-6244
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL
9946 SE 24th Ave. Owatonna
Father John Wilmut
507-583-2784
www.litomyslweb.com
Sunday Mass at 8:15 a.m.
Litomysl Finance Council: 2nd Thursday
Litomysl Pastoral Council: 2nd Thursday every other month

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
150 NE Second St., Hayfield
Father John Wilmut
507-477-2256
Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday
Reconciliation: 3:45 pm Saturday

SACRED HEART PARISH
610 S. Cedar Ave., Owatonna
Father Swaminatha Pothireddy, Parochial Vicar
507-451-1588
www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Masses: Saturday 5 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and Noon (Spanish)
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m. Tuesday through Friday
Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday
Adoration - Thursdays 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

ST. COLUMBANUS CATHOLIC
114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
Father John Wilmut
507-583-2784
www.stcolumbanuschurch.com
Mass: 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Reconciliation: 9 a.m. First Friday & Saturday

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH
512 S. Elm Ave., Owatonna
Father James Starasich
507-451-4845
Saturday Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8 & 10 a.m.
Reconciliation: 5-5:30 p.m. Sat.
Daily Mass: 8 a.m. Tues., Wed. & Fri. (Communion Service 8 a.m. Thursday)
Adoration Chapel available Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Key fob required after hours or weekends

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

PENTECOSTAL
FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL
230 Locust Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Elazar Telamantes
507-363-2240
Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

METHODIST
BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST
43069 180th St., Medford
(Seven miles west of Medford on CR 23)
Pastors: J. & Stefanie Morgan
507-835-8726
Worship: 6:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

ELLENDALE UNITED METHODIST
200 Sixth St. NW, Ellendale
Pastor Randy Kirkens
507-684-2731
www.ellendaleumc.org
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

OWATONNA UNITED METHODIST
815 E. University, Owatonna
Rev. Lisa J. Vick Pastor
507-451-4734
www.owatonnaumc.org
Traditional Worship (Pathways): 9 a.m. Sunday

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
CEDAR CREEK
30 E. Main St., Hayfield
Pastor Brian Beavers
651-955-4032
Worship: 11 a.m. Sat.
Bible Stud: 9:30 a.m. Sat.

DESTINY CHRISTIAN
2515 Harvest Lane NW, Owatonna
Pastors Rich and Amy Pettet
507-456-4775
www.destinycc.org
Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday
6:30-7:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Wednesday

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

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

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

MORMON
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404 31st St. NW, Austin
Bishop Rick Bremner
507-433-9042
Worship: 9 a.m. Sun.

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www.associatedchurch.org
office@associatedchurch.org
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. (Fellowship, Church School, and Adult Discussions follow)
Wednesday Activities: Sept.-May (see website for schedule)

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

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

UCC
CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
211 Main St. S., Medford
Rev. Richard Waters
507-451-4598
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.

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VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
702 Third St. S., Ellendale
Interim Pastor Wendell Anderson
507-684-3421
www.vibrantlifeag.com
Worship: 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Kids Church: 9 a.m.

BAPTIST
FIRST BAPTIST
104 First Ave. NE, BP
Pastor Matt Fennell
507-593-2673
Worship: 10 a.m. Sun.
6:30 p.m. Wednesday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Bible Study: 11:30 a.m. Sun.

FIRST BAPTIST (OWATONNA'S OLDEST CHURCH)
123 E. Main St., Owatonna
Pastor Carla Nelson
507-272-9834
www.firstbaptistowatonna.com
Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sun.
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sun.

BETHEL BAPTIST
1611 Hemlock Ave., Owatonna
Pastor Michael Simmerman
507-451-8548
www.bethelowatonna.com
Worship: 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
VICTORY LIFE
105 2nd St. NE, Geneva
Pastor Diane Butler
507-402-0980
Worship on Sundays
Prayer Service: 7:30 a.m.
Church Service: 9:30 a.m.
Children's Church: 9:45 a.m.

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Divine intervention? New pastor returns to Ellendale

◀ **DIVINE** from A3 and the church was actively looking to fill the pulpit permanently.

The newly-minted Rev. Smith completed his seminary boards in January, interviewed at eight different churches throughout February, and was offered a job – a letter of call, in church language – in March.

It was from one of his top three choices, too: First Lutheran Church in Ellendale.

"There are coincidences, I know, but this was something I think God had a hand in," Smith smiled. Divine intervention, indeed.

He graduated from seminary in May; his first official Sunday in the pulpit was June 6. Smith has already

handled some of the most difficult times any pastor has faced: Dealing with a congregation during a worldwide pandemic. He did a yearlong internship at a church in Eagan, starting in June 2020. That church held drive-in services in its parking lot, broadcasting the sermon and music on a specific radio station. The pastors stood outside winter and summer to deliver the message.

"It was very hard to get to know people," Smith said, "and try to minister to people" when you couldn't see what emotions may be on their face.

At 29, he realizes his life experience may be limited, but that's part of the process.

"You don't always have the right answer," Smith said, "but you have the word of God. Pray with them, walk with them."

Member Mavis Langlie – who was baptized, confirmed and married at First Lutheran – stopped into the church one recent morning.

She said Smith's arrival was "well-timed for everybody."

"I think people knew him, knew his personality," she said. "We had already gotten to know him and his wife" during his time as youth director.

Many churches are struggling with rebuilding attendance after COVID-19 closures, and Trinity Lutheran was no exception. Now,

though, Langlie said, "I think we're back up to where we were before – maybe a little more." She credits Smith and his reputation.

"We interviewed other (ministerial candidates), but he was a good fit. I think this will be really good."

Smith, now the father of 3-year-old twin boys and a 1-year-old daughter, thinks so, too, adding that the small town is a great fit for his family.

"I don't know how long I'll be here because I have no plans to leave," he said. "Just because a church is bigger doesn't make it better. I told my wife, wherever we end up, I want to be there a long time."

GUEST COLUMN

Happy 4th of July 2021

I recall those days of long ago, when I was just a young boy, the July fourth celebrations, brought us kids much joy. There were no marching bands in those smaller country towns, just Old Time Concertina bands, and always, some local clowns. There would be a short parade, cars, trucks, tractors and horses too, every store and home had a flag displayed, a guy with shovel, picked up horse's poo. Firecrackers, could be heard all day, ladyfingers and some cherry bombs, they sometimes would be taken away, confiscated by angry dads or moms. When evening came there'd be a dance, on a rough lumber dance floor in the park, folks would dance to the Polka band, some young couples found romantic "spark." No spectacular fireworks, as we see today, just some skyrockets, roman candles, and such, looking back to those old days, now I'd say, those fireworks didn't amount to very much. It was so very peaceful in those times, folks displayed their loyalty to the USA, bootlegging was the most serious crime, the Fourth of July was always a special day.

Bud Peka
Owatonna

GARDENING TIP OF THE WEEK

July Gardening Tips

- Evaluate your landscape – Take a walk through your garden and see what you would like to change for next year.
- Find some bargains – Stop by garden centers and look for plants on sale that you can add to your garden.
- Stake tall plants – Use twine or cushioned twist ties to secure tall plants.
- Mulch – Use shredded bark, straw, pine needles or cocoa bean shells in a thin layer to conserve moisture and reduce weeds.

Becki Tindall, Steele County Master gardener

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Space constraints at BP Schools prompt survey

Board may consider levy referendum

BY ALEX NUERHING
STAFF WRITER

The Blooming Prairie School Board recently authorized a public survey to gauge the community's interest in a possible school referendum.

