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SENTINEL TRIBUNE

$1.00
JULY 21, 2021
WEDNESDAY

CURRIE, STORDEN, DOVRAY AND REVERE AREAS

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CLUB NOTES

Westbrook Auxiliary

Westbrook Auxiliary will not meet in July or August

Mary & Martha's Pantry

Pantry (1110 11th St.) is open Mondays 1:30pm – 3:30pm. Volunteers will greet clients outside and then return their food needs out on a cart. Phone 507-537-1416 if you need special arrangements or have any questions; mailing address is Mary & Martha's Pantry, P.O. Box 71, Westbrook, MN 56183.

RSVP Bone Builder

WESTBROOK —RSVP Bone Builder classes meet every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Peterson Estates dining room.

Heritage House available for visitors

After two winters and a shutdown because of the Covid-19 pandemic, workers opened the Heritage House Museum located in Westbrook's former train depot. Sunday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. a tour guide will help visitors to learn about the items on display. Contact information is posted by the screen door of the historic building. Call ahead for visiting the museum during a week. One of the persons listed could volunteer to be the guide for a specified tour.

Free Online Mental Health Support Groups for Individuals and Families

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) offers a variety of free online peer support groups for adults and young adults living with a mental illness, their families, friends, spouses/partners, as well as parents of children and teens. African-American, GLBTQ and BIPOC community focused groups are also offered. Led by trained peer facilitators, the support groups help individuals and families learn coping skills and find strength through sharing their experiences. Find a complete listing of group meetings and how to join in by going to namimn.org and clicking on "Support Groups" or go straight to https://namimn.org/support/nami-minnesota-support-groups/.

All aboard for fun at VBS!

Rocky Railway - Jesus' Power Pulls us Through
WOW (Worship On Wednesday) is hosting VBS August 16-20, 2021 at Grace Lutheran Church in Westbrook. 8:30am until noon.
Preschool: Ages 3-5 – Each family must be accompanied by an adult
Elementary: Going into Kindergarten thru going go- ing into 6th grade.
Registration information on WOW's Facebook page or call Karla at 507-227-8925. There will be a bus from Walnut Grove each day and swimming at the Westbrook from noon until 2pm.

(TOP) Brian and Pam Busswitz . (ABOVE) Busswitz farm photo with the old house, before 2009. (Photos/Kathy Brandt)

BUSSWITZ FAMILY RECOGNIZED AS CENTURY FARM

Kathy Brandt | Staff Writer
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Brian and Pam Busswitz of rural Westbrook are celebrating their 2021 Century Farm. Brian is the 5th generation and the sixth owner of the family farm.

Ernest and Caroline Cohrs, Brian's great-great grandparents came from Neudorf/Plattdorf Germany in 1878 along with their son Ernst (Ernest). They settled in Dovary township. Son Ernest purchased the farm from the railroad in 1894, thus beginning a family odyssey that continues to this day.

After farming it for eighteen years, Ernest passed the land down to his son Henry Cohrs and his wife Christine, who farmed it for sixteen years. Henry passed the farm to his daughter Christine and her husband, Leander Busswitz. Leander and Christine farmed it for fifty years. Leander then passed it to Arlen Busswitz who farmed it for 4 years before passing it to Brian's parents Marvin and LaDonna Busswitz. After fifteen years on the farm, Marvin and LaDonna moved into Westbrook in 1997 and passed it on to Brian, who has owned and operated the farm for 24 years. Before Marvin and LaDonna moved to the family farm, they lived approximately a mile away, and Brian and his brother kept their 4-H project animals in the barns on the "home place."

Over its over 100 years of existence, many different crops and animals have been part of the lifeblood of the farm. At present, Brian raises corn and soybeans. Some of the family had cattle, Marvin had dairy cows, Arlen had horses and a donkey among other animals. Brian's grandmother Christine (Teenie) Busswitz raised chickens, ducks, peacocks and other birds when she lived on the farm. She moved off of the farm about 1982, having lived there well over 50 years.

Brian reminisced about Teenie, and said that she was the "personality of the family." Among the family history papers they had on the din-

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Walnut Grove City Council seeking a full-time police officer

Tom Merchant | Associate Editor
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WALNUT GROVE — City Clerk Paula McGarvey told the council she has written an ad, seeking candidates for the police officer position. The position became open when former officer Nicole Knakmuhs resigned last month as Walnut Grove's police officer.

She wrote a job description for candidates to study. She has contacted several community colleges in regards to finding candidates that have completed their training. The council discussed things that they might do to attract a person that would fit their community. They talked about having a person from the community that would be able to communicate with a new officer to offer information to help the new officer on how things are done in the community.

The council discussed the possibility of purchasing a property that would be adjacent to a property already owned by the city. They thought if the two parcels were combined it would make the property easier to sell to someone wanting to put a new home on it. If the city acquires the property they can get assistance from the county to do any demolition or cleanup.

Water and wastewater report:

Kerwin Armitage told the council the sprocket he received for the clarifier at the wastewater facility does not fit. He said they could get it modified for about $300.00.

Armitage said he has received quotes from two water tower companies. The first quote was from McGuire Iron, for recoating the water tower for $44,000. The second quote from KLM Water Tower was for $200,000 which included sand blasting the whole tower. The first quote from McGuire would last for five to seven years. The quote from KLM would last for 30 years.

The council felt that the city couldn't afford spending $200,000 at this time.

Armitage said you have to decide what you want to do, but if you just want to recoat it they should do it

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WALNUT GROVE — Ten Lauras and 2 Nellies competed in the Laura and Nellie Look-A-Like contest at the Family Festival last Saturday afternoon. (Photo/Tom Merchant)

The Dream lives on . . .

Second weekend goes well, nice weather for Pageant and Family Festival

Tom Merchant | Associate Editor
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WALNUT GROVE — Again for the second weekend performers and crew enjoyed comfortable weather conditions for both weekend performances of "Fragments of a Dream" pageant. Attendance numbers also increased, adding to last weeks total of 1,291; Friday, July 16, 784 were in attendance and 741 Saturday, July 17.

The Family Festival event continued with many Laura fans enjoying the food vendors, demonstrations, craft vendors and musical presentations.

Youngsters were able to make leather craft projects while visiting the Family Festival and again there were about a dozen vendors providing food and wares for the visitors.

From 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Curtis and Loretta provided musical selections featuring the guitar and harp. From 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. Julie Miller provided various stories of Laura Ingalls Wilder and her life.

Author Carolyn Van Loh gave a presentation from 12:45 p.m. to

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WALNUT GROVE — Laura Look-A-Like Aria Kaufman from Portsmouth, Ohio and Nellie Look-A-Like Cora Vander Tuin Of Sioux Center, Iowa stuck their tongues out at each other during the Family Festival last Saturday. Photo/Tom Merchant