

**Author shares her** inspiring story at the Elk River Library. Page 5

STAR NEWS

Slowly spring sports teams are getting busy, after a wet and chilly start.

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Elk River ★ Otsego ★ Rogers ★ Zimmerman

## Saturday, April 23, 2022 ★ Vol. 150, No. 17

## Anoka P.D. asking for help locating missing Elk **River man**

The Anoka Police Department is requesting the public's help in locating a 58-year-old Elk River man.

Keith Harvell was last seen on April 3 at 7:22 p.m. with his vehicle at a Kwik Trip in Anoka, according to a Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Crime missing person alert.

Police believe he is on foot, but his destination or direction of

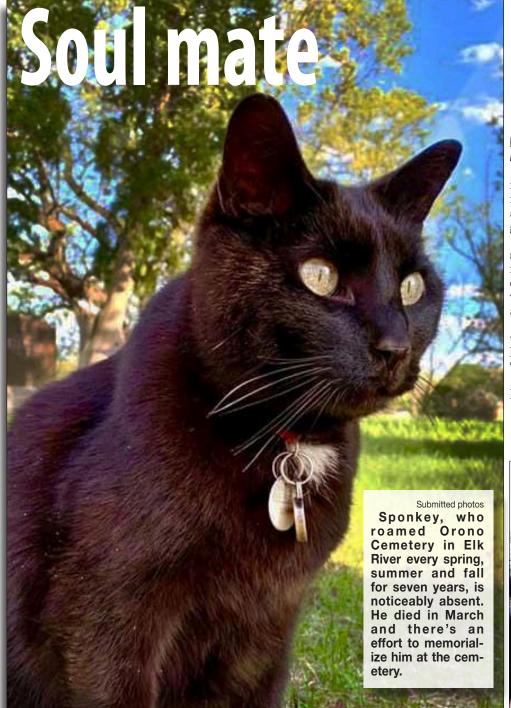
travel isn't known. He may be in Twin the Cities metro area.

Harvell has a tattoo of a light-

house on his chest and a tree on his torso.

Harvell is described as a white man with brown hair and blue eyes. He was last seen wearing a black nylon shirt, black nylon jacket and black pants. He is 5-foot-8 and 185 pounds.

Police are asking anyone with information regarding Harvell's whereabouts to call 911 or the Anoka Police Department at 763-427-1212.



## Orono Cemetery cat lived double life as family pet, comforter to countless

by Jim Boyle

When the usual warmth of spring finally arrives and the foot traffic at Orono Cemetery in Elk River picks up, there will be a noticeable absence amidst the blades of grass and

Sponkey, a black cat with a larger-than-life spirit, has died. The feline regularly made the rounds there spring, summer and fall for seven years, serving as a comforter to countless visitors who came to count on his presence and support.

'We figured he got to know a few people over the years, but we had no idea of the impact he had," Hunter Lord said of his childhood cat. He had a full-time job out there.

When news of Sponkey's death reached a Facebook bulletin board, it lit up with reac-

See Cemetery cat Sponkey, Page 16



WE ANSWER

THE PHONE.

Left: Hunter Lord, 25, EIk o f River, with his cat **Sponkey** before he knew of the animal's vast impact on the people in the commu-



763-441-1353

## **PUBLIC NOTICES**

Minutes from the April 5 Sherburne County Board meeting.

See this and more public notices on pages 30-34.

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