

Opinion

Our view

Ag education 101

It is more than an opportunity to learn about the agricultural community. The Southern Minnesota Land Use Expo will allow those who know very little about the industry to see first-hand how various types of equipment work in a field setting.

The Expo will also address public concerns about land use and water on a farm near Blooming Prairie on July 20. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rodney Krell farm along U.S. Highway 218 two miles north of Blooming Prairie. There will be field demonstrations on various types of liquid and solid manure application equipment as well as various types of conservation equipment.

Not only will those attending see how this equipment works, experts will provide an explanation of how the sophisticated technology works.

In addition, this event will also include leaders in the agriculture industry and the legislature.

Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson will be part of the afternoon legislative listening session.

And communication is the message that Frederickson wants to relay to those who attend the meeting and those in the ag industry, as well. “Farmers need to explain how and why they do the practices they do on their farm,” he said in an email response from questions sent to the Ag Commissioner on Friday by the Steele County Times. “It’s not easy for someone with no ag background to understand how science and technology have created a more efficient and ecologically sound industry.”

And Dan Vermilyea, feedlot specialist for Steele County, who is helping coordinate the event, stated that “this is an educational experience for all ages whether they’re connected to farming or not.”

And these two both make good points.

Although our coverage area consists of a strong agricultural presence, many still don’t know a thing about the industry or choose not to educate themselves about agriculture. For some it is just easier to complain rather than learn more about how these entrepreneurs thrive in an ever-changing industry.

That is what this forum is about – educating the public.

Those who spend their time on the farm know what they do. It is up to them to do a better job of explaining to those who don’t live on the farm what they do. Those who aren’t on the farm now have a chance to see equipment in operation.

This is especially important in this day and age where there are so many facts flying around through newspapers, social media and other outlets about the agriculture industry. Are they true or are they not true?

This is an opportunity for those uneducated about the ag industry to become educated. Maybe they can be the ones who spread the facts about the agriculture industry rather than the ones who continue to spread false information or even distorted information.

And if this happens, this event will be a success.

Weigh in with our online poll at www.steeledodgenews.com

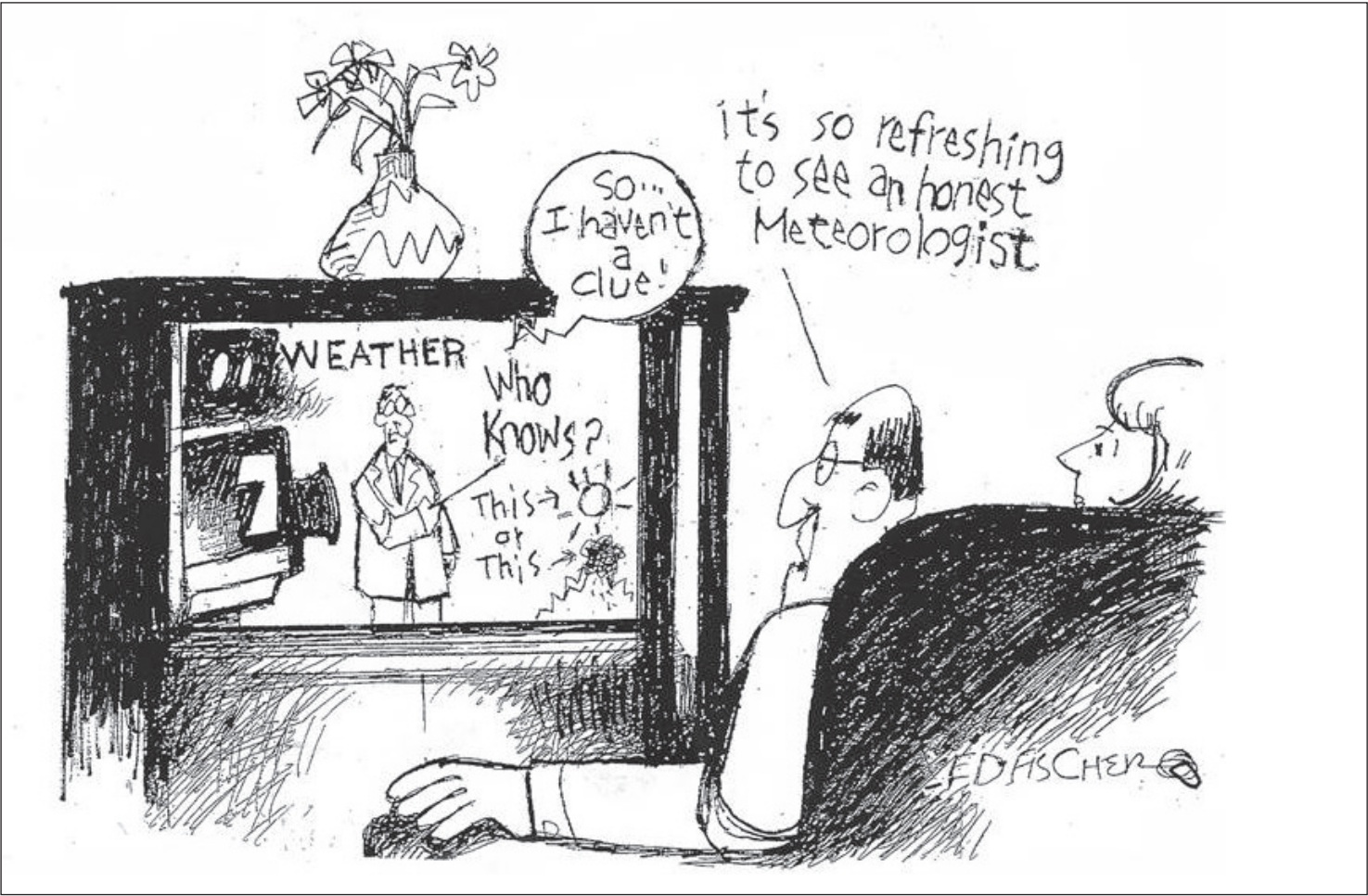
This week’s question: Is an Ag Expo the right way to educate our citizens?

- * Yes, they can provide a wealth of information.
- * No, this isn’t the right way to get the message across.
- * It really doesn’t matter.

Last week’s question: What should be done to keep the annual Blooming Prairie Fourth of July celebration going?

- *Find corporate donors to pay for all the activities. 56%
- *Solicit volunteers from outside of Blooming Prairie. 22%
- *Do nothing and let the Fourth of July celebration fade into the past. 22%

Readers are encouraged to vote at steeledodgenews.com. This poll is not a pure scientific sampling of readers’ views, but rather, is intended to create community discussion of issues.



A heart wrenching look at a man who stripped away the innocence of youth

Over the years I have covered many criminals and the crimes that go along with them. Some are shocking to the conscience, others are downright silly and humorous while there are those that are horrifying and sad. For obvious reasons, some stick out in my mind more than others.

One of those cases that rises above all others in a disgusting kind of way is the child porn and sexual misconduct involving Brian Broulik, a convicted Level 3 sexual offender who used to live outside Blooming Prairie. Besides dappling in child porn, Broulik abused young boys in several neighboring counties, including Dodge, before he was finally caught—again.

The horrifying circumstances surrounding Broulik’s sexual deviant days date back to 1996. At that time, he abused a young boy in Owatonna. He was in and out of prison and treatment several times after that first encounter. Then 2012 came around and Broulik exchanged text messages with teenage boys and met them for consensual sexual encounters. He also molested young boys and produced child porn showcasing in a sick way his terrible behavior.

I began covering Broulik in 2012 when he was locked up on the most recent string of sexual abuse. What intrigued me about this case was when one of the lead investigators used the analogy of peeling an onion. He said the Broulik case was like



PURSUIT
Rick Bussler

peeling layer after layer of onion with no end in sight. In fact, the child pornography involving Broulik took on an international twist to countries like Great Britain and New Zealand.

About a year ago I began digging into this case on my own. Over that time, I interviewed numerous law enforcement officials, federal and local prosecutors and public defenders and poured over countless court documents. My only regret is that I didn’t get to talk to any victims or their families to learn about the pain and anguish they’ve experienced.

What I found was a heart wrenching story of many young boys who were in most cases helplessly victimized at the hands of one man—Brian Broulik. A detective close to the case told me that no one will ever really know how many kids Broulik victimized. Broulik has been described as the “big, bad bogey man” and “a preda-

tor” who is constantly lurking around for young boys.

“He took the innocence and safety away from the kid and just stripped it away,” a detective said referring to Broulik when he molested a 4-year-old boy in Kasson in 2012.

The results of my year-long investigation are revealed in a two page news special found elsewhere in this edition. As sad as this case is extending over an almost 20-year period, it’s fortunate that no one has ever been physically injured or killed like what has happened with some other sexual perverts. But certainly many have been emotionally scarred for life.

This case made me wonder what kind of person is behind all of the horrible allegations that have surfaced. I found someone who is referred to by various people as a monster, rapist, predator and the bogey man. It just sent chills down my spine when I dug through the records of what all happened in this case.

I don’t wish ill will on anyone. However, Broulik is an obvious threat to the safety of society and deserves nothing more than being locked up forever. As cruel as that may sound, he’s been given many chances to change his behavior, but nothing seems to work.

While Broulik is locked up and no longer a threat to society, there are 351 Level 3 sex offenders living in our communities across the state. Level

3 offenders, which Broulik was classified when he was free living in the Blooming Prairie area, are the most dangerous and considered the most likely to reoffend. Sadly, that’s what happened in Broulik’s case.

One interesting twist I found in this story was how Steele County officials tried desperately to civilly commit Broulik in 2006. Minnesota has a civil commitment law in which dangerous sex offenders can be locked up indefinitely in a secured hospital. However, the Steele County Attorney’s Office got no help as they reached out to three different doctors back in 2006 and each time had been told Broulik was fine to be released back into society. The county dropped the civil commitment process and a judge released Broulik. Six years later, if not sooner, he was back to his old tricks and endangering society.

The cold, hard fact established by the government in the most recent child porn case was that Broulik is a predator who is deserving of a significant sentence. In June 2014, a federal judge agreed and placed Broulik in prison for 27 years. Prosecutors and investigators vow to make sure Broulik never sees the light of day again.

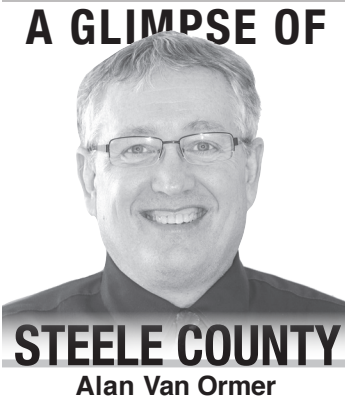
That seems appropriate to me for someone who went in hot pursuit of endangering innocent young children for many years.

One new, one returns; how about a sports editor?

The Steele County Times continues to evolve.

Over the last couple of weeks our county staff writer has taken a new position in another one of our properties. Shannon Granholm (formerly Kinley, she recently got married) has been promoted to the news editor position over at the DCI in Kasson. Our publisher, Rick Bussler, recently purchased this newspaper. Shannon will have an opportunity to shape the news and the newspaper in Dodge County.

If you remember last summer, Anna Segner did some summer work for us. She has recently graduated and has become the county staff writer. She is from Owatonna, so we feel this is a great fit because Anna knows



A GLIMPSE OF
STEELE COUNTY
Alan Van Ormer

many of the people in this coverage area. She will be handling Owatonna and Medford, as well as other stories around Steele County.

Also joining us is Laura Berndt. She has taken the position of news editor for the

Steele County Times. She has at least three years of experience in journalism; most recently handling the news editor duties for the St. Charles Press. Part of her job assignments deal with Blooming Prairie and Ellendale.

For me personally, Shannon will be deeply missed. It has been enjoyable watching her grow in the journalism field after just one year. She has a lot of energy and is very dedicated to her craft. I have no doubt she will do just fine over in Dodge County.

The two new young ladies on board also have a lot of energy and enthusiasm, which will make it that much easier for me to keep enthused and energized. The two of them bring in new ideas, which is always impor-

tant with a growing newspaper. And the Steele County Times is growing.

Each week it seems we are doing things that we didn’t do a year ago or even two years ago. If you have noticed, we are averaging 32 pages each week. Just a year ago, we averaged 24-28 pages a week. And that can be challenging in its own right. The important thing for us is to get people in that are willing to grow with us. And I think we’ve done this with the three young ladies listed above.

Now, if we could only find a sports editor for DCI. If you know of anyone, have them call me at 507-583-4431.

STEELE COUNTY Times
Always local, all the time.

Bussler Publishing Inc.
USPS 058-340
Published weekly on Tuesdays
Postmaster: Send address changes to: Steele County Times
P.O. Box 247
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
Phone: (507) 583-4431
Fax: (507) 583-4445
bptimes@frontiernet.net

A STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNING WEEKLY

- 2015**
Seven state awards.
- 2014**
Three state awards.
- 2013**
Seven state awards.
Two national awards.

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



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DEADLINES

News: Noon Fridays.
Advertising: 4 p.m. Thursdays.

LETTERS POLICY

The opinions of our readers in the form of Letters to the Editor are a vital contribution to the healthy exchange of ideas on the Steele County Times opinion page. All letters must be signed by the writer/ writers and include a telephone number for verification purposes. Letters are accepted through personal delivery, by mail or by email at bptimes@frontiernet.net.

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Steele County Times and the editor reserves the right to edit letters when necessary. Please limit opinions to no longer than 350 words.

The Steele County Times encourages readers to write letters to the editor as a means of communicating ideas and opinions with others, with a goal being to make the community better for all people.

ETHICS

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Steele, Dodge, Freeborn & Mower\$38
Elsewhere in Minnesota\$40
Out of state \$42

Second Front Page

Pedaling through southern Minnesota

By ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

For seven days starting Sunday, July 11, Lilah Aas of Albert Lea and approximately 180 cyclists from around the states will be pedaling 500 miles around southern Minnesota to raise money and awareness for Habitat for Humanity.

Cyclists of all skill levels are welcome. While Aas claims to be no athlete, this year is her 19th year participating in Habitat 500. She has come a long way, from not owning a bicycle to pedaling 500 miles in seven days.

She first considered participating in 1996, when she was the high school advisor for Albert Lea’s National Honor Society. NHS requires so much community service, and when students expressed interest in Habitat for Humanity’s Habitat 500,

Aas was intrigued. “Of course, when May came around, students couldn’t participate because they’re in marching band or have to raise money for college or whatever, but I thought I can do this,” said Aas.

When she signed on to do Habitat 500 in 1996, Aas did not even own a bicycle, and she had never pedaled a bike with gears.

“I learned so much that first year, and people were so good at helping, saying ‘Lilah, why don’t you try this or do this,’” said Aas. “Actually, over the years, I have been pleasantly surprised by the stamina I have been able to build up.”

Habitat for Humanity and the Habitat 500 line up with her beliefs on hard work. “I was raised in a family that believed in hard work and believed in working for what

you get, so I like that people are not just gifted a home, but they have to work and pay off the mortgage, just like everyone else,” said Aas. “My brother and I were also raised to help others, and I enjoy helping with houses as well.”

Aas has been a power house of a fundraiser over the years. In order for each cyclist to participate in Habitat 500, they must raise at least \$1,000. In her first year, she raised about \$1,400, and now averages about \$10,000 per year. She estimates that she has raised about \$140,000 total in her 19 years.

The emotional journey of Habitat 500 is priceless though. Aas said that shortly before her first ride, she lost her nephew. “That was an emotional journey. I kept thinking about the email he sent me a few weeks before I left, and he said ‘Good luck Lila, can’t wait until I can join you.’”

In 2001, she lost her husband to cancer a few months before the ride. “It was therapeutic to do the ride. There are a lot of times on the ride, where I could spend hours by myself, so that I could think and process,” said Aas. “But it was also good to get the condolences and support of other riders.”

Over the years, Aas has made friends with the riders, and she looks forward to the annual Habitat 500 get together.

The cyclists took off from Owatonna High School at 8 a.m. on Sunday, July 12, and arrive back in Owatonna on July 19. They will travel through Albert Lea, Spring Valley, Winona and LaCrosse, Wisconsin. If you see a whirl of cyclists spin past, look for cyclist #39, Lilah Aas.

Blandin Community Leadership program supported by local mayors

By HOWARD LESTRUD
Staff Writer

Want to get Blooming Prairie Mayor H. Peterson fired up about community leadership? Just ask him about his thoughts on the Blandin Community Leadership Program (BCLP).

Mayor Peterson is a staunch supporter of the leadership program as are his neighboring mayors, Lois Nelson of Medford and Mark Skroch of Ellendale.

The three area mayors are encouraging representatives from their communities to participate in the Blandin Community Leadership Program. Applications must be submitted by Monday, Aug. 17.

Applications are available from Becky Adams, recruitment coordinator, Blandin Community Leadership Programs, 100 North Pokegama Ave., Grand Rapids, MN 55744. E-mail at rmadams@blandinfoundation.org

The Blandin Community Leadership Program has provided intensive leadership training to more than 7,000 rural community leaders in Minnesota since 1985. It is nationally recognized and works with emerging and established leaders in rural communities to deepen their understanding of community dynamics and strengthens their skills for initiating and managing change.

The Blandin Foundation is a private independent foundation based in Grand Rapids, MN. Its mission is to strengthen rural Minnesota communities through grants, leadership programs and public policy initiatives.

At a recent Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce meeting, Mayor Peterson, never too bashful, jumped on top of a picnic table (soap box) and gave his leadership pitch to those enjoying some tasty ribs and chicken supplied by Nick’s Prairie Cafe.

Peterson said the program will



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud

Blooming Prairie Mayor H. Peterson is on a soapbox during a recent Blooming Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce event. Peterson is a supporter of the Blandin Community Leadership Program and is hoping to get others in Blooming Prairie, Ellendale and Medford fired up about the program.

cost participants no money, only a time commitment. He said that commitment will, in turn, strengthen individuals, businesses and communities. The Foundation covers the overall cost of the program including training materials, approximately \$4,000 per person.

Mayor Peterson handed out several packets the night of the chamber picnic and has been trying to stir interest in the three communities of Blooming Prairie, Medford and Ellendale. He said he has received feedback from participants indicating it has changed their lives in a positive way.

Mayors Nelson and Skroch have received positive interest from many of their community residents.

All BCLP participants share one thing in common: a commitment to their community and a willingness to be involved in shaping its future. “Everybody

wins in this leadership endeavor, especially our communities,” Mayor Peterson said.

BCLP trains community leaders to be more effective at framing community issues, building and sustaining social capital and mobilizing for community action.

The Blandin program includes a residential retreat held south of Grand Rapids. The program then continues for six months with three separate one-day workshops held in the home community.

BCLP serves rural Minnesota communities with individuals being recruited from selected communities. They become part of a 24-person community cohort. Each community cohort is a cross section of the community in terms of age, gender, ethnicity and sector representing a wide variety of networks including businesses, nonprofits, government, health care and education.

The leadership program recruits individuals who are:

- Actively involved in community life
- Credible and open minded
- Open to risk-taking
- Passionate about their community’s future
- Willing to work collaboratively to promote healthy community

Find out more about the BCLP by contacting Mayors Peterson, Nelson and Skroch. Each has application forms available and can provide other information about BCLP.

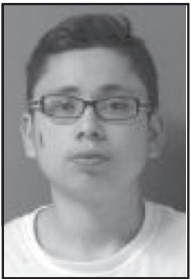
For more information about the Foundation and the leadership program, visit www.blandinfoundation.org. Also, if interested in participating in this proven leadership program, contact your local mayor.

Two local alumni of the leadership program include Raejean Hansen and Pam Folkens.

STABBING

Continued from Page 1A

The investigation by the sheriff’s office revealed the identities of four suspects almost immediately after the incident. Less than 12 hours after the attack, authorities had all the suspects in custody, including one adult and three juveniles.



Sosa-Venegas

The Steele County Attorney’s Office has filed a single count of conspiracy to commit murder in the first degree against Carlos Alfred Sosa-Venegas, 18, of Owatonna. In addition, the three juveniles have been charged with the same crime. McIntosh said he plans to seek getting all three juveniles certified as adults.

Sosa-Venegas appeared Monday morning in district court where Judge Karen Duncan set his bail at \$500,000 without conditions and \$250,000 with conditions.

The juveniles charged in this case have been identified as Jose Sosa-Venegas, 16, Seth Brandenburg, 16, and Jameson Smith, 17, all of Owatonna. They also face one count each of conspiracy to commit murder. They are being held without bail at juvenile detention facilities in

“He is incredibly lucky that he is alive. I don’t know how he made it.”

Daniel McIntosh
Steele County Attorney

STABBING CHARGES

- Carlos Alfred Sosa-Venegas, 18, Owatonna
- Jameson Smith, 17, Owatonna
- Seth Brandenburg, 17, Owatonna
- Jose Sosa-Venegas, 16, Owatonna

All charged with conspiracy to commit premeditated murder.

Red Wing, Rochester and Hastings.

Owatonna Police assisted county deputies with the investigation. Police located a vehicle consistent with the description provided by the victim at Colonial Manor in Owatonna. The vehicle discovery eventually led police to the suspects.

Deputies searched the area where the stabbing took place to find any weapons. They located a green metal knife about eight rows into the cornfield. A second knife was reportedly thrown from the suspect vehicle, but never located as there was standing water in nearby ditches.

One of the juveniles charged

in the case told police that they had talked about taking Zavala out to a field and killing him, according to the complaint. The juvenile said he didn’t remember who came up with the idea, but they all “came on board” with it.

The complaint stated the juvenile lured Zavala by requesting him to meet them to smoke some marijuana. The suspects picked up Zavala and wanted to “stab Andrew, slit his throat and kill him,” court documents allege.

Once they got to the cornfield, everyone started beating up Zavala, the complaint said. One of the juveniles told police

that Sosa-Venegas told Zavala during the attack that they were planning to kill him.

One of the juveniles later told police that once they left the scene, Sosa-Venegas was smiling because they just left Zavala to die.

County attorney McIntosh said the investigation found that one of the juveniles assaulted Zavala and his girlfriend back in April. At that time, the suspects also threatened to kill Zavala.

In the most recent attack, McIntosh believes the only reason Zavala survived is because the suspects used “less than effective weapons.” McIntosh said that if better instruments had been used, Zavala would have most likely died.

McIntosh has found that the suspects are showing no remorse for what happened and appear to be “desensitized to violence.”

The county attorney will be working in the coming days to get all three juveniles certified as adults.

One ironic twist about last week’s stabbing is that it is exactly the same area where a woman was murdered in December 2009. Kathryn Rose Anderson, 19, was stabbed 109 times and left for dead. Ryan Stanley Hurd was convicted in her death and is currently serving a life without parole sentence.

Those charged in the most recent attack face 20 years in prison.

2015 county fair planning hits smooth sailing

By ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

All was calm at the July 2, Steele County Free Fair board meeting. “People always think that this would be our busy time, but really, this is our calm,” said Dan Deml, SCFF board president.

The meeting consisted of planning for the future and ironing out a few details for this year’s fair.

Regarding future plans to utilize the north and the south ends of the racetrack for more parking and more concessions, plans are still being drawn up.

According to Doug Meier, the surveyor is still checking various aspects of the plan. “He’s still checking on details like waterlines, if they are deep enough, but he’s still plugging away,” said Meier. “(This time) next week, we’ll be ready to send out for bid.”

Jim Linder spoke to the committee on behalf of the memorial committee. He discussed the possibilities of signage for those that sponsored the new barn, Allan R. Radel Family Livestock Pavilion. The location for the display would be in the barn near the restrooms. Ideas or display are up in the air.

“We talked about an idea like the one at the dam in Morehouse

with a scene and the names on top,” said Linder. “Maybe a 4 by 8 of barn graphics with names on top.” Linder has been asking advice of other organizations with similar signage for what they felt worked best.

Rick Ellingson spoke on the topic of sanitation. Bathroom and Waste Management Contracts are set. Due to overflowing garbage cans a few days before the fair, the fair board has decided to put out trash cans a day or so earlier.

Todd Hale also suggested that a few more trash cans be scattered near Fair Square since that is a high traffic area, and he has noticed bins overflowing by afternoon. They might also look into collection twice a day rather than only once at night. Among vendors last year, there was apparently talk of a need for more recycling bins, so the fair board will be catering to that need.

The campground should be packed as always too. “We’re going to have a couple people camping this year,” said Mike Hamilton. “There will be a waiting list again with about 216 campers.”

There was also talk of a giant-sized Adirondack chair for SCFF picture opportunities.

HAZE

Continued from Page 1A

sinuses and throat, coughing, headaches or a runny nose, chest pains and shortness of breath or fatigue.

The Department of Health recommends that individuals limit

their exposure to wildfire smoke by paying attention to AQI and media reports, limit the time spent outdoors, keep doors and windows closed, run air conditioning in recirculating mode

only, keep fresh air intakes closed and install and maintain a clean furnace filter.

Also, the department says, paper dust or surgical masks commonly found in hardware stores

are designed to trap large particles. These masks general do not protect your lungs from the fine particles found in wildfire smoke. For respiratory protection, the department said, use

an N95 or N100 type disposable respirator.

Although air quality was back in the good range by Tuesday morning, the National Weather Service has also said that weath-

er conditions bringing unhealthy air conditions could happen again until the wildfires in Canada are under control.

I don't like hurting, or taking advantage of minors, their families, or their friends. But that's what I have done but that is not what I want to do in the future. I want to put a stop to this unhealthy behavior. I don't want to hurt people anymore. To stop my unhealthy behavior, I have to totally understand what I do, and why. To do that

—Handwritten excerpt taken from Brian Broulik in sentencing document provided in federal court.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

BRIAN LUKE BROULIK,

Defendant.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA
Criminal No. 13-61 (DSD/ISM)

DEFENDANT'S SENTENCING

POSITION

State of Minnesota

VS.

NAME: first, middle, last

BRIAN LUKE BROULIK

DEFENDANT.

COMPLAINT

MS 609.343, Subd. 1(a) L 2B82 N A-97-459 COURT CASE NO. K4-97-607 DATE FILED 5-9-97

Amended Tab Charge Previously Filed

X SERIOUS FELONY FELONY GROSS MISDM DWI GROSS MISDM

SUMMONS X WARRANT ORDER OF DETENTION

Date of Birth 08-11-72

SJIS COMPLAINT NUMBER 66-21-9-00004

RECEIVED CITY

THE BIG BAD BOGEY MAN

Sex Offender

Continued from Page 1A

Criminal Beginnings

Broulik was 23 years old when he committed his first offense in 1996. He had been charged with criminal sexual conduct involving a minor. Prior to that offense, he did not have as much as a traffic ticket on his record. The allegations and his later admission to the crime shocked his entire family.

According to court records, Broulik molested a young boy in an apartment building in Owatonna on Feb. 7, 1996. Broulik used this line to lure the boy in as his first victim, "You're all wet, let me help you unzip your snow pants." Broulik unzipped the boy's pants and reached in to grab his genitals. In an interview with police, he admitted to his actions.

And that was just the beginning of Broulik's criminal life.

Just one day before his sentencing on the first case in May 1997, a similar incident took place in Northfield. This time around Broulik approached a young boy and asked him if he wanted to see a snake. Broulik led the boy into a nearby apartment building to fondle the "snake"—the boy's penis.

In filing for a warrant with

the court in Rice County for the Northfield offense, police expressed "concern that this defendant (Broulik) is out of control and is dangerous to other young males."

A warrant was quickly issued and police picked up Broulik on the Northfield incident.

Six years after the original offense, Broulik confided to his parents that he was homosexual. The news again came as a shock to his parents. At the time, his mother did not ignore the problems and tried to make sense of the situation by asking questions and listening to her son.

Throughout the late 1990s and through to 2010, Broulik was in and out of prison and treatment. By the end of 2010, his mother died from cancer. And, unfortunately, by the fall of 2011, things started taking an even more ugly turn for Broulik.

He was living by himself and began relying on his computer to fill his loneliness. Broulik explored chat rooms that were sexual in nature. He began looking at pornography. At the end of 2011, he was fully immersed in porn and began using social groups to talk openly about sex.

Broulik was characterized as being lonely, depressed and unable to get into a treatment program, as he was not under the care of the corrections department.

any longer. Demons began appearing in his life.

Child Porn Case

Through his online chats, Broulik began receiving child porn and started explicit conversations through Yahoo messenger and text messages. He began viewing child porn through a file-sharing program.