At the June 21 school board meeting, Superintendent Chris Staloch said about 500 people will be randomly chosen to take the survey, which will be conducted over the phone in early July.

The Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC) recommended

the survey to the school board because of the school district's projected growth.

A demographic study conducted by Hazel Reinhardt Consulting found that the district's enrollment could increase by as much as 126 students in 10 years.

Due to that growth, Wold Architects and Engineers partner Vaughn Dierks said the elementary school, which already is dealing with two displaced rooms, will soon face even more challenges.

"In the future, two to three more of those

[rooms] are going to be displaced based on that number of kids that you have coming in so that's going to continue to put pressure on that building," he said.

In addition, Dierks said the elementary school's early childhood/Pre-K programming is limited by capacity and its special education will need three rooms in the future. It currently has two.

Meanwhile, the high school's career and technical education room needs space improvements, Dierks

said. There's little to no "personalized learning space" or flex space, scheduling conflicts between sports teams using the gym and performing arts using the stage and special education needs four rooms for the future.

Some of the recommendations that Dierks and the LRPC came up with to address the high school's challenges include physical upgrades to the career and technical education space, a classroom and flexible learning space addition, a gym addition, and a performing

arts addition. On top of those additions or renovations, Dierks and the LRPC recommend moving fifth and sixth grade to the high school building to ease the burden of not having enough rooms at the elementary school.

Their recommendations for the elementary school include: adding toilets to kindergarten rooms, renovating the special education rooms as needed, relocating art so it's adjacent to media and accommodating a computer lab within the building.

If all of the recommended renovations were made to the elementary school and high school, the estimated combined cost would be \$33,340,000.

Why should all the renovations and additions be made at the same time? Dierks said, "I think when we get to prioritization, these people looked at the different options and said, 'We really can't do one and not address the other one.' They're so connected in terms of what the problem is here that it makes sense to look at doing it altogether."

Examine expectations



Steele Talkin'
MARK SKRIEN

Question: What can I do to deal with perfectionism in my life? It is causing me problems with others and I don't like myself when everything needs to be perfect.

Answer: Perfectionism is not a clinical diagnosis, but it is a complex symptom that can interfere with day-to-day functioning. Some people thrive on perfectionistic tendencies; others are not able to cope well with them. Perfectionists have many differing characteristics. A common characteristic is high expectations for self and others. Many perfectionists are hard on themselves and others, especially when the high expectations are not met. Examining expectations can aid one's understanding of perfectionism and its impact on your life.

See STEELE TALKIN' on B2 ▶

Amateur Radio Field Day held in Owatonna

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

During a downpour of rain, local amateur radio enthusiasts hunkered down in RVs and cars at McKinley School in Owatonna to participate in the Amateur Radio Field Day.

The event has been held for nearly 90 years and connects amateur radio operators throughout North America. The goal is to try and connect with as many signals as possible to test one's skills and practice preparedness for emergencies.

"The on-air portion is from 1 p.m. on Saturday to 1 p.m. on Sunday," said Mike Conrad, who organized the Steele County field day. Before going on air, antennas are put up and operators get their equipment ready.

"This is a chance for us to bring our stuff out away from the comfort of our own home where we normally operate under controlled conditions, bring it out into the field, get it up, and get it working," Conrad



Radio operator Dale Carlson connects to the signals using voice communication.

STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS BALDWIN

STEELE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY

During the 24-hour event, amateur radio enthusiasts participating in this year's field day reported making:

- 538 CW (morse code) contacts
- 197 Phone (voice) contacts
- 100 Digital contacts
- 836 Total contacts

Waynes named Steele County Farm Family of the Year



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tom, David, Brian, and Greg Wayne farm 6,000 acres near Ellendale. Each year the red Wayne Grain trucks can be seen hauling loads of corn and soybeans to all the local elevators.

The University of Minnesota Extension this week named the Wayne family of Ellendale as its 2021 Steele County Farm Family of the Year.

According to Extension, the knowledge of growing crops has been around for thousands of years and is often passed down from generation to generation.

This year's Farm Family has had this passion passed down from their father and his father before him.

Brothers Greg, Brian, David, and Tom Wayne have worked on the family farm for as long as they can remember. The farm has been in operation since their grandfather, Manfred Wayne, bought the

original farm in 1943. Manfred's son, Lyle, purchased the adjacent farm in the 1950s and it is currently the main location for the Wayne Brothers' operation.

As each one of the brothers graduated, Extension said, they stepped up and took a role in helping in the family operation. The brothers have worked

to expand the family operation to 6,000 acres of corn and soybeans. Aside from some family friends who help during the busy seasons, it's a family-run operation. Greg, David, and Tom work together to do spring planting and the fall harvest. The fourth generation of the family has assumed

See WAYNES on B2 ▶

County board OKs new senior attorney position

BY CHRIS BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

Steele County Commissioners recently added a new senior attorney position to county staff.

"I'm looking to create this position to serve as the last step before me in my office," said County Attorney Dan McIntosh when explaining the need for the new position to the board.

"When I became county attorney, there were five assistants with no levels," McIntosh said. "Back then, there wasn't need to make these distinctions,

but with turnover over time, I created the county attorney one and two positions and the chief deputy position and this is the final step."

According to McIntosh, two individuals within the county could qualify for the new position beginning in 2022. McIntosh also said that the new job would require a minimum of seven years of experience.

"Once people are hitting that level of experience in any county attorney's office, they are valuable and they have a lot of experience," he

said. "But I don't want to just reward years of service. This position would need to be really subject matter experts in a field that is a primary area of practice."

McIntosh used child protection as an example of a field that requires legal experience.

"It's changing all the time with federal and state requirements and there's a lot of litigation," he said.

"These are some of the most critical cases that we have. A cohesive approach is the best for that."

According to McIntosh, child protection is a critical area due to the importance and scrutiny that comes with such cases.

"I don't mind that scrutiny at all, but I do feel like it's beneficial for local agencies, my office, and also the community to have someone who could really take the reins and coordinate training efforts locally and be a subject matter expert in our office," McIntosh said.

"I don't necessarily believe in creating positions for people who are there currently. I'm

looking at it for the next generation of employees in my office, if we have someone leave or we have turnover," McIntosh said. "I think it will give the office and the operation the maximum flexibility to fill the needs at any time."

Having multiple levels of positions will help the county attorney's office compete with other county agencies throughout the state when it comes to hiring. "We're competing with Mankato, Blue Earth County, and the metro," McIntosh said. "The main interest I have is

to fill a future need."

After discussing the matter, the board determined that adding a senior attorney position to the county attorney's office would help to maintain a level of experience should staff turnover in the future open up the need for another experienced attorney.

"I think we know how important our county attorney's office can be and this helps us solidify quality staff who can maintain that requirement," Commissioner Greg Krueger said.

Boxing was a big item once upon a time



Reflections
HOWARD LESTRUD

“DING-DING-DING” was the sound of an announcer’s bell at a major boxing match in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

In the early 1950s, I would go to our dairy barn on Hwy. 251 and pretend I was the ring announcer, the boxer and the manager at a boxing match.

My older brother Dave and I would strap on some old boxing gloves and have a boxing match. The gloves, given to us by a cousin, were rather tattered and had to be re-stuffed with rags to give the

appearance they were an Everlast glove.

My brother always got the best of me and once popped a blood vessel near my rib cage. That didn’t deter me from still being interested in this so-called sport.

My dad loved boxing and before we got our first television in 1954, we used to go over to my uncle Martin’s house and watch boxing. During those days, they had Wednesday Night Fights, Friday Night Fights and Saturday Night Fights.

