

Celebrating Catholic Schools



STAFF PHOTOS BY RICK BUSSLER

Students at St. Mary's Catholic School in Owatonna celebrate Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 31-Feb. 4) with a wide assortment of special activities. The theme for this year's celebration focused on faith, excellence and service. Top: Grayson Slotsve, left, and Dylan Homuth sign a patriotic poster honoring area veterans. After the students signed the posters, they are being displayed at several grocery stores in Owatonna. Bottom left: Molly Simmons displayed a red ribbon in her hair as students celebrated America. Bottom right: Garron Worrell decked himself out with an Uncle Sam hat, sunglasses and a flag mask. More photos from the week are shown on Page A7.



Minister among those to resign

◀ MINISTER from A1 asked Sean Patrick Masopust to step away from his role with Northridge Church, and no one told the alleged victim's mother.

It took an anonymous letter to the church's state-level governing body to bring action against Masopust, who reportedly admitted to some contact. The letter arrived in October.

But Sunday, less than a week after Masopust was arrested and charged with fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, all three of those adults, including Masopust, are out of a job – and could face additional criminal charges for not reporting the abuse.

Mark Perryman, the minister at Northridge Church since 1991, resigned Sunday. He is Masopust's father-in-law, and has maintained he didn't know the extent of the alleged abuse.

When the incidents were discovered by his wife in October 2018, Masopust told the victim that "Pastor Mark" had sent him to Kansas for some time off, according to the criminal complaint.

Masopust remained on staff as the church's associate pastor upon his return.

Tammy Perryman, Masopust's mother-in-law, resigned Friday from her role as director of Sunshine Tree, the daycare affiliated with the church – where the alleged victim worked for a time.



Mark Perryman, left, and his daughter, Felicia Masopust, have reportedly resigned as senior pastor and director of youth ministry, respectively, at Northridge Church in Owatonna. Tammy Perryman, Mark's wife, also stepped down as director of Sunshine Tree, the day care affiliated with the church.



Mark Perryman

In a letter to families, she said she is stepping down "due to the difficult circumstances that I'm sure you're aware of."

There have been no claims that she knew what happened; one former member said the allegations were "deliberately" kept from Tammy Perryman.

Felicia Masopust, who was listed as a

staff member as recently as last weekend, reportedly resigned from her role overseeing youth and women's ministry. She was accused of sexual abuse last month in a letter from the parents of a former youth group member who said Felicia Masopust sent him a sexually explicit text message in 2019.

Neither church members nor day care families were told about the nature of the accusations that preceded the Masopusts' departures.

Repeated phone calls to Northridge Church and the Perrymans were not returned.

Neither of the Perrymans nor Felicia Masopust have been criminally charged.

Recipe Corner

BEEF & BACON CHOWDER

12 slices bacon, cut in 1/2 inch pieces
 1 lb. ground beef
 2/3 c. diced celery
 1/2 c. diced onion
 2 cans cream of mushroom soup
 4 c. milk
 3 1/2 c. diced, cooked potatoes
 2 c. diced, cooked carrots
 1 tsp. garlic powder, opt.

Fry bacon until crisp, drain. Add ground beef, brown. Add celery and onion. Simmer until vegetables are tender. Add remaining ingredients. Heat and serve. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

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BOOK NOOK

Bookish Bingo now underway



To help all of us get through this winter,

the Blooming Prairie Branch Library has begun Winter Bookish Bingo for the months of February and March. So get ready to cozy up and read your way through the last couple of months before we start warming up again.

- How do you play?
- Adults 18 and over can either pick up a card at the library or register at <https://owatonna.beanstack.org> to record your books virtually.
 - During the months of February and March, read a book! Yes, only one book is required to turn in your card for an entry to our grand prize drawing! When you turn in your entry at the library, you will be able to choose a book to keep.
 - Want more entries? You can read and record up to 5 books on your sheet for entries.
 - For our ultimate readers, try completing the challenges on your bingo card. Make a bingo to receive a bonus 5 entries to the drawing. One card per patron. Up to 10 total prize entries are possible per patron. The card must be turned in by March 31, 2022. Thanks to Cassie at the Owatonna Public Library for her creation of the program.

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BIRTHDAYS

<p>February 9 Luke Winzenburg Stacy Busho Gina Hendrickson Holli Naatz</p> <p>February 10 Anthony C. Nelson Corey Butera</p> <p>February 11 Weston Fiebiger Steve Drexler Kristin Krell Kim Trotman Madison Avery Andrews</p> <p>February 12 Emily Trihus Justin Esplan Alan Schaefer Gary Polinder Adam Esplan</p>	<p>February 13 Bobbie Bruns Judy Remker Laura Mans Jim Trotman Jr. Will Hinzman Layne Krell</p> <p>February 14 Doug Krell Haley Ryks Jim Severson Jon Peterson Rita Goodnature Creed Chladek Owen Braaten Harley Haley</p> <p>February 15 Elijah Peterson Emily Iversen Steve Glynn Raylee Miner</p>
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ANNIVERSARY

<p>February 9 Mark & Karen Thoen</p> <p>February 15 Kurt & Barb Blome Galen & Dorothy Peterson</p>	
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LOOK WHO'S BEING AWESOME!

Blossoms Students of the Week

Blooming Prairie Elementary School

<p>Brody Lang – 2B Mrs. Lea's Class Parents: Mark & Kelly Lang Brody is a hard worker with an incredibly kind heart. He truly cares about others and wants what is best for his classmates. We love to hear about his hunting and fishing adventures. His stories often make the class laugh. We are so lucky to have Brody in our class!</p>	<p>Dominik Seykora – 3B Ms. Johnson's Class Parents: Heidi Seykora and Steven Seykora Dominik is a fantastic third grade student. He comes to school each day eager to learn, along with a positive attitude. Dominik takes pride in his work and is always up for another challenge. His passion for school radiates motivation around him in our 3B environment. Dominik is a kind friend to all and is always willing to offer a helping hand. You are truly AWESOME, Dominik! We are so proud of you!</p>
<p>Cameron Wend – 4C Ms. Hasleiet's Class Parents: Wayne & Linnea Wend Cameron shows his Prairie Pride daily in many ways and we are lucky to have him as a part of our 4C classroom. He is always willing to help his teacher and classmates, and he always focuses and participates in class. Cameron has the most contagious smile you've ever seen and not a day goes by that he doesn't share that with those around him. Congratulations, Cameron! We're all so proud of you. Keep up the good work!</p>	

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