



Local

ST. PETER CONSIDERS FUTURE OF NO MOW MAY
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Local

INAUGURAL FUND 85 RUN PROVES TO BE LARGE DRAW
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Local

EXTRA INNINGS CLOSED INDEFINITELY IN DOWNTOWN
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St. Peter Herald

localmatters



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NEWS TIP? editor@apgsomn.com

ONLINE AT WWW.STPETERHERALD.COM



Hot Jazz for Decent People has been a staple for St. Peter entertainment since its beginning in 2014. The last three years have been at the pavilion in Minnesota Square Park. (Philip Weyhe/southernminn.com)

SOOTHING SOUNDS

Hot Jazz for Decent People continues tradition in St. Peter

By PHILIP WEYHE
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Nine years in, the tunes are still flowing at Minnesota Square Park.

Friday, Aug. 5 saw the most recent rendition of Hot Jazz for Decent People at the pavilion in the heart of St. Peter, and around 300 people showed up — about double the usual audience — to see Steely Ann play 90 minutes of Steely Dan covers. The talented musicians earned multiple ovations from the crowd, including a standing one at the end. The group was headed by Arts Center of Saint Peter Director Ann Rosenquist Fee on vocals, Chaz Draper on drums, Johnathan Moeller on guitar, Craig Matarrese on bass, and Masa Ishikawa on keyboard.

See JAZZ on A2



Chadderdon



Lange



Andrashko



Dranttel

Lange, Chadderdon succeed in sheriff primary; Dranttel, Andrashko in commissioner race

By CARSON HUGHES
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Two candidates in the Nicollet County Sheriff primary race and District 1 County Commissioner race are moving on to the November general election.

Incumbent County Commissioner Marie Dranttel was the lead vote-getter in the District 1 primary with 55.9% of the vote (743 total). Jennifer Andrashko, Associate Professor of Social Work at Minnesota State University Mankato, will be challenging her in November as the runner-up with 25.36% of the vote (337 total.)

Dranttel has represented St.

Peter Ward 1, Lake Prairie Township and Traverse Township since 2011 and has cast her fourth bid for re-election. The CPA-certified accountant owns her own business in St. Peter and prides herself on being a “numbers-junkie” who knows how to listen.

“Elections are always humbling,” said Dranttel. “It’s a very humbling experience it never changes. It’s an interesting process. I look forward to November and the challenges that lie ahead.”

Andrashko filed her candidacy in hopes of leveraging “the power of local government to do good.”

See PRIMARY on A2



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LOCAL

JAZZ

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Hot Jazz for Decent People started in 2014 at the Arts Center, with the Arts Center and KMSU radio working together to keep it going for nearly a decade now; the last three years have been at the park.

It's pretty simple really. Show up with your lawn chair, maybe some beverages in a cooler, and listen to some jazz, or jazz-like, music.

"Most of the players are people who play regionally, but most of those venues don't allow close listening and appreciation for the music," Rosenquist Fee said. "So what we've got is some of the region's most talented musicians in a setting where they can be appreciated, and the audience can stretch out and enjoy their evening in a refreshing, bring-your-own-beverage setting. It's a combination unlike any other in the area."

She added, "We're so grateful to the city for allowing us to host the music in the pavilion. It's the perfect place."

The final hot jazz of the 2022 season takes place Aug. 19 and is led by Masa Ishikawa.

Reach Regional Managing Editor Philip Weyhe at 507-931-8579 or follow him on Twitter @EditorPhilipWeyhe. © Copyright 2022 APG Media of Southern Minnesota. All rights reserved.



Steely Ann took the stage for the Aug. 5 edition of Hot Jazz for Decent People, which drew a crowd of around 300 people. (Philip Weyhe/southernminn.com)



The pavilion at St. Peter's Minnesota Square Park has proved a perfect venue for Hot Jazz for Decent People. (Philip Weyhe/southernminn.com)



Arts Center volunteers Rachael Hanel and Stephanie Thull pose with some mustaches. (Philip Weyhe/southernminn.com)

PRIMARY

From Page A1

Beyond social work and academia, An-drashko previously served as a member of the MNSure Health Industry Advisory Board and was appointed to the state Maternal Mortality Review Board by Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm in 2021.

"I feel honored that the district 1 constituency has considered my candidacy in this way. I look forward to continuing to talk

with voters and constituents and the coming months about the things that matter most."

St. Peter City Councilor and former Le Sueur County Administrator Darrell Pettis ranked third with 18.74% of the vote (249 total)

Sheriff

The Nicollet County Sheriff's race has come down to a one-on-one between the incumbent sheriff and a challenger from within the department.

Sheriff Dave Lange took the lead in the three-way primary with 56% of the vote (3,572 total). Challenging Lange for the

Sheriff's seat this November is Deputy Marc Chadderdon, who collected 24.1% of the vote (1,538 total)

Lange has served five terms as Nicollet County sheriff, totaling 20 years. His career in Nicollet County law enforcement stretches back 37 years in total.