Heavyweight champion Floyd Patterson was my dad’s favorite fighter. The undefeated Heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano was also a favorite.

As my interest in boxing continued, Muhammad Ali, aka Cassius Clay, became my favorite. I was mesmerized by his ability to bob and weave and avoid the punch followed on him by his opponent.



Heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali, aka Cassius Clay, stands over Sonny Liston in their return fight. Ali won by a first round knockout.

During Ali’s days as Heavyweight champion, I was able to see a couple of Ali’s fights on closed circuit TV. I saw Ali fight Joe Frazier on the large screen at the Minnesota Sports Center, which held more than 14,000.

I also saw Ali fight Patterson courtesy of

the Big Screen at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester.

I must admit I lost some of my favor for Ali when he refused to accept a draft into the U.S. Army because of his religious beliefs.

I loved to follow Golden Gloves and over 50 years ago when I

was sports editor of the Albert Lea Tribune, I followed the Jimenez boys from Albert Lea. Judy and I drove Fred Jimenez and his wife to Rochester for Jimenez’ first professional fight. At the Mayo Civic, we also saw Patrick O’Connor on the boxing card. He was to be an up

and coming Midwest-ern product. His career was shortened when it was revealed that he was a sucker for a left hook.

Over the years, boxing lost its favor and became ultimate fighting. I detest that so-called sport.

My dream was to some day meet Muhammad Ali. That never happened. I did receive an autographed poem from Ali.

Ali was not only quick in the boxing ring but also with his humor.

He supposedly once was driving to Indiana for an appearance. He was picked up by the Indiana Patrol. “Can I pay the fine here on the spot?” Ali asked the trooper. “Yes,” he replied.

Ali was told the fine would be \$70. He quickly gave the trooper \$140. “It’s only \$70,” the trooper responded. “Yeah, I know,” Ali said, “but I’m coming through here on my way back home.”

Road closed near Medford for construction

County Highway 12 east of Medford will be closed for construction. The work will be done in phases.

The first phase closed the highway from County 1 to County 13 starting Monday,

June 28 with a detour posted. This segment of highway was expected to be closed for only one day.

The second phase closed the highway from County 13 to County 8 starting on

Tuesday, June 29 with a detour posted. This segment of highway is expected to be closed for a couple of weeks.

Crews will be replacing culverts and completing other drainage improve-

ments. Once culvert work is completed, the highway will be reopened to traffic but construction will proceed under traffic with lane closures and flaggers.

Construction is

expected to last about a month.

All dates are subject to change due to weather or other factors.

Steele County advises motorists to drive with caution and slow down through work

zones for their safety and for the safety of the construction crews.

For updates on this or other Steele County Highway construction projects, visit: www.co.steele.mn.us/highway_construction.

Examine expectations

◀ STEELE TALKIN’ from B1

An individual with all-or-nothing expectations believes they should achieve at the level the expectation is set, and if it is not reached, nothing has been accomplished. If the individual sets a high expectation for self and reaches it, they feel satisfied. If the high expectation is not attained, the individual may feel disappointed, possibly devastated. The belief leaves little room for error. Either the person achieves the expected outcome and feels satisfied or doesn’t achieve at the desired level and is dissatisfied. Underachievement gives a sense of non-accomplishment, feelings of disappointment and inadequacy, and may begin to deteriorate self-worth.

To protect against further loss of self-worth, a new expectation is developed. The new expectation gives the person a new target and purpose, a type of “fresh start.” If the new expectation is not reached, the cycle pattern is repeated. Self-worth may be damaged again. The hope is that each new expectation will bring satisfaction and increase self-esteem and self-worth. However, each expectation not reached, can cause significant turmoil.

Goals are similar to expectations, but do not have the all-or-nothing connotation. Satisfaction on

goal achievement is similar to meeting an expectation, however a goal that has not been completed is not perceived as nothing. The person is able to credit themselves for the effort made and receive self-satisfaction. Recognition for a job well done is noted, even if the final goal is not completed. A new goal may be developed without loss of self-worth.

A way to reduce perfectionistic symptoms is to examine all-or-nothing expectations. Listen to the messages given to self and others. “Should” and “should not,” “must” and “must not” are messages indicating high expectations for one’s self. If these messages are present, you may be setting up too high expectations for self. Consider replacing some of them with realistic and workable goals. Goals provide a better sense of accomplishment and reduce the risk of lowered self-worth associated with failure to reach the high expectations.

Mark Skrien is a licensed psychologist, marriage and family therapist, and the recently retired clinical director at the South Central Human Relations Center in Owatonna. Steele Talkin’ is a regular column featuring authors representing various organizations throughout Steele County.

FREELANCE WRITER WANTED

The STEELE COUNTY TIMES is seeking a freelance writer & photographer to cover Blooming Prairie & Ellendale area news. Perfect opportunity for a retiree who loves to write & attend community events.

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Rick Bossler at bprick@frontier.com.

Online open house underway for county transportation plan

Steele County is hosting an online open house for the public to review and provide input on the 2040 Transportation Plan draft. The online open house and survey began June 21 and continues through Friday at <https://www.steele-co2040tranplan.com>.

Steele County is developing a 2040 Transportation Plan that provides a framework for policy development and addresses short- and long-term transportation planning needs. The Plan will guide future development

and transportation improvements within the County. The Plan is being developed in coordination with the City of Owatonna, which will ensure policies and planning outcomes set guidance for managing the transportation system safely, efficiently,

and effectively for the next 20+ years.

At the online open house, the public can review the plan, view a short video about the plan, take the plan survey to provide comments or questions, and register for office hours with the project team.

Amateur Radio Field Day held in Owatonna

◀ AMATEUR from B1

not a contest,” Conrad said. “But it’s a contest. We keep score.” According to Conrad, they keep records of how many signals are received and those who receive the most are unofficially deemed the winners. The goal is to try and connect with the 94 separate zones of operation.

“This is primarily the U.S. and Canada, although now and then you’ll catch another country in there, but for the most part, it’s just the U.S. and Canada,” Conrad said. “Everything is divided up into zones. For instance, Minnesota is one zone, while more populous states like New York or California have several of them.”

Throughout the evening and late into the night, radio operators attempt to reach out and connect with each other throughout the 94 zones.

“The goal is to get them all, we have come very, very close, but we’ve never got them all,” Conrad said. “This is amateur radio’s biggest event of the year, they have contests every year, but this is the big one,” Conrad explained. “It runs for 24 hours live on the air, so we go all night. Not necessarily all of us and not necessarily the same person. We take shifts.”

Radio enthusiasts like Conrad are important should emergencies arise and radio communication becomes

necessary, but they also treat it like a fun hobby. “There’s something in it for everyone; there’s voice like we’re doing, there’s Morse code, there’s digital, there’s television,” he said.

“Some radio operators will even bounce signals off the moon, you can bounce signals off of meteors, and you can even talk to and contact the international space station,” Conrad said. “Virtually every astronaut is a licensed amateur radio operator. You’ve got a limited window to contact them, but you can if you want.”

Last year’s event was slightly altered due to COVID, with radio operators staying home and connecting up with the zones. “We did indi-

vidual stuff last summer,” said Dale Carlson, a radio operator. “I got together with a friend and a daughter’s friend, so there were three of us.”

“Rain isn’t the best thing, but at least we don’t have lightning. Otherwise, we’d have to shut down due to all of our antennas out there,” Carlson said as the rain pelted the Steele County emergency operations vehicle.