On March 9, 2012, an undercover officer signed into a file-sharing program to investigate the possession of child porn. The officer downloaded 33 images from Broulik's folder. Officers obtained a search warrant based on what they found.

During a raid of his home, vehicle and computers, officers un-

covered 1,801 images. In addition, they found 40 more images on his cell phone.

The 2012 case soon led to a federal indictment against Broulik for one count each of producing, distributing and possessing child pornography. In October 2013, he accepted a plea agreement that resulted in him being locked up in federal prison for 27 years.

The FBI was the lead agency in the case, but

"The defendant's criminal history makes clear that he is a pedophile who is also a horrifying combination of impulsive opportunist and calculating predator. In short, he is every parent's worst nightmare."

— Andrew M. Luger, U.S. Attorney

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to be shaking. "He must have just gotten out of prison himself," the detective said.

Police learned that Broulik was working at Seneca in Rochester. They went there and searched Broulik's vehicle in which they found a computer and flash drives.

"There were 410 images of very graphic sexual acts on children being raped," Ranfranz said. "There was a lot of disturbing stuff."

Investigators enlisted the help of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to assist in determining if the images were known and if there were known victims in the images.

"As we went through the case, it started to unravel more," Ranfranz said. "I got overwhelmed almost immediately in the first couple weeks," he added.

Claymon referred to the investigation as an onion that peels off layer after layer.

The Broulik case led to arrests both nationally and internationally in places like Great Britain and New Zealand.

As investigators poured through the images, one in particular stood out. It was a young boy and police figured out the image had been taken with Broulik's cell phone.

Police turned to the Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association in

asked for help from Olmsted County. Mike Ranfranz, a detective with the sheriff's office since 2008, received a call for help from the FBI for what he thought was just going to be an afternoon. Little did he know his workload would be solely focused on Broulik for weeks.

What began as a simple afternoon of assistance on a computer-related search warrant quickly evolved into an international, multijurisdictional investigation, resulting in the arrests of several child porn distributors. Broulik was one of them.

Ranfranz and others searched Broulik's Blooming Prairie-area home that afternoon, but found he wasn't there. They found another man, who Ranfranz found

Rochester for help in identifying the victim in the image. The IMAA began posting a sensitized photo of the boy in area grocery stores. A short time later the victim was identified as a 4-year-old boy from Kasson.

"It's really a miracle that we found the boy," Ranfranz said. "To find the boy was very critical to this case," he said, adding they ended up with a great case against Broulik.

Cases like this are solved by 10 percent of good, hard police work and 90 percent of it ends up being luck, Sgt. Claymon said. "We got lucky on this case in which we were in the right spot at the right time," he said.

The victim, Ranfranz said, turned out to look just like the kid on the photo from Broulik's phone.

Ranfranz and others spent months going through all the evidence against Broulik. They not only found images with children, but also adults. "They often talked about having sex with each other and sex with children," Ranfranz said. "You would be shocked at what they were saying. Some of the things they were talking about doing to each other were horrific."

Asked what was most disturbing to him about the Broulik case, Ranfranz replied: "The constant chatter and talk he had of having sex with kids." He also found the images on his cell phone as being distressing.

The Bogey Man

Sgt. Claymon looks at the Broulik case in utter disgust. "This was the big, bad bogey man that your parents talked to you about when you were a kid," Claymon said. "Every parent should be happy that this man is off the streets."

Added detective Ranfranz: "He is a true child predator." In fact, Ranfranz thought about it a little more and classified Broulik as an "evil predator" because of his past actions of preying on children. Ranfranz doesn't see Broulik changing because he can't control himself.

But Broulik's federal defender, Manny Atwal, disagrees with that assessment. "I don't see him that way at all," Atwal said. "I'm not a psychiatrist, but I have to go with my gut with it."

Claymon stopped short of calling Broulik a king pen of child porn, but said, "Based on his connections, he is a very active member of the child porn community."

As happy as Claymon was to arrest Broulik, he knows that they still have their work cut out for them. "When you knock a guy like Broulik out, there is always someone waiting in the shadows," Claymon said.

Porn cases like Broulik's are troubling for law enforcement. "Short of a homicide, I don't know of a worse crime than preying on kids. They are helpless," Claymon said.

In looking at Broulik's cases, Ranfranz found that the molester

preys on kids who are down and out, live in low-income places and children who aren't being watched.

"That's what predators do in the wild. They look for the weakest," Ranfranz said.

Part of the problem people need to be careful about is that some molesters like Broulik do not fit the typical image of a child predator, Ranfranz said. "He looks like an average Joe," he said. "He's soft spoken and polite, but there's a monster hiding inside of him."

Claymon put it more bluntly. He said as you can't judge a book by its cover, you can't just look at a person and not worry about him. He added it's important not to judge somebody based on his or her appearance.

Ranfranz encourages parents and other community members to always be on their guard and be aware of their surroundings. People should always call police to report any suspicious behavior.

Police found that Broulik often sat back and fantasized as kids played outdoors. "He would then decide what he wanted to do with them," Claymon said, adding all of Broulik's victims were random and had no connection to him.

"It's tough to prevent this, especially when there is someone out there where this is on their mind," Ranfranz said.

Added Claymon: "Short of being handcuffed to your kid 24/7, there was nothing the parents could have done to prevent this (in Broulik's case)."

Claymon assures the public that Broulik isn't alone. "There are probably more out there than we care to know about," Claymon said.

Ranfranz's work as well as the work of a pair of officers from Rochester Police earned them commendations from the FBI. Officers Chad Blanchette and Jared Pankratz assisted with the case.

Unsuccessful Treatment

Broulik's first treatment program began in 1997 in Sioux Falls. The group met once a week and the program consisted of writing down thoughts on sheets and discussing them in a group setting. Broulik shared stressors in his life, but nothing related to his sexual behavior.

He did not take the treatment seriously and was very much in denial of his behavior, according to court documents. His schoolwork came first and treatment was on the bottom of the list.

His second round at treatment happened in 1999 in Moose Lake. However, the program was not completed because Broulik was released from prison in 2000. He remained free of crimes involving minors for the next decade.

Broulik found treatment in Rochester from 2001 to 2005. During this time, he attended three sessions with his parents.

He confessed his past actions and unhealthy thoughts, even though his father didn't care to hear about them.

In 2007, Broulik was sent to prison for two years for failure to register. He entered treatment once again at Lino Lakes. But he was unable to complete the program because he was released from prison prior to the end.

After February 2010 when he was discharged from state supervision, Broulik did not receive any type of sex offender treatment, programming or counseling. He tried, but each time he was told he had to be referred by the corrections department.

The latest round of offenses happened during the time period when Broulik could not find any treatment.

U.S. Attorney's Office

The prosecution of Broulik's latest skimish with the law fell onto the U.S. Attorney's Office in Minneapolis. Karen Schommer, deputy criminal chief, said her office fought for 27 years because of Broulik's criminal history and background.

Like law enforcement, Schommer found Broulik's history of abusing children as "very disturbing." She said his actions not only resulted in sexual abuse, but also the documenting of the abuse and showing it with other predators is beyond comprehension. "That gives the abuse a life of its own," she said referring to the images produced by predators. "We see that far too often in these cases."

One of the goals with sentencing is to make sure it serves as a deterrent for others who may be thinking about such behavior, according to Schommer. "We make sure people are punished for this," she said.

Another goal in combatting this behavior is to dry up the demand. "One would hope it would lead to less supply in the child porn arena," Schommer said.

Schommer said Broulik had a number of opportunities for treatment over the years, which proved to be ineffective. "The system did what it could," she said. "What you're left with is putting them behind bars so we can protect the community."

She stopped short of calling Broulik's case the worst of the worst. "They are all bad," Schommer said. "Any case we have involving sexual abuse of kids, they are all bad and they are all troubling," she added.

But Sgt. Claymon disagrees to some extent. "He is the worst of the worst," Claymon said of Broulik. "It would have been easier to digest if there was a direct connection between Broulik and the kids."

In her 10 years of handling such cases, Schommer said it never gets any easier. "It's very hard to deal with this subject matter," she said. "We rescue children from abuse. It doesn't diminish the trauma, but it's rewarding to punish the offenders."

Internet Perpetuates Abuse

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of child pornography cases since the advent of the Internet, according to Schommer. "It has fostered this industry," she said.

Schommer said predators are now able to connect in ways they weren't ever able to before the Internet. But, she warns, police are also lurking on the Internet.

"Law enforcement is on the same channels to find predators," Schommer said, noting there are undercover officers trying to keep up on the increase. "The Internet has facilitated the crime as well as law enforcement's ability to catch the people committing the crimes."

The Minnesota ICAC Task Force actively investigates child porn cases. Last year the task force received more than 1,000 cyber tips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited

"It made me sick when I learned of the new cases. It's our worst nightmare. Unfortunately, sometimes we get bad results."

— Daniel McIntosh, Steele County Attorney

Children that were reviewed and investigated, according to Jill Oliveira of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

The task force is comprised of over 100 affiliate law enforcement agencies across Minnesota who has been trained to investigate ICAC-related offenses, Oliveira said.

"When distribution over the Internet became available, it made it easier for criminals to distribute child pornographic material and to find like-minded people," Oliveira said.

One roadblock that the Internet causes is that it often provides anonymity to predators, Schommer said. "Sometimes we can't overcome that," she said. But, she is quick to add that law enforcement has the tools and it is doing everything to keep up with predators.

FBI agents work closely with state and local officers on criminal sexual cases because child porn is often involved. Such cases become federal when photographing of sex acts takes place, according to Schommer.

The feds see the most volume with cases of distributing and receiving of child porn. However, there is an alarming increase in the production of child porn, Schommer said.

In the Broulik case, he encompassed everything from receiving to distribution and finally to production. As Broulik's case unfolded, he was found to be involved in the sex acts along with documenting and sharing it with others, Schommer said. Most recently Broulik utilized various forms of digital media, including instant messaging.

Failed Civil Commitment

Broulik went to prison for violating his parole in 2005. When he was set to be released in late 2005, then Steele County attorney Doug Ruth made an effort to hold Broulik under the state's civil commitment law labeling Broulik as a dangerous sexual offender. Today lawmakers and the courts are hotly debating that law.

Three forensic psychologists—one appointed by the court and two independently sought by the county attorney—examined Broulik between February and June 2006. Each one came back with the same conclusion that Broulik should not be locked up. He did not meet the statutory criteria for civil commitment.

Frustrated with the findings, there was nothing more the county attorney could do but request for the petition to be dismissed. The judge tossed it out in June

of them," he added.

The entire civil commitment process is currently being debated in the state legislature. There is a push to make it even more difficult to hold people and treat them, McIntosh said. "I don't think public safety is enhanced by that."

In regards to Broulik, McIntosh is not worried.

"I do not think he will ever walk another free step again," he said.

What's Ahead?

Prior to sentencing last year, Broulik wrote a handwritten statement to the court saying, "I don't like hurting, or taking advantage of minors, their families or their friends. But that's what I have done, but that is not what I want to do in the future. I want to put a stop to this unhealthy behavior. I don't want to hurt people anymore."

Broulik also provided the court with a list of how he will remain law abiding. It included in part:

- Enter and complete a sex offender treatment program;
- Obtain a sponsor and be honest with them about my offending history;
- Know my triggers and put together a plan for when they occur;
- Create a healthy support system;
- Know that there are consequences for my harmful actions;
- Learn to manage my depression, work on my communication skills and focus on future goals outside the prison walls.

In June 2014, U.S. Federal Judge David Doty sentenced Broulik to 27 years in prison. He will be required to serve at least 85 percent of that sentence.

"Twenty-seven years is a hard way to learn a lesson, but it does serve as a deterrent," said Atwal, Broulik's federal defender. "It makes me sad. It is a really long time for someone who is 41 years old and never done more than two years in prison," she said at the time of sentencing.

Added Sgt. Claymon: "One way of ensuring that there are no more children victims is to keep him in prison."

During sentencing, Broulik, who was dressed in an orange jumpsuit and tennis shoes, told the judge that he was "greatly sorry for what I did."

Broulik went on to say, "I didn't wake up one morning and decide I wanted to be a pedophile. It was many years of loneliness and despair."

As Broulik was led away by authorities after sentencing, he frowned and waved to his elderly father, who was in the courtroom.

In addition to the lengthy sentence, the judge ordered Broulik to lifetime supervision once he gets out of prison. The federal government will monitor him for the rest of his life and he will be subject to search at any time. He

will also be required to undergo intensive sexual offender treatment in prison.

When asked if he was pleased with the outcome of this case, detective Ranfranz hesitated and is left with more questions than answers: "Good question. Is 27 years enough? It's the kids I care about. Is that enough for what he did to the children? What's enough for raping children? Will this make it stop?"

Broulik is currently locked up at the Minnesota Correctional Facility in Rush City, which is the state's newest high-security prison. He is housed with 1,000 other adult men. At some point, he will likely be shipped to a federal prison in another state.

Atwal said the way to fix Broulik is to learn how to manage his behavior. "He doesn't commit offenses when he's being watched," she said, noting treatment and proper supervision works.

"If they received the proper treatment, we wouldn't have this problem," Atwal said. "Treatment teaches them how to manage and control their behavior," she added.

While in prison, Broulik says he wants to focus on sex offender treatment. More than anything, he wants to understand himself and why he has done what he has done in the past. He does not like the way he is and needs to learn to cope, manage and replace his behavior.

Asked to present his future plans to the court, Broulik wrote, "It's a tough question to answer because the future is so far away. I hope I continue with programming. I hope I can find a job. I hope while I'm in prison I can learn a new trade or skill."

Atwal most agree that Broulik's new trade or skill should involve something other than abusing and torturing innocent children.

HISTORY OF A CHILD MOLESTER

- 1996- Brian Broulik molests a 3-year-old boy in Owatonna
- 1997- Broulik assaults a 9-year-old boy in Northfield
- Late 1990s-2010- Broulik in and out of prison and treatment. He was diagnosed as a pedophile.
- 2006- Steele County Attorney's Office fails in its effort to civilly commit Broulik indefinitely. Broulik is released from custody.
- 2007- He committed the offense of failure to register and was sent back to prison.
- 2011- He began viewing child porn.

March 2012- Broulik possessed child porn and had relations with two teenagers.

■ May 2012- Broulik arrested and charged in several counties with child porn and criminal sexual conduct. The feds took over the case and he was indicted on federal charges.

■ June 2014- Broulik sentenced to 27 years in federal prison for child porn.

BROULIK'S CRIMINAL HISTORY SCORE

■ Base Offense Level	22
■ Images of Minors under the age of 12 +2	
■ Images were distributed	+2
■ Images are sadistic or masochistic	+4
■ Pattern of activity	+5
■ Images viewed on a computer	+2
■ More than 600 images	+5
TOTAL SCORE	42
Acceptance of responsibility	-3
TOTAL ADJUSTED SCORE	39

The criminal history score is used to determine a sentence. Broulik received a base score of 22 points, followed by 20 added levels for severity of crime, and three points were subtracted for his acceptance of responsibility. He ended up with an adjusted offense level of 39. There are two categories in the sentencing structure that are worse than the one used for Broulik. However, he could have received a life sentence had he finished with just four more points in his current category.

The United States of America, by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby

submits its position with respect to the sentencing of defendant Brian Luke Broulik. On

October 8, 2013, the defendant pled guilty to Distribution of Child Pornography in

State of Minnesota PLAINTIFF, VS. DEFENDANT.

NAME: first, middle, last

Brian Luke Broulik

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Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Educating the public with an Ag Expo

Event held on July 20 on farm site north of Blooming Prairie

Southern Minnesota Land Use Expo schedule

Date: July 20

Location: Rodney Krell farm site two miles north of Blooming Prairie on U.S. Highway 218
10 a.m. – Welcome and introductions

- Sponsors
 - Elected officials
 - Feedlot and SWCD Staff
- 11 a.m. – Field demonstrations
- Various types of liquid and solid manure application equipment
 - Various types of conservation equipment
- Noon – Lunch provided by livestock commodity group
- 1 p.m. – Legislative listening section on agriculture and water
- 3 p.m. – Wrap up and closing comments

By **ALAN VAN ORMER**
Managing Editor

Education is one way to help learn more about the agricultural community. And that is exactly what organizers of the Southern Minnesota Land Use Expo hope will happen on July 20.

“This is an educational experience for all ages whether they’re connected to farming or not,” said Dan Vermilyea, feedlot specialist for Steele County, in a press release. He is helping to coordinate the event. “We’re hoping everyone will come away with a better understanding of agriculture and how it impacts water.”

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rodney Krell farm along U.S. Highway

218 two miles north of Blooming Prairie.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson is scheduled to speak at the Expo, which will focus on agriculture and water.

Other elected officials are expected to be on hand for a special legislative listening session starting at 1 p.m.

In response to questions via email on Friday, Frederickson stated he wanted to make sure our farming communities understand what’s happening in St. Paul by highlighting some of the work that is taking place at the department.

“I want to emphasize how the Minnesota Department of Agriculture is here to help farmers improve their operations and the

land and water around them,” he said. “Also, I feel it’s important to discuss how we move forward as a state to address economic and ecological issues.”

He said the key message he would like those attending to take away is communication. “We all need to be better at communication,” he said. “Farmers need to explain how and why they do the practices they do on their farm. It’s not easy for someone with no ag background to understand how science and

technology have created a more efficient and ecologically sound industry.”

In addition, Frederickson said non-farmers also need to reach out to better understand the issues and challenges farmers face on a daily basis. “Farming is not an easy job,” he said. “A little conversation goes a long way.”

Also attending the event is

AG EXPO
Continued on Page 7A

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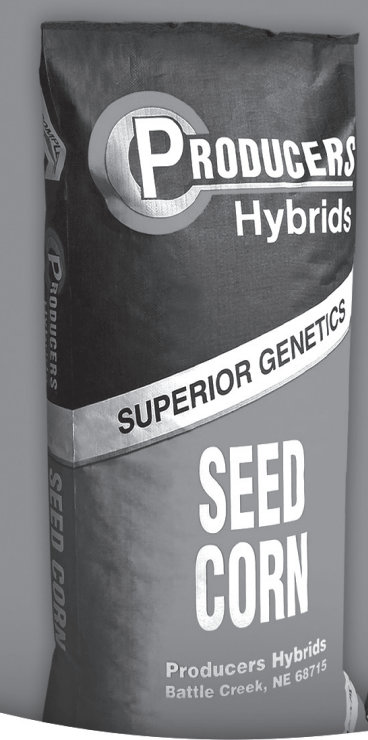


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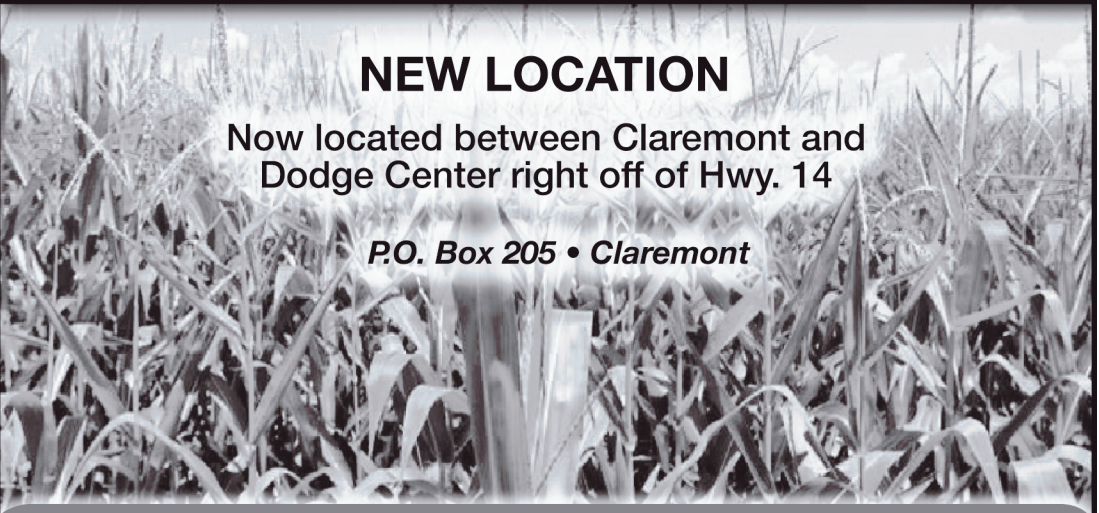
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Minnesota Crop Report

Crop development remained well ahead of last year for soybeans and small grains for the week ending July 12, 2015, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. High winds accompanying recent rains across parts of central Minnesota caused concerns about lodging of small grains. Field activities for the week included spraying and harvesting hay and processing vegetables during the 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 5 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 6 percent short, 88 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus.

Seven percent of Minnesota's corn acreage has begun to silk, 2 days ahead of last year but 6 days behind the five-year average. Corn condition rated 85 percent good to excellent. Sixty-three percent of the soybean crop was blooming or beyond, almost 2 weeks ahead of last year and 11 days ahead of average. With six percent of soybeans setting pods, condition rated 78 percent good to excellent.

Minnesota Crop Report is sponsored by

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Farm

AG EXPO

Continued from Page 6A

Rebecca Flood, assistant commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, as well as several elected officials.

There will be field demonstrations on various types of liquid and solid manure application equipment, as well as various types of conservation equipment.

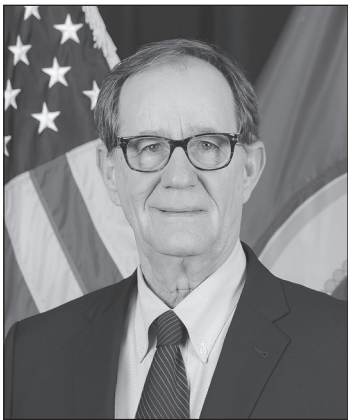
Vermilyea said technology has really become part of the agricultural industry in particular in livestock manure application. GPS has also become a major part of the industry.

“Fertilizer technology can provide within two to six inches where you plant seed,” he said.

Then there is conservation equipment.

“Buffers have been a big issue,” Vermilyea said, adding that the equipment can help reduce runoff from farm fields near buffers.

Frederickson said farming will always be an evolving industry. “We will have to do more with less, while always



Frederickson

being mindful of our impacts on the world around us,” he said.

He added that it is always a pleasure to have opportunities like this to share the work being done in the ag industry and have a meaningful discussion about the challenges that are taking place today. “I hope we can all come away with a better understanding of our need for honest discussions about how we utilize the land around us.”

Don’t reverse progress toward healthier school lunches

As parents, you trust your family pediatrician to help you make informed choices about your children’s health — not politicians or special interests. That’s why when developing the first meaningful improvements to school meals in 30 years, we turned to the people who care the most for kids, including pediatricians and other respected health, nutrition and school meal professionals.

For the past three years, kids have eaten healthier breakfasts, lunches and snacks at school thanks to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, which improved the nutrition of foods and beverages served in cafeterias and sold in vending machines. Our kids are getting healthier as a result. Parents and pediatricians approve. But some politicians in



Vilsack

Congress aren’t so happy. Now that the Act is up for reauthorization in Congress, opponents are straining to roll back the progress we’ve made, putting your children’s potential in the hands of Washington interests. This, despite the fact that our

national obesity crisis costs the country \$190.2 billion per year to treat.

Healthier school meals were developed based on recommendations by doctors and nutrition, health and school meal experts. They gave us the same nutrition advice they give you—kids should eat more fruits, vegetables, whole grains and other healthy foods.

Opponents would have you believe that kids won’t eat the healthier meals, that they’re too burdensome on schools. But we’ve talked to the dedicated school meal professionals working in school cafeterias, as well as the students, and the negative rhetoric does not match reality.

We have listened carefully to schools and provided time, flexibility, guidance, and hundreds

of millions of dollars in financial support. As a result, more than 95 percent of schools across the country, and 100 percent of schools in Utah, are now meeting the standards.

These changes haven’t happened overnight. USDA continues to work with schools that are having difficulty preparing healthier meals. We recently launched a program called Team Up for School Nutrition Success that allows the schools still working to meet the standards to pair up and learn best practices from schools that are already successfully serving healthier meals. The program has provided training for 3,029 individuals

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Continued on Page 8A



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Corn progress update

It is hard to beat how nice the weather has been; especially for farmers across the county as they watch their crop thrive. Generally, just like any plant, field crops need adequate amounts of sun, water and time to grow and develop successfully. The early spring has helped to progress crops development along, as many farmers were able to get seed in the ground earlier than in recent years. In fact, this year, the old wise tale of corn knee high by the 4th of July, doesn't seem to apply.

According to the USDA Minnesota Crops Progress and Condition report as of July 5th, 84 percent of the corn crop in Minnesota is in good to excellent condition and 78 percent of the soybean crop is in good to excellent condition. Topsoil moisture supplies were at 88 percent adequate and nine percent with surplus conditions. Subsoil moisture supplies were 90 percent adequate and six percent with surplus conditions.

ON THE FARM



Karen Anderson

Locally, rainfall has varied with few areas affected by the excess rainfall. Unpredictable storms have made it more difficult for some farmers to make high quality forage crops due to the short windows available between rainfalls.

To help indicate plant development process, some farmers used a calculation that expresses heat accumulation called Growing Degree Days or Units (GDDs). GDDs are calculated using the maximum and minimum daily air temperature to

determine the average daily temperature. From the average temperature, the base of 50 degrees is subtracted to arrive at the daily GDD's. So far for the month of July (through July 9th), the Southern Research and Outreach Center indicated a GDD range of 8.5 to 25.0 with total accumulated GDDs on July 9th of 996. The GDDs needs for field crops vary based on variety and relative maturity days needed. Please visit the Southern Research and Outreach Center website for more monthly weather reports details. More information about plant growth and development can also be found on the University of Minnesota Extension crops website at z.umn.edu/crops.

Karen Anderson is the Agriculture Extension Educator with the University of Minnesota Extension in Rice and Steele Counties. She can be reached at 507-444-7685 or ande9495@umn.edu.



Submitted photo by Catherine Dehdashti

For many farmers, corn crops are thriving across southern Minnesota and the state.

Dodge County receives feedlot performance credit from state

By KAREN JORGENSEN
News Editor

Dodge County has received a feedlot performance credit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for exceeding the goals of the feedlot program. Dodge County is a "delegated" county where local officials operate the feedlot program on behalf of the state.

The county recently earned a performance credit grant of \$7,435, said Melissa DeVetter, the county zoning administrator.

DeVetter said that contrary to what some people think, the county is operating a good feedlot program.

"We are doing a pretty good job," DeVetter said of the county feedlot program. "We do very well."

Since Dodge County is a delegated county under an agreement with the MPCA, DeVetter said, the county has minimum program requirements that it must perform each year and which are reported to the state annually.

The state requires an inspection rate of a minimum of seven percent, DeVetter said. Dodge County's goal for 2014, she said, was 10 percent and the county actually achieved a compliance inspection rate of 14.5 percent. The county also met 100 percent

of its non-inspection minimum program requirements for the year, she said.

The county has exceeded the state requirements each year for the last couple of years, she said.

The grant recently received was for work done for 2014. The credit was the result of the efforts put forth by the Dodge County feedlot officer and the technical assistance provided by the Dodge County Soil and Water Conservation District.

State regulation requires all delegated counties to submit an annual report to the MPCA commissioner on compliance with agency requirements.

VILSACK

Continued from Page 7A

and has been enthusiastically received by schools and school officials.

The fact is, most schools support the new standards. A recent survey by the Kids' Safe and Healthful Foods Project found that 70 percent of food service staff and school administrators at the elementary and middle school levels say that kids like the healthier meals. Another study from the University of California, Berkeley's School of Public Health found that nearly 90 percent of surveyed students liked at least some school meal options.

A recent Harvard study shows the standards are working, as evidenced by the fact that kids are now eating 16 percent more vegetables and 23 percent more fruit

at lunch — astounding progress in three years. Some predicted kids would reject healthy food and throw more food away, but the same study showed the critics were wrong.

There was bipartisan support for healthier school meals when the Act passed in 2010, and that remains true today. A recent survey found that 87 percent of Democrats, 70 percent of independents and more than half of registered voters with kids in public schools surveyed were supportive of the new meals.

This is not only a question of what's right or wrong for kids. It's also a national security and an economic issue. One in five young adults is too overweight to serve in the military. The cost of treating obesity-related illnesses

drags down our economy and increases budget deficits. If we don't continue to invest in our children, this generation will be the first to live shorter lives than their parents.

