

OBITUARY

Worthington agencies take part in car seat safety class

By Leah Ward
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WORTHINGTON — For the first time in history, the Worthington community hosted a class last month for members of the public to become certified child passenger safety technicians.

Several organizations collaborated to make the class possible, including: South Central Minnesota EMS, Helping Hands Pregnancy Center, ISD 518, Nobles County Community Services, Worthington Police Department and Sanford Worthington Medical Center. Representatives from each organization, along with community members, were students in the class.

A child passenger safety technician, or “tech,” is someone certified to share knowledge about when children need car seats and booster seats, as well as how to use those safety devices in a way that keeps kids as safe as possible in the car. They must pass three written exams and a hands-on skills assessment to be certified. After passing the class, they are qualified to perform car seat inspections and safety checks to help save the lives of local youths.

The participants worked from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 21-23 learning information and practicing proper usage of car seats and seatbelts.

Representing the Worthington Police Department at the class was officer Alex VanSomeren, a first-time father with an infant at home.

“One of the reasons I wanted to go through this class was because I have a kid,” he said. “To be honest, there were things I didn’t know.”

Sometimes during traffic stops, VanSomeren sees child passenger safety issues, such as a child not in a car seat who should be, a car seat not strapped down with a seatbelt or more kids in the car than there are seatbelts.

“First of all, people just don’t know (the law),” he said. “Second of all, car seats are expensive.”

Sheila Denton, child passenger safety liaison with South Central Minnesota EMS, taught the class. She explained that when parents and guardians buy car seats and booster seats, they don’t necessarily know how to use the seats properly. There are guidelines about wear the straps are supposed to be on a child’s body and how each seat is strapped in to the car.

These rules are not well known by the public.

“When we do car seat safety checks, we see 90 to 95% misuse,” Denton said.

In addition to learning how to use safety devices, techs also learn the law. In Minnesota, all children must be in a rear-facing car seat until age 1. Until they reach age 8 or a height of 4’9”, kids have to be in a booster seat.

As part of the certification class techs learn how to communicate the rules to parents, including across language barriers,

and how to connect parents with resources and programs to provide car seats if cost is a factor.

VanSomeren added that there are grants available for law enforcement agencies and other techs to have some car seats on hand to give people who wouldn’t be able to get a car seat any other way. The Nobles County Sheriff’s Office has applied for some of these grants, and VanSomeren plans to do so on behalf of WPD.

Child passenger safety is not negotiable.

“Vehicles inherently are dangerous,” VanSomeren said. “Seatbelts and airbags are not designed for kids.”

Car seats and booster seats help protect children who can’t protect themselves, he said.

“Our goal is to make sure kids are being transported safely,” Denton said.

Last month’s class was a step in the right direction for the Worthington community, she added.

“It went wonderfully. We got a wide variety of people who know what to look for and are out in the community,” she said.

Now that he’s certified, VanSomeren is open to questions, if anyone needs help operating a car seat or learning the laws about child passenger safety. He is willing to meet with people, do a car seat check or even help install a car seat if needed. He can be reached at the police department at 295-5400.

Helen Louise Boots



Helen Louise Boots, age 83, was born on July 3, 1938, in Cherryvale, KS, the daughter of the late Willis and Thelma (McCully) Homan. She was united in marriage to Marlyn Boots on October 18, 1958. Helen was employed at Wolfes, JC Penney, and finally at Shopko when they opened, where she retired after 25+ years. She loved bowling, collecting Precious Moments Figurines, and traveling with her sister Jean. But mostly, Helen loved Christmas, where she spent 12 months a year buying gifts for the grandkids. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Helen passed away on Friday, July 9, 2021, at the Good Samaritan Hospice Room in Windom, MN with her family by her side.

Helen will be greatly missed by her husband, Marlyn of Worthington, MN; children, Jackie Ailts of Round Lake, MN, Kevin (Michelle) Boots of Worthington, MN, Lee (Susan) Boots of Brewster, MN, PJ (Harlan) Klein of Reading, MN, Tim Boots, of Fulda, MN, and Pat (Shawn) Boots, of Lakefield, MN; 16 grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; brother, Willis (Rose) Homan of Adrian, MN; sisters-in-law, Ida (Henry) Luitjens of Worthington, MN, Suze (Mike) Loss of Brainerd, MN, and Rose (Willis) Homan of Adrian, MN, and brothers-in-law, Daryl Boots of Wilmont, MN and Russell (Cheryl) Boots of Phoenix, AZ.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Wilma, Thelma Jean, Pearl, and Pauline; brothers, Warren and Howard; mother and father-in-law, Henry J. and Minnie Boots; sister-in-law, Agnes Boots, and brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Verla Boots.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Benson Funeral Home in Worthington, MN. Private family services will be held. Burial will be in the Wilmont Cemetery.

Benson Funeral Home in Worthington is in charge of the arrangements.

