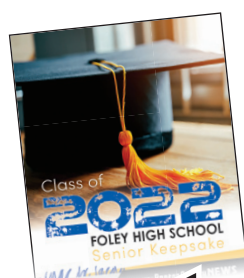


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Benton County NEWS

FOLEY, MINNESOTA

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Tuesday, May 24, 2022

VOLUME 92, NUMBER 21

Newspaper Association Member

2022 Memorial Day Program

Join us as we remember
**Monday, May 30
 9:30 a.m.**

Foley High School Auditorium

Program agenda:

Post Colors

American Legion Post 298
 Honor Guard

**"The Star-Spangled
 Banner"**

Foley High School band
 ensemble

"Pledge of Allegiance"

Jim Aman, Legion vice
 commander

Memorial Day prayer

Bill Piotrowski, Legion
 chaplain

**Welcome and opening
 remarks**

Duane J. Walter, Legion
 member

"Gettysburg Address"

Joe Kaproth, Legion
 member

Musical selection

FHS band ensemble

**Memorial Day keynote
 address**

Abby Stephens, FHS senior

"In Flanders Fields"

Gary Swanson, Legion
 member

"I am the Poppy"

Jane Swanson, Legion
 Auxiliary officer

**Roll call of deceased
 veterans**

Jim Aman, Legion vice
 commander

Musical selection

FHS band ensemble

**Musical selection and
 closing remarks**

Duane J. Walter, Legion
 member

**Retire colors, salute and
 taps**

Post 298 honor guard, firing
 squad and FHS student
 bugler

All Legion members
 going to cemeteries, meet
 at the Legion Club by 7:15
 a.m. Please wear military
 uniform, Legion uniform
 or Legion cap. All other
 Legion members meet at the
 high school auditorium by
 9:15 a.m.

Thank you all for your
 service and participation.
 God bless America.

Remembering our veterans page 8



PHOTO BY JAKOB KOUNKEL
 Tania Kostemko (left) and
 John Svihel are glad to be reunited on
 Svihel's Vegetable Farm in Foley May 9.
 Kostemko is a Ukrainian H-2A worker
 who fled to Poland after the Russian
 invasion of Ukraine, and now
 she is in Foley on a work visa.

Standing in the MIDDLE OF HISTORY

Ukrainian H-2A worker arrives in Foley

BY JAKOB KOUNKEL | STAFF WRITER

Since the first day of the Russian invasion of Ukraine Feb. 24, 37-year-old and Ukraine-native Tania Kostemko has experienced firsthand everything the world is tearfully watching from afar.

Kostemko has faced down Russian soldiers in her hometown of Sumy, Ukraine, located 50 miles from the

Russian border. She has seen dead bodies – Russian and Ukrainian soldiers, children, ordinary people and animals – littered across the streets outside of her home. She has watched bombs fall from the sky and found large pieces of shrapnel in her garden.

She has been kept awake for days by the strident humming of Russian tanks, which surrounded her community.

She has listened to gun shots fired seemingly non-stop just outside her door. She has spent days in a makeshift bomb shelter, which was really an old, below-ground produce freezer.

Yet now, Kostemko is in Foley, working to provide funds and support for her family. Kostemko's mother, sister, brother-in-law and their two young children – one just 3 months old – remain sheltered in Ukraine as the war continues to demolish their city and the cities

and villages around them.

Kostemko arrived at Svihel Vegetable Farm May 7 as an H-2A agricultural worker. Time and time again, since she first arrived at John Svihel's farm nine years ago, she has proven to be one of the farm's most proficient workers. Though she always uses her time in the United States to provide support back home, this year brings the importance of her work to an entirely new level.

From Ukraine to Foley, the journey was arduous. Kostemko and her family and friends kept their bags packed and never took off their shoes or clothes in case they had to run without notice.

Kostemko page 3

Night of Excellence honors school's highest achievers



PHOTO BY EVAN MICHEALSON

Foley's student Night of Excellence award winners include Laura Hommerding (front, from left), Jordan Johnsrud, Evelyn Johnson, Abigail Nieland and Ariana Klebs; (middle, from left) Kristen O'Brien, Alaina Hageman, Brooke Beier and Samantha Lewandowski; (back, from left) Bryn Greenwaldt, Chuck Hackett, Ryan Piepgras, Daniel Dahmen, Elijah Novak and Carter Thell. The Night of Excellence took place May 15 in the Foley High School gymnasium. Not pictured is Abigail Hartman.

in attendance. "Don't stop there; go out and change the world."

The event full of heartfelt moments and emotional roller coasters began with the school adding former athletes Jade (DeR-

ocher) Muller, Kristie (Chmielewski) McKesson and Ali (Chmielewski) Vandalen to the Foley Athletic Hall of Fame.

Night of Excellence
 page 5

Kalton is Foley Citizen of the Year



PHOTO BY ELLARRY PRENTICE

Jeremy Johnson (left), president of the Foley Area Chamber of Commerce, presents William "Bill" Kalton with the 2022 Foley Citizen of the Year Award May 19 at the Blue Ribbon Cafe in Foley. Kalton, a longtime chamber member and community volunteer, founded the award program in 2017.

Longtime volunteer honored at chamber meeting

BY ELLARRY PRENTICE
 STAFF WRITER

presented him with the award.

FOLEY – The founder of an award has become a recipient.

William "Bill" Kalton was named the 2022 Foley Citizen of the Year May 19. The longtime Foley resident received the surprise honor during a Foley Area Chamber of Commerce meeting.

"I just feel kind of humbled right now," Kalton said as Foley Area Chamber of Commerce president Jeremy Johnson

Kalton founded the Foley Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year program in 2017. The award is presented annually to a resident who has displayed outstanding dedication and contribution to the community during the preceding year. Every year, chamber of commerce members submit nominations and an awards committee selects a recipient.

Kalton page 5

**STAR
 Publications**
 The newspaper of today is
 the history of tomorrow.

OBITUARIES PAGE 5

Michael L. Schendzielos
 Lewis R. Stark

PUBLIC NOTICES

- Mortgage Foreclosures (2) - pg. 7
- Summons (3) - pg. 7
- City of Foley Notice of Liquor License Applications - pg. 6

- Benton County Board of Commissioners Reg. Minutes, May 3 - pg. 7
- Assumed Name - Larry Vaughn Richardson - pg. 6



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