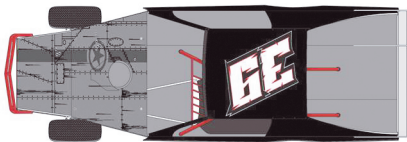
Today, we are on a path to change that thanks to parents, teachers, doctors and kids who cared enough to fight for higher standards. Because of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act, our children have more energy to learn and grow, greater opportunity to thrive, and better overall health. Our children have healthier school meals than we ever did.

Tom Vilsack is U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. The School Nutrition Association meets this week in Salt Lake City.



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OUTSIDE



THE LINES
LeMar Nelson

Fourth postscripts

Authorities estimated that more than 20,000 people enjoyed and celebrated the Blooming Prairie good old-fashioned Fourth of July. Besides the usual activities, two new attractions gained a lot of fans. Both the baked pie contest and the pickle judging were well received and probably will become an annual part of the celebration.

Although the number varies from year to year, the kids' races, sponsored by the local Boys & Girls Club, always entertains and is enjoyed by kids from three to 12. The four different kinds of races give everyone a chance to participate and find success in that competition. I know that I personally get a great feeling of satisfaction from the event.

I think people who come for the parade lately are like a church congregation on a Sunday morning. Many wait until the last minute to come to town, and the result is a monumental traffic jam. People end by having to park out on the highway in order to get to the parade and cause some scurrying, for sure.

Finally, it seems to get harder each year to come up with the funding necessary and the volunteers needed to make the annual affair. I think the celebration is a great way to advertise our town and our community, but we shouldn't have to scrounge for funds and volunteers and worry about the possibility of having to forgo the activities. I hope we can count on another old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration next year. I would certainly miss the occasion!

Of days gone by

The Owatonna paper's Todd Hale had an interesting article a week ago in which he reminisced about his experience attending Art and Crystal Andersons' steam shows in the late 60s and early 70s. That reminded me of my own trips the short distance east to their place on Highway 30.

In fact, I am sure that most old-timers in the Blooming Prairie area made the trek to their displays several years in a row, just as I did. Art Anderson began his career with steam engines when he purchased one at the Steele County fair, and at one time, he had over a dozen steam engines for his three-day exhibition. It got to be so big and well known that fans of the steam show would come from surrounding states just to see them operate. Each day, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the weekend, Art would lead a little parade of steam engines through his yard to show off his engines.

For a few years, there would be a threshing exhibition each day, and he even had a horse-drawn plow that would work continuously through the weekend. As Hale mentioned, I can recall visiting the show and watching the little parade through the yard, with the steam rolling up in the air and the engines whistling their high-pitched screams into the onlookers' ears.

The first few years, Crystal provided lunch for the gathering, and the fire department eventually offered chicken as a fundraiser, but the steam engines remained the big attraction for many of the 13 years the steam show operated. Bad health finally forced Art to sell all the engines, and it is anybody's guess where they are now. Local residents, however, still remember the Andersons and their steam

OUTSIDE THE LINES
Continued on Page 3B

MEDFORD TRAP SHOOTING

Boys place 13th at state

By JAMES KNOOP
County Sports Editor

This spring, the Medford trap shooting team qualified for its first trip to state, placing 13th out of 30 teams.

Just three years old, the Medford trap shooting program has seen not only inclining numbers, but steady success as well, both individually and as a team.

Medford advanced to the state tournament after placing fourth at the Minnesota State Clay Target League in Alexandria.

The team members who advanced to state were Jake Gedicke, Tate Romnes, Wyatt Volkmann, Ricky Iverson and Brennan Hanson. Individually, Nick Meixner and Zach Gedicke both competed for Medford as well.

As a team, Medford took 13th with a final score of 451, only one shy of 12th place Worthington and 13 of first place champion Lakeville South, who scored a 464.

Meixner and Zack both tied for seventh place individually with scores of 94 out of 100. The two qualified for the tournament by placing in the top 100 individually during the regular season of over 8,600 registered individual shooters.

"The state tournament was

a great experience. Overall, I thought the kids did well and had a lot of fun," said Medford Coach Tim Larson. "Looking at the (tournament) overall, the kids thought they were going to do better, but as they saw their scores, they realized that they were not that much out of first. It still comes down to who can shoot under any circumstances and who might have an off day."

Larson added that he was proud of his small team for getting as many kids to state as some of the bigger schools in the state. He also extended his thanks to all the team's sponsors, the Owatonna Gun Club and competitors' parents for their support.

With the spring season over, the team now looks ahead to the fall.

"I've got a few extra kids who did not shoot in the spring who would like to try and a few who may not because of fall sports," said Larson of his fall participation. "Either way, we will have a team this fall shooting at the Owatonna Gun Club in Hope."

Larson added that the team is always open to students interested in shooting, especially those from Medford or Owatonna. Those interested can call Larson at 507-214-6361.



Submitted photos

TOP: The Medford trap shooting team took 13th of 30 teams at the state tournament this spring. It was the team's first trip to state. Left to right: Ricky Iverson, Tate Romnes, Jake Gedicke, Brennan Hanson, Wyatt Volkmann and Coach Tim Larson.



Bottom: Zach Gedicke (left) and Nick Meixner tied for seventh individually at state, both scoring 94 out of 100.

NRHEG TRAP SHOOTING

Coach recalls past season; believes in setting high goals

By JAMES KNOOP
County Sports Editor

The purpose of goals is not always to achieve them, at least according to New Richland-

Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva Trap Shooting Coach Dan Sorum. "We had a good season," stated Sorum. "We had some pretty high goals set, but part of the

pleasure of setting high goals is knowing we have the ability to achieve them. Even though we fell short, we made great efforts and have no cause to be upset."

Those high goals were simple — repeat last season's success.

"Given last year's results where we won the conference, finished third in the Class 3A championship and qualified for the state tournament, we found the only goals to set were to repeat the conference title, win the Class 4A championship and return to the state tournament."

NRHEG fell just shy in the conference, finishing second. They went on to finish ninth in the Class 4A tournament and did not qualify for a trip to state.

Though a young team, NRHEG will lose some successful shooters.

"We graduated five shooters, and of those, two were in our top five averages," said Sorum. "However, we have some very talented young kids coming up who should be able to fill the shoes of our seniors and then some. So, we are still very competitive, and I see no reason that we would not pursue the same set of goals realistically."

One of this year's graduating seniors, Frank Altrichter, had a stand-out year in his final season. Altrichter began the fall season in 2014 with a conference best average of 23.7 out of 25, setting an NRHEG trap shooting record as well. His spring average of 23.1 was a bit lower, but still good enough to nab second individually in the conference and qualify for a trip to state.

"To me, this is not only significant as for the numbers produced, but Frank was part of our original team back in 2011 where he was named the Most Improved Shooter," said Sorum. "It was great to see him end his career on such a high note just like he started."

NRHEG had 54 shooters on the spring team this year, representing NRHEG, Waseca, Albert Lea, Janeville-Waldorf-Pemberton, St. Mary's of Owatonna and one home-schooled student.

"It is so nice as a coach and teacher to be able to share this

league with so many kids from our area," said Sorum. "While it would be great to see their schools start up their own teams in the future, I am very pleased to have them shoot with us for as long as they wish."

Sorum added that with the mix of schools represented, some refer to the team as the NRHEG Area Clay Target team, even though NRHEG is the hosting schools, and "quite a mouthful for some folks already."

"The team wants to thank their volunteer coaching staff for their hours of time dedicated to the squad," said Sorum. "Thanks to the parents and family members who supported the athletes. Thanks to the Owatonna Gun Club for serving as the home for the team. Plus, a very special thanks to the teams' sponsors who make it possible for kids to shoot with their financial support."

Golf League Standings

Blooming Prairie Country Club

Week 8 - July 6 Points

Place		Points
1	Grunklee Evans Possehl	51
2	Kruckeberg Kruckeberg Johnson	50.5
3	Lembke Benson Hanson	49
4	Hillberg Wanous Pfiefer	48
5	Strunk Farr Ingvaldson	46.5
6	Braaten Pirkil Resler	44
7	Peterson Behnken Bishop	43.5
8	SkalaR Thiele Sammon	41.5
9	Myer Motl Tollefson	39
10	Zwiener Hinzmen Wurst	39
11	Weeks Johnson Caldwell	37
12	Minimizer Minimizer Minimizer	36.5
12	KlemmensenD Drexler Zwiener	36.5
14	Koster Long White	35
15	Lea Lembke Hansen	34
16	Morgan Sekora Olson Schuster	
	Iacovino	33.5
17	Sunde Kittelson Carlson	32.5
18	Doerhoefer Stalach Olson Worke	32
19	Skala Jensen Lee	28.5
20	White Lysne Johnson	28
20	Clark Blome Skala	28
22	Glynn Glynn Esplan	27
23	Hareid Bartsch Wilkerson	26.5
23	KlemmensenJ KlemmensenR	
	Anderson	26.5
25	Haberman Hegal Henefield	
	Hanson	23.5
26	Ingvalson Klemmensen Bishop	22

Division	Team	Score
A	Doerhoefer Stalach Olson Worke	32
B	Strunk Farr Ingvaldson	33
B	Lembke Benson Hanson	33
C	Grunklee Evans Possehl	37
C	Weeks Johnson Caldwell	37
C	Hillberg Wanous Pfiefer	37
C	Zwiener Hinzmen Wurst	37
D	KlemmensenD Drexler Zwiener	35



These are the results from the Chateau Raceway at Lansing for the week of July 10.

Hornets

Feature—Blake Dorweiler, Dan Knish, Bobby Blowers, Patrick Wells, Tyler Christensen, Todd Tacheny, Ralph Hanks, Cody Hyatt, Dan Lewison, Nick Sillman
First Heat—Dorweiler, Wells, Christensen, Lewison, Sillman
Second Heat—Blowers, Tacheny, Hyatt, Knish, Hanks

USRA Modified

Feature—Jason Cummins, Brandon Davis, Jacob Dahle, Daryn Karau, Joe Horgdal, Damon Haslip, Todd Scharkey, Greg Jensen, Doug Hillson, Steve Wetzstein
First Heat—Hillson, Haslip, Horgdal, Cummins, Dahle
Second Heat—Karau, Scharkey, Davis, Wetzstein, Jensen

USRA B-Mod

Feature—Kylie Kath, Kadden Kath, Mike Chisholm, Brett Bumgardner, Raey Hastings IV, Josh Mattick, Anthony Jennings, Chris Bruns, Morgan Schrage, David Henderson, Anthony Condit, Cole Loneragan, Tanner Johnston, Mark Wytaske, A.J. Johnston, Terry Kohnert
First Heat—Kylie Katy, A. Johnston, Kadden Kath, Loneragan, Henderson, Bruns, Jennings, Kohnert
Second Heat—Mattick, Chisholm, Wytaske, Bumgardner, Condit, Schrage, Hastings IV, T. Johnston
WISSOTA Street Stock

Feature—Nick Schwebach, Noah Grinstead, Mike Blowers, Kory Adams, Brandon Vogt, Zach Elward, Bernie Adams, Kyle King, Fred Prudoehl, Brent Holland, Nick Roemhildt
First Heat—Vogt, Blowers, B. Adams, Schwebach, King, Elward
Second Heat—K. Adams, Prudoehl, Grinstead, Holland, Roemhildt

WISSOTA Midwest Modified

Feature—Robbie Franklin, Mitch Weiss, Jason Born, Ryan Goergen, Jesse Baer, Jeremy Misgen, Brayten Cisneros, Darryl Hainka, Luke Hainka, Garitt Wytaske, Bryan Hernandez, Ryan Wetzstein, Jimmy Patzner, Jesse Hernandez, Brad Minske, Jacob Stark
First Heat—Wytaske, Cisneros, Weiss, Misgen, Stark, J. Hernandez, Minske, B. Hernandez
Second Heat—Franklin, Born, D. Hainka, Goergen, Baer, Wetzstein, L. Hainka, Patzner

Pure Stock

Feature—Jason Newkirk, Matt Brooks, Ross Spitzer, David Stevens, Jesse Stahl, Ryan Jacobsen, Greg Lammers, Adam Godeke, Stacy Krohnberg, Anna Brouwers, Isaac Clark, Jeremy Wenzel, Larry Scott
First Heat—Newkirk, Godeke, Stahl, Clark, Wenzel, Scott, Brouwers
Second Heat—Spitzer, Brooks, Krohnberg, Stevens, Jacobsen, Lammers



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Public Safety

Ellendale man faces two felony counts of domestic assault

By LAURA BERNDT
News Editor

An Ellendale man is facing two counts of felony domestic assault after incidents that occurred on July 4. Shawn Philip Kadlec, 31, of Ellendale, was arrested for domestic assault on July 7.

According to the criminal complaint, at approximately 12:30 a.m., sheriff’s deputies were dispatched to the 12000 block of 42nd Avenue Southwest in Steele County for a domestic assault-in-progress. They encountered a woman, later identified as the victim, crying and walking along the roadway. When a deputy stepped out of the vehicle to talk with the victim, she asked to sit in the squad car. The deputy saw a man running toward their location. The man then turned and ran into a soybean field. At this time, po-

lice lost sight of him.

The woman then sat in the back of the squad car and stated that Kadlec was her boyfriend. When deputies inquired about the evening’s sequence of events, the victim stated that Kadlec was intoxicated when she arrived at his residence, where she planned to spend the night.

Upon his request, she began cleaning a bedroom while Kadlec worked on a table. During this time, the woman was also drinking alcohol and texting her ex-husband, inquiring about their children. When Kadlec observed the woman texting her ex-husband, she says he became very upset. She stated that she attempted to show him the message, so he would see that they were talking about the children.

Kadlec allegedly threw the phone to the ground, breaking it and proceeded to call the wom-

an’s ex-husband. The woman stated that she left the residence on foot and that she feared for her safety. The victim also stated that Kadlec threw her outside, pushed her to the ground, punched her in the temple and then threw her into some bushes. The deputy saw the woman’s injuries and she was transported to the hospital. Officers searched the area, but did not find Kadlec.

Around 6 p.m. that evening, a deputy made contact with Kadlec on the phone and asked to hear his side of the story. Kadlec stated that the woman is not welcome at his residence and that he had asked her to leave. Kadlec says the woman became upset, but did leave the residence.

When asked about the wom-

DOMESTIC
Continued on 3B



Staff photo by Anna Segner

Emergency personnel respond to combine fire

On Friday, July 10, emergency personnel including the Owatonna Fire Department, Steele County Sheriff’s Department and Owatonna Police Department responded to a combine fire in Owatonna. The incident took place in the 1300 block of 26th Street NE. The person operating the combine was harvesting peas when the person said felt the machine shudder just before the engine quit. The engine appeared to be on fire, and the fire spread to all working parts of the engine. The Owatonna Fire Department received the call around 2:03 p.m. and left the scene around 3:20 p.m. The combine appeared to be a total loss.

POLICE BLOTTER Steele County

Blooming Prairie Police July 3
Burglary. At 5:14 p.m., police began a burglary investigation in the city.

DWI. Officers arrested a motorist for driving while intoxicated in the city at 10:49 p.m.

July 4
DWI. Police assisted with a drunken driving incident in the city at 1:18 a.m.

July 6
Crash. At 1:46 p.m., officers assisted the State Patrol with a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage.

Owatonna Police July 3
Drunken Driving. Police made two DWI arrests during the day – at 12:14 a.m. in the 200 block of Cedar Ave. N. and at 6:43 p.m. at Elm Ave. N. and Pearl St. E.

Arrest. An officer took a motorist into custody following a traffic stop in the 100 block of St. John Dr. NW at 12:19 a.m.

Probation Violation. Police responded to a probation violation in the 3000 block of Hoffman Dr. NW at 9:34 a.m.

Crash. At 6:01 p.m., paramedics and police responded to a motor vehicle accident with injuries at Cedar Ave. N. and Vine St. E.

Burglary. Officers began a burglary investigation in the 400 block of State Ave. NW at 7:39 p.m.

July 4
Vandalism. Police took property damage reports in the 200 block of Mill St. W. at 9:28 a.m. and in the 500 block of Holly St. SW at 9:36 a.m.

Drunkenness. At 6:59 p.m., officers responded to a report of an intoxicated individual in the 1500 block of Cedar Ave. S.

DWI. Officer arrested a motorist for drunken driving at Bridge St. W. and Walnut Ave. N. at 10:45 p.m.

July 5
Assault. At 12 a.m., police responded to an assault in the 200 block of School St. E. They arrested a subject at the scene.

Shoplifting. A shoplifting incident occurred in the 3900 block of Cabela Dr. NW at 11:47 a.m.

Burglary. Officers responded to a burglary in the 100 block of Grove Ave. N. at 4:06 p.m.

Criminal Sex. At 8:36 p.m., police began an investigation of criminal sexual conduct in the 2400 block of Water Tower Lane NE.

July 6
Theft. Officer took theft report in the 200 block of 21st St. NW at 11:21 a.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 1400 block of Sunset Dr. SW at 12:09 p.m., in the 100 block of 22nd St. NW at

3:59 p.m. and in the 1100 block of School St. E. at 6:06 p.m.

Domestic. At 7:26 p.m., police responded to a domestic disturbance in the 500 block of Phelps St. E. A subject was taken into custody at the scene.

July 7
Disturbance. Officers responded to a noise complaint in the 1100 block of Frontage Rd. W. at 1:14 a.m. A citation was issued.

Arrest. Police assisted another agency with taking a subject into custody in the 500 block of Florence Ave. NW at 4:25 p.m.

Crash. At 5:40 p.m., police arrested a subject following a personal injury crash in the 800 block of Minnesota Ave. SE.

Criminal Sex. Police began a criminal sexual conduct investigation in the 100 block of 18th Place NE at 8:20 p.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported in the 2400 block of Stony Creek Dr. NE at 8:45 p.m.

Warrant. At 11:49 p.m., police arrested a subject for an outstanding warrant in the 300 block of Rose St. E.

July 8
Drugs. Drug activity was reported in the 500 block of Florence Ave. NW at 1:40 p.m.

Theft. Police assisted with a stolen vehicle in the 1900 block of Rosewood Dr. NW at 4:13 p.m.

Vandalism. At 7:49 p.m., officer issued a citation for property damage in the 300 block of School St. W.

Criminal Sex. A criminal sexual conduct incident occurred in the 200 block of Pearl St. E. at 9:52 p.m.

July 9
Hit and Runs. Two hit and run incidents resulting in property damage occurred throughout the day – at 3:08 p.m. in the 200 block of South St. E. and at 3:24 p.m. in the 2700 block of 3rd Ave. NE.

Theft. Police received a theft report from the 200 block of Cedar Ave. N. at 5:34 p.m.

Suspicion. Officers responded to a suspicious activity report at Cedar Ave. N. and Vine St. E. at 9:56 p.m. A citation was issued.

Arrest. At 11:57 p.m., police assisted another agency with arresting a subject in the 700 block of State Ave. NW.

Steele County Sheriff July 4
Domestic. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the 12500 block of 42nd Ave. SW at 12:20 a.m.

Fraud. A citizen reported being the victim of a fraud incident in the 3100 block of 81st St. SW at 1:42 p.m.

Vandalism. Property damage was reported at 8th Ave. E. and School St. at 8:26 p.m.

Drunken Driving. Deputy made a DWI arrest in the 5900 block of 168th St. SE at 9:31 p.m.

July 6

Suspicion. At 10:31 p.m., deputies responded to a suspicious activity report in the 3100 block of 22nd Ave. SW.

July 8
Warrant. A subject came into the detention center to turn himself in for an outstanding warrant at 3:39 p.m.

Crash. Deputies responded to a motor vehicle accident resulting in property damage at County Rd. 45 S. and Hwy. 14 E. at 6:18 p.m.

July 9
Fraud. At 12:03 p.m., a fraud incident occurred in the 700 block of 94th Ave. SE

COURT NEWS Steele County

The following cases were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 29 with Judge Gary R. Larson presiding:

Edlxis S. Champion, 29, Minneapolis, previously appeared and was convicted of felony receiving stolen property and misdemeanor theft. Champion was sentenced to \$131, 30 days in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, cognitive skill training, no possession of firearms, 40 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation.

Salvador Ortega, 33, Elk River, previously appeared and was convicted of felony possession of Cocaine/Heroin/Meth. He was sentenced to 69 months in St. Cloud State Prison.

The following case was heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 29 with Judge Joseph A. Bueltel presiding:

Lesly L. Wadley, 39, Austin, previously appeared and was convicted of felony fleeing a peace officer in a motor vehicle. The defendant was sentenced to \$581, 4 days in county jail, and 3 years of supervised probation.

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Steele County District Court the week of June 29 – July 3:

Blooming Prairie Police Department
Nicholas E. Finke, 23, Austin, speeding, \$121; Matthew J. Wilberding, 30, Blooming Prairie, no child passenger restraint system, \$131.

MN State Patrol Rochester
Scott W. Bickell, 46, Clarks Grove, seat belt, \$106; Julie A. Boeger, 42, Inver Grove Heights, speeding, \$121; Keith E. Christopher, 38, New Richland, keep to the right and no insurance, \$331; Richard W. Dinsdale, 68, Omaha, NE, speeding, \$141; Thomas H.

Grosam, 63, Brownsdale, seat belt, \$106; Nicholas M. Huffman, 22, Austin, window tint violation, \$131; Stephen R. Japp, 42, Anoka, speeding, \$121; Christine L. Jensen, 63, Austin, speeding, \$381; Bryan W. Schmidt, 29, Minneapolis, no possession of Paraphernalia, \$131; Melvin J. Schrock, 39, Turtle Lake, WI, lane direction control signals violation, \$131; Ryan W. Schroht, 36, Ellendale, speeding, \$121; Adam J. Smith, 26, Faribault, seat belt, \$106; Benjamin W. Williamson, 18, White Bear Lake, speeding, \$121; Alexandria N. York-Reisenwitz, 19, Clive, IA, speeding, \$221.

Owatonna Police Department
Magdaline M. Abrams, 21, Owatonna, revoked license, \$281; Marcello Bermea III, 31, Hayfield, violation of restraining order, \$381, 3 days in county jail, no contact with victim, anger management and 1 year of supervised probation; Scott M. Bohonek, 42, Albert Lea, assault, \$381, 1 day in county jail, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, no contact with victim, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation;

Julie M. Davis, 42, Albert Lea, stop sign, \$131; Anthony J. Ginnetti, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; Elaina A. Gomez, 46, Owatonna, speeding, \$131; David M. McCormick, 30, Lonsdale, DWI, \$381, attend MADD impact panel, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation; Michael R. Pobanz, 26, Owatonna, speeding, \$141;

Rhonda L. Powell, 38, Owatonna, disorderly conduct, \$131, 2 days in county jail and 1 year of supervised probation; David Rodriguez, 37, Dover, revoked license, \$281; Roland C. Rodriguez, 27, Waseca, cancelled license, \$131 and 1 year of unsupervised probation; Isaac R. Smith, 29, Owatonna, issuance of dishonored check, \$1,712.46, 48 days in county jail, cognitive skill training, 100 hours of community service and 2 years of supervised probation;

Justin R. Stein, 18, Owatonna, speeding, \$141; Scott R. Thorpe, 35, Owatonna, suspended license and no insurance, \$481; Michael W. Zweber, 58, Faribault, seat belt, \$106.

Steele County Sheriff’s Office
Tracy A. Brink, 42, Grand Rapids, speeding, \$221; Casey T. Goff, 36, Medford, assault, \$381, anger management, no alcohol or controlled substance use, do not enter liquor establishments, chemical dependency evaluation and 1 year of supervised probation;

Jacob D. Gosch, 26, Black Hawk, CO, speeding, \$281; Gregory J.

Grimley, 62, Brownsdale, speeding, \$121; Will J. Grobner, 21, Ellendale, speeding, \$141; James B. Hebel, 64, Kilkenny, seat belt, \$106; Nadine J. Isele, 50, Chanhassen, speeding, \$121; Shawn P. Kadlec, 31, domestic assault, \$381, 3 days in county jail, domestic abuse evaluation and 2 years of supervised probation;

Robert D. Karsten, 35, DWI, \$1,006, 4 days in county jail, alcohol monitor, chemical dependency evaluation, attend MADD impact panel, do not enter liquor establishments, and 2 years of supervised probation; William R. Kinney, 51, Mantorville, speeding, \$121; Brittney G. Kramer, 20, Owatonna, expired tabs, \$111; Dexter J. Leer, 18, Owatonna, no license in possession, \$101;

Garcia A. Mata, 29, Claremont, no MN license and no insurance, \$381; Douglas A. Moldenhauer, 56, Waseca, speeding, \$131; Eric A. Paulson, 28, Owatonna, speeding, \$221; Evelyn A. Plunkett, 18, Waseca, no MN license, \$181; Cheryl L. Ptacek, 46, Owatonna, burning prohibited garbage, \$181;

Jay D. Reuvers, 44, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Paul H. Ryan, 42, Faribault, speeding, \$141; Gail L. Schauer, 39, Faribault, speeding, \$121; Jenna R. Schuster, 18, Owatonna, minor consumption, \$181.

POLICE BLOTTER Dodge County

The Dodge County Sheriff’s Office handled 204 complaints for the week of July 1 – 7. Some of them include:

July 1
Domestic. At 12:02 a.m., deputies received a phone call from a juvenile female who believed that her father was hitting her mother in the 100 block of 2nd Ave. NW in Dodge Center.

Larceny. Deputy took a report that a propane tank and car accessories were taken from a front porch in the 100 block of Front St. E. in Claremont at 11:57 a.m.

Juvenile. Deputies received a juvenile complaint that three boys were playing on train cars at 4th Ave. and the Railroad Tracks in

Dodge Center at 3:43 p.m.

Marijuana. At 10:31 p.m., deputies made a traffic stop at North St. NW and 1st Ave. NW in Dodge Center. The driver was found to be in possession of Marijuana.

July 2
Warrant. Deputies responded to a report that a vehicle kept coming into a Claremont yard in the 60500 block of 110th Ave. at 11:17 a.m. The subject was located, and found to have an outstanding warrant from Olmsted County. He was transferred to Olmsted County Deputies.

July 3
Fire. At 10:05 a.m., a small tree on power lines was causing arcing and flames at County Hwy. 24 and County Road 7 in West Concord. Deputies contacted Xcel Energy.

Larceny. A Dodge Center resident reported that a 4-wheel walker was stolen from in front of his house in the 500 block of 1st St. NW at 5:21 p.m.

July 4
Intoxication. Deputies responded to the 100 block of Main St. W. in Dodge Center for a report of a male passed out on top of a stairwell at 3:35 p.m.

ATV Accident. At 5:12 p.m., an ATV accident occurred in the 69600 block of 230th Ave. in Kasson. Deputies, MN State Patrol, Hayfield Ambulance, Kasson Fire, Mayo One and Dodge Center Ambulance responded. Two patients were transported to St. Mary’s Hospital by ambulance.

July 5
Animal. A Dodge Center resident reported that junkyard goats were getting close to a pool in the 500 block of 1st Ave. NE at 5:45 p.m.

July 6
Civil. At 1:10 p.m., deputies assisted with a civil matter in the 200 block of Front St. E. in Claremont. A man reported that his neighbor had someone cut tree limbs off his tree and throw the limbs in his driveway because the neighbor couldn’t see down the street from her home.

Disturbance. Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of 1st Ave. NE in Hayfield at 11:30 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Continued on Page 3B

The following individuals as they have active warrants in Steele County.

The sheriff makes this information available as a public service.

Peter Uhlig – DWI - \$3,000 bail
Michael Vaith – forgery – no bail
Marco Valdez – DWI, child endangerment - \$6,000 bail
Alvaro Valdivia – revoked license - \$500 bail
George Vang – no license - \$500 bail
Reinaldo Vasques – DWI - \$1,000 bail
Eric Veith – theft, shoplifting - \$500 bail
Ashia Velarde – theft – no bail

Jose Villa Jr. – interference with 911 - \$6,000 bail
Jose Villaandrade – DWI - \$6,000 bail
Heather Villarreal – no insurance - \$500 bail
Rickson Waguk – DWI - \$12,000 bail
Anthony Walker – controlled substance - \$35,000 bail
Joseph Walsh – open bottle - \$500 bail
Desmond Walton – traffic - \$500 bail
Ihou Wateba – no insurance - \$500 bail

Joshua Watkins – warrant – no bail
Tristan Watts – counterfeit currency - \$6,000 bail
William Waymire – theft by check - \$10,000 bail
Dennis Weber – no proof - \$6,000 bail

ACTIVE WARRANTS
Disclosing active warrants promotes public safety and aids in the identification & apprehension of those individuals wanted on a warrant.

