



Jayne Schneider Photo

Flag Ceremony in Kilkenny

The flag retirement ceremony in Kilkenny Friday night was a meaningful service. The service was opened with a welcome from the American Legion Commander, Mark Pittman, followed by a prayer from the acting chaplain, Janice Sellner. Patriotic songs were playing during the burning process of more than 200 flags.

Orphanage

reconnected with the woman, who had helped facilitate many of their adoptions, at the 2017 gathering.

But for Mamata, it was a tear-filled first.

When Teri looked up and spotted her, the recognition was instant, and the pair quickly embraced in a tear-and-joy-filled hug.

"Oh, Mamata! You're here! I haven't seen you since you were this big," Teri said, indicating the height of a small child, before gingerly cupping Mamata's face in her hands. "Oh, let me have a look at you."

Teri's husband, Roy, smiled wide, watching the reunion. "This is just great," Roy stated. "I often traveled with my wife and helped take photos and create videos of the children."

The Bells, who now reside in Eagan, helped facilitate hundreds of international

adoptions while working in Korea, Russia, Hong Kong, Belarus, Romania, Greece, and India. But, Basundhara has always been special.

"We spent quite a bit of time there (Basundhara)," Roy explained. "We stayed right there with the orphans and got to know the kids there quite well. I already recognize a lot of the faces here today."

Spanish journalist Beatriz Rodriguez, who made a documentary film about Basundhara, traveled from her home in the Canary Islands to be part of the event.

"I remember these girls from my time making the film," she stated. "I lived at Basundhara for about a month and a half while filming and got to know many of them. It's good for my heart to see them doing so well."

The adoptees, their families, and special guests unit-

ed in prayer Friday night before a meal of tacos, then proceeded to reminisce, play games, and share stories.

At the center of it all, Hardeep couldn't stop smiling. Every way she turned she was enveloped in another hug.

"Hardeep is truly special, tracking everyone down and getting us together like this," Teri stated. "Catching up with them back here in the States is wonderful. I've been in touch on and off with many of them, but having everyone together like this... I don't know how to describe it... It's just wonderful."

The celebration continued through the weekend with group events and fun on the local lakes, but it won't be the last time the group gathers.

Hardeep has plans for regular gatherings in the future.

User fees approved for West Jefferson residents

Jay Schneider
Life/Enterprise

The Le Sueur County Board approved the proposed user fees for the West Jefferson service district.

Seasonal and full-time residents will pay a base rate of \$41.95 with an additional \$1 going to the City of Cleveland. Usage rates per 1,000 gallons is \$7.44.

A total of 140 residential connections will be made, with 68 of those full-time residents and 72 seasonal residents.

Meters will be installed for each residence and water will be transported to and treated by the City of Cleveland.

A sample monthly bill for a year-round resident would

be \$70.09 assuming the use of 3,650 gallons. This rate would increase approximately three percent the next four years.

A sample monthly bill for a seasonal resident would be \$50.39 based on use of 1,000 gallons.

The rate study, which was provided by county financial advisor Ehlers, the rates were based on establishing operating reserves up to four months, establish replacement reserves for pumps, and protect the county and district from financial risks associated with fluctuating use between seasonal and full-time residents.

There will be an informational meeting Tuesday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H

Building in Le Center to discuss the service district.

In other Le Sueur County Board business:

* Tobacco licenses were approved for Denny's Bar in Waterville, Froggy's Liquor Store in Le Sueur, and Beer Oil and Tire in Le Center.

* The board approved the purchase of eight new copiers for the new Justice Center at a cost of \$803.19 for the 60-month contract with Loffler.

* The board approved the resolution amending the Le Sueur County Zoning Ordinance. A public hearing was held on the ordinance June 4.

* The purchase of a bobcat for the Justice Center (\$71,903.70), a floor cleaning scrubber (\$35,354), and

seven new portable radios to be used by the maintenance staff (\$14,049). The bobcat will also be used for other county property when needed.

