



Volleyball falls to RTR
See page 6



Homecoming highlights
See photos page 10

BALATON PRESS TRIBUNE

OUR 114TH YEAR • No. 40

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 2, 2019

\$1.00

Community Happenings

TOUR OF HOMES

Featuring five homes in and around Balaton. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Saturday, October 5. You can purchase your \$15.00 tickets ahead of time from First Independent Bank in Balaton or on the day of, at Benson's by the Lake and Balaton Bay Clubhouse. Sponsored by Balaton Chamber of Commerce.

BALATON'S AMBULANCE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT

Hosting a Pancake, French Toast, and Egg Bake Breakfast from 10:00-1:00 Sunday, October 6. Gluten free will be available. National Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12. Come out and support both these great organizations. Free Will Donation.

BEAUTIFICATION OF BALATON (B.O.B.)

Still time to decorate and spruce up your house and lawn. Judging will take place Friday, October 4 and will be announced at the Tour of Homes on Saturday, October 5.

LAKEVIEW SENIOR

The Balaton Film Series Presents "The Bad Seed", a movie filmed in 1956, starring Nancy Kelly. Movie will be shown at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 6. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy some social time and lunch afterwards.

COLONIAL MANOR AUCTION

Will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday October 5. Many nursing home equipment, and office items on sale.

BALATON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting is at 7:00 p.m. Monday, October 7 at the Balaton Community Center.

BALATON AMERICAN LEGION

Will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday October 7 at KirPatrick's Pub and Grille

BALATON AMERICAN LEGION BINGO

Will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8 at KirPatrick's Pub and Grille

FUN FEST WINNER

Roberta Joehnick is a 2019 Fun Fest Winner and will receive \$100.00.

EDA close to finalizing agreement

By Jenny Kirk

The Balaton Economic Development Authority (EDA) board is one pen-stroke away from finalizing a lease agreement for Lakeview Senior Housing.

Operating as Lakeview Senior Housing, the EDA unanimously approved the agreement with Minnewaska Lutheran Home doing business as Minnewaska Community Health Services, a Minnesota nonprofit corporation — pending the reinsertion of certain language and intentions — at a special meeting on Thursday morning at Balaton.

EDA:
See page three

Curbside recycling will continue in Lyon County

By Byron Higgin
Lyon County Reporter

The Lyon County Board Tuesday approved a one-month contract with Southwest Sanitation to continue curbside recycling.

After hearing the public indicate they wanted to continue curbside recycling at a public hearing Monday night, Commissioner Charlie Sanow made the motion to negotiate for curbside pickup with Southwest Sanitation.

Essentially, the board bought themselves a one-month extension until a final agreement can be worked out. Environmental Director

Roger Schroeder will work with Southwest Sanitation for the curbside pickup, including apartment pickup on a bi-weekly basis.

When asked how often curbside would be held, Commissioner Sanow said, "I wouldn't mind doing it weekly, but we can start bi-weekly."

"It appears Southwest Sanitation has the most favorable proposal for curbside service."

"Regarding the curbside, we need to get going on it. I feel comfortable with it," said Schroeder.

"There were several people last night who were adamant

about wanting the curbside service. We still have the drop-off sites," Schroeder said.

Board considers assessment increase

Responding to the public at Monday night's hearing Commission Chairman Gary Crowley said, "We know we're going to have to raise our assessments."

Commissioner Charlie Sanow said we need a consensus of, "Where we will go. Probably a minimum of \$20 more (per parcel in the county)," he said.

Commissioner Paul County:
See page nine

Answering the call

By Jenny Kirk

Sara Larson has learned that when God speaks to you, it's best to listen to him.

Larson, a Balaton resident, said she heard that call and is on her way to becoming a pastor. Recently, she traveled to Chicago, Illinois, where she attended a special banquet and was awarded one of 49 full-tuition Fund for Leaders scholarships from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

"People are called to do all different things," Larson said. "Earlier in my life, this might not have been the right path, but having been through all the experiences I've had in my life, I was in the right place to hear the call. And then I was willing to answer that call."

Larson has always been actively involved with church-related and community-oriented activities around the area, but the call to ministry requires an extraordinary effort and commitment.

"It's a lot of work," she said. "It's really intense. If I



Sara Larson, pictured with Bishop of the ELCA Elizabeth Eaton, recently traveled to Chicago, Illinois, to receive a full-tuition (\$54,000) scholarship to become a pastor. Submitted photo

didn't feel called to do it, I wouldn't do it."

Larson is quick to point out that while it's her decision, it's not necessarily for her. It's for the people she's been chosen to serve.

"I'm being chosen for them," Larson said. "They

said that, and I feel that way, too."

Larson joined First Lutheran Church (FLC) in Marshall in October 2016.