Public Safety/News

Ken and Anita Bunne bring back 1935 Fordor to show family

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Writer

Blooming Prairie residents early last week might have thought the clock had been turned back 80 years.

A 1935 Fordor Deluxe automobile once owned by Bernard Bunne was seen traveling the side streets of Blooming Prairie.

Now owned by Bernard’s son Ken of Tallahassee, Florida, the car was trailored to Blooming Prairie for a family reunion in Byron the weekend of July 11. Ken is married to the former Anita Herdina whose parents still reside in Blooming Prairie.

The old car was once owned by a librarian in the Leroy-Ostrander school district. Bernard

Bunne lived in Leroy and serviced the car for years. He then had the opportunity to buy the car and since it was manufactured the year Bernard was born, he took an interest in the car and bought it in the late 1950s.

Bernard’s son Ken remembers taking the old car out of storage, pumping up the tires and traveling to a local ice cream parlor. He and his wife borrowed the car in 1983 to travel to and from the church the day of their wedding.

The elder Bunne retired from IBM in Rochester and took the car fully apart. He did not finish the restoration. He passed away in 2005. Ten years later, Ken Bunne restored the car and had it ready to be used in his son’s

wedding in Florida this past May.

“Many of our family members on both sides could not make it to the wedding in Florida so my wife and I thought we would bring the car back to Minnesota to show them and also to make a tribute to my father,” Ken said.

Ken did the vast majority of the machine work and engine restoration. Anita did the interior.

“We had hoped to have gotten back to Blooming Prairie for the 4th of July parade but did not make it in time,” Anita said.

Ken and Anita plan to return the car to their home in Florida and keep it in the family.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud
Ken and Anita Bunne spent months restoring an old 1935 Fordor Deluxe as a tribute to Ken’s father who once lived in the Leroy area. Ken’s wife Anita is from Blooming Prairie. The car was seen on the streets of Blooming Prairie last week and then taken to a family reunion in Byron.

Speak up about slowing down

Summer is a deadly time for speeders: extra enforcement on roads

In a hurry to get to the lake or that summer vacation destination could get you more than a ticket — it could cost you your life. On average, 28 people will lose their lives during the three month summer period (June – August) due to unsafe speeds on Minnesota roads.

To keep motorists safe this summer, Steele County law enforcement officers will be conducting increased speed patrols, July 10 – 26, as part of a state-wide speed enforcement effort. The enforcement and education effort is coordinated by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety.

Speed kills

Speed is a leading factor in crashes, contributing to one out of every four fatalities on Minnesota roads. While speed-related fatal crashes have decreased from 26 percent (2005 – 2009) to 21 percent (2010 – 2014), driving too fast continues to play a major role in crashes. Speed contributes to an average

of 105 deaths and 284 serious injuries a year.

Speed Fatalities: 2005 – 2009

- 2005 - 161
- 2006 - 151
- 2007 - 115
- 2008 - 125
- 2009 - 85
- Total - 637

Speed Fatalities: 2010 – 2014

- 2010 - 86
- 2011 - 85
- 2012 - 74
- 2013 - 76
- 2014 - 94
- Total - 415

Males are most at risk when it comes to dying in a speed-related crash. In Minnesota, males 15 – 24-years-old account for 25 percent of all speed related fatalities (2005 – 2014).

More than twice as many speed-related fatal crashes occur on rural roads than major urban roads.

“Speeding not only puts your life in danger, but the lives of

your passengers and others on the road at risk,” said Deputy Nick Donahue from the Steele County Sheriff’s Office.

If the driver in your vehicle is going an unsafe speed, don’t be afraid to speak up. It could save your life.”

Speeding costs

- The most common traffic-law violation is speeding, outnumbering all other traffic violations combined. (AAA)
- In Steele County, an average speeding citation for 10 mph over the limit is \$121.00. Motorists stopped at 20 mph over the speed limit face double the fine, and those ticketed traveling more than 100 mph can lose their license for six months.
- For every 5 mph above 50 mph, it’s like paying an additional 19 cents per gallon. (Department of Energy)

Speeding to get nowhere fast

Speeding does not help you get to your destination significantly faster. According to AAA, travel time for a 30-mile

trip:

- 55 miles per hour = 32.7 minutes.
- 65 miles an hour = 27.7 minutes (5 minutes saved).
- 75 miles per hour = 24 minutes (8 minutes saved).

Consequences of speeding

- Greater potential for loss of vehicle control.
- Increased stopping distance.
- Less time for driver response for crash avoidance.
- Increased crash severity leading to more severe injuries and death.

Three seconds is the safe following distance

- Motorists should keep a three-second following distance

to allow for safe stopping and reaction to other vehicles.

- It takes more than the length of a football field to stop when traveling at 60 miles per hour.

Look twice for motorcycles

Another safety concern in July is the record-high number of motorcyclists on the road. A major factor in rider deaths is unsafe speeds. More than half of all motorcycle crashes are single-vehicle events in which the rider loses control of the bike and runs off the road or crashes.

“We urge motorcyclists to travel at safe speeds and motorists to look twice for riders – especially at intersections.

Motorcycles are smaller and their speeds and distance can be harder to gauge,” says Deputy Donahue.

Extra speed enforcement and education efforts are part of the Toward Zero Deaths traffic safety initiative. A primary vision of the TZD program is to create a safe driving culture in Minnesota in which motorists support a goal of zero road fatalities by practicing and promoting safe and smart driving behavior. TZD focuses on the application of four strategic areas to reduce crashes – education, enforcement, engineering and emergency trauma response.

Public Safety Brief

Police arrest machete-wielding suspect

A man claiming to be a ninja was charged with two felony charges after a machete incident.

Steele County District Court has charged Brian E. Veach, 45, with two felony charges after an incident that involved an assault with a machete.

The 55-year-old victim suffered non-life-threatening injuries to his right middle finger, right forearm and right eyebrow, according to the Owatonna Police Department.

Veach is being charged with 2nd degree assault with a dangerous weapon and terrorist threats.

The incident occurred on July 5, just after midnight, when the Owatonna Police Department responded to a call at 240 E. School St. The investigating officers located an adult male

victim who allegedly had an altercation with a known acquaintance. The suspect was alleged to be armed with a machete, which he was swinging around, according to reports.

The victim had asked the suspect to put the machete away numerous times, but was denied and was threatened to be chopped up. The victim attempted to wrestle the machete away and suffered an injury to his right eyebrow.

A third party intervened and was able to disarm the suspect. Veach was arrested without incident.

Driver no longer on roads

A vehicle equipment violation stop has landed Marcos E. Reyes, 39, in trouble.

Reyes has been charged with 1st degree DWI-refusal to submit to a chemical test and 5th de-

gree possession of a controlled substance.

The incident occurred on July 2 after an Owatonna officer stopped his vehicle for an equipment violation. While speaking with the driver, the report states that the officer learned that the driver did not have a valid driver’s license.

In addition, while collecting the property out of the vehicle the officer smelled the odor of marijuana. There was also a rolled up \$20 bill that contained a small plastic aggie that the driver indicated was used to contain marijuana, the report states.

In addition, continued search of the vehicle found drug paraphernalia and presumptive marijuana and methamphetamine. After being arrested, Reyes refused to provide a blood or urine test.

DOMESTIC

Continued from Page 2B

an’s injuries, Kadlec stated that he didn’t know how the woman had been injured, but also stated that she “drinks alcohol in excess and falls a lot.” When asked why Kadlec ran after the woman, Kadlec stated that he was trying to make sure the woman left. He was asked to make a statement in person, and Kadlec stated that he could meet with police on July 6.

On July 5, a third party contacted the deputy by phone and stated that he was Kadlec’s attorney. This person further stated that Kadlec would not be making a recorded statement but would turn himself in on July 7. Kadlec did so and was arrested for domestic assault.

Upon further investigation, it was revealed that Kadlec was convicted of terroristic threats-

reckless disregard risk in March 2009 in Waseca County and was also convicted of gross misdemeanor domestic assault in Steele County last month.

Kadlec now faces two counts of felony domestic assault, which could result in a maximum penalty of five years in jail and a \$10,000 fine for each offense.

Let’s close with one brief fishing story: The Sunday school teacher asked Jimmy, “Do you suppose Noah did much fishing on the ark?”

“No,” replied Jimmy, “because he only had two worms!” Wise beyond his years. We’ll talk again.

COURT NEWS

Dodge County

The following misdemeanors and petty misdemeanors were heard in Dodge County District Court the week of June 29 – July 6:

Dodge County Sheriff’s Office

Sarah C. Blaisdell, 46, Kasson, no insurance, \$280; Thomas L. Charette, 42, Mankato, speeding, \$380; Jordan C. Harland, 24, Austin, speeding, \$140; Jorge C. Marin, 38, Dodge Center, invalid license and expired registration, \$210; Rachel E. Masching, 19, Hayfield, speeding, \$140; Jason M. Murphy, 40, Kasson, expired registration, \$110; Devin W. Stoick, 40, Dodge Center, speeding, \$120; Tyler D. Vogt, 19, Owatonna, speeding, \$220.

Kasson Police Department

Kurt J. Baker, 53, Kasson, seat belt, \$105; Michael J. Delano, 49, Dodge Center, seat belt, \$105; Candace M. Ellingworth, 48, Kasson, speeding, \$140; Camille R. Snyder, 18, Kasson, speeding, \$130.

MN State Patrol Rochester

Brandon J. Bohlman, 33, Mankato, speeding, \$220; Jason M. Erickson, 36, Rochester, revoked

license, \$280; Dale E. Meyer, 58, Brookfield, no log book in possession, \$180; Mitchell S. Morris, 19, Byron, speeding, \$140.

Steele arrests

Owatonna Police

Marcos Ernesto Reyes, 39, arrested at 7:20 p.m. July 2, felony DWI-test refusal, possession of controlled substance and cancelled license, \$100,000 bail.

Lennie Allan St. Martin, 35, arrested at 12:05 a.m. July 4, warrant arrest, \$3,000 bail.

Ryan William Tvedt, 21, arrested at 10:55 p.m. July 4, DWI, held for court.

Brian Edward Veach, 45, arrested at 12:13 a.m. July 5, felony assault, held for court.

Shalayna Dee Belden, 24, arrested at 8:07 p.m. July 6, felony assault and domestic assault, held for court.

Sara Kim, 27, arrested at 12:06 a.m. July 8, warrant arrest, \$5,000 bail.

Marquita Anita Bena Hernandez, 29, arrested at 12:38 a.m. July 10, card fraud, held for court.

Steele County Sheriff

John Thomas McGuire, 34, arrested at 11:11 a.m. July 2, probation warrants arrest, held for court.

Lovely Latoya Cemis Young, 18, arrested at 3:45 p.m. July 2, warrant arrest, held for court.

Jose Alarcon Jr., 27, arrested at 5 p.m. July 2, probation violation warrant arrest, held for court.

Owatonna fire

July 4 Medical. Fire rescue assisted paramedics with a medical emergency on 18th St. at 2:19 p.m.

July 6 Carbon Monoxide. A carbon monoxide incident occurred in the 1400 block of Wildflower Lane NE at 10:43 a.m.

July 7 System Malfunction. Fire personnel responded to a system malfunction in the 600 block of Eisenhower Dr. NW at 3:50 a.m.

Crash. At 5:42 p.m., Owatonna Fire responded to a motor vehicle accident with no injuries in the 800 block of Minnesota Ave. SE.

July 9 Electrocutation. Fire rescue responded to an electrocution incident in the 1600 block County Rd. 45 at 8:39 a.m.

OUTSIDE THE LINES

Continued from Page 1B

shows with fondness and more than a little bit of nostalgia.

Odds and ends

The Hollywood agent who promoted such stars as Elvis Presley, John Denver and Frank Sinatra; Jerry Weintraub, died last week in Santa Barbara,

California, from a heart attack. Weintraub was 77 at the time of death and was well-known as a film producer, as well as an agent.

Besides his career as a Hollywood agent, he also produced The “Karate Kid,” “Nashville,” “Diner” and “Oceans Eleven” for films, plus “The Brink”

and “Behind the Candelabra” for HBO films. He won a TV Emmy in 2014 for a documentary on global warming called “The Years of Living Dangerously.” The entertainment world truly lost an important personality at Weintraub’s death.

One of the local Minimizer Company sponsored semi truck

racing team’s Brad Klemmensen won the latest race over the fourth of July weekend, but had to settle for second place when he made a passing infraction on the last lap. This race marked the fourth one in the race series and took place at the Charlotte Metro Speedway in Charlotte

Klemmensen had finished in

the top 10 twice before, but this was his highest finish yet in the series. The competition began in New Jersey in April and will consist of 10 races criss-crossing the country. The series will culminate in Las Vegas on October 1, after six more races left in the season. A tip of the hat to Klemmensen and the Minimizer

racing team.

Let’s close with one brief fishing story: The Sunday school teacher asked Jimmy, “Do you suppose Noah did much fishing on the ark?”

“No,” replied Jimmy, “because he only had two worms!” Wise beyond his years. We’ll talk again.

Employment CONNECTION

The top 17 websites for your career

A Better Interview

A Better Interview was founded in 2012 by Marc DeBoer, who recognized a gap in the services provided by the major job searching and interview help sites. DeBoer believes that every job seeker deserves the chance to interview for his or her dream job—so through A Better Interview, he offers users the opportunity to speak live to a trained HR professional about interview skills, job searching methods, salary negotiation, tough interview questions, and background checks, among other things. The site also offers a job board currently featuring over 430,000 positions.

About.com/Careers

About.com’s Jobs & Careers section offers a wealth of free information to job seekers and those looking to advance their careers, including articles about everything from how to get along with your boss to illegal job interview questions. About.com/Careers also links to other sites focused on specific careers like advertising or criminology that have articles on topics like copywriting or “a day in the life of a police officer.” Users can also read up on the history of various fields, find a list of schools where they can study for a particular degree, or peruse an article on the most popular jobs in a given field. The site links to job listings powered by Indeed.com. Job search and employment expert Alison Doyle has been About.com’s job search guide since 1998.

FirstJob

Another great site for jump starting your entry-level job search, FirstJob is committed to connecting graduates with industry leaders to find first-choice career opportunities. The site features job seeker tips and career advice provided by experts, as well as 116,619 high quality entry-level and internship career opportunities. Employers and recruiters looking for top-of-the-class graduates or interns to fill an entry-level job will also find the site useful, as FirstJob can connect them with students and recent grads from top universities and colleges.

Blogging4Jobs

Blogging4Jobs.com is an online workplace resource for managers, leaders, human resources, and recruiting professionals. They take their audience to “uncomfortable, yet necessary,” places

exposing them to the realities of the workplace without the “corporate sugar coating.” The site was launched in 2007 with a goal of helping job seekers learn the unwritten rules of job searching. The site has since expanded to offer insights into the world of work from a corporate and operations no-nonsense point of view.

Boredom to Boardroom

Boredom to Boardroom is a unique new site for young professionals who need help fast tracking their careers and/or finding amazing corporate jobs. The site offers readers real-life stories, honest no-holds-barred advice, and sneaky tips that HR departments probably prefer to keep to themselves. BoredomToBoardroom.com is run by Kari Reston, a gen Y-er who reached senior management level by the time she was 29, climbing the corporate ladder in London, Singapore, and New York.

Encore.org

Marc Freedman founded Encore.org with hopes of making it easier for millions of people to pursue “second acts” for the greater good. He calls them “encore careers”—jobs that combine personal meaning, continued income and social impact in the second half of life. Though it’s not a job placement service, Encore.org does provides free, comprehensive information that helps people transition to jobs in the nonprofit world and the public sector.

Bureau of Labor Statistics

The U.S. Department of Labor’s BLS is the Federal independent statistical agency responsible for “measuring labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy.” The site says its mission is to collect, analyze, and disseminate essential economic information to support public and private decision-making.

Career Attraction

According to the site’s founder, Kevin Kermes, Career Attraction “provides smart, actionable advice that gets results.” He founded Career Attraction on the core premise that every career transition is as specialized as the individual undertaking it—and today, the website’s career experts deliver step-by-step guidance on job search and career related hurdles to more than 60,000 subscribers.

Glassdoor

Glassdoor is a free jobs and career community that offers an inside look at jobs and companies. Employees and job seekers can anonymously review their companies, interview experiences, CEOs, salaries, and more. Last year Glassdoor introduced its Inside Connections feature, which allows people to see any connections they might have to a specific employer through their friends, or friends-of-friends, on Facebook.

CareerBuilder

Founded in 1995, CareerBuilder is one of the biggest online job boards. Its scope is international, with a presence in more than 60 markets worldwide. The site helps employers refine and target job descriptions to attract talent. Users can post résumés on the site and for a fee, get help writing résumés (\$180-\$300), cover letters (\$50), thank-you notes (\$15) and compiling references (\$10). The site also offers paid online courses in different fields, like marketing and dentistry.

Career Girl Network

Career Girl Network provides information and resources to women, as well as the opportunity to build a network invested in their success. With hundreds of original articles each month from writers who know the world of personal branding, dressing for success, interview tactics, and other tips for success, the site combines its in-house expertise with valuable aggregated content for women in business from around the web.

Career Pivot

CareerPivot is a “career design firm” for Baby Boomers who are looking to make a professional move. The site’s founder, Marc Miller, believes in taking small, practical steps (or a series of “pivots”) toward your new life, rather than a “leap.” To help the boomers figure out what they want and how to get there, the site offers assessment tests and tools to learn about your goals; to explore your talents, strengths and working style; and help weigh your options.

FlexJobs

Aimed at job seekers who want part-time, flextime, and freelance jobs or positions where they can telecommute, FlexJobs is a subscription service that charges \$15 a month or \$50 a year for access to its listings. The site claims to screen online job listings, including industry blogs, employer sites and job boards and only offer “legitimate” jobs. The site has 50 career categories and jobs from entry-level to executive. FlexJobs says it will refund payments to dissatisfied customers.

The Cool Works

CoolWorks.com is a job search site for seasonal work in “great places.” It has been central to the summer job and seasonal job market niche for 16 years—but they have a youthful, energetic, older and bolder spirit. “We have a dedicated core of job seekers who use Cool Works to actively seek job opportunities in great places like national parks, various resorts, ranches, camps,

ski resorts, and jobs on the water,” the site says. They also serve individuals seeking volunteer and conservation corps opportunities.

CareerMKT.com

This site was founded by a small group of entrepreneurs looking to revolutionize the job placement industry, which they say is “inefficient and has not changed radically in decades.” With the belief that true career management sites for job seekers are lacking, and confidentiality is an issue, the founders developed CareerMKT.com as a portal that offers all the tools that a job seeker needs to manage their career. The site’s job board has millions of listings all over the country.

Internships.com

Internships.com bills itself as the world’s largest internship marketplace where employers can post internships and get access to its internship database for free. At last count the site had nearly 82,500 postings at 40,820 companies in 6,496 cities across the U.S. The site includes paid and unpaid, full and part-time internships. One useful feature: a “Who?”

button that includes a Facebook sign-in and shows which of an applicant’s Facebook friends are connected to the hiring company.

Chameleon Resumes

ChameleonResumes.com is a full-service resume writing and job search consultancy firm that services high-achieving executives and professionals with accomplishment-laden resumes and LinkedIn profiles, targeted job search tactic training and authentic interview storytelling techniques to land their next position. All guidance and advice offered is from that of a former executive search firm recruiter, Lisa Rangel, who has performed numerous search assignments, worked directly with applicant tracking systems (ATS) and managed various recruitment teams. The website includes high-value personalized services, cost-effective do-it-yourself resources and numerous free articles and career links to help every executive and professional on the fast track with actionable tactics that yield results quickly.

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Dear Savvy Senior,
My wife and I will both be retiring in a year or two and are interested in moving to a smaller house in a better climate but could use some help. What resources can you recommend for locating and researching good places to retire in the U.S.?

Looking To Relocate

Dear Looking,
If you're interested in relocating when you retire, like millions of other baby boomers, there are a wide variety of free Web-based 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

aren't sure where you want to retire, a good place to begin is by taking a retirement test at sites like Sperling's Best Places (bestplaces.net/fybp) or Find Your Spot (findyourspot.com). These are free quizzes that ask dozens of questions on your preferences such as climate, recreation, community size and more, and suggest possible destinations that best match your answers.

There are also various media sources and websites, like U.S. News and World Report, Kiplinger's, Forbes, Money magazine, Reuters, Bankrate.com, TopRetirements.com, the Milken Institute and AARP that publish top retirement location lists you may find helpful too.

How to choose the best place to retire

To find them, go to any search engine and type in "best places to retire" along with the name of the media source.

You should also consider getting a subscription to "Where to Retire" magazine (wheretoretire.com, 713-974-6903), which is designed to help you find ideal retirement settings. A yearly subscription runs \$18 for six issues.

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 you want to retire to? BestPlaces.net and Numbeo.com offer 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 to retirees than others. If you're planning to move to another state, Kiplinger's has a tax guide for retirees at Kiplinger.com/links/retireetaxmap 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, NeighborhoodScout.com is a top tool that provides property and violent crime rates, and crimes per square mile.

Healthcare: Does the area you want to relocate to have easy access to good healthcare? To locate and research hospitals in a new area, use HospitalCompare.hhs.gov and QualityCheck.org. To search for new doctors that accept your insurance, contact your plan, or, if you're 65 or older use Medicare.gov/physiciancompare. It's also important to know that healthcare costs can vary by region, so you should contact your insurer to check out possible cost variables.

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 contact Rides in Sight (ridesinsight.org, 855-607-4337), a free transportation referral service, and the Area Aging Agency – call the Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 to get the local number.

Other Resources: To learn more about specific communities across the U.S., AARP's new livability index (livabilityindex.aarp.org), along with Epodunk.com and GangsAway.com are three excellent resources, as well as the city's chamber of commerce office. To locate it, go to any search engine and type in the name of the city and state followed by "chamber of commerce."

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



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History from the news archives

10 Years Ago
Elsie Slinger, Editor
Tuesday, July 12, 2005

With the temperatures near perfect the largest Fourth parade in southern Minnesota went without a hitch for Blooming Prairie's Old Fashioned Fourth of July. The July 3 activities were a huge success, with a large crowd gathering to watch a bout of the Roller Derby Girls, featuring the Donnelly sisters – all Blooming Prairie graduates who started a Roller Derby league in the Twin Cities.

Bronson and Jenni Ohm are very proud to announce the birth of their daughter. Annalisa Kristine was born on June 11,

2005. She weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces, and measured 21 inches long. Annalisa is welcomed home by sister, Mya.

Anthony Nelson and Sarah Margenau were married on June 4, 2005 at St. Joseph Church in Big Bend, Wis.

Anthony Nelson is the son of Ronald and Diane Nelson of Blooming Prairie. Sarah Margenau is the daughter of Jerry and Carole Margenau of Muskego, Wis.

20 Years Ago
Elsie Slinger, Editor
Tuesday, July 11, 2005

Barbara J. "Claudia" Bauer, 40, of Medford, died Saturday,

July 1, 1995, at Owatonna Hospital after a brief illness. She was born Oct. 13, 1954 to John and Audrey (Martin) Cornell in Spokane, Wash., where she lived for a short time with her family. As a child she moved with her family to various other towns. She graduated from Lamar High School in Arlington, Texas. On Sept. 4, 1982, she married Stanly "Paul" Bauer in Grapeland, Texas.

Robyn Ann Wrase and Marty Haven Krampitz were married on Saturday, June 3, 1995, at 3 p.m. at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie. The Rev. Richard Hegal and the Rev. Clifford Schroeder officiated in the ceremony.

Jay and Luisa Rasmussen are the proud parents of a second child born July 3 at Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan. Their daughter weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and has been named Ashlee Rae.

50 Years Ago
Victor Vernon, and Vyrle Krejci, Editors
Thursday, July 8, 1965

Mrs. Leonard H. (Netha) Grant, well-known Cornin resident, passed away Saturday, July 3 at Raymond's Nursing Home in Austin, where she had been residing for the past seven months. Mrs. Grant had endured a lingering illness, without com-

plaint, for the past year and a half. She was 64 years of age at the time of her death.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Jacqueline Kay Karaus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Karaus of Ellendale, to Edward E. Winzenburg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Winzenburg of Blooming Prairie.

75 Years Ago
Walter K. Mickelson, Editor and Publisher
Thursday July 11, 1940

Lt. Elmo Torkelson, brother of Mrs. George Burntes, was killed in an auto crash at Birmingham, Ala., Saturday. Lt. Torkelson, a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps, and stationed at Maxwell Field Base, Montgomery, Ala., flew a plane to Blooming Prairie twice within the last month, and attended the Minnesota Air Fair at Austin June 29, with a large bomber plane.

Miss Eula Elizabeth Peterson, daughter of Mrs. Jennie Peterson of Blooming Prairie, became the bride of Robert Fisher of Owatonna at a nuptial Mass solemnized at 9 o'clock Saturday morning July 6 at the Sacred Heart Catholic church. Rev. Edward Kasal, pastor of the church, officiated at the ring ceremony.

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Community

Obituaries

Paul Polen, 75

Paul Jeffery Polen, husband of Janell Trom Polen, passed away May 15, 2015, at 12:30 p.m. He was born March 28, 1942, in Steubenville, Ohio. Jeff was preceded in death by his parents James and Margaret Polen and son, Jeffery Norman Polen. He is survived by his wife Janell Trom Polen; his brother, Michael (Carla) Polen; adopted sister, Barbara Brueser; daughter, Paula K. (Douglas) Bonar; and grandson, Jackson Paul Bonar.



Two stepsons, Nick Kuhlmann and Scott Kuhlmann; two stepdaughters, Wendy Doll and Sandi Brown; eight step-grandchildren and five great step-grandchildren also survive him.

Jeff lived in Hopedale, Ohio, where he graduated from high school. He went to college in

Bowling Green, Ohio, on a football scholarship. He taught high school History for a brief period and due to the sudden death of his father, he then took over the family insurance business/real estate. Jeff moved to Naples in 1985.

He opened several businesses in Naples and Bonita Springs and retired in 2012. He belonged to the Bonita Springs Sons of the American Legion Squadron 303. There will be a graveside me-

morial at First Lutheran Church Cemetery in Blooming Prairie at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 2, 2015. The cemetery is located on the road past the Trom family farm now owned by Becky and Mark Noble.

All family, friends and Legion/VFW family are invited to come and celebrate Jeff's life. Following the service there will be a reception at the home of Becky and Mark Noble.

Judy Valentine, 69, formerly of Blooming Prairie

Judy Kay (Lassahn) Valentine of Clearfield, Utah, formerly of Blooming Prairie, passed peacefully in her sleep due to complications from pulmonary edema on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at Rocky Mountain Care Center in Utah.

Judy will be laid to rest at the Blooming Prairie Cemetery and a visitation for family and friends will be held Saturday, July 18, 2015, from 1-4 p.m. at the Community Building, downtown Ellendale.

Judy was born Feb. 25, 1946, in Owatonna to Arthur and Alice Lassahn. She grew up in the small farming town of Bloom-

ing Prairie. Judy graduated from Blooming Prairie High School in 1964 and went on to Mankato State University.

Judy began working for the Department of Defense in 1968, a career that would take her to various parts of the country. Judy entered the Air Force Reserves while working as a civilian for the 508 Tactical Fighter Wing at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, becoming an Air Reserve Technician and serving our country until 1982. She held many po-



sitions at Hill AFB, retiring as a Program Analyst after 34 years of faithful service.

She met and married Bill Valentine and together that had a beautiful son, Stephen in 1983. She often said that becoming a mother was one of the greatest joys of her life.

Judy was a very generous and caring person. People were immediately drawn to her compassion and kindness. She was a voracious reader and found great satisfaction in exploring

her ancestry. She found and connected with many long lost relatives through her research.

Her parents preceded Judy in death. She is survived by Bill Valentine and Stephen (Kathie) Valentine; her brothers, Paul (Loretta) Lassahn, Montgomery; Richard (Becky) Lassahn, Ellendale; Gerald (Barbara) Lassahn, Mount Pleasant, Texas; Lloyd Lassahn, Hurst, Texas; Harold Lassahn, Blooming Prairie; and sister-in-law, Linda Lassahn of Burnsville; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Please join us in celebrating her life.