According to Conrad and Carlson, the number of participants was a little down this year, most likely due to COVID. “Usually, we have a bigger group than this, but I think we’re still reeling from last year,” Carlson said. “We’ll get back to more participation in time.”

Waynes named Steele County Farm Family of the Year

◀ WAYNES from B1

roles as well. Greg’s son Nathan, and David’s sons, Dustin and Alex, along with Brian, do the tillage and herbicide applications. According to Extension, the Wayne brothers have taken numerous approaches to innovative farming techniques. In the 1990s, the Wayne family was Conservation Farmers for their no-till beans. They have always made efforts in erosion control by incorporating berms and cover crops. Along with this, they have also run no-till soy-

beans in standing corn stalks since 1992. All of these techniques and continuous knowledge have helped the farm see many successful harvests.

When asked what was one of their better years to remember, they answered, “2020 was a fantastic year for us.” Each year the red Wayne Grain trucks can be seen hauling loads of corn and soybeans to all the local elevators. The brothers have been fortunate enough to expand their storage capacity as they have grown their operation. The original grain

bin is still on site, put up in 1969 by Lyle. Renovations have happened twice since then, the first time in 1979 and the most recent in 2010. The bin site holds up to 450,000 bushels. There also are two dryers on the farm.

Each family member participates in numerous civic organizations, including school boards, the Ellendale Economic Development Council, and Ellendale and Geneva Commercial Clubs.

Each year, the Waynes donate to the FFA’s Camp Courage. Along with this, they

award the Lyle and Helen Wayne Scholarship to graduates looking to pursue a career in the agricultural industry. According to Extension, as a wish from their father, they carry out their parents’ legacy and the entire family’s love for agriculture through this scholarship.

Not only do they promote agriculture to the youth, but they also provide support throughout the state by being members of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association and the Minnesota Soybean Association.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE

JULY 3-4 Fourth of July Celebration	JULY 13 2:20 p.m. - BPPU Commission Meeting 4 p.m. - Fire Commission Meeting
JULY 6 10:30 a.m. - Storytime, BP Central Park/BP Library 7 p.m. - Planning & Zoning Meeting	JULY 14 Hawaiian Golf Fun Day 4:30 p.m. - EDA Meeting
JULY 7 10 a.m. - Bazillions Online, BP Library Facebook	JULY 20 5 p.m. - Ambulance Commission Meeting
JULY 12 7 p.m. - City Council Meeting	JULY 21 4 p.m. - Police Advisory Meeting

ELLENDALE/HOPE/GENEVA

JULY 2 11 a.m. - SEMCAC, Community Building	JULY 6 11 a.m. - SEMCAC, Community Building
JULY 4 11 a.m. - SEMCAC,	

OWATONNA/MEDFORD

JULY 3 7 a.m. - Farmer's Market, Central Park	JULY 7 7 p.m. - Steele County Board of Adjustments Meeting, County Admin Building
JULY 4 10 p.m. - Fourth of July Fireworks, Fairgrounds	JULY 7 10 a.m. - Bazillions Music Group Online, Owatonna Library Facebook
JULY 6 10 a.m. - Genealogy Club, History Center 10:30 a.m. - Online Storytime, Owatonna Library Facebook 7 p.m. - Owatonna City Council Meeting, City Hall	JULY 8 10:30 a.m. - Online Storytime, Owatonna Library Facebook 7 p.m. - 11@7 Concert Series, Central Park

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Tuesday - Thursday: 10 AM to close
Saturday: 9 AM to close
Sunday: Closed

Bar: 1 AM Closing
Off-Sale: 10 PM Closing
Bar Bingo: Monday at 6:30 PM (Must be 21 to play)
Wine Club: Tuesday 7 - 8:30 PM

May 18th and June 8th
(Masks & Covid protocol will be followed -
Reservations required)

JULY 3RD: Street Dance
"Red Dirt Road"
8 PM - Midnight
\$5 cover charge - 21 and over

July 4th:
Off-Sale open 11 AM - 6 PM
-Bar - Closed

July 24th: B. O. B. Ride "Toys for Tots" - Details Later

Sudoku Corner

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

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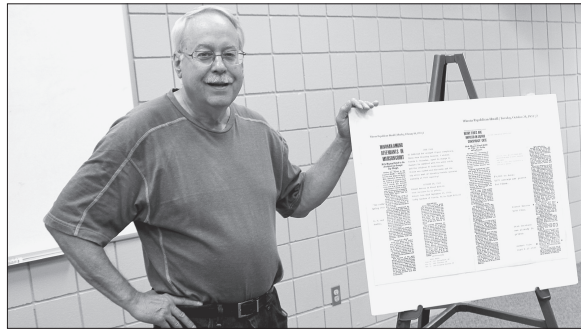
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9	1	5	8	7	2	4	8	6
8	2	6	5	9	4	7	1	3
5	6	1	9	8	3	2	7	4
4	8	7	2	1	5	9	6	3
2	9	7	4	6	5	8	3	1
6	4	3	2	5	7	1	9	8
7	8	9	1	4	6	3	2	5
1	5	2	8	3	9	6	4	7



Steve Wencil of Blooming Prairie spoke to the Arkema Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP) at a recent meeting. He covered the bootlegging days of Blooming Prairie

'The Big Still' surprises some

BY HOWARD LESTRUD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"Everybody was in on this," said local prohibition researcher Steve Wencil in a presentation to the Arkema, Inc. Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP).

Some of the CAP members were unaware of the illegal alcohol running operations

taking place in the Blooming Prairie area from 1919 to 1933.

Wencil used visual aids to tell the story of bootlegging in Blooming Prairie. He spent time illustrating activities at the Big Still located about six miles west of Blooming Prairie.

He distributed the following newspaper articles about the Big

Still located west of Blooming Prairie:

• **The Big Still:** They'll never forget it in Blooming Prairie, Dec. 5, 1932. This article tells how the still was built and it also refers to the fake raid being conducted on Dec. 5, 1932 at the site of the Blooming Prairie still.

• **Federal men find mammoth still six**

miles west of Blooming Prairie, Dec. 5, 1932

• **Timeline for Blooming Prairie,** the syndicate and the still, 1928-1933

Wencil shared some research he has collected on the Wisconsin Syndicate and its efforts to find a perfect site for a large still near Blooming Prairie.

See ARKEMA on B9 ►

100 Rural Women travels virtually to southeast Minnesota

Non-profit organization, 100 Rural Women, is advancing to the Southeast region of Minnesota July 6-8 as a part of its 100 in 100 project.

Benya Kraus, founder and executive director of Lead for Minnesota said, "Women leaders, both formal and informal, are such a backbone for a healthy, thriving rural community - yet so often go unnoticed. 100 Rural Women connects us together for inspiration and support, demonstrating that if we desire vibrant rural communities, we must invest in women - and

in one another."

Six meetings are happening over the three-day period, two meetings each day. Rural women from the area can select which meeting works best for them to attend. The times vary for each meeting as the organization wants to ensure there is a meeting time that works for everyone.

- July 6: 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- July 7: 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.
- July 8: 7:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Professor at Winona State University, Dr. Tammy Lepper, said,

"Young women are learning the value of networking and about the significant issues facing rural women across Minnesota. They are being mentored by women leaders, who serve as excellent role models of how to be collaborative, proactive leaders who take initiative."

If you are a woman in Minnesota's Southeast region and would like to attend, visit www.100ruralwomen.org/projects/100in100. 100 Rural Women also invites women in other regions of the state who are unable to attend the

meetings within their region to attend these meetings. These free meetings are a part of the non-profit organization's 100 in 100 project. The goal is to reach 100 communities of women through 100 gatherings across the state of Minnesota, currently being done virtually.

