



'I thought I was checking out'



Photo by Mike Lamb

Marshall resident Joe Warnke, left, and his partner, Karen Brady, relax in their Marshall home. Warnke recently recovered from the COVID-19 virus. Warnke has returned to work, but Brady is still fearful of the virus and stays home.

Marshall resident shares his fight with COVID-19 virus

By Mike Lamb
miamb@marshallindependent.com

Joe Warnke remembers June 13 as the day he grabbed a tablet and started to write down information for his obituary.

"I thought I was checking out," he said one month after recovering from the COVID-19 virus and quarantining in his Marshall home.

That was also the day Warnke called the Avera hotline set up for people who have been exposed to COVID-19 or

have symptoms. Warnke was following the instructions released by Avera on the hotline: "Anyone who thinks they might have COVID-19 should call before going to the clinic or Emergency Department to protect staff and other patients."

Warnke started feeling poorly on June 1 and was experiencing respiratory issues the rest of the week. He decided to get tested for the COVID-19 virus on June 5 and he received a call on June 7 that he was positive.

Warnke is not sure where he contracted the virus. He wore a face mask

while working as a security guard at Turkey Valley Farms in Marshall, but he didn't wear one when shopping or at other public areas. He was among 25 people who received positive test results in Lyon County that weekend.

Throughout his ordeal, Warnke claims he never experienced a fever, but struggled to breathe. He likened his coughing episodes to the croup, which also obstructs breathing.

"My breathing was a little worse and then my energy went," he said. "I mean

Fight with COVID-19 PAGE 2A

Lyon Co. Board hears funding request for treatment center

Local counselor proposes residential mental health facility for children

By Deb Gau
dgaug@marshallindependent.com

MARSHALL — Mental health resources are an important need for children and families in southwest Minnesota, Jerry Bottelberghe said. But for kids and youth who need residential treatment, placements are hard to come by — they may end up having to travel to facilities far away or even out of state.

Bottelberghe, a licensed professional counselor in Minnesota, is leading a project to add a new option in the area. The goal would be to build a 15-bed residential facility for children ages 6 to 13, he told Lyon County commissioners.

"The big stumbling block now is looking for funding," Bottelberghe said. "I'm asking, would the county be interested in supporting this project?"

In a presentation to commissioners on Tuesday, Bottelberghe outlined the plan for the facility, which would be called A Caring Place, according to a written proposal the county board received.

While commissioners said they supported the idea of having more mental health treatment options in the region, they wanted more operational and financial details before they would consider contributing funding to the project.

Bottelberghe said he has worked with both children and teens in his counseling practice, and discovered "there was a great need in this part of Minnesota" for access to residential mental health treat-

Lyon Co. PAGE 7A

Open car trunk for 10 free apples at Hy-Vee parking lot

By Mike Lamb
miamb@marshallindependent.com

MARSHALL — From Galesburg, Ill., to the Twin Cities in Minnesota, Hy-Vee has been giving away fruit by the thousands. Today will be Marshall's turn.

In partnership with its fruit supplier (Stemilt) the Hy-Vee store located on East Main Street will be giving away more than 3,800 apples to customers with a contactless, drive-thru event starting at 10 a.m. and will continue until noon, or while supplies last. Hy-Vee is giving away 10 apples to the first 380 customers. In total, approximately 1,150 pounds of fresh produce will be donated.

The giveaway will take place in the south area of the store parking lot. All event helpers will be wearing masks and gloves for additional safety measures. No walk-ups will be allowed.

"We have been giving away produce since the start of COVID-19. We've given away bananas, given away carrots," Hy-Vee Public Relations Director Christina Gayman said. "These drive-thru giveaways are contactless. So the customer just opens their trunk or roll down their window. You simply place the product inside and they go on their way."

Apples PAGE 7A

MN lawmakers pass police accountability package

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Legislature passed a broad slate of police accountability measures early Tuesday that includes a ban on neck restraints like the one that was used on George Floyd before his death in Minneapolis.

The package also bans chokeholds and so-called warrior-style training, which critics say promotes excessive force. It imposes a duty to intercede on officers who see a colleague using excessive force. It changes rules on the

use of force to stress the sanctity of life. It makes changes in arbitration rules affecting police unions. Officers will get more training on dealing with people with mental health issues and autism. The measure also creates a new advisory council for the state board that licenses officers.

"This is a really a great bill, but it is only a first step," Democratic House Speaker Melissa Hortman, of Brooklyn Park, said at a

Legislature PAGE 7A



AP photo

House Speaker Melissa Hortman, DFL-Brooklyn Park, gavels in another special session Monday in St. Paul. With him is Assistant Minority Leader Rep. Anne Neu, R-North Branch.



SEE US ON THE INTERNET

Go to www.marshallindependent.com and click on our Twitter and Facebook links on the right side of the home page.



LOCALLY

MASC to do virtual Shakespeare show

The Marshall Area Stage Company plans a virtual production of "Twelfth Night" in August. Depending on the number of participants, MASC may do the entire play or scene selections of "Twelfth Night," or may opt to instead produce favorite scenes from Shakespeare's classics. Auditions, rehearsals and performance will be online. Auditions are 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88010112481>

Contact the director at unitypaco@gmail.com for more information, including or if you need additional audition opportunities.

WEATHER

TODAY:
Partly cloudy
High: 75-80



THURSDAY:
Showers
High: 85

INDEX

1 SECTION, 12 PAGES

LOCAL/STATE	2A	ENTERTAINMENT	8A
RECORDS	3A	CLASSIFIEDS	9A-10A
OPINION	4A	SPORTS	11A
NEWS	5A		
MARKETS	6A		
WEATHER	7A		