Betty Fierro, 61, formerly of Blooming Prairie

Betty Darlene (Hansen) Fierro, 61, of Las Vegas, died Thursday, June 11, 2015, at Valley Regional Hospital where she had been since March 1, 2015.

She had bravely fought pancreatic cancer for 6 1/2 years. Betty was born in Blooming Prairie, the daughter of Carlo and Esther Ann (Ingvalson) Hansen. After graduating from Blooming Prairie High School in 1971, Betty went on to attend Rochester Vocational School.

She was employed at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester as a pharmacy technician and worked in hospitals in Minneapolis, Phoenix, Prescott Val-



ley, Ariz., Carson City, Nev. and Las Vegas, at the Nevada Cancer Institute.

Betty was married to David Fierro on Oct. 18, 1975, and welcomed the birth of their son Christopher on Nov. 7, 1976. They lived in Ellendale for six years and worked in the insurance business. She enjoyed cooking, traveling, cruises, dancing, camping and loved spending time with her cats.

Betty is survived by her husband David Fierro; her son,

Christopher (fiancée Sabrina Lassalle) of Buckeye, Ariz.; mother, Esther Ann Hansen of Blooming Prairie; sister, Linda Hansen of Blooming Prairie; brothers, Arthur Hansen of Queens, N.Y., and his son, Reed of New Briton, Conn.; Dr. Leslie Hansen of St. Paul; Brian (Peggy) Hansen of Fridley; aunt Lorene Ingvalson of Austin; and by many cousins; David's brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and their best friends Pat and Jim Parlin of Austin. Her father, Carlo Hansen in 2005 and sister-in-law Mary Hansen preceded her in death.

Memorial services will be

held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 18, 2015, at First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie with the Rev. Heidi Heimgartner officiating. Visitation will be held from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. prior to the service. Interment will be in the First Lutheran Cemetery, Blooming Prairie.

The family prefers that memorials be directed to The American Cancer Society, First Lutheran Church, or donor's choice. Services performed by Worlein Blooming Prairie Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

Marvin Vasey, 68, Blooming Prairie

Marvin Lewis Vasey, 68 of Blooming Prairie, passed away peacefully Saturday morning, July 11, 2015, at Traditions II in Owatonna.

He was born on July 9, 1947, to Bert and Jessie (Cowan) Vasey in Austin. Marvin grew up in the Dexter and Austin area and graduated from Elkton High School in 1965. He attended the Austin Vocational College for two years and earned a degree as a machinist.

Marvin married Linda Nicholson on Nov. 23, 1974, in Owatonna and divorced in 1994. He enjoyed going to flea markets, fishing and spending



time with his friends and family. Marvin was a past member of the Eagles and has resided in Blooming Prairie the last 40 years.

Survivors include his children Charles (Nancy) Nicholson of Rochester; Theodore Nicholson of Owatonna, Anna (Samuel Bond) Nicholson of Owatonna, Amy (Gabriel Homeier) Vasey of Albert Lea, and April (Andrew) Schuur of Owatonna; seven grandchildren Christine, Charles, Amanda, David, Jesse,

Andrew and Grant; two great grandchildren Heaven and Dakota; and special friends, Ramona Malecha and family; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. His parents, a brother, Norman, a sister, Marylou, and a nephew, Patrick, preceded him in death.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 15, 2015, at the Worlein Funeral

Home Chapel. Visitation will be held one hour before the service. Interment will be in Grandview Cemetery. Send memorials to donor's choice. Worlein Funeral Home of Austin is assisting the family with the arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.worlein.com.

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July 14 Beth Hilson Marilyn Wagner Pat Njos Kyler Christianson Bradley Simon Jens Anderson Jeffrey Bruns Kendyl Sunde Zachary Koster	Amy Hinzmann
July 15 Bill Noble	Anniversaries July 14 John & Lisa Bruns
July 16 Judy Schafer Justin Munson Janis Lueth Jeff Glynn Amber Konz Bruce Christianson Marilyn Knutson	July 15 Chad & Katie Smith Chad & Tara Gimbel
July 17 Marcy McCamy Dorothy Phipps Charlene Myer Eric Prihoda	July 16 H & Jean Peterson
July 18 Peter Iversen Sandra Novak	July 17 Orlo & Kay Toquam Eric & Shawn Johnson
July 19 Cooper Nelson Lia Peterson Bruce Rumpza Tonya Hansen Andrea Butler	July 18 Randy & Linda Klemmensen
July 20 Jean Schwartz Luke Krebs Mary Kittelson Alan Morton	July 19 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Johnson Charlie & Mary Wallace
July 21 Nik Miller Michelle Arett Jeffery Bruns Peggy Olson Jeana Johnson	July 20 Dean & Joleen Zilm Greg & Denise Kinney Jerry & Carol Ingvalson Lisa & Steve Vaith
July 22 Christine Ann Olson Brandon Wacek	July 21 Nick & Sami Nelson Maurice & Julie Lembke Tim & Amy Trotman Tamara & Chad Klemmensen
	July 22 Elazabeth & Robert Jr. Salinas
	July 23 Heather & Tony Schiller Shirley & Harlan Hinzmann

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Menus

Seniors Menu

July 14: Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Cranberry Mold
July 15: Ham/Scalloped Potatoes, Alt: Beef Patty, Dilled Carrots, Mixed Greens Salad, Moon Cake
July 16: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Fruited Coleslaw, Dinner Roll, Peach Crisp
July 17: Grilled Chicken, Ro-maine Salad, Melon Wedge, Batter

Bun, Dutch Cookie

July 20: Green Pepper Steak, Rice, Parslied Cauliflower, Tossed Salad, Citrus Fruit Cup
July 21: Baked Chicken, Baked Dumpling/Gravy, Asparagus, Cole-slaw, Vanilla Ice Cream
July 22: Wild Rice Soup, BBQ on Bun, 3 Bean Salad, Rhubarb Ba-varian

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Area Church Spotlight



First Baptist Church, Blooming Prairie

Pastor's corner

Hobby or life?

I once knew a couple that retired and bought a small acreage near Baxter, Minn., where they started a "hobby farm." It was a radical change from the big city life they'd always known. They simply relished country living and had a lot of fun raising vegetables to sell at a roadside stand in the summer. But what they enjoyed most about their farm was the "hobby" part of it. They didn't have to take it too seriously!

Christians are sometimes tempted to treat their relationship with God and his Church the same way. Worshipping him, hearing his Word, getting involved and serving others is

a change of scenery from the daily routine of life. It can even be a lot of fun, but our sinful hearts urge us to let spiritual needs fade into the background as other commitments gradually occupy all our time....until the Lord becomes only a part of our life – a hobby. And as one man described a hobby, "It's what you do when you have nothing better to do."

Aren't you glad God doesn't treat us that way? Everything he says in his Word and the countless blessings we experience in life prove that we are not an afterthought to him. God has made us the main focus of his love and attention. In fact, Jesus

made us his career to the point of sacrificing his own body and soul on the cross to rescue us from hell. Every day and every moment we receive his personalized care as he shows our repentant hearts with forgiveness full and free. As far as God is concerned, he's never had anything better to do than to lavish us with his grace!

Before Moses died, he told the people of Israel that what they believed would show by how they lived. The same is true for us. "This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that

you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD IS your life!" (Deuteronomy 30:19, 20)

Hobbies are a gift from our heavenly Father, but they aren't our life. God is. Then let's spend time enjoying our hobbies, but let us live for the LORD!

*The Rev. Dean Gunn
Our Savior Evangelical
Lutheran Church,
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6329 SE 38th St., Owatonna
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9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

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5881 S.E. 118th St., Blooming Prairie
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Heidi Heimgartner, Associate Pastor
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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
8953 S.W. 37th Ave., Hope
Pastor Sandy Miller
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Adult Ed: 10:15 a.m.

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104 First St. S.E., Hayfield
The Rev. Paul Hauschild
(507) 477-2248

www.trinityhayfield.org
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Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN—LCMS
57403 300th St., Waltham
Pastor Jesse Krusemark



(507) 567-2272
Service: 10:15 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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202 E. Park Ave., Hollandale
Pastor Jesse Krusemark
(507) 567-2272

Service: 8:00 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

**COMMUNITY LUTHERAN
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106 Third St. S.E., Geneva
Pastor Kristin Venne
(507) 256-4288

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Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

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The Rev. Steve Peterson
(507) 477-2256

Service: 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Reconciliation: 10:15 a.m. Sunday

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The Rev. Swampy Pothiredy
(507) 465-8217

Services: 5 p.m. Saturday
and 8 a.m. Sunday,
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday

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114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie
The Rev. Steve Peterson
(507) 583-2784

Reconciliation: 5 p.m. Saturday
Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday
and 8:30 a.m. Sunday.

Office hours: M-F, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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9946 SE 24th Ave., Owatonna
The Rev. John Sauer, Pastor
The Rev. Brian Sutton,
Parochial Vicar
(507) 451-1588

www.litomysl.webs.com
Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday
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The Rev. John Sauer
(507) 451-1588

www.sacredheartowatonna.org
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m.,
9 a.m., & 10:30 a.m. Sunday Spanish

Service: 1 p.m. Sunday

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
515 E. Main St., Hayfield
The Rev. Emmanuel Sylvester
218-695-2641

Mass & Religious Ed: 11 a.m. Sunday

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Rev. Edward F. McGrath
Deacon Patrick Fagan

Sunday Mass: Vigil Sat. eve 4 p.m.
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Pastor Randy Cirksema
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Summer services: 9 a.m. Sunday

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Services: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday
and 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

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Service: 10 a.m. Sunday

Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday

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and 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Sunday

Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday



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Top 10 summer safety checklist tips
Here are some essential summer safety tips to keep kids safe while they have fun.

- 1. Practice Sun Safety** When it comes to protecting your kids from the sun, sunscreen plays an important role. But sunscreen is just one of the ways to guard against the sun's damaging rays. Because the sun's rays can reflect off of the sand and water or other reflective surfaces, hats and sunglasses can also play an important role in preventing UV damage.
- 2. Protect Against Bugs** Bugs are one of those annoyances of summer. But insects such as potentially disease-carrying mosquitoes and bees can also be harmful to kids. To protect your child against bugs:

Use insect repellents to guard against ticks, which can carry Lyme Disease, and mosquitoes, which can carry the West Nile Virus and other viruses.

Wear long sleeve shirts and long pants when going outside.

Never leave stagnant pools of water around the house. Pools of water can serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
- 3. Prevent Dehydration** Whether your child is playing soccer with teammates or running around in the park with some buddies, it's important to keep in mind that frequent water breaks are very important to prevent dehydration. Your child should drink water before exercise and during breaks, which should be about every 15 to 20 minutes. On particularly hot and humid days, it's also a good idea for parents to spray down kids with some water from a spray bottle.
- 4. Don't Forget Helmets** Your child should wear a helmet whenever she is on anything with wheels, such as a scooter, bicycle, or roller skates. A helmet is the most important device available that can reduce head injury and death from a bicycle crash, according to Safe Kids USA. And be sure to set a good example by always wearing your helmet when riding your bike.
- 5. Practice Food Safety** Food borne illnesses increase in the summer because bacteria grow faster in warmer temperatures and humidity. On top of that, more people are eating and preparing food outdoors, at picnics and barbecues, where refrigeration and places to wash hands are not readily available.

To prevent food borne illnesses: Be sure to wash your hands before preparing or serving any food. Make sure your children wash their hands, or at least use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, before eating.

Never cross-contaminate.
Do not allow any raw meat or poultry to come into contact with any other food or plates or utensils.

Consider the temperature. Use a thermometer and be sure to cook all meat and poultry to the correct temperatures to kill any harmful bacteria. Keep all perishable foods in the refrigerator and do not keep leftovers unrefrigerated for more than one or two hours.

- 6. Guard Against Drowning** Each year, more than 830 children ages 14 and under die as a result of accidental drowning, and an average of 3,600 children are injured in near-drowning incidents. Between May and August, drowning deaths among kids increase by a whopping 89 percent. If you have a swimming pool or if your child will be near one, it is crucial to put multiple safety measures in place to keep kids safe.

Put barriers around the pool to restrict access. Use doors with locks and alarms to keep kids out when adults are not present.

Never leave kids unsupervised. Even if your grade-schooler is a confident and capable swimmer, do not leave the pool area without adult supervision if children are in or near the water.

Do not use flotation devices. Inflatable "floaties" and other flotation devices and toys can give kids who cannot swim a false sense of security.

Learn CPR. You may never need to use it, but knowing CPR for adults and for kids is something that can mean the difference between life and death in an emergency.

Learn about the dangers of secondary drowning, which can happen on dry land, hours after a child inhales water into the lungs.
- 7. Avoid Trampoline Danger** Over 90,000 emergency-room visits were related to trampoline injuries in 2001, according to U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Some trampoline safety tips: Never let more than one child use the trampoline at a time, do not let kids do somersaults, and do not allow kids younger than 6 play on a full-sized trampoline, and move the trampoline away from other structures or play areas.
- 8. Warn kids about hiding in enclosed spaces.** Teach children to never play hide and seek by crawling inside an enclosed space such as a car trunk, chest, or old cooler or appliance.
- 9. Use Caution When Doing Yardwork.** Never allow children to ride on lawnmowers or to play near motorized lawn equipment. Do not allow children under age 12 to operate push mowers and do not allow children younger than 16 to operate ride-on lawnmowers.

In addition to lawnmowers, be sure to never allow your young child to ride an ATV (all-terrain vehicle). ATVs were responsible for 74 deaths and 37,000 injuries in the U.S. in 2008. The AAP recommends that no child under 16 ride on an ATV.
- 10. Safeguard home playgrounds.** If you have a backyard playground or play equipment, make sure the ground beneath the equipment is soft enough. Surfaces made of concrete, asphalt or dirt are too hard, and do not absorb enough impact in the event of a fall. Instead, the CPSC recommends using at least 9 inches of mulch or wood chips.

http://childparenting.about.com/od/healthsafety/a/summer_safety_checklist.htm



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Challenges leading to improved care in nursing homes

By **ALAN VAN ORMER**
Managing Editor

The past few weeks have been a whirlwind for those at Koda Community Living and Park Place Senior Care. But now, the administration is trying to move forward despite challenges and setbacks that have hampered the nursing homes over the past two years.

Chief Executive Officer and Administrator Dave Vandergon said through these issues the team at Koda and Park Place has learned well together. “This is going to improve our quality of care,” he said.

At a special June meeting, the Steele County Board of Commissioners unanimously ap-

proved a forbearance agreement for Steele County Communities for a Lifetime (SCCL) to assist with restructuring finances that impact Koda Living Community and Park Place Senior Living in Owatonna.

During that meeting, Steve Smith, counsel for SCCL, said this is a situation that actually no one wanted and no one expected when you got into this business. “A number of things happened which were unexpected after Steele County entered into its agreement with BHS to jointly own this nursing home,” he said. “First of all, there had been no rate increases by the state for a number of years. The failure to increase rates continues,” he said.

“This is going to improve our quality of care.”
- CEO/Administrator
Dave Vandergon

The agreement expires on June 2016 in an event the organization doesn’t turn around earlier than that. The interest-only payments will be taken out of the \$1 million guarantee Steele County has pledged.

In March, SCCL missed its debt service payment on bonds involving the facilities. On March 17, Moody’s Investors Service placed Steele County’s Series 2005B Gross Revenue

Health Care Crossover Refunding bonds under review for possible downgrade, affecting \$3.2 million in outstanding debt.

Steele County, along with Benedictine Health Services, both members of SCCL, is working to straighten out the situation. The default has also weakened Steele County’s credit rating with Moody’s Investors Service.

Three buildings are associated with Steele County and the SCCL. Steele County is the owner of the buildings for Park Place and Cedarview. SCCL owns the building and operates Koda Living Community, while is responsible for the operations of Park Place and will eventually be responsible for the operation

of Cedarview, which does not have any residents at this point.

Vandergon said this development will give the two nursing homes significant cash flow. “The new rates would come into effect and hopefully, as the beds fill up, we will be operating with the original pro forma model as intended,” he said.

The pro forma set the mid-90 percentage occupancy range for the facilities to be successful. However, to date, it has been in the 80 percent range. There are 79 beds.

There are several reasons why Koda and Park Place are not running in the 90 percent range.

KODA
Continued on 7C

STEELE TALKIN’



Mark Skrien

Understanding the dynamics of change

Sometimes even the slightest changes in life cause people to experience worry and stress. Worry, anxiety, and self-doubt occur for most people. The intensity and frequency of these emotions are more significant than the fact that they exist. Some people tend to worry much more than others and for reasons that are less complicated.

Examining the dynamics of change may be helpful in understanding yourself better during times of stress, worry, and doubt.

If one assumes that change equates with stress, even the slightest changes may result in feelings of fear or uncertainty. People like what is familiar to them, because it provides a sense of safety. It is easier to deal with the known rather than the unknown. There is a tendency to resist change because of a fear of the unknown, and the discomfort that goes with it. This tendency applies to slight changes, in addition to increasingly greater changes.

Changes that are viewed as positive and life-enhancing, such as a better job, a vacation, birth of a child, etc., can also result in added stress, thus causing worry and doubts. It is the unfamiliar and the unknown qualities of changes that produce the fears and uncertainties. These same fears can influence your position to maintain the status quo, thus not moving forward with necessary changes for your life. If you allow the changes in your life to consume your thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, many negative consequences could occur. It could prevent you from making important life decisions.

Some changes in our lives are the direct result of decisions that we make. We weigh decisions and risk factors, and make choices by balancing all of the above. People believe they have more control over these changes. It is interesting to note that many people want something in their life to change, but they do not want to change themselves.

Changes do occur in which we have little or no control. These changes may be abrupt, and people have minimal, if any, choices to make. Examples of this could be a tragic death in the family, getting fired from a job, or a tornado destroying a home.

In relationships, couples often want the partner to change, assuming if that occurs they will be better off. The fact-of-the-matter is that one cannot change another. A basic concept of couple counseling is if you desire someone else to change, you first need to examine yourself to look for ways to change. By making and maintaining some changes in yourself, even if they are only small changes, it usually requires the partner to make some changes in order to accommodate the changes you have made. The key is maintaining the changes, and it is easy to backslide and go back to the status quo, because changes are hard to make and maintain.

STEELE TALKIN’
Continued on 7C

Owatonna woman beads her way into full-time business

By **SHANNON GRANHOLM**
County Staff Writer

Ever stop to think about how each individual bead on a necklace came to look the way it does? Instead of just buying beads from a store, Sue Peoples makes unique beads by doing it herself with a torch and kiln.

Peoples first started doing beadwork in 1997 after she took a group class to learn how to make earrings from a co-worker.

“A group of us kind of got addicted to it and started going to all these bead stores. We would travel to Northfield, Rochester or Minneapolis to buy beads,” Peoples said. “Then we signed up for all the classes we could find, we’d get together once a week to bead and I just got into it a little bit more than the normal person does.”

For 11 years Peoples worked as a special education paraprofessional at Lincoln Elementary and did bead work every once in a while when she could find the time.

In 1999 her husband, Greg, bought her a torch for her birthday so she could start making her own beads and the rest was history. Peoples started teaching classes and did some filming for Bead TV based out of the United Kingdom until the online magazine stopped filming in the United States.

“It got to be where I was making so many things for so many people that it took way too much of my time. I wanted to be home more often for my teenagers,” she said.

Peoples made the decision

to quit her full-time job to in turn pursue beads full-time in 2003 and it wasn’t long before Peoples Bead Dreams was created and she started attending art fairs. She only attends juried art fairs, meaning each fair she does she has to be selected to be in the show. Peoples described juried art fairs as an art fair that is more high-end where people are more interested in art and willing to pay the higher prices.

Peoples mainly makes jewelry, but also makes things such as beaded kaleidoscopes, pens and styluses and little bugs. She does seed beadwork, meaning she crochets small beads together, but her favorite thing to do is to make her own beads out of glass by using a torch and kiln.

From January through May Peoples works around 30 hours a week getting her products ready for art fairs and from June through December she works over 60 hours a week by making creations for customers and attending art fairs nearly every weekend.

“That is the fun thing about beads, they are all one of a kind and every artist puts their own spin on what their beads are like,” she said. “You know when you stare into a campfire? That is how it is for me when I am making beads. It is very meditative, calming and creative.”

Each year Peoples tries to improve her skills and knowledge of beads by attending one to two classes a year as well as the Missouri Bead Retreat. Although the art fairs she attends are in Minnesota and Wisconsin, Peoples travels all across the state for the classes.



After Sue Peoples torches the beads into the right shape she puts it into the kiln where it will sit all day.

Peoples especially enjoys the fact that she can set her own schedule and the art fairs. “I enjoy meeting the people and getting feedback on my art because then it makes me think about what people are looking for,” she said.

The two main challenges Peoples has faced in the bead business are income and coming up with new items each year for the art fairs.

Due to the large amount of competition, Peoples may not

BEAD DREAMS
Continued on Page 7C



In Sue Peoples glass shop she has glass rods from every color of the rainbow that she uses to make beads.

One door closes and another opens

By **ANNA SEGNER**
County Staff Writer

The old house that served as the facility for Gold Cross Ambulance on South Cedar in Owatonna is in the process of being torn down to make room for a new facility that meets the needs of the crew.

While sad to see the old house go, Rick Ellingson of Gold Cross Ambulance is looking forward to the new opportunity. “The foundation is kind of crumbling, and it needed a new roof and siding,” said Ellingson. “We want a more professional appearance that is more efficient. Essentially, the new building will accommodate more of

GOLD CROSS
Continued on 7C

Holy Trinity Catholic Church, in Litomysl, prepares for festival



Staff photo by Karen Jorgensen

With the last of the biscuits in the oven several members of the baking crew, Mary Starman, Lynn Schiller and Carol Prokopec, turned to the task of cleaning up the kitchen. Last Saturday the group prepared filled biscuits to fill pre-orders and will be getting together again to make the biscuits for sale at the festival. Each year, church members bake prune, poppyseed and apricot biscuits. Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Litomysl (rural Owatonna) will celebrate their 44th annual Summer Festival on Sunday, July 26.

HometownLiving

Community Calendar



File photo
A camper at Camp Pillsbury gets training in some of the circus events available at the camp last year. This year, the camp is offering multiple programs and will also offer projects during the Steele County Fair in August.

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7 p.m. BP VFW
7 p.m. BP VFW Auxiliary
7:30 p.m. BP Prairie Lodge Masons
July 15:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time
11 a.m. BPBL Adventure Club
12 p.m. BP Chamber of Commerce
July 16:
2:30 p.m. BP Public Utilities Comm Mtg
6:30 p.m. BPBL Family Movie Night
July 20:
2 p.m. BPBL Movie Day
July 21:
4:45 p.m. Boys N Girls Club Brd
5:30 p.m. BP Ambulance Comm Mtg
July 22:
10:30 a.m. BPBL Story time
11 a.m. BPBL Adventure Club

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July 14:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl
July 16:
5:30 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, DAPE Rm
7 p.m. NRHEG Zumba, DAPE Rm
July 18:
Ellendale Saturday Night Entertainment: Twisted Sisters
July 20:
6:20 p.m. NRHEG Yoga, Media Center Ellndl
July 21:
7 p.m. NRHEG Karate, ES Gym North Ellndl

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July 14:
Habitat 500 Bike Ride, Owa
Steele Co Commission
9:30 a.m. OPL Tale Time! 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m. OPL Summer Story Time 9:30 & 10:30
1 p.m. Steele Co SDA Mtg
7 p.m. Steele Co: Co Brd Mtg, Admin Center, BR
July 15:
Habitat 500 Bike Ride, Owa
9:30 a.m. OPL Garden Time
12 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive, St Josephs Church, Owa
3 p.m. OPL Adventure Club
4 p.m. Owatonna EDA, Council Chambers, City Hall
July 16:
Habitat 500 Bike Ride, Owa
2 p.m. OPL Independent & World Films
6:30 p.m. OPL Family Story Time
7 p.m. Owatonna 11 @ 7 Concert Series
July 17:
Habitat 500 Bike Ride, Owa
6 p.m. Relay for Life, SCFF Fairgrounds
9 p.m. Movies in the Park, Central Park, Owa
July 18:
7th Annual Ride for Hope, Owatonna Eagles Club
Habitat 500 Bike Ride, Owa
8:30 a.m. Gus' Station Fundraiser, Village of Yesterday, Owa
July 20:
12 p.m. Owatonna Noon Rotary Club, Country Club
July 21:
9:30 a.m. OPL Summer Story Time 9:30 & 10:30
10 a.m. OPL So Many Books...So Little Time Book Club
4:30 p.m. OPL Brd, Gainey Rm
7 p.m. Owatonna City Council, Council Chambers, City Hall
July 22:
9:30 a.m. OPL Garden Time
3 p.m. OPL Adventure Club

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7 p.m. Ft Robert Carlin Knights of Columbus Council, Medford
July 16:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
July 20:
2 p.m. The Arthritis Foundation: Medford Senior Exercise Class, Whistle Stop Diner
7 p.m. Medford Planning & Zoning Brd Mtg, City Hall
July 21:
6:30 p.m. Court St Anne Catholic Daughters Meeting, Medford

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SPOT LIGHT

Free clinic of Steele County to host Brat Stand fundraiser, July 13-14

Area residents are invited to purchase hamburgers, brats, hotdogs and soda on Monday-Tuesday, July 13-14, at Cash Wise from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. in Owatonna to help support the Free Clinic of Steele County.

Meals are \$2 and support the purchase of clinical supplies like temperature equipment, diabetic monitors, etc.

The Free Clinic of Steele County provides quality, accessible and culturally-sensitive professional health care service at no cost to low-income uninsured or underinsured residents of greater Steele County.

Another Brat Stand fundraiser will be held at Fareway Foods Store in Owatonna on Thursday, July 30, from 3-6 p.m. and Friday, July 31, from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

OTHER COUNTIES

Mower
July 14:
Drop-In Summer Reading Program, Grand Meadow Public Library
Lyle Vol. Fire Dept Meeting
8 a.m. Circle of Friends Day Camp, Hormel Historic Home
9 a.m. Intro to Dance Camp, Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, I. J. Holton School dance room, Austin
9:30 a.m. Mower Co Brd of Commissioners Mtg
10 a.m. ArtWorks Gallery Show: Nick Sinclair and Mike Erickson
10 a.m. Intro to Dance Camp, 3rd to 4th Grade, I. J. Holton School dance room, Austin
10:30 a.m. 2015 Summer Reading Club: Wake Up and Wiggle, Austin Public Library
11 a.m. Intro to Dance Camp, 5th to 6th Grade, I. J. Holton School dance room, Austin
3:30 p.m. Mower Co, Southland ISD: Open Gym, M/HS Gym
4 p.m. 2015 Summer Reading Club: Free Family Yoga, Austin Public Library
6 p.m. Advanced Beginners' Knitting, Austin ArtWorks Center
6:30 p.m. Water Aerobics - Session I, Austin Municipal Pool
July 15:
Drop-In Summer Reading Program, Grand Meadow Public Library
8 a.m. Circle of Friends Day Camp, Hormel Historic Home
9 a.m. Intro to Dance Camp, Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, I. J. Holton School dance room, Austin
10 a.m. ArtWorks Gallery Show: Nick Sinclair and Mike Erickson
10 a.m. Intro to Dance Camp, 3rd to 4th Grade, I. J. Holton School dance room, Austin
11 a.m. 2015 Summer Reading Club: Mad Science of Iowa, Austin Public Library
11 a.m. Intro to Dance Camp, 5th to 6th Grade, I. J. Holton School dance room, Austin
11:30 a.m. SEMCAC Meal, Heritage House, Lyle
1 p.m. 2015 Summer Reading Club: Mad Science of Iowa, Austin Public Library
5 p.m. Grand Meadow Farmers Market
5 p.m. Summer Clay, Austin ArtWorks Center
7 p.m. World Music Events: Kinobe & the Wamu Spirit, Austin ArtWorks Center
Freeborn
July 14:
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story time
July 16:
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story time
5:30 p.m. AL Council Workshop, City Council Chambers
6 p.m. ALPL Night-Time Story time
July 20:
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story time
3:45 p.m. ALPL Book Pals (Gr 5 & 6)
July 21:
10:30 a.m. ALPL Story time
Dodge
July 14:
9:30 a.m. Dodge Co Commission
10 a.m. WCPL Story Time/Crafts
5:30 p.m. Dodge Center American Legion, Taco Tuesdays
6 p.m. Triton Adult ESL Class, ES Media Center
7 p.m. Claremont City Council Mtg
July 15:
7:30 a.m. Hayfield Chamber Mtg, Uncle Mony's/Spare Time Lanes
5:30 p.m. Dodge Center American Legion, Pizza & Bear
July 16:
KoMet Kraze Fitness Training (Adults) - Summer Session S300 -1 KM High School / Weight room
Little Lady KoMets Summer Basketball Camp (entering grades K-3) S1031 KM Middle School / MS Gym
9 a.m. Project Runway '15 - All NEW projects! S747 KM Middle School / Room 209 Facs
Camp Kindergarten PRE11 KM Comm. Ed. Wing / CE6

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Blooming PrairieLiving

Ambulance Service now includes mother-son duo

By **LAURA BERNDT**
News Editor

Garrett Wradislavsky, a 2015 Blooming Prairie High School graduate, is the newest member of the Blooming Prairie Ambulance Service. Interestingly enough, his mother, Nola Wradislavsky, is already a member of this same service.