The 100 Rural Women is an emerging non-profit based in northern Minnesota whose mission is to serve and support rural women: identify, connect, and create relationships, models of networking, leadership, mentorship and civic engagement.

Arts Center to feature bronze sculptures

The Owatonna Arts Center will be featuring Bronzes by Faribault sculptor Janet Moline in the Arnesen Atrium and Solarium July 6-Aug. 29.

There will be an opening ceremony where folks can meet Moline on Tuesday, July 13 from

4:30-7:30 p.m. There will also be music by Dan Schwartz on the harp guitar and refreshments from The Depot of Faribault.

Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. The center is closed on Mondays.

The natural lighting in the Arnesen Atrium and the solarium is an ideal place to showcase bronzes by Janet Moline.

Moline said, "I am to create a conversation between materials, that when mingled with the viewers own imagination,

creates a narrative unique to each individual. Always, the form is meant to be soothing relief from the sometimes-brutal facts that assault us every day."

For more information, go to www.oacarts.org.

ArtWorks Festival to host 56 exhibitors

Fifty-six artists were selected through a jury process to exhibit at the 2021 Austin ArtWorks Festival on Aug. 28 and 29 in the heart of downtown Austin.

The artists hail from nine states and represent eleven genres for the 10th annual event.

Thirty-four artists (60%) call Minnesota

home with artists also coming from Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

Three exhibitors from Austin offer guests the chance to shop Local at the festival.

Eight more exhibitors make art in

Glenville, Mankato, Northfield, Preston, Rochester, and Zumbata, making Southeast Minnesota the home of 20% of exhibitors.

With an ideal mix of new artists (40%) and returning artists (60%), visitors will find their favorite and new favorite booths to visit.

The majority of exhibitors report winning art awards (64%) in the past five years, indicating a high level of quality among exhibitors.

Since the Austin ArtWorks Festival began in 2012, 270 different artists have presented exhibits.

Exhibits will include ceramics, glass, jewelry, metalworks, mixed media, painting, photography, sculpture, textiles and wood.

Austin ArtWorks Festival is a program of Austin Area Arts, an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to harness the power of the arts to improve lives and the community.

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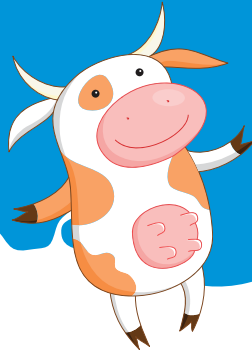


2021 Steele County Dairy Princesses

From left: **Samantha Fredin, Courtney Kath, Maggie Bruns, Katelyn Rysavy, Hailey Rysavy, Kylie Kruckeberg and Lilly Zollner.**

MEET THE DAIRY PRINCESSES

Seven young ladies are representing Steele County as dairy princesses this year. We would like you to meet them this week and learn a little more about what has led them to becoming ambassadors of the dairy industry.



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Princess: Maggie Bruns



Parents: John and Lisa Bruns
Home: Blooming Prairie

Why you serve as dairy princess:

The dairy community has given me many amazing friends, and I think being a dairy princess would be a way of giving back by promoting this wonderful industry.

What do you look forward to as dairy princess:

I look forward to positively promoting the dairy industry and informing everyone on how amazing it is. I am excited to build even stronger relationships with some of the most amazing people I will ever meet.

High School/College Activities:

I am involved in volleyball, cross country, trap shooting, basketball, softball, golf, FFA, Student Council, Minnesota Honor Society and Homecoming court.

Your responsibilities on the dairy farm:

I do not live on the farm and in order to be able to show, I lease from some family friends. I am expected to go out to the farm multiple times

a week as soon as we get done with school and sports, and I help get the cows and heifers ready for show season. I also help with anything they need help with around the farm. I help wash and clip the cattle, too.

Accomplishment you are most proud of:

I am most proud of being the Minnesota EXCEL award during my junior year of high school. In order to win the award, you need to excel academically, athletically and volunteer in the community. It is something I am very proud to have won and was very thankful to have won it.

Future goals:

Within the next five years, I plan to graduate from high school and then attend Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter to major in nursing. After I get my nursing degree, I would like to find a steady job as an ER nurse, preferably close to Blooming Prairie. Within 10 years, I would like to get married and start a family.



Princess: Samantha Fredin



Parents: Scott Fredin and Julie Evers
Home: Owatonna

Why you serve as dairy princess:

I would like to serve our county as a dairy princess because I want to make an impact. Having this platform enables us to use our voice to educate the public on the dairy industry.

What do you look forward to as dairy princess:

As a dairy princess, I look forward to educating our younger generations in our county. I am also excited for a new event this summer at the county fair. The traveling booth with information about the dairy industry.

High School/college activities:

Iowa State:

- Dairy Science Club
- Dance Marathon
- SALT

Owatonna High School:

- Varsity soccer (two year letterwinner and Big Nine Academic scholar)
- Varsity track and field
- Athletic training student assistant (three year letterwinner)
- Manager of gymnastics team (five year letterwinner)
- Symphony orchestra

- Sunday School teacher
- Religious education teacher
- Peer minister
- Younglife president, campaigners and Walk with Me
- Key Club (two year letterwinner)
- DECA (secretary)
- National Honor Society (Decorations and Lobby personnel head)
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- Prom Committee (prom head)
- Homecoming committee (decorations head)

Describe your dairy farm:

Strawberry Dairy is home to dairy cattle, beef cattle, chickens and pigs. The main focus is on dairy at the farm. There can be anywhere from 5-10 calves that I get to assist in feeding and taking care of. On the farm, the cattle are broken up by age into different barns. Along with this there is a Hoop Barn where the show cattle are housed to receive specific diets. The rest of the milking cattle are in a Tie Stall Barn.

Your responsibilities on the dairy farm:

I am the on call help. This means that whenever they need help feeding young stock I will be called.

Accomplishment you are most proud of:

My greatest accomplishment is the MSHSL EXCEL award I received at the state level. This was such an honor because a teacher recommended that I fill the application out to be reviewed by our schools committee. One male and female junior from each school was chosen to move to the next level. This level was being recognized on the state level for my leadership and service in our community. I was one of 37 recipients at the state level that was awarded with this award.

Future goals:

In five years I hope to be walking across the graduation stage at Iowa State with degrees in both in both dairy science and genetics. After walking across the stage, I will either be starting graduate school or continuing on into the workforce. If I don't attend graduate school, I will hope to leave Iowa State with a "big girl job" in the reproduction side of the dairy industry. Ten years down the road I will have hopefully started to grow my family and continue to work with reproduction. Whether that continues to be in the dairy industry or transfer into the human reproduction sciences.



Princess: Courtney Kath



Parents: Matt and Jill Kath
Home: Owatonna

Why you serve as dairy princess:

I have always looked up to the dairy princesses and enjoy promoting the dairy industry. I enjoy sharing my knowledge with the community. I also enjoy getting to see members in the community show interest in the dairy industry.

What do you look forward to as dairy princess:

Getting involved in the community by promoting the dairy industry and teaching others about it.

High School/college activities:

National Honor Society, Students Helping Others Choose, Sunday School teacher, Prom Committee, Owatonna Younglife, Yearbook staff, Owatonna volleyball and Owatonna Junior Olympic volleyball.

Describe your dairy farm:

I do not live on a dairy farm nor work on one. I grew up going to my grandparent's dairy farm and helping them for fun. I started leasing

dairy calves in the 4-H program from my grandparent's farm and later other farms. In the summer, we would bring the cattle I am showing to my house and do chores morning and night here at my house.