* The county received a reimbursement grant in the amount of \$31,532.01 related to the development and deployment of the Minnesota License and Registration System.

* A tire changer was purchased for the Highway Department in the amount of \$11,050.

The next meeting of the Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners is Tuesday, June 25 at 9 a.m.

Council

had the low bid of \$98,115.74 for the 2019 Mill and Overlay Project.

The trunk Highway 13 utility extension project is currently on hold due to water levels.

During citizens time, Janet Geyer, Chris Meskan, and Denise Beadell each had concerns about the way the city is handling nuisance violations.

Meskan told the council it might be in their best interest to look at their own properties before they start sending issues out to people.

He cited the 3rd Street Building, the old city garage, and grasses and weeds by the post office and the island by the old O'Leary's Service Station site.

Meskan said the public is not very happy and feels the city needs to set a better example for the residents.

Acting Mayor David Wolin thanked those individuals for bringing these issues to the council's attention. He told them the city will look into this further.

An exempt gambling permit and a temporary one-day liquor license was approved for Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

The council will hold a special budget work session August 20 at 5 p.m.

The City of Waterville HR Committee will look at developing a new job description and advertisement for the position of code compliance officer.

LCHS board

"The museum is intact, however it needs a lot of work. In the art room, all of the sheetrock is down. It is bare walls. The work on all three floors - basement, first floor, and second floor - is partially done. The paint is coming off of the ceiling. There are cords and light fixtures just hanging. It's not ready to be open. It needs a good cleaning," Mack stated.

She also reported there is no air conditioning for the first or second floors and the basement is full of black mold.

"It makes you want to cry," she said.

The Genealogy Center looks fine Mack stated, but she advised that technology updates need to be done before it opens. She said that a dehumidifier is working, but no climate control has been found as ordered by the court years ago for the storage of the paintings.

Mack said they hope to open the Center for a short time on July 4, so people in Elysian can get a glimpse of what the new board is work-

LCHS seeks members

Anyone can be a member of Le Sueur County Historical Society. Fill out the application and pay the annual membership fee.

Benefits include:

- A membership card
- Research without charge at the Genealogy Research Center
- Society newsletter with updates and invitations
- A right to vote at meetings
- Tax deduction for dues and donations.

Obtain your application on Le Sueur County Historical Society's Facebook page. Mail it with your check made to LCHS to Dean Pettis, LCHS Vice President and Membership Chair, 320 Fulton Street, Mankato, 56001.

Shirley Krenik, who is working with Mack, said a computer-savvy technician has offered to help the Center update its new computer and transfer files. She said she will get the information to the board once they receive quotes.

Stangler spoke about the Ottawa church and re-installation of its steeple that had been taken off because it was 21 inches off of plumb. According to Stangler, an engineer whom he spoke with,

was afraid if it was left on the building, it would have collapsed and caused more damage.

However, re-attaching the steeple is more extensive than just putting it up.

"This is considerably more involved. The building needs to be structurally rebuilt with steel tubes and trusses," he said. "The engineer said it could cost upwards of \$200,000."

Stangler also spoke about the house in Waterville. He said it is filled with mold,

some a quarter of an inch thick. He said the board is looking for bids to sell the house and property.

Stangler and two representatives from the state historical society toured the society's buildings. It was decided that LCHS needs a grant writer to help procure money for some of the Society's projects. An ad for one has been placed in some county newspapers and has been online.

Stangler also reviewed account balances from April 1 to June 1 this year, and the various bills that needed to be paid.

The meeting was then closed for the board to discuss a work session with the Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners to talk about funding. Before the action was taken, Stangler wanted to make sure none of the members were offended by the closure of the meeting, explaining only the board needed to strategize about their presentation.

"I hope you all don't mind," he said.

Vet Memorial

erans past and present. These pavers are 8 inches by 12 inches. There are approximately 125 pavers available at this time with room for future expansion.

There will be recognition of all five military branches within this memorial. A large flag pole and flag will be donated by the Waterville Fire Department.