Garrett says that his mom inspired him to become an EMT (emergency medical technician.) “I saw her doing stuff, and I thought it was extremely interesting,” he said. Garrett made this decision when he was just a junior in high school, and officially became certified for the work about two weeks ago.

Nola has been on the service for five years, and says that she is extremely proud of her son. “(Garrett) has a good sense of humor and he likes to help people,” she said. “This is a big deal.”

In turn, Garrett admires his mother’s kindness and ease with all people. “My mom is very nice to people,” said Garrett. “She doesn’t really have a mean bone in her body and she cares about everyone she helps.”

Nola, says Garrett, is also great at connecting with people. “She’s good at talking to people,” Garrett said.

Although Nola and Garrett will technically be working on the same service, they are part of different crews. The Blooming Prairie Ambulance Service currently has 14 members, and those members are divided into crews.

Each crew includes three or four people who respond to calls as a team. If a page comes in while that crew is on call, they are expected to drop whatever they are doing and respond to the incident. Incidents occur at all hours of the day and night, and EMTs must also respond to calls on weekends and holidays.

Blooming Prairie Ambulance Service Director Jeremy Halverson says that the service re-



Staff photos by Laura Berndt
LEFT: Garrett Wradislavsky removes the cot from the ambulance. **ABOVE:** Garrett and Nola Wradislavsky are proud members of the Blooming Prairie Ambulance Service. Garrett, a 2015 Blooming Prairie High School graduate, is Nola’s son.

fied on June 27.

Halverson said that he’s always happy to see new members join the team. “The more people we have to help, the better,” said Halverson. And, since Garrett is one of the younger service members on the team, it’s possible that he could stay on the service for a few years.

Nola adds that the service is always looking for more members.

“We’re basically like a little family,” said Halverson, of the team. Of course, it’s unusual for the service members to actually be related, like Garrett and Nola.

Garrett admits being on the same service as his mom will be “interesting,” but also says that

Nola has been very supportive. Garrett says that his mom was happy about his decision to join the service. “She told me that, if this is something I really want to do, I need to pursue it.”

Although they’ll be on different crews, Nola says she and Garrett may still end up working side by side. “There will be that call where both (crews) respond, and we end up working together,” she said. “But, I won’t view him as my son. I’ll think of him as another crew member.”

Since joining the Blooming Prairie Ambulance Service, Garrett has already been on a few calls. In time, he hopes to learn more about emergency services. “I want to be more educated in

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT Smiles are contagious at Prairie Manor Care Center

By **HOWARD LESTRUD**
Staff Correspondent

Just ask Rich Feeney what the most satisfying part of his job as administrator is, and he will reply that it’s the smiles of happy residents and happy employees.

Feeney is administrator of the Prairie Manor Care Center and Heather Haus Assisted Living in Blooming Prairie. He just recently completed his first year as manager of the large care facility that includes 107 employees.

“It’s nice to see what one is doing is transferred through our employees to our residents,” Feeney said. “Smiles are contagious,” he said. Staff members are trained, licensed and educated in providing quality care and supervision 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Prairie Manor is located in the middle of a residential neighborhood of Blooming Prairie. It is the hub of many family activities in the community. “We are neighbors and family helping each other in life,” Feeney said. “Our staff members are providers of care and also become close friends with the residents,” Feeney said.

Feeney said his health care staff has given Prairie Manor an excellent reputation. “We have a good record of longevity with our staff and they love to come to work,” he added.

Prairie Manor is always looking for volunteers of any age. “Walking in here is like opening up a history book,” Feeney said in explaining the years of history represented by its residents.

Ground was broken for Prairie Manor in 1966 and doors opened in 1970. Maintenance man Doug Erickson is the lone staff member who has been at Prairie Manor since it opened.

Prairie Manor currently counts 44 residents. The Heather House, located adjoining Prairie Manor, has 20 apartments and is full. “We have a waiting list,” Feeney said.

“Our staffs are here to provide good quality care to our residents,” Feeney emphasizes.

Prairie Manor is a non-profit organization, structured with an executive board. The board includes one representative from five Blooming Prairie area churches: Trinity Lutheran Church, First Lutheran Church, St. Columbanus Catholic Church, Red Oak Grove Lutheran Church and First Baptist Church. The board approves the Prairie Manor budget and projects.



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud
Rich Feeney is administrator of the Prairie Manor Care Center in Blooming Prairie. He just completed his first year at the facility. Heather Haus Assisted Living is attached to the care center.

Staff of Prairie Manor strives to maintain the following goals for those it serves:

- Promotion of a therapeutic and caring environment for all our residents
- Respect for each individual’s choices
- Encouragement of healthy lifestyle
- Provide a clean, safe, friendly and home-like setting for all residents

Prairie Manor offers services in three different categories:

- Treatments and intervention: Catheter care, wound care, pain management and assessments and infection control
- Rehabilitative services: Physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy and restorative therapy
- Other services: Social services, out-patient rehab services, weekly religious services, mail/notary services, hospice/family room and transportation for planned activities

“We give the best care in the area, hands down,” Feeney claims. Many residents transfer to Prairie Manor from other locations because of its caring reputation.

Activities are plenty at Prairie Manor and

PRAIRIE MANOR
Continued on Page 4C

Honors

Manske graduates

Luther senior Erica Manske of Blooming Prairie participated in commencement ceremonies for the class of 2015 at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 24, in Luther’s Regents Center. Manske, the daughter of Laurie and Randy Manske, received a degree in management and accounting.

Luther President Paula Carlson congratulated the graduates and introduced Mike Danforth, a 1995 graduate of Luther and executive producer of National Public Radio’s “Wait Wait... Don’t Tell Me!” who gave the commencement address.

Charlie Leonard, Luther class of 2000, received the Luther College Young Alumni Award, which recognizes outstanding achievement of Luther alumni in their vocation or avocation that have graduated in the last 15 years. Leonard’s work with countless children and their families through his theatre company Blue Water fills a void for students who are not getting opportunities in the arts.

Libby Logsdon, Luther class of 2015, was awarded the Luther College Jensen Medal; an award presented each year to an outstanding senior, selected by the graduating class, who best demonstrates the ideals of the college through service to students and the college community.

Dean’s List

Students from Blooming Prairie were named to the Minnesota State Mankato Spring Dean’s List.

Jonathan Hines was named to the High Honor List and Taylor Farr, Rhianna Gwilt, Jenna Krell, Holly Vogt and Mathew Walters were named to the Honor List.

To qualify for academic honors, undergraduate students must be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours for the semester.

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For more information, you can contact Dr. Chad at Prairie Family and Sports Chiropractic, P.A. in Downtown Blooming Prairie, where he will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have regarding chiropractic and your health. You can phone us at 583-2271 or toll free at 1-866-5DR-CHAD, or e-mail Dr. Chad at drchad@drchad.org. Our website can also be helpful in answering any questions.

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Ellendale-GenevaLiving

Gus' Station fundraiser scheduled for Saturday

By **LAURA BERNDT**
News Editor

Gus' Station, built in 1931, has always been a good place to tell stories. On July 18, visitors to the historical building will once again have the chance to hear stories of days gone by.

Lloyd Kaplan, a member of the Ellendale Area Heritage Society and former Steele County Historical Society board member, has a wealth of knowledge about the building and its contents. In fact, he can tell stories about most items at the site, from the sign outside the station to the broom hanging on the wall near the front door.

"Hilda swept the floor with that broom every day," Lloyd said. "Every piece here has a story."

Lloyd is referring to Hilda Jacobson, who operated the station from 1946 to 1976 with her husband, Gus. While Gus and Hilda Jacobson were not the first operators of the building, they were well known for their thriving business and made the station into an area landmark. During their 30 years at the station, Gus and Hilda sold gas, candy, cigarettes and soda pop, in addition to servicing vehicles.

"This is how Kwik Trip and Casey's got started; they modeled their business around places like this," Lloyd said.

Lloyd says that prominent area figures would gather at the station for their morning conversation. Lloyd also says that local students would buy candy at Gus' Station, which was located just half a block away from the Ellendale school.

"Instead of eating lunch at noon, the kids would come here and buy candy," Lloyd said. "They were absolutely a huge part of the business."

Hember C. and Ruth Steele



Staff photos by Laura Berndt
Gus' Gas Station is part of the Village of Yesteryear in Owatonna. On Saturday, July 18, the public is welcome to attend a fundraiser for the historic building.

built the station on the corner of Ellendale's Eighth Avenue and School Street in 1931. During its first 10 years of existence, the station was operated by Hember Steele, Franklin Dahl and Neil Johnson.

During World War II, the small building became a residence. In 1941 the Kuntz family lived at the station, followed by the Anderson family it 1942. Briefly, in 1946, Beverly Fynbo served as the station's operator before Gus and Hilda opened their business.

After Gus and Hilda closed their business, Roger and Luann Sommer began using the building as an office. Along with the office, the Sommers also sold candy and pop until 1984. Ray Winter then used the station as a place to service cars. Later, the building was used as a storage

shed.

In recent years, the Ellendale Area Heritage Society and Steele County Historical Society teamed up to clean and restore the building. Bit by bit, Lloyd and other Heritage Society members filled the station with relevant historical items, many of which were actually used at the site while the station was in operation.

"We were very fortunate that we were able to salvage as much as we could," said Lloyd.

Lloyd is also quick to note that he is not the only person who worked to restore the station. "It took a lot of people to do this, and it took a long time," he said. The station moved to its new home, in the Steele County History Center's Village of Yesteryear, in Owatonna, and was first open to the public at this

location in 2014.

The latest additions to the station are two new pumps. Lloyd says that the pumps should be installed just in time for the upcoming fundraiser.

On July 18, all are welcome to attend a special fundraising event at the Steele County History Center in Owatonna, where the Village of Yesteryear is located. That day, a pancake breakfast will take place at the Center from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. During this time, a car show will also take place on the grounds. The first 75 entrants will receive a dash plaque, and all are invited to take place in the car cruise at 1:15 p.m. Guests can even take a photo of their vehicle in front of Gus' Gas Station. (Free will donations will be accepted.) Souvenir t-shirts will also be available. All proceeds will benefit



Gus' Station is filled with many original items, which were used while the store was in operation.

the "Gus' Station Project."

Although this event is sponsored by the Ellendale Area Heritage Society and the Steele County Historical Society, Lloyd says that this may be the last "big event" for the Ellendale Area Heritage Society. The Society currently has few members, and information is lost each time a member passes

away. Lloyd hopes, however, that the members' legacies will live on through their efforts to preserve Ellendale's history.

"That's what this is all about," said Lloyd, gesturing to the original shelving and artifacts on display at Gus' Station. "It's not about us. When we are gone, this will still be here."

Ellendale prepares for National Night Out

By **LAURA BERNDT**
News Editor

Summer celebrations are a hot topic in Ellendale.

At its July 9 meeting, the Ellendale City Council first discussed National Night Out, an annual "nation-wide block party" that takes place each August.

Council member Stephanie Lageson Kibler says that, to her knowledge, Ellendale has never participated in this annual event. But, that could all change later this year.

National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 4, and is designed to create connections and dialogue between neighbors.

In addition to serving as a social event, it's also a unique crime-prevention tool.

"The theory behind it is: if you know your neighbors, you can help keep crime down," said Lageson Kibler.

Lageson Kibler said that she had been in contact with area law enforcement officials and emergency responders, who had expressed interest in attending the event.

Council approved a motion for Lageson Kibler and City Clerk Lee Ann Højberg to continue brainstorming and to organize the event, which may include refreshments and family activities.

As the event draws near, more details will be unveiled. A tentative start time for National Night Out in Ellendale is 5:30 p.m.

Council also heard a report from Municipal Liquor Store Manager Pete Paulson. Paulson asked for Council's approval to install LED lighting in the store, which would be very cost-effective, saving roughly \$150 a month.

He estimated that it would cost approximately \$1,058 to purchase 46 lights. Council approved the request.

Paulson also noted that the

Municipal Liquor Store roof needs repair. Council agreed that the repair is a priority, and Paulson said he would try to bring some cost estimates to the next meeting.

Council also asked Paulson for input about some Ellendale Days events. During the celebration, the Municipal Liquor Store hosted two evenings of live music.

Paulson said that it may be a good idea to consider having live music for one night only during next year's festivities. While both evenings saw a "decent" crowd this year, Paulson explained that reducing the live music to one night would save money and could also generate a larger audience.

"Part of the purpose of having a municipal liquor store is to benefit the city," Paulson said. "But we also want to do that while managing the money the best we can."

Council agreed to consider the matter again next year.

In other news, Council also approved a motion to send a reminder to all city residents. This letter will highlight key city ordinances (such as the animal, golf cart and lawn ordinances) and encourage all residents to keep in compliance.

The ordinances can be viewed in their entirety at the city office, and Council will continue working to post these ordinances online as they are able.

In similar business, Council also moved to take action on issues with two area properties, including one lawn that needs to be mowed and a fence that was constructed on city property without consent.

Council also approved the payment of bills, totaling \$47,427.56.

The Ellendale City Council will meet again on Thursday, July 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the room adjacent to the City Clerk's office.

PRAIRIE MANOR

Continued from Page 6A



Staff photo by Howard Lestrud
Heather Haus Assisted Living was decorated for the 4th of July. Shown with resident Carl Haflinger, right, are Rose Kurtze, personal care attendant, and Anna McIntosh, personal care attendant.

recently, Sunday activities were set into motion including church, bingo, bowling, arts and crafts and baking.

Good news came out of the Minnesota Legislature this past session with the House and Senate approving \$138 million more

in funding to nursing homes across the state. Prairie Manor will soon learn what its funding hike will be. Nursing staff will

see a 14 percent increase in salary, Feeney said.

Prairie Manor is planning on doing some interior and exterior construction later this summer. Lembke Masonry will be redoing the driveway and sidewalks at the care center. The care center is also looking at bids to remodel the cafeteria, activities and entrance areas. New flooring, paint, lights, ceiling tiles, window treatments and carpeting are being considered.

The Prairie Manor management team led by Feeney also includes: Rachel Smith, Heather Haus manager; Allison Hensrud, director of nursing; Dawn Sheward and Heidi Thompson, social services; Pam Doerhoefer, certified dietary manager and certified food protection professional; Shawn Brown, environmental services director and Mandi Tweet, activities director.

Feeney and wife Patty have three children, two daughters (Johanna and Allysha) and a son (Richie). Patty and Johanna will be attending Mankato State University this fall, Allysha attends the University of Wisconsin in Baron County and Richie is a junior at Blooming Prairie High School.

Feeney, a veteran of the U.S. Navy, obtained a BA in business administration and majored in health administration.

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MedfordLiving

Medford Senior Care’s expansion caters to need of community

By ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

Medford Senior Care has plans to break ground and begin the expansion off of the north wing on July 20.

“Everything has been passed and approved. Now we are just waiting for the contractor to get a crew together,” explained Julie Spronk, owner of the facility.

Spronk said they that if all goes well, they hope to open the new wing on Nov. 20.

The new expansion will be a wing of eight apartments with a separate bedroom, living room, kitchen and a large bathroom with a washer and dryer. The bathroom will be handicapped accessible and a call light system will be in place.

These new apartments are designed larger than the existing apartments to house married couples, though single residents are equally welcome.

“Many couples come in and want something a little bigger than the standard,” said Spronk. “There are many cases where a spouse is providing care for the other, but sometimes that constant care can take a toll on the healthier one. So we are able to provide some care to the spouse that needs it, while the able-bodied spouse can live life a little more.”

There are currently 16 residents, and the eight new apartments bring potential for two in each apartment. Therefore, the population of residents could double to 32.

The kitchen facility and dining area was designed to serve more people, so there will be no need for updating the kitchen, said Spronk.

Spronk said that more staff will be needed, but some of the hiring will depend on the needs of the new residents. Like the existing apartments, the residents in these apartments may receive physical, occupational and speech therapy.

“We’re fairly small now, but even with 32 residents, we’d still be considered small. It will still be very manageable,” said Spronk. “This is something that the community requested, so we are rising to the occasion.”

There is already a waiting list for these new apartments, but Spronk encourages anyone interested to get in contact. Individuals and their family are welcome to make a visit, look at the floor plans, tour the existing facility and if interested, enroll on the waiting list.

From there, Spronk will call those on the list two months before opening. “I realize that a lot can change in two months, so that is why we are doing it this way,” said Spronk. “People can call and ask for Julie.”



Staff photo by Anna Segner

Trinity Lutheran Church in Medford will host Camp Omega Vacation Bible School July 13-17.

Camp Omega comes to Medford Trinity Lutheran Church

BY ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

Trinity Lutheran Church is excited to welcome Camp Omega to its congregation from July 13-17. Camp Omega is a Vacation Bible School camp that travels from church to church to offer free Vacation Bible School day camp.

The Rev. Mark Diebighauser said that this is Camp Omega’s first year hosting Vacation Bible School day camp in Medford. “Camp Omega reached out to us because they heard good things about us,” said Diebighauser. “This is definitely the biggest outreach event that we’ve hosted.”

Diebighauser said that thanks to a grant they received from the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church, they were able to offer this camp for free. They are expecting 75-100 children to participate in the camp. All children preschool to sixth grade were welcome to participate.

In preparation for the camp, Trinity Lutheran gathered adult and teen volunteers to help out. Four traveling camp counselors from Camp Omega are spending the week in Medford. They will spend nights with families that volunteered to host the camp counselors.

The goal of the camp is to share the love of God, a goal that Diebighauser believes Trinity Lutheran Church tries to embody in all that they do.

Aaron Wendorff of the Camp Omega summer staff said that Camp Omega’s goal is to “share Jesus in a meaningful setting.” “We’re with the kids for just one week, and we don’t always get to see the end result, so we think of ourselves as seed planting,” said Wendorff.

“First and foremost, we teach the four Fs: faith, family, friends and fun! So we play all kinds of games to teach and share Jesus.”

The camp counselors will teach students bible lessons through games, songs, skits, crafts and other interactive learning tools.

“A lot of our counselors are college students have so much energy, so they get silly,” said

Wendorff. Music and snacks are also provided at camp.

Camp Omega was established in 1964, and the camp is based out of Waterville, Minnesota. There counselors host retreats, camp, and conferences, but they also travel summers to various Lutheran churches.

Diebighauser said that Trinity Lutheran Church of Medford has high expectations and that the entire congregation is very excited to host the camp.

“This will be a lot of fun. This is something that the kid’s will always remember,” said Diebighauser.

“We’re thankful to the district for giving us the opportunity to do this camp, to Camp Omega for reaching out to us, to kids and families that are participating and volunteering.”



Staff photo by Anna Segner

Enjoying old-time music

Residents of Medford Senior Care enjoy the many entertainment opportunities provided, including listening to some old-time music.



Staff photo by Anna Segner

Joe Tupy and Laverne Pechacek play some old-time music for the residents of Medford Senior Care on July 10.

Weekly crossword on Page 7D

PUZZLE SOLUTION

I	M	A	M	S			M	A	C		M	S	E	C		
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GRIEF RELIEF



Sometimes children don’t seem to care. It’s not uncommon for some children, especially those under age 5 to show

little feeling when told of the death of a relative. And while it may seem a child should feel sad, the child may have little understanding of the meaning of death. The child may not have been particularly close to the deceased or realized that death is permanent. Allow and accept the child’s honest expression and don’t make the child feel guilty or pressured.

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Owatonna Living

Educating migrant, low income families in Steele County

By ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

One visit to the Tri-Valley Opportunity Council site in Owatonna and one will find both respect and appreciation for education of all. The Owatonna site offers migrant and seasonal head start programs for children pre-kindergarten from low income and migrant families.

This year Tri-Valley Opportunity Council celebrates 50 years of providing education. The site in Owatonna is only 20 years old, as the building (near Our Saviors Lutheran Church) was built in the 1990s.

The Tri-Valley Opportunity Council was founded in 1965 as part of the war on poverty. There are now 15 sites in Minnesota.

A majority of the students are from Owatonna, but Tri-Valley serves all of Steele County.

The Head Start and Early Head Start program helps local families that are below or meet the national poverty line.

There are two classrooms that serve for this program, and there are teachers that make home visits to work with families on early childhood development. There is also help for pregnant mothers with prenatal care. There are approximately 28



One-year-old Josiah Santibanez of Owatonna looks suspiciously into the camera as he plays with toys in the Head Start education program classroom of Tri-Valley Opportunity Council near Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Owatonna.

students enrolled, and many on waiting lists.

The migrant educational program offers education to young children of migrant families. In order for children to qualify, their parents must work in agriculture.

There are 50 kids enrolled in the program. According to program area manager Nicolee Mensing, many of the parents are employed permanently or seasonally by Lakeside Foods.

"There is a big need for day care for infants and toddlers in

the area. Many are on waiting lists, so when migrant families come to the area, it is difficult for them to find a safe place for their children while they work up to 12 hour shifts," explained Mensing. "I think it means a lot to the parents that their children



Staff photo by Anna Segner
The Tri-Valley Opportunity Council site in Owatonna, MN, near Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

are somewhere safe. "We provide a rich learning environment. We do work with language. We have song time and interactive games that help with school readiness," explained Mensing. "We also provide lunch for our students and any child that needs a hot meal. We eat family style around the table, so that the children learn those gross motor skills of scooping and sharing."

She added that there is also a bilingual staff in the classrooms to do work with Spanish and English and supplement both.

The migrant educational pro-

gram is for preschoolers and younger, and it is intense because they have to fit a nine month curriculum into a 6 month time period due to the seasonal nature of agriculture work.

Tri-Valley pre-school teacher Linda Santibanez said that the social aspect alone is very important for the children that are used to moving frequently. "I was the child of a migrant worker, so I know what it is like to go back and forth, being a new student, and I can understand

EDUCATION
Continued on 7C

Litomysl's 44th Annual Summer Festival on July 26

The Litomysl community spirit will be felt everywhere in the air at Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Litomysl (rural Owatonna) on July 26 as the 140 families of the parish host their 44th annual Litomysl Summer Festival, one of the largest summer parish festivals in southern Minnesota.

This country-style festival draws thousands of people to the community's annual fundraiser that helps support the parish and its youth.

At 10 a.m., a Polka Mass with the "Litomyslaneous Group" begins the festivities.

The Owatonna Knights of Columbus Council #945's Fourth Degree Knights will be a part of the Mass also. At 11 a.m. all the outside activities begin, which include food booths with pork rib sandwiches, pork burgers, hot dogs, brats, root beer floats, walking tacos, and refreshments to drink; a flea market, along with a Silent Auction in the school; a country store with garden produce; and many children's and adult games. Among the games are plinko, a fish pond, a spin the wheel game, a dime toss, and live pony rides.

The Silent Auction will be-

gin at 11 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. in the school. An Ertl toy tractor (signed by Mr. Ertl) and a handmade child's wooden rocking chair will be available to bid on at the Silent Auction, as well as many, many other wonderful items

There will be no oral auction this year.

Local businesses and individuals have donated thousands of prizes, which will be used for selling chances on, for children's games prizes, and for the ever-popular root beer barrel game. Among the prizes are gift certificates and many wonderful

items. The annual "Big Ticket" raffle, has 67 prizes (with a value of over \$4,000), the first two prizes being \$500. The drawing will be at 5 p.m.

A shaved ham or turkey sandwich meal with potato salad, baked beans, ice cream and beverage will be served in the church basement from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. only. Pie and filled biscuits will also be on the menu.

The ladies of the parish will make many, many dozen prune, poppyseed and apricot biscuits (or "buchtty" in Czech). They will go on sale at 11 a.m. near St. Isidore's School.

Music will fill the air north of the church with "The Dan Stursa Band" and "The Czech Lites". "The Klecker Band" (they have played at all 43 festivals) will play inside the church in the afternoon. Near the school Hans Hohnman will provide music. The Owatonna KC Choir will sing in the church before Mass.

A shuttle bus will transport festival goers to and from the church.

By the school, a display of old gas engines will be running. (Check out the website at www.litomysl.webs.com)

Litomysl is located 8 miles

south of Owatonna on Co. Rd. 45, then 2 miles east on Co. Rd. 4 (SE 98th St); to 24th Ave SE; or 5 miles north of Blooming Prairie on Hwy 218 to Bixby, then 4½ miles west on Co Rd 4 (SE 98th St) to 24th Ave SE; or 6 miles south of Owatonna on Interstate 35 to the Hope exit #32, then left on Co. Rd. 4 to Co. Rd. 3, go 1/2 mile south, then 3 miles east on Co. Rd. 4 (98th St.) to 24th Ave SE; or from Ellendale east on Hwy 30 to Co. Rd. 45, then 5 miles north on Co. Rd. 45 to Co. Rd. 4 (SE 98th St), then 2 miles east to 24th Ave SE.

No poultry; no problem at Steele County Fair

By ALAN VAN ORMER
Managing Editor

Cancelled bird exhibitions across the state will not deter youth in the 4-H program to show their projects at the Steele County Fair in August.

Steele County 4-H Program Coordinator Melissa Koch said she believes this has provided an opportunity for youth to explore poultry in a different light, do more research and learn more about their project than raising, bringing and exhibiting at the county fair.

"We are providing an opportunity for kids to find out more in depth about production or breeding or the Avian flu itself,"

she said. "I think it is a good thing. Hopefully, it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for kids to explore the project deeper than more than just traditional raising and exhibiting."

In May, the Minnesota State Fair cancelled its poultry show for the 2015 fair. The Minnesota Board of Animal Health then cancelled all bird exhibitions at county fairs, the state fair and other events.

The Board of Animal Health directive is effective through the end of 2015 and also prohibits birds from being included in swap meets, exotic sales and petting zoos.

The statewide ban is a result of an epidemic of H5N2, a highly pathogenic avian influ-



enza. Since March 5, the virus has impacted nearly 90 Minnesota poultry farms. The ban is to minimize the risk of potential further spread of the H5N2 virus.

Steele County is planning to have its exhibit on Tuesday afternoon at the fair in Owatonna. The judge is expected to come in and do conference interviewing.

While there will be no live

bird exhibits, 4-Hers will have other poultry-related exhibit opportunities.

There will still be showmanship entries. However, each exhibitor will be given a 'stuffed' bird to use for his or her showmanship class.

The exhibitor will be asked to demonstrate the proper handling procedures and also share their project knowledge with the judge.

There will be a champion and reserve champion exhibitor from each of the three classes. One state fair trip will be awarded for showmanship.

A poster contest is also part of this year's county fair. 4-Hers can enter a poster that promotes the 4-H poultry project or is an

educational 4-H poster on poultry.

Koch said she knows that some of the youth are really excited. "At first it was a disappointment for kids," she said. A mom recently told me that this is really neat. We can check into background."

She added that people want to help the industry, as well as understand the biosecurity issues.

"I don't know what to expect," Koch said. "I'm just excited to see the kids be able to dive deeper into their knowledge of the poultry project. I am looking forward to that."



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OwatonnaLiving

United Way receives grant for workforce development

By ANNA SEGNER
County Staff Writer

United Way of Steele County has received the Health Equity in Action Grant, which consists of \$50,000 for the first year and \$75,000. This grant is from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation, and the ultimate goal is to address the root cause of poverty.