Your responsibilities on the dairy farm:

When I was younger, I would help bottle feed the calves and occasionally help milk. In the summer when the cattle are at my house, I feed the calves, clean the pens and wash the cattle.

Accomplishment you are most proud of:

This past year I was awarded the Kotke Dairy Achievement Award for my leadership in the dairy project.

Future plans:

In the next five years, my goal is to attend and graduate from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with a degree in business management. After graduating, I hope to find a job working in a business-related field.



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Princess: Kylie Kruckeberg



Parents: Keith and Karen Kruckeberg
Home: Owatonna

Why you serve as dairy princess:

I had so much fun last year getting to promote the industry.

What do you look forward to as dairy princess:

Educating those who don't know a lot about the dairy industry.

High School/college activities:

4-H and FFA involvement.

Describe your dairy farm:

Clover Glen Farm- small family farm of Holsteins and Brown Swiss cattle.

Your responsibilities on the dairy farm:

When I can, I like to help with chores as well as mentoring cow campers and younger 4-Hers in the summer.

Accomplishment you are most proud of:

Receiving the scholarship from the ADA in 2020.

Future goals:

Graduate from college and hopefully be able to find a job that I really enjoy close to home.

Princess: Hailey Rysavy



Parents: Ben and Wendy Rysavy
Home: Owatonna

Why you serve as dairy princess:

I would like to serve as a dairy princess because I would like to educate the public about the dairy industry as well as getting more educated.

What do you look forward to as dairy princess:

I look forward to sharing my knowledge about dairy and promoting the dairy industry.

High School/college activities:

I am involved in Shoc, Big Brothers Big Sisters, dance, girls lacrosse and 4-H.

Describe your dairy farm:

I live on a third generation dairy and beef farm. We recently reduced our dairy herd from 200 to about 80 cows and also raise 700 beef. The farm has been in the family for 80 years.

Your responsibilities on the dairy farm:

My responsibilities include: helping milk and feed the calves. Also to help out whatever is needed.

Accomplishment you are most proud of:

I am most proud of getting accepted into the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Future goals:

In the next five years, I would like to attend the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to get a degree in communications sciences and disorders. In the next 10 years, I would like to find a career in speech pathology.

Princess: Katelyn Rysavy



Parents: Joe and Cheryl Rysavy
Home: Owatonna

Why you serve as dairy princess:

I have grown up on a dairy farm, and I want to promote the dairy industry and products.

What do you look forward to as dairy princess:

Educating younger kids about dairy, being in parades and just promoting dairy products.

High school/college activities:

Dance, adaptive floor hockey, adaptive floor hockey captain, special Olympics, bowling and swimming.

Describe your dairy farm:

Our dairy farm has been a family run operation for over 80 years. Presently milking 80 cow herd as well as raising beef cattle.

Your responsibilities on the dairy farm:

I fed the young calves, helped with yard work and garden work as well as house chores.

Accomplishment you are most proud of:

Being active in the 4-H dairy project and exhibiting dairy animals at the county and state levels.

Future goals:

I graduated from Owatonna High School and am attending Secondary Transition Education Program (STEP) School in Faribault for the next three years where I will learn about jobs in my community for my abilities. Eventually, I want to find a permanent job career of my liking.

Princess: Lilly Zollner



Parents: Mark and Gail Zollner
Home: Owatonna

Why you serve as dairy princess:

I would like to represent the dairy industry and teach the public about why they should support dairy farmers and how amazing dairy cows and their products truly are.

What do you look forward to as dairy princess:

Promoting the dairy industry through parades, daycare drop offs and other public events.

High School/college activities:

Figure skating, 4-H, choir and orchestra in high school. I have continued figure skating in college and have joined the Block and Bridle Club as well.

Describe your dairy farm:

It has a milking herd of 75 cows. About half are Brown Swiss and half are Holstein. They also have 75 heifers as of right now. They are also about half and half Brown Swiss and Holsteins.

Your responsibilities on the dairy farm:

Taking care of my animals, doing calf chores multiple times a week as well as helping with big farm projects such as vets checks, vaccinations, dehorning and moving heifers and dry cows.

Accomplishment you are most proud of:

Taking three of my Brown Swiss heifers to show in 4-H at the state fair and earning a purple with the first heifer I took to the state fair.

Future goals:

My goal within the next five years is to graduate from River Falls with a bachelor's degree in animal science and a vet tech certification from a technical college. I also hope to be working at a vet clinic at that time. In 10 years, I hope to have my own hobby farm and possibly a small show herd of Brown Swiss cattle. I hope to have gained lots of experience from working in multiple clinics and maybe go back to school to further my education.



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Double rainbow



With the area in a moderate drought, area farmers got some needed rain over the weekend. After the rain late Saturday afternoon, a rainbow is visible near Ellendale.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOEY BLUNTON

Freeborn County Sealed Bid Auction

Farm Location: 4 miles northeast of Hollandale or 7 miles southwest of Blooming Prairie, MN.

Legal Description: 120 Total Acres +/- SE ¼ NW ¼, and NE ¼ SW ¼, and W ¼ SW ¼ NE ¼, and W ¼ NW ¼ SE ¼ Section 28, Township 104 North, Range 19 West (Newry Township) Freeborn County, MN.

Farm Information: Extraordinary opportunity to purchase Freeborn County farmland. 120 total acres +/- with approx. 110.7 FSA tillable acres +/- and 4.6 ac CRP. Farm has an excellent Crop Productivity Index of 88.2. This farm contains extensive private tile which enhances the overall productivity of this farm. Great access from county road 34

Sealed bids due at the office of Northwestern Farm Management by noon July 12th with live auction for registered bidders at 11am on Wednesday July 14th at the Servicemen's Club in Blooming Prairie, MN.

Bidders must be registered to attend and participate in live auction. Bidding Sheet, Instructions, and Farm Information are available by calling Corey Prins or Dan Sprengeler, salespersons, at 507-532-5120 or online at www.nfmco.com



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Signs of stress in garden plants



On The Farm
MERCEDES MOFFETT

Summer is officially underway and the events that come with it are in full swing. The pleasures of gardening is something many look forward to every year. While we did get a nice amount of rain last week, it is important to

remember that not just field crops are susceptible to the hot and dry temperatures. Garden plants can be under just as much stress.

Knowing what to look for in regards to plant stress is a large part of being able to help the plants survive this harsh summer. A well-known sign of plant stress is wilting. I'm sure many of us have seen a sad looking tomato plant with leaves hanging limp. Limp, low hanging leaves is a stressed plant showing signs of stress.

Another sign to look for is curling of leaves. This is a common sign to see in corn plants. Leaves begin to curl when the water that is being pulled up through the roots is less than the amount of water that is being lost through evaporation in the leaves. To prevent this evaporation loss, leaves curl as a form of protection for the overall plant.

Yellowing of leaves is another sign to look for. Leaves can yellow under many circumstances from drought, overwatering, pests, and many other options. Considering the weather conditions we've had, and will likely continue to have, make sure to include yellowing due to lack of water a consideration.

Something else that can occur to vegetable plants is abnormal growth. An example of this can be tomatoes

and peppers. If the plant endures a long drought period followed by lots of rain, blossom-end rot can develop. This is where a black, or flattened spot appears near the blossom side of the fruit.