There are two ways to support this project. The first is by purchasing a wall paver in the amount of \$150. The paver can be engraved with the veteran's name, branch of service, and conflict or dates of service. The other way to support the project is by making a monetary donation.

At this time, the \$45,000 project is nearly half funded

and this is without receiving any paver requests.

Funds have been received through the Waterville Lions, monetary donations, and the sale of Veteran's Memorial 50/50 Raffle tickets. The drawing for this raffle will be Thursday, August 22 at Bullhead's Bar & Grill.

"There have been very generous people when purchasing tickets," Bob said.

For anyone interested in donating to this project, a flier was inserted in the June city water bill.

Checks can be written directly to Waterville Veterans Memorial, c/o Waterville Lions Club, PO Box 211, Waterville, MN 56096.

Anyone donating more than \$1,000 will be recog-

nized on a sign at the memorial site.

Individuals can also contact Margie Jacobson by phone at (507) 649-1034 or

e-mail WatervilleVeterans-Memorial@gmail.com.

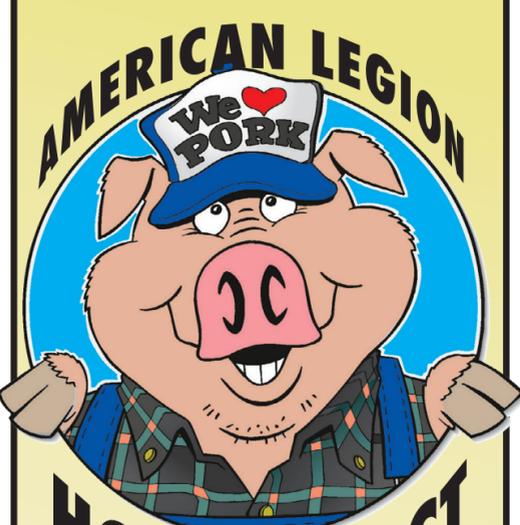
The project groundbreaking is tentatively scheduled for July.



Did you hear the news?

IF NOT, MAKE SURE TO RENEW TODAY!

Return your renewal envelope before the end of the month OR Check the date on your label!



AMERICAN LEGION

HOG ROAST

Saturday, June 22

Morristown American Legion

Post 149

- 50/50 Tickets
- Raffles
- Paddle Wheel



Live Band

(Neon-Live)

starts at 6 p.m.



Only \$10

All-You-Can-Eat

Roast Pork &

All-You-Can-Drink

Keg Beer

Serving starts at 4 p.m.

Waterville
Lake Region Life
- Established in 1883 -
Published weekly by Suel Printing Co., Inc.
at 115 S. 3rd Street, Waterville, MN 56096
SINGLE COPY PRICE: \$1.25
Official newspaper of the City of Waterville,
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown School District #2143,
City of Morristown, City of Kilkenny

CONTACT INFO
Phone: (507) 362-4495
Fax: (507) 362-4458
lrife@frontiernet.net
lrnews@frontiernet.net
watervilllemnnews.com
Managing Editor: **Jay M. Schneider**
Staff: **Deb Atherton & Lisa Ingebrand**
Periodicals postage paid at
Waterville, MN 56096

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Le Sueur, Waseca & Rice Counties
One Year.....\$43.00
In Minnesota & Snowbirds
One Year.....\$50.00
Outside Minnesota
One Year.....\$58.00
Postal regulations require that all subscriptions be paid in advance.
Pre-paid subscriptions are transferable, but NOT refundable.

AD RATES
DISPLAY ADVERTISING
\$10.00 per column inch
CLASSIFIED DISPLAY
\$10.50 per column inch
WORD CLASSIFIED
\$12.00 1st week,
\$7.00 each additional
GARAGE SALE / THANKS
\$10.00 per column inch

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:

Lake Region Life
115 S. 3rd Street
Waterville, MN 56096

USPS 007-200

Member of the Le Sueur County Editorial Association and Minnesota Newspaper Association.
Material in the Lake Region Life is copyrighted under United States copyright laws and can only be reprinted with permission.