The Health Equity in Action Grant will fund the collaboration of United Way, Workforce Development Inc., Owatonna Chamber of Commerce and Owatonna High School.

United Way Director of Strategic Operations Tanya Paley said that the focus of the collaboration has been the transi-

tion between high school and local employment. The aim is to educate low income students on local career opportunities.

Paley said that while the focus of the collaboration is in Owatonna, workforce development is in effect for all of Steele County.

“We focus on students that come from families that won’t know or hear of opportunities. If students know more about opportunities for after high school that might mean that more will stay in high school and graduate,” said Paley.

The grant will fund various site visits to local companies and organizations. Paley said that this allows students to see firsthand the career opportuni-

ties available.

The grant will also fund a career counselor in the Owatonna High School, which Paley believes will be a great resource for students. The career counselor will serve as a link between the student population and employers.

While this grant has a focus in the workforce, Paley said that the ultimate goal is a healthier community. “One of the things that is interesting about this grant is that it is from Blue Cross Blue Shield in support of workforce development. Income, education and health are very much intertwined,” said Paley.

“We want a healthy community, and it’s known that health care is not the only way to de-

termine whether someone is healthy or not,” explained Paley. “Lifting people out of poverty is actually a health strategy. We’re going to make this community healthier.”

While this is a two year grant, Paley said that United Way has already been in conversation with Blue Cross Blue Shield on how to sustain the collaboration’s efforts after the grant. “We’re not interested in only two years. We’re looking at long term.” Said Paley.

“We’re very excited about what this will bring the community,” remarked Paley. “We are open to ideas that readers have, whether they are a part of a company or have a student that might be interested.”



Submitted photo
(Top row) Mark Cunningham, Patricia Cunningham (now Segner), (bottom row) Julie Cunningham (now Hermes), William Cunningham, and Ronald Cunningham all lived in the house where Gold Cross sits.

EDUCATION

Continued from Page 6C

why they might be more shy,” explained Santibanez.

Santibanez’ five children have all been enrolled in the Head Start program, and she has seen the difference it has made on them when they start preschool. She said that she could especially see the impact on her

oldest daughter, Natalie, when she entered kindergarten, as she already knew how to write her name.

The school readiness is the goal of both the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs, and parents are a big part of the effort. “We host parent meetings

once a month. We usually have it themed so it is a fun time for the kids, too,” said Mensing. There they will offer ways for parents to continue that education in the classroom into the home as well. “We also offer information about GED for parents as well.”

Between the 28 students in

the Head Start program and 50 students in the migrant program, the 28 staff members have their hands full. “We would love to be able to serve more kids, but this is what we have funding for,” said Mensing. “This is good for families and good for the kids’ long term education.”

BEAD DREAMS

Continued from Page 1C

always get into the fair even-though she did in year’s past.

“Sometimes you get in, sometimes you don’t, which makes it kind of hard. If you have a really

good show and then the next year you don’t get in or you get waitlisted and you were planning on that income,” she said. “Your income is never the same,

but that is what makes it interesting.

Peoples hope is that after Greg retires from his full-time job as a network engineer that the two

can continue to do what they love, her beads and him wood, and travel the country attending art fairs.

GOLD CROSS

Continued from Page 1C

our needs.”

One of those needs is more space for a larger crew, as the Gold Cross Ambulance has expanded to 14 full-time staff.

The new facility is going to be built exactly where the house was. It will be a single level of office, and the current garage will stay. Ellingson said that the new building has been designed to look slightly residential to keep that neighborhood feel.

“We went around to the neighboring houses and told them the plan and showed them the design. Most were very receptive,” said Ellingson.

The estimated completion period for the new building is some time in November or December.

Ellingson said that the process of getting the house torn down has been longer than they expected, because of the various approvals needed to move

forward. The process has been slowed primarily by all of the inspections that the house has to go through before removal. Ellingson said all asbestos removal had to be carried through before anything was torn down.

During the removal of the house and construction of the new building, the Gold Cross Ambulance will be located across the street at the old clinic. “They were kind enough to let

us use there space. We will still use the garage, but keep one truck in the parking lot close to us in the clinic, said Ellingson.

Ellingson had to say good bye to his office, which was in one of the upstairs bedrooms. Despite a few attic bats years ago, he enjoyed the space. “It’s kind of sad. It was kind of cool place, but we’re excited for a new adventure,” said Ellingson.

1005 S Cedar – A great place to grow up

By MARK CUNNINGHAM

Our family, which consisted of my father (Marvin), my mother (Jeanette) and my four siblings, Patricia, Julie, Ron, Bill and myself.

We moved to 1005 S. Cedar (the present site of Gold Cross Ambulance) in December 1964 and lived there until October 1971. It was a spacious, well-kept, 3-bedroom house with a giant, enclosed wrap-around porch—the best place ever for a 7-year- old to safely watch a thunder storm.

The coolest thing about growing up there was its location. Roosevelt School, with its two baseball diamonds, was just a crawl under the fence from our next door neighbor’s yard. Most importantly though, there were lots of families with kids. Besides Roosevelt School, there were big backyards to play in.

There was the Grey family, the Karows, the Grunklees, the Seykoras, McCarthys and the Nesbits. All the neighborhood kids played together. It was more of a “Leave it to Beaver” life style.

Is it depressing or saddening to think that the house you grow up in is about to be torn down? Not really. Childhood memories aren’t of the structure you grew up in; the memories are who you shared the structure with.

Mark Cunningham is an Owatonna native and is the Owatonna Knights of Columbus Hall manager.

KODA

Continued from Page 1C

One is being addressed with the SCCL forbearance agreement.

A small portion involves infractions that have occurred at the facilities over the past couple of years. Last year, there were more than a dozen infractions that Koda and Park Place were involved with. This year, there were four minor infractions, Vandergon said.

“We’ve really focused on training our staff on all the areas where we were cited,” he said. “This year we had four very minor issues, which we corrected immediately.”

The major concern has been finding and keeping quality staff to assist the residents. A couple of things have happened recently that may assist with that.

Just a few weeks ago the Owatonna and Faribault care centers closed. Vandergon said they are working with residents and residents’ families to help relocate their loved ones. They’re hoping to transfer as few as eight and as many as 11 residents to the facilities.

“At this point, we’ve spoken with a number of residents,” Vandergon said. “We are evaluating their medical needs and whether we can meet their needs.”

In addition, the administration is looking at staff that worked at the two closed centers to work at the Owatonna facilities.

What Vandergon believes is going to make a significant impact is the Minnesota State Legislature’s increase in rates.

“The Minnesota rates are lagging behind actual costs by about \$30 per resident day,” he said. “In the past we made it up with the Medicare rate structure. I believe the legislature recognizes the changes in the big picture with federal funding reduced, making it necessary for state funding to be increased.”

Koda has a \$7.5 million annual operating budget. Vandergon said he is expecting a 16 percent increase.

“We anticipate that much of the rate increase will go towards salaries and benefits to help us compete in the job market, to recruit and retain qualified staff members and provide quality service,” he said.

The actual rate notices from the state will not occur until ei-

ther November or December. The rates will not be effective until Jan. 1.

“We are very thankful to have a new financial reimbursement system, which ties our quality measurements to our rates,” Vandergon said in an email. “And now is a great time and opportunity for those who are interested in working in a skilled nursing facility to get hired on. Soon the wages will go up and we trust the open positions will be filled and stay filled.”

Vandergon believes one of the main reasons the facilities have been running at lower occupancy is because of the inability to attract enough staff to fill all of the needs. “The legislation is

going to enable us to give fairly significant raises to employees,” he said. “Unfortunately legislation doesn’t go into effect for another six months. We are extending the promise of increased salary for those who come over to work for us.”

In addition, the administration is working with the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) through the dislocator worker program to assist with benefits.

There are still openings for nurses aides, culinary aides and LPNs. Training is provided and much of the cost for both Koda and the student’s tuition is included in the payment system, Vandergon said.

College Clips

Local students have been named to the spring 2015 dean’s list at North Dakota State University. The following students from Owatonna were included: Matthew Dinse, an animal science major; Paige Eidenschjnk, a management communications major; Leah Hawkins, an agricultural economics major; Emily Pearson, a dietetics major; Luke Sammon, an agricultural and biosystems engineering major; and Austin Schultz, a mechanical engineering major.

STEELE TALKIN’

Continued from Page 1C

There is nothing wrong if you experience worry and doubts in response to stress and change in your life. The dynamics of change can be helpful to understand when experiencing these stressors. If you accept that change equates with stress, it will be easier to realize that some worry and doubt about the unknowns in life are normal.

Editor’s note: Mark Skrien is a Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and Clinical Director at the South Central Human Relations Center.

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By Amy Johns

Grease 9x13 in. pan. Add 3 cups lightly crushed chips on the bottom of the pan. Mix together chicken, salsa, corn, sour cream and 1 cup shredded cheese. Pour over layer of chips. Bake at 350° for 25 minutes. Take pan out, add remaining chips and cheese on top. Bake for 10 more minutes.

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HOMETOWN

EXTRA

Owatonna

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ANNA SEGNER | COUNTY STAFF WRITER



Seventh-grader Elizabeth Harder and her Labradinger, Gypsy, raced through the practice agility course on June 23.



Bailey Purrier leads her 7-year-old English Springer, Kerosene, through the agility course.

4-H members are a dog's best friend

Steele County 4-H'ers have been working all summer training their dogs to be blue ribbon champions. English Springers, bull dogs, pugs, golden retrievers, poodles, hounds, terriers—all dogs—big and small, are welcome!

Since April, Steele County 4-H members have been meeting in Fair Square on Tuesdays to learn how to teach their dogs how to sit, stay, heal, walk and run on demand. That is just the start of it. There are four categories of competition: showmanship, obedience, rally and agility.

They are preparing for the demonstration that will be held at 5:30 p.m., Aug. 18, in the cattle barn.

While the dogs are the ones looking like champions during the shows, the 4-H members have put a lot of daily work into learning the training techniques and then applying those techniques.

4-H Program Coordinator Missy Koch said that the dog project has been going on for at least 30 years. She remembers participating when she was young.

4-H members are split into advanced and beginner categories, which is based off of both the 4-H member and the dog's experience. There is advanced, beginner A and beginner B. Beginner A means that the person has done training before, but the dog might be a puppy or never received training. Beginner B means that both the person and the dog are new to training.

Dogs must be at least six months old to participate.

On June 23, 4-H members and dogs were preparing to compete in a dog show invitational on June 27. All 4-H members were able to run through a mock show with their dogs.

Eleventh-grader Desiree Svoboda of Owatonna was practicing as a Beginner A with her one-year-old Basenji, Gus. Svoboda said that Basenjis are a less known dog in this area of the world. They are a central African hound, bred for small game hunting.

Svoboda said that Basenji dogs are becoming popular because they are hypoallergenic. Svoboda's family has had three Basenjis, Molly, Cooper and now Gus. "I started training Cooper because my older sister used to, and now she is off to college," said Svoboda. "It's a lot of work, but Coopy is way better than he used to be."

"They are very energetic and disobedient, so my advice is to start training them when they are puppies," said Svoboda. Her knowledge of the dog is part of the training process and makes her a better caretaker for Gus. Like other 4-H demonstrations, there is an interview process.

Svoboda's favorite part of participating in 4-H dog demonstrations is the "showing off your dog" aspect. "I like doing obedience, but my favorite part is showmanship because it is just showing off your dog. They don't have to be as obedient," she said while

looking at Gus and ruffling up his ears playfully.

Koch said that Svoboda has been one of the most patient and determined 4-H'ers. Initially, she was having difficulty training the young and energetic Gus.

"I like working with animals and their behaviors. The training itself is a lot of work, but it allows for a more respectful dog," said Svoboda. "It gets them more socialized with other people and dogs."

Koch said that one of her favorite parts of her job as 4-H program coordinator is watching youth change and evolve over the years. "Personally, watching their growth is very rewarding," remarked Koch. "They are

learning life-long skills of caring for someone else, committing to practice and carrying through on a decision.

"The dog project teaches determination. You can't predict what animals are going to do, but like Desiree, you just have to stick with it," said Koch.

While showmanship is about grooming, handling, courtesy, poise, confidence and sportsmanship, obedience is where listening and commands becomes important. In obedience, the 4-H member and their dog will be trained on heel, on leash, figure eight, long sit and long down among many others. The obedience judge will also walk up to the dog and put a hand out to see how the dog reacts.

In rally, the dog will have to walk through a course that has various signs telling the trainer what to command of the dog as it make its way through the course.

The agility arena kind of looks like a jungle gym of toys for dogs, but it is really more of an obstacle course. It is comparable to equestrian show jumping. Agility shows a dog's briskness, confidence and the handler's control of the obstacle course and the dog.

Agility is an area of competition for the advanced trainers and dogs. Not just any dog can do agility. There is a list of qualifications that must be met prior to participation. This is to avoid a novice dog from getting hurt.

One might find seventh-grader Elizabeth Harder and her Labradinger, Gypsy, participating in all categories, except showmanship. It is her third year participating with Gypsy, and she has even brought Gypsy to the state fair.

"It's taught me patience with Gypsy, and just to keep trying," said Harder, after running Gypsy through the agility course. "I've been in 4-H for a long time. I love animals and the dog project."

While blue ribbons are a goal of 4-H participants, certainly the bonding experience between the dogs and humans is invaluable. The community of the dog project is welcoming of all hands and paws.



Desiree Svoboda has her dog sit and remain composed.



A group of 4-H'ers and their dogs listen as they take advice for the showmanship from an expert judge.



Eleventh-grader Desiree Svoboda of Owatonna walks her Basenji, Gus, through the rally course in the Beer Gardens in the fairgrounds to prepare for the dog demonstration the Tuesday before the fair.



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Relay for Life - Events and Attractions

Events

6:00 PM-6:40 PM Opening Ceremony*
Welcome: Chairpersons Joel Born, Joel Holst, and Mary Boettger
Emcee John Connor
Honor of the Colors: Local VFW Post 3723 Color Guard
National Anthem: Rebecca Somers
Invocation: Deacon Pat Fagan
Introduction of the Honorary Chairs
6:40 PM-6:50 PM Survivor Lap
Led by the Honorary Chairs.
6:50 PM-7:00 PM Caregiver Lap
Caregivers are to join the track with the Survivors.
9:40 PM-10:10 PM 30 Minutes of Silence
Luminaries will be lit at this time.
5:30 AM-6:00 AM Closing Ceremony*
8:00 AM Daikin Dash for Cancer
5K run or walk (you choose)
**Event takes place on the Main Stage*

Main Stage Live Entertainment

5:30 PM KC Men’s Choir
7:00 PM Stix of Fury
7:40 PM Luverne Wanous
8:20 PM Sunday Punch

9:00 PM Christopher & Samantha Sorvaag
Sound Reinforcement Provided By: Listen Up DJ Services

Honorary Chairs

Michelle Miller Joe Plemmel

Attractions

Kids Activities
There will be bouncy houses open from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Silent Auction
The Silent Auction will start at 7:00 PM in the show barn. Bidding will close at 10:00 PM, 10:10 PM, 10:20 PM and 10:30 PM as marked on each table. Come to check out the dozens of items donated by our several, generous donators. Cash, checks, or credit cards accepted.

Red Cross Blood Mobile
The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be accepting blood donations from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Inspiration Point
Inspiration Point will be open from 4:00 PM to 6:00 AM.

Saco Church
Saco Church will be open from 9:00 PM to 3:00 AM.

Luminaries
Luminaries will be available for sale in the show barn until 8:00 PM.

4-H Food Stand
The 4-H Food Stand will be open from 4:00 PM to 12:00 AM offering dinner and snacks. Coffee and hot chocolate will remain available all night.

Team Fundraisers
Teams will hold various fundraising activities in the Team Fundraising Tent.

Chair Massages
Licensed massage therapist Kimberly Kraft from Lulu’s Wellness Center, Rochester, MN, will be giving 10 minute chair massages from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. The massages are free, but tips will be welcome with 50% of the proceeds going to the Relay for Life.

Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.

Relay for Life will wrap up with first annual 5K Daikin Dash for Cancer

By LAURA BERNDT
News Editor

This year, Steele County Relay for Life supporters are running toward a cure. For the first time, the annual Relay for Life event held at the Steele County Fairgrounds in Owatonna will come to a close with the 5K Daikin Dash for Cancer. It will begin at 8 a.m., July 18. Event organizers say that every penny earned through the registration fees will benefit the relay. “It’s a way to raise funds for the Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society, and to raise funds for those two, as well,” said Sarah Bettin, one of the event’s organizers. Bettin and

her friends, Allison Janke and Rod Peterson, are working together to make the 5K a reality. “All three of us have been running 5Ks, and this was just an idea we came up with while brainstorming for fundraising,” said Bettin. Bettin says that anyone and everyone are welcome to attend this event, whether or not they are already involved in the relay. “We are looking forward to getting a group of supporters together,” Bettin said. “Some people want to get involved with the relay, but don’t know how. This event just gives people another opportunity to participate in the Relay for Life.” The community has already begun to show support for the

Daikin Dash. “We have many financial sponsors who have helped us along the way, and we all have friends who are helping support us,” Bettin said. The three friends are hoping that at least 50 people will participate in the run. No matter how many people register for the run, however, Bettin said that she knows that plenty of supporters will still attend the 5K. “We have so many volunteers, and we have so many people that are excited for this group,” Bettin said. “I know there will be a crowd there.” Relay for Life chair Joel Holst said this event is something new and it’s another way to extend our efforts. “We hope to do it each year and grow it more and



Submitted photo
Daikin Dash for Cancer is scheduled for 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 18, at the Steele County Fairgrounds. All registration fees will benefit the Steele County Relay for Life.

more.” Bettin adds that the Relay for Life Board and Committee both expressed that they hope the 5K can become an annual event. Pre-registration for this year’s event is preferred, but not required. Participants can also register the day of the run, from 7 to 7:30 a.m. at the fairgrounds. (The run will begin just north of the baseball diamonds at the

Steele County Fairgrounds.) The run itself is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. and, after everyone has crossed the finish line, the first-place finisher in each age bracket will receive an award. Participants who registered early and received a Daikin Dash for Cancer t-shirt are encouraged to wear their shirts with pride on the day of the event. “We’re hoping to get a good

turnout,” Bettin said. “It’s a great way for people to participate and show their support for the Relay of Life.”

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Friday, July 17 & Saturday, July 18
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“Find something to fight for”

Honorary Relay for Life Chair Michelle Miller will share her story at 2015 Relay

By **LAURA BERNDT**
News Editor

Michelle Miller of Medford is a wife, mother of three and friend to many. She’s also a survivor.

Miller was diagnosed with cancer in Aug. 2013 and has been in remission (cancer-free) since Oct. 2013. This year, Miller is also one of two honorary chairs at the Steele County Relay for Life. The other honorary chair, Joe Plemel, could not be reached for comment at press time.

Last year, Miller attended the relay for the first time and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. “The support you feel there is amazing,” she said. “There are so many people that are encouraging you, supporting you and just being positive. It’s such a sense of community. To actually lead that survivor walk (and be a part of it) is a real honor for me, too.

“My story is different from most people’s,” says Miller. Many people dealing with cancer undergo months (or years) of chemotherapy, radiation and other treatments. In comparison, Miller’s surgeries took place soon after the diagnosis, and she was officially in remission just a few months later.

“I was just shaving underneath my arm one day, not even checking for anything, but I felt a lump,” Miller said. “I didn’t really think it was anything, but I worry a lot, and I thought I’d better get it checked out. When my daughter had a check up, I asked the doctor to take a look. That led to an ultrasound and

biopsy... from there, things just progressed.”

On Sept. 19, 2013, Miller had a lumpectomy (surgery to remove only the tumor and some surrounding tissue, as opposed to the entire breast).

“They said a mastectomy was my only option.” A mastectomy is the complete removal of one or both breasts.

“Obviously, surgery was

meals delivered to our door... It was just nice knowing I don’t have to worry about stuff like that,” said Miller. “I could focus on getting better.”

Accepting help from others, says Miller, is important to a successful recovery. “It’s hard for a lot of people (and it was for me, too) to rely on others,” she says. “But, it helps so much, and I think people feel good when

“They thought they got it all but, when my doctor sent me to Rochester to have an MRI done, they found more cancer in other areas,

**- Michelle Miller
Cancer Survivor**

tough,” Miller said. “There was a lot of recovery.” Through it all, her family remained by her side. Miller’s parents and her in-laws both helped out at her home during her surgeries, and her husband, John, was also a source of unwavering support.

“My husband is a very positive, strong person,” said Miller. “He was just amazing and always trying to keep me focused. I knew I had to be strong for our kids, but there were still times when I got scared. I let that out to John, and he kept me positive.”

Miller’s co-workers at Federated Insurance and friends also offered help. “My team members, upper management and even the CEO sent cards, gift cards, put lunch money in my boys’ accounts at school, had

they are able to help. And it made me feel good, too.”

Since Miller talked with a doctor soon after feeling the lump, the cancer was detected early. “I was fortunate to catch it so early,” Miller said. “We were able to remove the cancer, get clean margins and feel comfortable not having chemo or radiation. There were also no lymph nodes involved.” (When cancer reaches the lymph nodes, it can easily travel to other areas of the body.)

“I want people to let people know that the earlier you can detect something, the better,” said Miller. “Be aware of changes in your body.”

Although Miller’s experience lasted only a few months, it was still a rough journey. Keeping a positive attitude, however, made

things a little more bearable. “I was pretty positive through the whole thing,” Miller said. “My advice to other people with cancer is that the biggest thing is trying to stay positive. I know it’s hard. But, if you can find something to fight for, it really makes a difference. For me, it was obviously my kids and my family. There’s a ton of things I still want to do in my life. But, I just had to take it one day at time.”

Two years later, Miller is still “taking things one day at a time.” Every six months, she has a check up to make sure she’s still in remission, and her next six-month check up is only a few weeks away. “I always get a little nervous,” Miller says. “But, I am still very thankful for how things turned out.”

Miller is thankful that she is in remission, and can continue to enjoy life with her husband, two young sons and daughter. But, she also feels that it’s important for her to continue sharing her story, in hopes of helping other women.

“I know it’s very hard for a lot of people to share their story,” she said. “But, anytime I get the chance to share my story, I do. I think I have helped people, and at the relay, I have a chance to do that on a bigger scale. I want to create some



Submitted photo
Michelle Miller, one of two honorary chairs for the Steele County Relay for Life, is pictured here with her family. Left to right: Josh (age nine), Caleb (age seven), Michelle and Rachel (age three.) Michelle’s husband John is also pictured in back.

awareness and maybe be able to help some women out there.”

During the Steele County Relay for Life, all survivors will walk the first lap around the track together, led by Miller and Plemel. This year’s event begins

at 6 p.m. on July 17, at the Steele County Fairgrounds.

Booth at Owatonna Farmers market continues to benefit Relay for Life

By **LAURA BERNDT**
News Editor

For the past several years, one booth at the Owatonna Farmers Market has offered an opportunity to give back to the Steele County Relay for Life.

This booth is organized and managed by the Relay for Life’s committee and has a rotating crew of representatives at the farmers market each week. Joel Holst, a Relay for Life chair, says that the booth offers an assortment of baked goods and plants. They even sell luminaries, which are later displayed during the Relay for Life event. Each luminary is dedicated in

honor or memory of someone who has been touched by cancer.

“We do pretty well down there and we usually sell out of everything,” said Holst. Holst says that committee members prepare the baked goods, which has included cookies, pies and bars. The committee also provides the plants and other items for sale.

Holst believes that there has been a Relay for Life booth at the market for around five years. The committee agrees that having a presence at the market also helps increase awareness. Many people, says Holst, have heard about the Relay for Life, but don’t actually know what the

event represents.

The Relay for Life is an event that traces back to 1985, when Dr. Gordy Klatt ran and walked around a track in Tacoma, Washington, for 24 hours. As a result, Dr. Klatt raised over \$27,000 for the American Cancer Society. The following year, over 300 people joined him for the walk. Since then, the tradition has grown to include many communities worldwide, including Steele County.

Each year, the Steele County Relay for Life hosts its event to unite people who have been touched by cancer and to raise funds to fight the disease. Prior to the event, local people also raise funds to benefit the Relay, with events and initiatives, like the booth at the Owatonna Farmers Market.

Luminaries, like those sold at the booth, are also a key part of the Relay for Life. Individuals can purchase the personalized luminaries in honor or memory of someone who has dealt with cancer. These luminaries are placed around the track during



Staff photo by Karen Jorgensen
April Elliott and Joel Holst welcome guests to their booth at the Owatonna Farmers Market on Saturday, July 11.

the Relay and are illuminated after dark. Holst says that many luminaries have been sold at the Owatonna Farmers Market booth.

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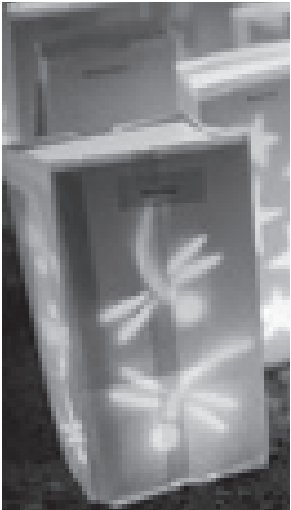
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Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Minn. Stat. 580.025, 580.04
DATE: June 5, 2015

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage:

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGE TO BE FORECLOSED
1. Date of Mortgage: March 18, 2013
2. Mortgagors: Larry William Lindquist and Annette K. Lindquist, husband and wife
3. Mortgagees: Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie
4. Recording Information: Recorded on March 29, 2013, as Document Number T000070097 (or in Book 27 of Mortgages, Page 81), in the Office of the Registrar of Titles of Steele County, Minnesota.
5. Assignments of Mortgage, if any: Assigned to Not applicable
INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGED PREMISES
6. Tax Parcel Identification number of the mortgaged premises: 14-114-0204
7. Legal description of the mortgaged premises: The East 30 feet of Lot 3; and Lot 4; Block 2, Hansen Heights Addition, to the Village of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota according to the recorded plat thereof. Check here if all or part of the described real property is Registered (Torrens) x
8. The physical street address, city, and zip code of the mortgaged premises: 193 8th Street NW, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota 55917

OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA
9. The person holding the Mortgage: is not a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Stat. 58.02, subd. 30. The name(s) of the residential mortgage servicer and the lender or broker, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is/are Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.
10. If stated on the Mortgage, the name of the mortgage originator, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.
INFORMATION REGARDING F O R E C L O S U R E
11. The requisites of Minn. Stat. 580.02 have been satisfied.
12. The original principal amount secured by the mortgage was \$110,000.00.
13. At the date of this notice the amount due on the mortgage, including taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage, is: \$110,793.05.
14. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at public auction on July 31, 2015, 10:00 a.m., at the Steele County Sheriff's Office, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.
15. The time allowed by law for redemption by Mortgagor or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale. 16. Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23." If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on Not applicable.

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

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Adams, Rizzi & Sween, P.A.
300 First Street NW,
Austin, MN 55912
Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

6/9, 6/16, 6/23,
6/30, 7/7, 7/14,

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: June 30, 2000
MORTGAGOR: Ryan R. Staska, a single person and Katrina J. Olivo, a single person.
MORTGAGEE:

Sterling State Bank, Corporation.
DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded July 13, 2000
Steele County Recorder, Document No. A283439.
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. Dated June 30, 2000
Recorded July 13, 2000, as Document No. A283440.
TRANSACTION AGENT: NONE
TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: NONE
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Sterling State Bank, Corporation
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE SERVICER: U.S. Bank National Association
MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 2093rd Street Southeast, Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 14-106-0303 and 14-106-0304
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

See attached legal description COMMENCING AT A POINT 66 FEET SOUTH OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 9, BLOCK 2, BRAINERD AND OLSON'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF BLOOMING PRAIRIE. THENCE SOUTH 150 FEET. THENCE EAST 50 FEET, THENCE NORTH 150 FEET TO THE THIRD STREET (FORMERLY SEVENTH STREET), THENCE WEST TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, (BEING IN BLOCK 3, BRAINERD AND OLSON'S ADDITION AND IN SECTIONS 25 AND 36, TOWNSHIP 105 NORTH, RANGE 19 WEST), AND COMMENCING AT A POINT 66 FEET SOUTH AND 50 FEET EAST OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 9, BLOCK 2, BRAINERD AND OLSON'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF BLOOMING PRAIRIE, STEELE COUNTY, MINNESOTA, THENCE SOUTH 150 FEET, THENCE EAST 25 FEET, THENCE NORTH 150 FEET TO THE THIRD STREET (FORMERLY SEVENTH STREET), THENCE WEST TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING (BEING IN BLOCK 3, BRAINERD AND OLSON'S ADDITION AND IN SECTION 25 AND 36, TOWNSHIP 105 NORTH, RANGE 19 WEST), COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$74,970.00
AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$ 5 8 , 6 0 2 . 0 9

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: August 7, 2015 at 10:00 AM
PLACE OF SALE: Steele County Sheriff's Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on February 8, 2016 unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None
"THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED."