Ways to prevent stress in garden plants is to have a solid watering routine in place. Watering in the morning is ideal before temperatures get very hot, and water provided can be immediately lost to evaporation. A watering method for consideration would be to water long and hard, followed by a few days to allow plants to dry out. This is a way to train the plants' roots to grow further down into the subsoil, as opposed to being in the topsoil where it is more prone to water evaporation. The further down in the ground, the greater the water storage. If plants can set root down further it allows for the plant to be more efficient and maintain that much more moisture for longer periods. Furthermore, deeper roots help prevent plants from lodging and can support more fruit production.

For more information on these topics and more, please visit the University of Minnesota Yard and Garden News.

Mercedes Moffett is the interim extension educator with the University of Minnesota for Steele and Rice counties.



EXTENSION PHOTO

Wait to prune tomatoes until the heatwave passes so they are less stressed. Only prune when there is no rain in the forecast and humidity is low. This limits the likelihood of infection as the plants heal the wounds left by pruning.

Father and son team up to farm

THE RUMPZAS

Helping farmers with agricultural loans isn't the only thing senior ag lender Bruce Rumpza of Farmers and Merchants State Bank in Blooming Prairie does for his professional career. He also farms, which gives him incredible insight into agriculture and the needs of other farmers.

Rumpza and his son, David, farm five miles east of Blooming Prairie in Dodge County. Bruce has been on the farm since 1986.

Bruce raises 115 acres of vegetables, corn and soybeans while David farms 70 acres of vegetables and raises 60 head of feeder to finish cattle. Most of the cattle are marketed directly to consumers.

In addition to farming, David also owns Eagle Nutrition, which is a nutrition company geared for livestock.

"Both of us enjoy growing crops and working with cattle," said Bruce. "We also enjoy working with other farmers, who have the same interests."

Bruce says one of the greatest joys he gets out of farming is working outside on a nice day. "Seeing your hard work pay off with an excellent crop or a nice finished steer," he said.

As an added bonus, Bruce said he loves teaming up with his son. "My greatest joy in farming is being able to do something I enjoy with my son, who also enjoys it," he said.



Bruce Rumpza and his son, David, are crop farmers five miles east of Blooming Prairie. They also raise some cattle.

This week's farm family is brought to you by:



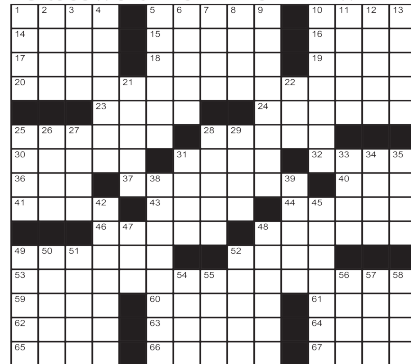
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

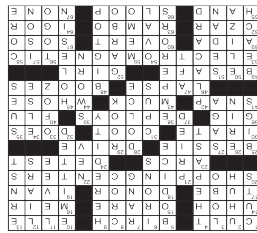


ACROSS

1 Unorthodox religion
5 Whip
10 Fashion and lifestyle magazine
14 "Houston, we've had a problem..."
15 To pray, to Ovid
16 Israeli prime minister, 1969 - 1974
17 Test or boob? (4)
18 Giver
19 "Terrible" leader
20 Chop Springsteen into pieces for many retailers
23 Fly ball trajectories
24 Hate
25 --- Smith, Empress of the Blues
28 Compel
30 Boiling mad
31 Harmless simpleton
32 James, who could be anyone
36 Comedian's date
37 Spreads into a battle line
40 Winter bug
41 Suddenly lose it
43 Fifth
44 "--- Body?" (Dorothy L. Sayers)
46 Pass into disuse
48 Topes
49 Don't take chances

DOWN

52 Ipanema stroller?
53 Kind of field
59 Egyptian opera
60 In plain sight
61 Indifferent
62 Nicholas was the last
63 Lead character in "First Blood"
64 "The Rite of Spring" composer --- Stravinsky
65 Personal set of cards
66 Single-masted sailboat
67 "And Then There Were ---" (Agatha Christie)
13 Physician --- Mach
21 Asked nosy questions
22 Middle of wine vat is a dry area
25 Major Leagues
26 The Emerald Isle
27 Narrative of heroic exploits
28 Fellini's "La --- Vita"
29 Castle
31 PCs "brains"
33 Baum's Land ---
34 Otherwise
35 Goes to law
38 Maximilian and Charles
39 Avowed
42 Poster
45 --- one: golfers' dreams
47 Astern
48 Circus center
49 Strand
50 Professor Henry's protégé
51 Portable chair
52 Star who wanted to be let alone
54 Elliptical
56 Reminder
58 Fast-food option
57 "The Heat ---" (Glenn Frey)
58 Crux



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"The Big Still" surprises some

◀ **ARKEMA** from B3
According to an article written by Wenzel titled "The Previous Still,"

"In the summer of 1928, contacts for the Wisconsin Syndicate found a perfect site (six miles west of Blooming Prairie) for a large still. It appears that a plan was put into action by several parties to get the renter off the farm site and start building a huge still operation."

"In the fall of 1928, the renter was approached several times by a neighbor and a fellow from St. Paul by the name of Joe Fine wanting to set up a still on the place."

"After being assured by Mr. Fine that there would be no problems with federal agents since he had so much pull with them and the fact that the \$20 a month rent was badly needed cash, he gave in and agreed to let them set up the still in the barn."

"If he was there, he would take responsibility, if he wasn't there, his man, a local would take the blame and if the renter was on his own and charged, no problem."

"They would hire a lawyer and see to it that he got no jail time just a small fine and they would pay that."

"On Feb. 15, 1929 at about 5:30 in the morning after an evening of card playing in the barn, three federal men raided the farm site."

"The renter and Mr. Fine's local man along with a neighbor who had stayed overnight in the warm barn, were arrested and taken to St. Paul to be questioned by Mr. Harney, the state prohibition administrator."

"They stuck to Mr. Fine's plan and on the advice from his lawyer, the local 'man' took responsibility for the still and the renter for providing the barn."

"The renter ended up with a year and a day at Leavenworth and a \$100 fine. The two fellows arrested in the barn received a 10-month stay of comfort in the Mower County Jail. Mr. Fine and eight other men were charged for operation and possession of this still, those shares were later dropped."

"The renter's wife tried her best to run the farm but it was just too much and by mid-summer, she and the kids were off the farm."

"The Austin Daily Herald stated 'that the still's dismantling by federal officers in the raid added considerably in curtailing the flow of moonshine into Mower County sources.'"

"A still that operated for about one month? By late fall, construction of a huge still was probably in progress, while Mr. Harney was busy trying to make Blooming Prairie drier than the Sahara Desert."

COLLEGE NEWS

NORTH DAKOTA STATE

Mary Theresa Biegert of Owatonna has graduated from North Dakota State University in Fargo.

She received a master's degree in architecture. Biegert was one of 1,820 students to grad-

uate with degrees this spring at NDSU.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

India Elizabeth Enter of Medford has been named to the Deans' List at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the spring semester of the

2020-21 academic year.

Enter, a senior majoring in music, was named to the Deans' List for the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts.

More than 6,800 students at Nebraska were named to the Deans' List for the spring semester.



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NOTICE

Steele County
Commissioner's
Synopsis for 6/08/2021

Complete Minutes can be viewed on the Steele County Website:

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Glynn/Gnemi to approve the agenda with additions. Ayes all.