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 Employment ads: call 888-514-HIRE or email jobs@jobshq.com

HELP WANTED - EDUCATION

MARSS/Data and Assessment Manager
 Worthington District 518 Schools has an opening for a MARSS/Data and Assessment Manager. The Minnesota Auditing Reporting Student System (MARSS)/Data and Assessment Manager position supports data management throughout the district. This position will accurately collect, evaluate, and report student data, which includes but is not limited to: MARSS and District Assessment management, which includes support for the administration of the district testing program.

Required Qualifications:
 A minimum of educational experience beyond High School or 2 years of experience related to an office setting. Demonstrate excellence in working in an office setting with core responsibilities in the data entry/reporting of data. A team centered person that is approachable, self-motivated and committed to quality work and support of the department.

Preferred Qualifications:
 BS degree in business, education, related field or a minimum of four years working in an office setting with core responsibilities in the data area. Previous experience with school district reporting (Infinite Campus, Data Warehouses and Other Business software).

Apply Online: www.isd518.net/district/employment/

Equal Employment Opportunity
 It is the policy of the Worthington School District to provide equal employment opportunity for all, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation or age.

HELP WANTED - GENERAL

RailtoRoad
 We are hiring for a:
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We consider applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, gender identity, disability, age, marital status, protected Veteran status, creed, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or any other protected category under applicable state/federal law. Applicants of diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

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HELP WANTED - FINANCIAL SERVICES/BANKING

PART-TIME ACCOUNTANT
 Heron Lake Bio Energy, LLC has an immediate opening for a Part time Staff Accountant. Approximately 24 hours a week. Flexible with the schedule!

Call Stacie at 507-793-0077 or 320-564-3100 for details. Applications are available at www.heronlakebioenergy.com or send email to hr@heronlakebioenergy.com

Heron Lake Bio Energy is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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HELP WANTED - HEALTHCARE

Registered Dental Assistant
 Dr. Deborah Christopher is looking for a full time dental assistant for her Jackson office. Licensed assistant preferred - will train. **Benefits include** health insurance, 401K, vacation time, holidays, uniforms, continue education .

Please email resume to deborah.christopher302@gmail.com

HELP WANTED - HEALTHCARE

HELP WANTED - SKILLED & TRADES

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
H&D Enterprises, Inc.
 Accepting Applications for the Following Position
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Duties include but not limited to:
 Preventative maintenance and repair on Semi-trucks and trailers. Position is full time and year round. Hourly pay based on experience. Paid weekly.

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Apply in person at 103 5th St W, Sibley, IA
 Contact Jake or Tom 712-754-2272
 Email: cindy@dhpoultry.com

HELP WANTED - SKILLED & TRADES

HELP WANTED - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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 211067 – Production Technician, Viral
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For more information or to Apply: Please email resume to mable.farish.ext@boehringer-ingelheim.com or apply at <http://bit.ly/36iVu6G>

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HELP WANTED - HEALTHCARE

HELP WANTED - OFFICE & ADMINISTRATION

We are looking for a well-organized, energetic, and responsible person to work in our Worthington Fitness Center and Clinic.

PT Fitness Desk Staff
 The position includes daytime, nights, and weekend work. The candidate will require excellent computer & people skills, possess a pleasant & positive disposition, & have the ability to multi-task & learn quickly.

PT or FT Therapy Tech
 Assists the physical therapy departments with general duties as requested or required.
Essential Job Functions:

- Aid in setting up equipment or treatment areas to assist Physical Therapist with care and safety of patients.
- Performs housekeeping duties of the facility by routine and periodic cleaning; to maintain order and cleanliness throughout the facility.
- Assist therapist/assistants in selected procedures, according to their directions, to aid in patient care in the facility.
- Maintain daily, weekly and monthly logs for cleaning and stocking the clinic as well as for safety checks.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with patients, providers, and co-workers and performs other duties that may be necessary or in the best interest of the department/practice.

We offers a positive & challenging work environment.

Applications can be found on our website. Qualified applicants should email or mail their cover letter, resume, and application to:
Prairie Rehab & Fitness
 315 Oxford Street, Worthington, MN 56187
mfrey@prairierehab.com
www.prairierehab.com EOE

HELP WANTED - OFFICE & ADMINISTRATION

City of Worthington BUILDING OFFICIAL

Salary Range: \$67,360 - \$91,135/year

GENERAL DUTIES:
 Ensures compliance with the State Building and Fire Codes. Involves working with a wide variety of individuals in applying regulations having significant economic impact to the city, as well as general safety concerns for citizens.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
 Minimum qualifications: Two years of vocational or technical school in related field. Experience: Limited Building Official Certification or ability to obtain within 8 months, five years of experience in the construction industry or equivalent combination of experience and education, qualifying for points towards meeting certification prerequisites. Must have valid drivers' license.

Full application and position guidelines can be found at www.ci.worthington.mn.us under "Employment Opportunities" tab.

Submit complete application packets to:
**Human Resources Assistant
 City of Worthington
 PO Box 279
 Worthington, MN 56187
 Email: lhenning@ci.worthington.mn.us
 Telephone: 507-666-5016**

Application deadline: **August 5th, 2021, 5:00 p.m. CT**