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Cold leads to water woes in Ellsworth

Frozen water tower, main break are latest challenges for city

By Alyssa Sobotka
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ELLSWORTH — A series of unfortunate events may be the best way to summarize all that Ellsworth has endured over the course of this winter.

It could also certainly explain their last couple of weeks, battling multiple water main breaks and a frozen water tower.

As of Friday morning, a water main break that had been discovered late Monday evening had been repaired. The town's water tower had also been thawed and a water boil alert had been lifted after test results for E. coli bacteria came back negative.

According to Ellsworth Mayor Tasha Domeyer, the past week's water troubles began Monday evening, when a water pressure issue was reported to the city.

The water main break was eventually located on Maple Street. According to Domeyer, residences along Maple Street and others within that neighborhood had their water shut off while the main was repaired.

The water main break wasn't the full extent of last week's problems. In fact, it helped lead to the discovery that the water tower was frozen

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Ellsworth Mayor Tasha Domeyer, center, looks on Wednesday afternoon as Orv's Plumbing & Heating digs an exploratory hole in search of a leak in the water main on Maple Street.
Tim Middagh / The Globe

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

Faces of Worthington generates understanding, compassion for immigrants



STORY BY JULIE BUNTJER / JBUNTJER@DGLGLOBE.COM

Worthington

On a cold, moonlit evening in February, 16 people gathered around the dinner table at the home of Colleen Bents to share their stories as immigrants.

After all, Bents said, each of us is an immigrant. Perhaps we didn't make the journey to America, but our ancestors did. Did they face adversity to get here? Perhaps. Did they struggle to learn a new language? Likely. Did they come to America in hopes of a better life? Indeed.

For the past two years, an ecumenical team

Above: This compilation of Faces of Worthington shows all six of the team members working to bridge connections and understanding between community residents. The team includes Kathy Lesnar, Father Jim Callahan, Susanne Murphy, Colleen Bents, Kathy Hayenga and Mariana Gutierrez.
Special to The Globe

comprised of Bents, Kathy Lesnar, the Rev. Jim Callahan, Kathy Hayenga, Susanne Murphy and Mariana Gutierrez have brought community residents together to learn about their neighbors.

Each month, a team member or past attendee hosts a dinner with invited guests and a new immigrant willing to share his or her story. There are some simple rules for the evening — to listen with an open mind, to ask questions and to learn.

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Gun debate rages in Capitol, region

By Leah Ward
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REGIONAL — Gun law reform has generated community debate following the recent announcement of a push to amend Minnesota's Constitution to specifically protect citizens' right to bear arms.

Minnesota is one of only six states whose state constitution does

not include an affirmation of the rights guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution — namely, the right to bear and keep arms. The Minnesota Republican Caucus would like to change that.

This proposed amendment comes on the heels

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Special to The Globe
This table built by Lauren Postma of Worthington will be raffled off at the April 6 Hospice Cottage Inc. fundraiser.

Hospice Cottage Inc. fundraiser is April 6

By Ryan McGaughey
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WORTHINGTON — Lauren Postma wanted to do something special for this year's Hospice Cottage Inc. fundraiser, set for April 6 at the Worthington Event Center.

"I've got a real soft spot for hospice and like to do whatever I can to support it," said Postma, a Worthington resident.

"He's been one of our biggest supporters for a lot of years and he's humbly preferred to remain anonymous in the past," added Susanne Murphy, vice president of Hospice Cottage Inc.'s board of directors.

This year, Postma has built a 40 inch by 84 inch oak table — currently on

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