Dated: June 2, 2015

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
400 N. Sibley Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee
Sterling State Bank, Corporation

USSET, WEINGARDEN AND LIEBO,

P.L.L.P.
Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee
4500 Park Glen Road #300
Minneapolis, MN 55416
(952) 925-6888
135 - 15-004191 FC

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

6/23, 6/30, 7/7
7/14, 7/21, 7/28

Foreclosure

15-100256

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 12, 2012
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$105,102.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Irene Rosales, a single woman
MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
MIN#: 100053612101765390
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Primelending, a Plainscapital Company
SERVICER: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed October 15, 2012, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A000387332
ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association; Dated: October 3, 2013 filed: October 15, 2013, recorded as document number A000394082
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North Six (6) Rods of East Four (4) Rods of Lot Five (5), Block Six (6), in Phelps Addition to the City of Owatonna
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 251 East University St, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17-101-0610
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$105,218.44
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: August 4, 2015, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on February 4, 2016, or the next business day if February 4, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Dated: June 2, 2015

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Assignee of Mortgagee

SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X

Attorneys for Mortgagee
12550 West Frontage Road, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

6/9, 6/16, 6/23
6/30, 7/7, 7/14

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Minn. Stat. 580.025, 580.04
DATE: June 4, 2015

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage:

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGE TO BE FORECLOSED
1. Date of Mortgage: July 21, 2008
2. Mortgagors: Larry W. Lindquist, Annette Lindquist, husband and wife: Lee E. Lindquist, Sandra Lindquist, husband and wife
3. Mortgagees: Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie
4. Recording Information: Recorded on September 12, 2008, as Document Number A000359522, in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. *See below information on Amendments to Mortgage.
5. Assignments of Mortgage, if any: Assigned to Not applicable

*Said Mortgage was amended by that Amendment to Mortgage (Extension Agreement) dated August 10, 2011, filed on October 10, 2011, and recorded as Document No. A000380482 in the Office of the County Recorder, Steele County, Minnesota. It was further amended by that Amendment to Mortgage (Extension Agreement) dated March 8, 2013, filed on July 1, 2013, and recorded as Document No. A000392225 in the Office of the County Recorder, Steele County, Minnesota.

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGED PREMISES
6. Tax Parcel Identification number of the mortgaged premises: 14-025-1008
7. Legal description of the mortgaged premises: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto.
8. The physical street address, city, and zip code of the mortgaged premises: 402 Industrial Drive, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota 55917
OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA
9. The person holding the Mortgage: is not a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Stat. 58.02, subd. 30. The name(s) of the residential mortgage servicer and the lender or broker, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is/are Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.
10. If stated on the Mortgage, the name of the mortgage originator, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.
INFORMATION REGARDING F O R E C L O S U R E
11. The requisites of Minn. Stat. 580.02 have been satisfied.
12. The original principal amount secured by the mortgage was \$270,000.00.
13. At the date of this notice the amount due on the mortgage, including taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage, is: \$273,766.41.
14. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at public auction on July 31, 2015, 10:00 a.m., at the Steele County Sheriff's Office, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.
15. The time allowed by law for redemption by Mortgagor or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale. 16. Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23." If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on Not applicable.

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

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Adams, Rizzi & Sween, P.A.
300 First Street NW,
Austin, MN 55912
Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

EXHIBIT "A"

LEGAL DESCRIPTION
LARRY W. LINDQUIST AND LEE E. LINDQUIST

Starting at the East Quarter Corner of Section 25, Township 105 North, Range 19 West; thence West 1260.75 feet at an angle of 89°41' turned from North to West from the East line of the Northeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 105 North, Range 19 West; thence North 624.0 feet at a deflection angle of 89°41' right, to a point which is hereinafter called the point of beginning; thence North 118.53 feet on a Northerly extension of the last described line; thence Southwesterly 46.63 feet at a deflection angle of 139°48.8' left; thence Southwesterly 421.68 feet at a deflection angle of 04°46.3' right; to the Easterly right-of-way line of the Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul & Pacific R.R.; thence Southeasterly 69.18 feet at a deflection angle of 69°38' left; on said right-of-way line; thence East 299.17 feet at a deflection angle of 65°00.5' left; thence North 280.0 feet at a deflection angle of 90°19' left, to the point of beginning; being part of the South Half of Northeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 105 North, Range 19 West; and containing 1.70 acres; subject to an easement for ingress and egress over the south 20' thereof.

6/9, 6/16, 6/23
6/30, 7/7, 7/14

Foreclosure

15-100509

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:
DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 8, 2003
ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$175,750.00
MORTGAGOR(S): Timothy A. Rogers and Karen J. Rogers, husband and wife
MORTGAGEE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON THE MORTGAGE: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Filed April 9, 2003, Steele County Recorder, as Document Number A 309242
LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The South 240 feet of the East 1263.67 feet of the Southeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 107 North, Range 21 West, containing 6.96 acres
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 5300 SW 8th St, Owatonna, MN 55060
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 09-011-2201
COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Steele
THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$140,738.10
THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:
DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 31, 2015, 10:00am
PLACE OF SALE: Sheriff's Main Office, Law Enforcement Center, 204 Pearl Street East, Owatonna, MN 55060 to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within 6 months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s) the personal representatives or assigns.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property, if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23, is 11:59 p.m. on January 31, 2016, or the next business day if January 31, 2016 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.

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

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Adams, Rizzi & Sween, P.A.
300 First Street NW,
Austin, MN 55912
Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Wells Fargo Bank, NA, successor by merger to Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.

6/9, 6/16, 6/23
6/30, 7/7, 7/14

Mortgagee
SHAPIRO & ZIELKE, LLP

BY

Lawrence P. Zielke - 152559
Diane F. Mach - 273788
Melissa L. B. Porter - 0337778
Randolph W. Dawdy - 2160X
Gary J. Evers - 0134764
Tracy J. Halliday - 034610X
Attorneys for Mortgagee
12550 West Frontage Road, Ste. 200
Burnsville, MN 55337
(952) 831-4060

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

6/16, 6/23, 6/30
7/7, 7/14, 7/21

Foreclosure

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Minn. Stat. 580.025, 580.04
DATE: June 5, 2015

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage:

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGE TO BE FORECLOSED
1. Date of Mortgage: March 31, 2011
2. Mortgagors: E. L. Lindquist & Sons, Inc.
3. Mortgagees: Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie
4. Recording Information: Recorded on April 4, 2011, as Document Number A000377468, in the Office of the County Recorder of Steele County, Minnesota. *See below information on Amendment to Mortgage.
5. Assignments of Mortgage, if any: Assigned to Not applicable

*Said Mortgage was amended by that Amendment to Mortgage (Extension Agreement) dated March 8, 2013, filed on March 28, 2013, and recorded as Document No. A000390430 in the Office of the County Recorder, Steele County, Minnesota.

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGED PREMISES
6. Tax Parcel Identification number of the mortgaged premises: 14-101-0101
7. Legal description of the mortgaged premises: Lot 1, Block 1, Feeney's Addition to the Village of Blooming Prairie, Steele County, Minnesota
8. The physical street address, city, and zip code of the mortgaged premises: 141 4th Street NE, Blooming Prairie, Minnesota 55917

OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA
9. The person holding the Mortgage: is not a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Stat. 58.02, subd. 30. The name(s) of the residential mortgage servicer and the lender or broker, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is/are Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.
10. If stated on the Mortgage, the name of the mortgage originator, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie.

INFORMATION REGARDING F O R E C L O S U R E
11. The requisites of Minn. Stat. 580.02 have been satisfied.
12. The original principal amount secured by the mortgage was \$35,000.00.
13. At the date of this notice the amount due on the mortgage, including taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage, is: \$31,266.19.
14. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Steele County, Minnesota, at public auction on July 31, 2015, 10:00 a.m., at the Steele County Sheriff's Office, 204 East Pearl Street, Owatonna, MN 55060.
15. The time allowed by law for redemption by Mortgagor or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale. 16. Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23." If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on Not applicable.

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

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Adams, Rizzi & Sween, P.A.
300 First Street NW,
Austin, MN 55912
Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:
Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Blooming Prairie

6/9, 6/16, 6/23
6/30, 7/7, 7/14

Legal Notices/News

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

COUNTY OF STEELE

Court File No 74-PR-15-1234

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

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the court administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Attorney License No: 0268045
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: haberman@owatonnaattorneys.com

7/7, 7/14

Estate

STATE OF MINNESOTA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

COUNTY OF STEELE

Court File No 74-PR-15-1222

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

Estate of
Dayna Joyce Halbert-Wiese,
Decedent

Dated:
2015.06.25

BY THE COURT

Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court

Attorney for Petitioner
Kristin K. Haberman
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver &
Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Ave.
PO Box 545
Owatonna, MN 55060

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on August 18, 2015, at 10:45 a.m., a hearing will be held

Bennett appointed to child protection task force

Rep. Peggy Bennett, R-Albert Lea, was appointed by House Speaker Kurt Daudt, R-Crown, to the newly created Legislative Task Force on Child Protection Thursday. The Task Force, which was created as a part of the Health and Human Services omnibus bill signed into law by Governor Dayton in May, will review efforts to implement recommendations from the Governor’s Task Force on the Protection of Children and explore additional efforts to improve Minnesota’s child protection laws.

Bennett is joined on the Task Force by DFL Rep. Tom Anzele, DFL-Balsam Township, who was also appointed this week, as well as the four current members of the Governor’s Task Force; Rep. Ron Kresha, R-Little Falls, Rep. Joe Mullery, DFL-Minneapolis, Sen. Julie Rosen, R-Vernon Center, and Sen. Kathy Sheran, DFL-Mankato. Two additional members from the Senate Majority and Minority caucuses will be appointed by Senate Majority Leader Tom Bakke, DFL-Cook.

Rep. Bennett issued the following statement regarding her appointment:

“I’m truly honored to have been appointed to this task force and am excited for the opportunity to review and build upon the bipartisan child protection reforms passed last session,” Rep. Bennett said. “We need strong schools and effective child protection efforts in place to make sure every child is safe from harm and is able to reach their full potential. I’ve spent my career working to educate and lift up our youngest learners, and hope to apply my many years of teaching experience to our work on this very important issue.

“As a retired elementary school teacher, Representative Bennett brings a unique and helpful perspective to this task force,” added Assistant Majority Leader Rep. Ron Kresha, R-Little Falls. “Teachers and school workers are some of the best eyes and ears in working with young children and helping to identify and prevent child abuse at home. We must look at every aspect—from the counties to the schools and everywhere in between—to make sure no child falls through the cracks.”

Rep. Kresha was appointed to the Governor’s Task Force on the Protection of Children when it was first formed in the Fall of 2014, and worked on multiple pieces of legislation to implement Task Force recommendations that were ultimately signed into law by Governor Dayton during the 2015 session.

The Legislative Task Force is expected to begin meetings next month, and is tasked with issuing a report to the legislature and the governor Feb. 1, on progress of implemented recommendations and changes to the child protection system, as well as recommendations for additional legislative action.

Dated:
2015.06.25

BY THE COURT

Joseph A. Bueltel
Judge of District Court

Attorney for Petitioner
Kristin K. Haberman
Einhaus, Mattison, Carver &
Haberman, P.A.
202 N. Cedar Ave.
PO Box 545
Owatonna, MN 55060
Attorney License No: 0268045
Telephone: (507) 451-3580
FAX: (507) 451-3532
Email: haberman@owatonnaattorneys.com

7/7, 7/14

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWSID: 1740001

City of Blooming Prairie
2014 Drinking Water Report

The City of Blooming Prairie is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2014. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers’ understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

Source of Water

The City of Blooming Prairie provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: two wells ranging from 220 to 223 feet deep, that draw water from the Maquoketa-Galena aquifer.

The Minnesota Department of Health has made a determination as to how vulnerable our systems’ source(s) of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it on line at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Call (507) 583-6683 if you have questions about the City of Blooming Prairie drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2014. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.)

Key to abbreviations:
MCLG—Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL—Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

AL—Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

1

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWSID: 1740001

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	0	15	1.2	0 out of 10	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Blooming Prairie is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Monitoring may have been done for additional contaminants that do not have MCLs established for them and are not required to be monitored under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Results may be available by calling 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 during normal business hours.

Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

2

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWSID: 1740001

90th Percentile Level—This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) Note: In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

pCi/l—PicoCuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

ppm—Parts per million, which can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

ppb—Parts per billion, which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (µg/l).

N/A—Not Applicable (does not apply).

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
			Range (2014)	Average/ Result*	
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l) (03/12/2013)	0	15.4	N/A	3.9	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (pCi/l) (03/12/2013)	0	5.4	N/A	1.8	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.89-1.2	1.07	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10.4	10.4	N/A	.13	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

*This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.09	0 out of 10	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

2

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWSID: 1740001

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

7/14

News/Classifieds

Steele County Historical Society hosts 19th annual Extravaganza



Helped by Joy Adams, five-year-old Greta Veldman takes a turn at running a piece of laundry through the hand wringer of an old laundry tub. A variety of people with an interest in history of various times were on hand to give demonstrations. From laundry to blacksmithing to re-enactors, there was something for everyone at Sunday's event.

Staff photos by Karen Jorgensen



Members of the Owatonna Owls baseball team doff their hats to the crowd prior to taking the field against the Rochester Roosters in a game at the Steele County Historical Society's annual Extravaganza on Sunday. The game was played according to 1865 rules.



Ty Rysavy was on hand at the Village of Yesteryear on Sunday to demonstrate the blacksmith's skills making miniature horseshoes.

◀ Jerry Ganfield, of the Steele County Historical Society, had the honor of introducing President Roosevelt, who made a stump speech at the Village of Yesteryear as part of his quest for the presidency in 1912. The yearly Extravaganza is the major fundraising event for the society.



A group of outlaws from the Cannon Old West Society discuss how best to rob the bank. True to form, however, the sheriff and his friends, including the town doctor/undertaker, came to the rescue and the bad guys were defeated in a hail of gunfire.



MCAN

Minnesota Classified Advertising Network



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Property Manager Needed

PROPERTY MANAGER NEEDED
Prairie Villa Apartments in Blooming Prairie is accepting applications for qualified site manager. Maintenance, administrative, cleaning & good people skills a must. Flexible hours & hourly wage. Employment application required and found on www.lifestyleinc.net or by calling 507-451-8524, tdd 507-451-0704 EOE

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

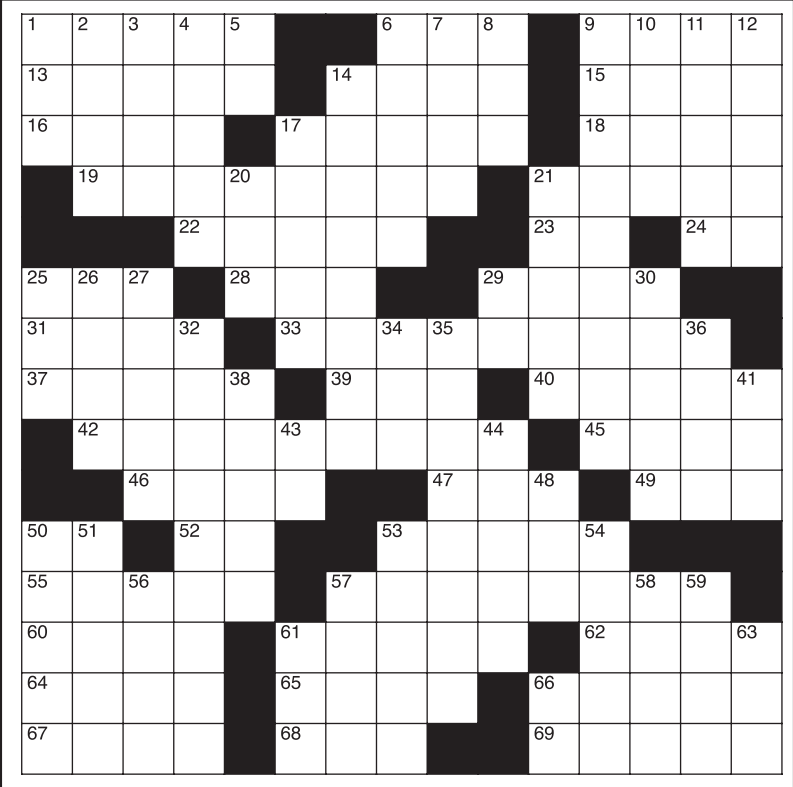
Answers on Page 5C

CLUES ACROSS

- Islamic prayer leaders
- Waterproof raincoat
- Millisecond
- Popular pie nut
- A field of mowed grass
- RCO organic group
- Pomace brandy
- The innermost parts
- Gull suborder
- Became more intense
- Sound absorption unit
- Rattling breaths
- Indicates doctor
- For instance
- A doctrine or system
- Foot (Latin)
- Dirt shoulder
- Horn sound
- Mumbai film industry
- Disturbance
- Zedong or Tse-tung
- Cibin River city
- Kate's sister Pippa
- Twitches
- Formal close (music)
- A baglike structure
- Lease
- Typographical space
- Pa's partner
- King mackerels
- Ceremonial staffs
- About money
- Spoiled child
- Infants
- Semitic fertility god
- Frank's diary
- Reimbursed
- English pennies
- 365 days
- G. Gershwin's brother
- Stopping device

CLUES DOWN

- Inches per minute (abbr.)
- Medieval honey drink
- Land area unit
- One who carries #55
- Tin
- Adult female horses
- Overwhelmed with wonder
- Brain and spinal cord (abbr.)
- Inept
- One who replaces a striker
- Any habitation at a high altitude
- Hold fast to
- Sad from being alone
- Slang for famous person
- Soft infant food
- Small mergansers
- Big Blue
- Appear to be
- Greek verse intended to be sung
- Next to



- Flying Pegasus corp.
- Records walking steps
- Broad back muscle
- Teased apart
- Cut into small cubes
- Icelandic poems
- American time
- City of Angels
- Nostrils
- Narrow canvas bed
- Force into a bay
- Sept. 1914 battle
- Sergeant fish
- Town of Jesus' 1st miracle
- Picasso's mistress Dora
- Frog genus
- Talk tiresomely
- Characters in one inch of tape
- Side sheltered from the wind
- Lead

Family Reunion

The 98th annual Hensrud family reunion is Sunday, August 2, 2015, at 12:30 p.m. at the BP Senior Center. Bring a dish to pass. Paper products, utensils and beverages are provided.

Childcare Worldwide

Ugandan Kids Choir

Let me tell you a story...

There once were 10 children who were chosen to embark on a journey of epic proportions to bring African song and dance to the people of America. Equipped with nothing more than songs in their hearts and dance moves in their heads, they traveled across vast seas and mountain tops to arrive at our shores. Their purpose? **To change children's lives.** They want to share with you the hope and love they found through child sponsorship and invite you to start your own journey together with a child.



Please join them

July 19th at 10 a.m.

Cedar Creek Church, Hayfield

See you there!

GIVE YOUR FINANCIAL PLAN THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES.

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March Public Record

**Steele County Births
March 2015**
Samantha Rose Lerohl, Parents: Melissa and Travis, March 3.
Tatum Grace Markell, Parents: Alexis Jante and Blake Markell, March 4.
Kage Jameson Schlaak Wallace, Parents: Krystina Wallace and David Schlaak, March 4.
Ibtihaj Ahmed Abdulkadir, Parents: Najma Abdi and Ahmed Abdullahi, March 8.
Arabella Lillian Stotke, Parents: Katie and Joachim, March 8.
Rody John McCauley, Parents: Shelley and Michael, March 11.
Elin Inara Harthan, Parents: Kate and Matthew, March 11.
Grace Elizabeth Cahill, Parents: Gail and Joseph, March 11.
Hadley Ruth Teeters, Parents: Lindsay and Christopher, March 12.
Greyson Jacob Deplitch, Parents: Kristin and Kendrick, March 13.
Brecken Wayne Whalen, Parents: Megan and Matthew, March 14.
Makaya Jamie Krampitz, Parents: Diandra Lane and Jared Krampitz, March 16.
Henry Laverne Lipke, Parents: Jessica and Steven, March 16.
Adeline Mae Prondzinski, Parents: Melissa and Jason, March 17.
Maci Elizabeth Basness, Parents: Emma Pittman and Stephen Basness, March 17.
Emma Victoria Schember, Parents: Dayna and Cameron, March 17.
Daniel Christian Kapp, Parents: Nataliia and Joel, March 17.
Deegan Robert Wencil, Parents: Amy and Bryant, March 17.
Alejandra Arevalo, Parent: Maria Dominguez, March 18.
Hallie Esme Amundson, Parents: Megan and Steven, March 19.
Kyla Katherine Eustice, Parents: Rachael and Craig, March 20.
Jaxson Justin Lewer, Parents: Amy Jo and Justin, March 20.
Evelyn Grace Wagner, Parents: Charlotte and Nathan, March 21.
Carter King Osmon, Parents: Bria Rosas and Cody Osmon, March 21.
Lillian Rae Gleason, Parents: Alexis and Nathan, March 22.
Serenity Jean Schoultz, Parents: Kimberly Prusha and Cody Schoultz, March 23.
Anders Steven Newhouse, Parents: Sarah and Micah, March 25.
George Bryce Elmhurst, Parents: Maria and Bryce, March 25.
Karson Wayne Lund, Parents: Michelle Lund and Timothy Williams, March 26.
Drake Jeffrey Hansen, Parents: Tara and Tyler, March 27.
Evelyn Emilia Hines, Parents: Tonya and Peter, March 30.
Meilani Denise Jackson, Parent: Shawnetta Williams, March 31.

**Steele County Deaths
March 2015**
Pedro Jacob Garza, 87, Owatonna, March 1.
Mary Ann Enright, 78, Owatonna, March 3.
Wanda Adeline Welsch, 92, Owatonna, March 4.
Libbie E. Wencil, 101, Owatonna, March 10.
Lavonne May Simonson, 84, Owatonna, March 11.
Gwendolyn Elaine Buscho, 79, Owatonna, March 13.
Merle Thomas Jensen, 89, Deerfield Township, March 13.
James Thomas Dempsey, 78, Medford, March 14.
Loretta Marion Moe, 78, Owatonna, March 15.
Rita Ann Wendinger, 92, Waseca, March 16.
Roger Milford Larson, 82, Owatonna, March 19.
Ila Marie Buss, 83, Owatonna, March 20.
Rita Teresa Schiller, 83, Owatonna, March 22.
Matilda Marie Madsen, 72, Owatonna, March 26.
Julie E. Thompson, 66, Faribault, March 27.
Glen Ross Anderson, 84, Owatonna, March 29.
Reuben Rasmussen, 89, Owatonna, March 29.
Lucille Irene Culshaw, 96, Owatonna, March 31.
Sarah Underwood, 95, Owatonna, March 31.

**Steele County Marriages
March 2015**
Nathan Lee Arnold and Julia Rose Bartemes, March 14.
Edward Paul Coyle and Linda Jean Seha, March 21.
Daniel Edward Strand and Jennifer Ann Goddard, March 25.

**Steele County Divorces
March 2015**
None.

Dive into Summer
Call Julie today!

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STEELE COUNTY Times
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Owatonna's 5th annual weekend

Each year since 1985, Americans have celebrated National Parks and Recreation Month during the month of July to recognize the importance of parks and recreation in establishing and maintaining the quality of life for communities.

July is the 30th year of celebrating Parks and Recreation Month and the enduring importance of parks and recreation for the world.

From the start, parks were created to serve the people—to give them a place to appreciate nature, exercise, socialize and have fun. This mission lives on and will continue to intensify into the future.

Owatonna Parks and Rec celebrating the past, present and future of parks and recreation 80's style. There will be a full day of community events planned for July 17-19.

Owatonna Weekend Out Event line up:

Friday, July 17:
Plan on doing a little time traveling on Friday night at Central Park! Back to the Future 2 kicks off the 5th annual Owatonna Weekend Out. Movie will begin at sunset (between 8 and 9 p.m., depending on the day). Movies are free and concessions are available.

Saturday, July 18:
Hatha Yoga Class at Lake Kohlmier Beach 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Try something new as Denise Stewart leads a Hatha Yoga class on the beach at Lake Kohlmier. There will be a limited amount of yoga mats provided. If you have your own mat, please bring it along. This is a free activity.

Pickleball at Morehouse Courts 10 a.m. to noon
Join us at the Morehouse Pickleball courts for a morning of instruction and open play. Pickleball is a fun paddle sport created for all ages and skill levels. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn. The Owatonna Pickleball Association will be on hand teaching the basics of this popular game. All ages are welcome. This is a free activity.

Kayaking at Lake Kohlmier 1-4 p.m.
Join us out at Lake Kohlmier for an afternoon of kayaking. Staff from The Gear Resource Outfitters of Dundas, Minn., will be on hand be providing general instruction. Kayaks and lifejackets will be provided. Please dress accordingly if you would like to participate. This is a free activity.

Sunday, July 19:
Weekend Out finishes up with \$2 admission all day Sunday at River Springs Waterpark. Take advantage of this great opportunity for you to bring out the whole family and enjoy a day by the pool.

BROOKTREE GOLF COURSE

BRING IN THIS AD FOR A FREE FOUNTAIN POP WITH ANY FOOD PURCHASE
Good thru July 31, 2015.

THE "NEW" BROOKTREE is one of the finest municipal golf courses in Southern Minnesota. With a new patio, remodeled kitchen and many on-course improvements, it's definitely a great golf destination to *play, relax and enjoy!*

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1369 CHERRY ST., OWATONNA

"Your Best Investment"
City of Owatonna

Weekend Out 2015

July 17, 18, & 19

Friday, July 17:
Movie in the Park at Central Park - Back to the Future 2 Movie begins at sunset (8:30-9:00PM) Concessions available from Kona Ice, Godfather's Pizza & Ozzy's Cotton Candy

Saturday, July 18: FREE PROGRAMS
8:30-9:15AM - Hatha Yoga at Lake Kohlmier Beach
Yoga Class led by Denise Stewart

10:00 AM-12:00PM - Family Pickleball at Morehouse Courts.
Instructions & open play led by the Owatonna Pickleball Association.

1:00-4:00PM - Kayaking at Lake Kohlmier
Instructions by The Gear Resource Outfitters of Dundas
Kayaks, PFD's and paddles provided
(Meet on the SE side of Lake Kohlmier by the island)

Sunday, July 19
All day - \$2 admission at River Springs Waterpark.

Owatonna Parks & Recreation

540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna, MN (507)-444-4321
www.ci.owatonna.mn.us/parksrecreation

July is Parks & Recreation Month

Enjoy it at Brooktree Golf Course

3 WEEKS OF COUPONS

SUPER COUPON
Coupon must be presented - up to 4 people per coupon

Tuesday, July 14 - Sunday, July 19 2015

\$20 SAVINGS FOR A FOURSOME

\$5 OFF

PER PERSON FOR 18 HOLES OF GOLF WITH A POWER CART

Contact 507-444-2467 to make a tee time!
A great golf destination to play, relax and enjoy!

SUPER COUPON
Coupon must be presented - up to 4 people per coupon

Monday, July 20 - Sunday, July 26 2015

\$28 SAVINGS FOR A FOURSOME

1/2 PRICE

POWER CART WITH A PURCHASE OF AN 18 HOLE GREEN FEE

Contact 507-444-2467 to make a tee time!
A great golf destination to play, relax and enjoy!

SUPER COUPON
Coupon must be presented - up to 4 people per coupon

Monday, July 27 - Friday, July 31 2015

\$56 SAVINGS FOR A FOURSOME

FREE

POWER CART WITH A PURCHASE OF AN 18 HOLE GREEN FEE

Contact 507-444-2467 to make a tee time!
A great golf destination to play, relax and enjoy!