"I started working at First Lutheran in 2018," Larson

Sara Larson:
See page nine



Ann and Craig Gifford home is one of the homes on this weekend's tour of homes in Balaton. Photo by Jenny Kirk

Tour of Homes Saturday

By Jenny Kirk

Ann and Craig Gifford were the fourth family to build a home on the west side of Lake Yankton, amongst cornfields at the time. More than 40 years later, the house has expanded, as has their family. Across the lake, Monica Misjak resides in her 1-year-old home along Grandview Drive. Along with a spec home in the Eastbay Addition, the residences are among five that are being showcased in the Balaton Chamber of Commerce's Tour of Homes on Saturday.

"I think that people just enjoy seeing the different styles and personal decorating tastes," Chamber president Julie Erickson said "Sometimes, the houses that people have commented on that they've really enjoyed weren't even the newest ones. There may have

been something personal that they liked or some history that they connected with. People into history will notice certain things, like, 'This is my grandmother's buffet.' They get into that. Everybody is probably looking for something different."

Tickets for the Tour of Homes go on sale at noon on Saturday at Benson's by the Lake and Eastbay Clubhouse. The event runs from 1-4 p.m. The cost is \$15.

"That includes dessert and coffee at the clubhouse," Erickson said. "People can do the tour in any order. They can have coffee and dessert first or whenever you want to do that."

Participants will be asked to take off their shoes at the homes on the tour. Socks are preferred to bare feet.

"We'll have people take

off their shoes when they go inside the homes," Erickson said. "We'll give everyone a bag to put their shoes in."

Tour homes will have a sign and balloons identifying their locations. The addresses are also printed on the tickets. Proceeds will support upcoming Chamber projects.

Since 2008, Erickson said the Chamber has consistently hosted the Balaton Tour of Homes every other year, with the exception of 2012, when it skipped an extra year.

"We didn't have the Tour of Homes in 2012," she said. "We had it in 2013, so now we're odd years. And it's always the first Saturday in October. A lot of times, women's husbands are out hunting, especially if the weather is nice."

Read more about the Misjak and Gifford homes on pages 11-12 of this week's BPT.



Pink Cadillacs are the vehicles of choice for longtime Mary Kay Director Janet Chapman who recently celebrated her 40th anniversary in the business. Photo by Jenny Kirk

Pretty in Pink

By Jenny Kirk

Longtime Mary Kay Director Janet Chapman set sail on Monday to the Bahamas, on a cruise she earned for herself and a guest. And in honor of her 40th anniversary in the Mary Kay business, she chose to take a random customer with her.

Chapman has spent a lifetime trying to make other people's lives better, like Mary Kay has done for her.

"It's kind of a Cinderella life," Chapman said of her experience the last four decades. "It really is. Who would've thought the shy little girl from Iowa would be where she's at

today? But that all came from Mary Kay. It's a process of self-discovery."

After refusing for nearly a year, Chapman signed her Mary Kay agreement on her first wedding anniversary with her husband, Jeff. While she was pregnant with their first child, somewhat of an introvert and usually didn't wear makeup, Chapman took a leap of faith when her husband nudged her a little.

"I probably never would've done it without him," she said. "Jeff said, 'You need to sign that paper. This is our answer.' He's always been my

Mary Kay:
See page seven



The last dozen of Kidman Dairy milk cows made their way to the trailer waiting to take them to the Fier dairy farm in rural Minnesota. Photo by Jenny Kirk

Finding a new normal

Final load shipped out from Kidman site

By Jenny Kirk

For five straight weeks, the Kidman family has loaded about 25 of their milk cows into a trailer and watched them leave Kidman Dairy — a farm where Dick and Becky raised four sons and where Dick and son Wade milked for several decades.

Last Tuesday, the final milk



It was a lonely walk to the milking barn for longtime dairy farmer Dick Kidman recently after the last of his milk cows left the Balaton farm. Photo by Jenny Kirk

cows left the rural Balaton yard.

"It's such an empty feeling," 71-year-old Dick Kidman said. The dairy business has been a way of life for the family, as Kidman Dairy had been in operation for 46 years.

"Wade and I did all the

milking," Dick said. "(Our son) Robbie was always the feeding and manure-scraping guy. And Becky, she works seven days a week, too. I tell her she's my fulltime secretary."

Becky Kidman laughs at that, pointing out that "the pay sucks." In reality, however, she was a large part of the business, having cooked most of the meals for the working family members — and sometimes for visitors, too.

"They do the breakfast and I do the dinner and supper," she said. "Then we have to feed every Tom, Dick and Harry that drives in the yard, too."

Lately, the Kidmans have been using a lot of humor to help overshadow their real feelings of sadness and loss.

"Obviously, they take a lot of pride in their cattle, and you can see it in the way the herd is," dairyman Kevin Fier said. "I'm really excited to continue all this hard work that Dick and Wade have put in. And it's a family farm coming from a family farm, so I think it was a good connection. We have a lot of common friends."

With the purchase of 126 cows from Kidman Dairy, Fier and his brothers, Kurt and Kris, will now be milking 350 through their robotic

Kidman:
See page eight