2. There were no comments from the public.

3. Correspondence acknowledged.

4. Krueger/Glynn to approve the following Consent Agenda items. Ayes all.

A. Approve the minutes of May 25, 2021
B. Approve the minutes of May 25, 2021 Work Session
C. Approve Bills and Journal Entries
D. Approve Personnel Report
E. Approve the Resolution Re-Appointing Ed Nelson as Steele County Trail Administrator
F. Approve Promotion of Karen Winter to Property Tax Specialist
G. Approve Re-open-

ing of Board Meetings to in-person attendance and discontinuing live streaming effective July 1, 2021
H. Award the Contract for CSAH 34 & CSAH 45 Roundabout, SAP 074-634-029 & 074-645-040, to Hesselton Construction in the amount of \$1,271,146.05
I. Human Resources Director Julie Johnson read the following Personnel Anniversaries for staff.

5. Krueger/Gnemi to approve the updated Telecommuting Policy with additional review process thru Internal Credit Services and to eliminate mileage reimbursement. Ayes all.

6. Glynn/Abbe to establish a Wine License Fee of \$200.00 annually. Ayes all.

7. Glynn/Abbe to approve an On-Sale 3.2 Beer and Wine License for the Blooming Prairie Country Club. Ayes all.

8. Krueger/Gnemi to approve the Renewal of the Consumption and Display Permit for the Blooming Prairie Country Club. Ayes all.

9. Glynn/Gnemi to approve a Cooperative Agreement with the City of Medford for the construction of the CSAH 45 (Main St.) Improvement project and authorize the Chair and Administrator to execute the Agreement. Ayes all.

10. Glynn/Abbe to award the contract for CSAH 45 (Main St.) improvements to the low bidder, R.A.W. Construction LLC, in the amount of \$1,886,304.90. Ayes all.

11. Abbe/Glynn to approve the 2021 State of Minnesota Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Contract Agreement in the amount of \$2039. Ayes all.

12. Glynn/Abbe to approve the Personnel Policy Amendment 19.5.4. Ayes all.

13. Abbe/Gnemi to take a recess for a few minutes due to a power outage. Ayes all.

14. Glynn/Gnemi to accept the low bid from Rochon in the amount of \$1,596,000.00 and authorize Facilities and Fleet

Director Jake Rysavy to execute the contract and make scope reductions as submitted. Ayes all.

15. Presentation by Tim Penny, President & CEO, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation Update & 2022 Request for Funding.

LISTING OF BILLS
6/8/2021

3D Specialties.....	3,383.75
7 Rivers Recycling LLC.....	2,536.44
Baker Tilly US, LLP.....	11,100.00
Bolton & Menck Inc.....	3,135.50
CBK Properties LLC.....	6,369.86
Dodge County Public Health.....	2,200.84
Jones Haugh & Smith Inc.....	3,120.00
Mal Con Construction/Fabaud Div.....	2,760.00
Miner's Outdoor & Rec.....	16,672.12
Minnesota Secured Title.....	3,400.00
MR Law Group & Consulting.....	4,780.00
Nass Truck & Equipment.....	2,812.05
Owotoma Filters.....	3,193.56
SCR.....	3,635.69
Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc.....	2,752.41
Steele County Agricultural Society.....	21,500.00
Steele County Highway Dept.....	7,244.92
Steele County Historical Society.....	4,000.00
Summit Food Services LLC.....	3,989.44
Verity Corporation.....	2,105.00
Waste Management of WIAA.....	50,543.53
98 Payments less than 2,000.....	32,156.85

Final Total: 194,290.86

16. Commissioners went into Closed Session at 6:35 p.m. under the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, Subd. 3(b) to discuss the following pending litigation: Coffey, et al. v. Sheriff Lon Thiele, Court File number 20-cv-2237. Ayes all.

17. Glynn/Krueger to come out of closed session at 6:54 p.m. Ayes all.

18. Abbe/Krueger to adjourn to the Call of the Chair at 6:54 p.m. Ayes all.

6/30

NOTICE

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Minnesota Statutes,
Chapter 333

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

ASSUMED NAME:
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PRINCIPAL PLACE
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NAMEHOLDERS:
Name: ME Lifestyle LLC

Address: 202 N Cedar Ave Suite 1 Owatonna MN 55060 United States

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

SIGNED BY: Chad Nakano

ADDRESS: None Provided

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: modernenvylifestyle@gmail.com

Work Item
1239059900021
Original File Number
1239059900021
STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
06/09/2021
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State
6/23/21

NOTICE

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MINNESOTA
SECRETARY OF
STATE
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ASSUMED NAME:
modern envy lifestyle

PRINCIPAL PLACE
OF BUSINESS: 202 N
Cedar Ave Suite 1 Owatonna MN 55060 United States

NAMEHOLDERS:
Name: ME Lifestyle LLC

Address: 202 N Cedar Ave Suite 1 Owatonna MN 55060 United States

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

SIGNED BY: Chad Nakano

ADDRESS: None Provided

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: modernenvylifestyle@gmail.com

Work Item
1239063600022
Original File Number
1239063600022
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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
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06/09/2021
/s/ Steve Simon
Secretary of State
6/23/21

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Ambassadors from the Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism visit new member business Limberg Productions to welcome them and attend their ribbon cutting at their new location, 103 W. Rose St. in Owatonna. Limberg Productions, owned by Scott Limberg, is a video production company that creates high-quality videos for businesses and residential clients to help them tell their stories. They use the latest technology to customize each video for every customer.

The Ambassadors also welcomed EXP Realty at 122 S. Oak Ave., in Owatonna, as a new member. Jason Young is the local agent. EXP Realty is one of the world's fastest-growing real estate brokerages. They are a global online brokerage powered by top agents and cutting-edge technology.

Ambassadors also stopped by REM Woodvale at 1836 S. Cedar, in Owatonna, to welcome them as a new member. Eston Brown is the regional director and Holly Gundlach is the staff recruitment specialist. Individuals with a wide array of needs are served by REM Woodvale, including brain injury, mental health issues, intellectual developmental disability and other neurological or physical disabilities. REM Woodvale works with counties and families to develop creative solutions to unique needs.

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PEAT MOSS roller spreader, \$100. Call 507-254-2046. 6/17/21

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HELP WANTED

Administrative Assistant-The Owatonna Foundation is seeking to fill their part time Administrative Assistant position. The Administrative Assistant reports the Board of Trustees and eventually to the Executive Director and manages the efficient operation of the Owatonna Foundation office. This position provides crucial support for the operational, and development work of the Owatonna Foundation. Oversees all correspondence and record keeping regarding grant submissions, grant recipients, donor gifts and appreciation, and fund raising. This position requires a strong customer service focus when interacting with the public, donors, volunteers, and board members and demands a Microsoft Office products skillset. 20+ hours per week; \$18+ per hour Application available at www.owatonnafoundation.org. Please submit application and/or resume by July 9, 2021 to info@owatonnafoundation.org or Owatonna Foundation, P.O. Box 642, 108 W Park Square, Owatonna, MN 55060. 6/30/21

CAREGIVER NEEDED for disabled female. Every other Saturday days, or every other Saturday overnight. 9-12 hour shifts. \$13.25 per hour. NW Rochester. Will train. 507-289-2756. 7/17/21

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OLD DODGE COUNTY BOOKS: 1931-1959 fair books. 1933-1939 Vets Association roster, 12th MN infantry. 1869-1969 centennial book. \$20 each OBO. 507-450-5395. 6/17/21

OLD DODGE COUNTY church books. 1850 Dodge Center 7th Day Baptist Church & School. 1858-1958 1st Congregational Church in Dodge Center. \$25 EA OBO. 507-450-5395. 6/17/21

MISCELLANEOUS OLD BOOKS (22). Older books & magazines 1969-1975. \$15 EA OBO. 507-450-5395. 6/17/21

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