Chadderdon holds 28 years of experience in law enforcement and 27 at the Nicollet County Sheriff's Office. The deputy spent the past 16 years as a criminal investigator for the Sheriff's Office and previously served the county as a jailer and dispatcher.

Mankato Police Officer Chad Hon-

etschlager will not be moving on after falling into third place with 19.9% of the vote (1,273 total).

Honetschlager was born and raised in St. Peter and spent 16 years in project management and sales before making the career change to policing. He then spent 12 years as a volunteer reserve deputy for the Nicollet County Sheriff's Office and five years as a reserve officer on the Mankato Police Department.

Reach Reporter Carson Hughes at 507-931-8575. ©Copyright 2022 APG Media of Southern Minnesota. All Rights Reserved.

ST. PETER HERALD

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GENERAL INFORMATION

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Here's what you should know:

- Letters must express an opinion on a topic of local interest. Letters to announce events are appropriate for the Community page.
- Letters to the editor must be exclusive to the Herald.

• Submissions must be signed by the author and include an address and daytime number to verify authorship. That information will not be published. Anonymous letters will not be published.

- Letters should be 400 words or less.
- Writers are limited to one letter every 30 days.

GUEST COLUMN SUBMISSIONS

Readers are invited to submit guest columns of local interest. Submissions should be 500 words or less, be sent to the editor by mail, e-mail or hand delivered to the office, and include the writer's name, address and headshot. Columns published at the Herald's discretion. It reserves the right to edit submissions.

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LOCAL

St. Peter tackles wildlife complaints, neglected lawns after hectic No Mow May

By **CARSON HUGHES**
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Earlier this spring, the city of St. Peter joined communities across the nation ushering in No Mow May to strengthen the populations of local pollinators. But as city residents allowed their yards to grow, butterflies and bumblebees weren't the only type of wildlife attracted to the area.

At an Aug. 1 City Council work session, city staff reported a record increase in complaints related to wild animals during the month of May.

"It's an unintended consequence you have to think about," said City Administrator Todd Prafke. "I never thought in a million years that there would be four raccoons and two woodchucks in one spot. That's a little bit of an exaggeration, but we had more woodchucks, raccoons and snakes than we ever had before."

The issue was raised in a work session dedicated to creating a policy around the city's participation in No Mow May next year and beyond. This was the first year the city participated in the trend, allowing residents to grow out their grass and create a more welcoming environment for local pollinators like monarch butterflies and

bumblebees.

Residents were encouraged to take part if they wanted, but there were no requirements.

The practice creates more opportunities for pollinators to feed on nectar from early spring flowers, like violets and dandelions, before they're cut down. Breaking out the lawnmower immediately after the winter thaw can also hurt pollinator populations. Many insects hibernate in vegetation and soil to survive the winter and cutting the grass too early may kill them.

But the city's first foray into No Mow May was more squirrely than steady.

There was no registration required to participate, which made it difficult for the Police Department to discern sincere practitioners from residents who chronically neglected their lawns.

"Ironically, a lot of people were saying, 'Well, I wasn't really participating in No Mow May, but I just piggybacked on the idea of taking advantage of the situation and carrying that out,'" said Community Service Officer Janet Ireland. "I think the ability to have that registration would be greatly helpful."

The loose guidelines for participation, combined with the seven day waiting period for



The city of St. Peter took record complaints related to raccoons, woodchucks and snakes during the first No Mow May in the community in 2022. (Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources)

residents to tend to their lawns after receiving a warning, left many residents waiting weeks for their complaint to be resolved. The situation was further exacerbated by a delay in sending notices out to residents that they needed their yards mowed by June 8.

With a registered list of participants on hand, Ireland advised the department could more effectively distinguish complaints about residents acting in compliance with city code from residents whose lawns were in violation.

Prafke and Police Chief Matt Grochow further advised the city to establish an end date

for No Mow May before the end of the month so that residents wouldn't feel free to wait until the end of the first week of June to take care of their lawns.

"I think, with the registration process, we could implement timely reminders, like 'Hey, we thank you for your participation in this program. Just a reminder you should be out here with your mower this

weekend,' said Mayor Shanon Nowell.

City staff also suggested the city could provide registrants with a sign letting their neighbors know they are participating in No Mow May. Not only could the sign reassure neighbors and law enforcement that they are complying with city ordinance, it could also advertise the program.

Though there were a high level of complaints related to wild animals, Ireland said the city only removes wildlife from people's yards in serious situations. In most cases, the animals are transient and quickly move on.

"For raccoons and foxes, that is something that may increase the situation, but for the most part, if you're leaving them alone, they'll go on their way again," said Ireland. "It's good for most people to realize that something might come up."

Councilor Keri Johnson said the council was excited about No Mow May, but that its implementation was "hastily put together." She apologized for putting addi-

tional work on law enforcement but reiterated the program has value, despite the city's initial hiccups.

"I think the benefit of this is the impact on pollinators. We have to think about that benefit, too, when we talk about wildlife," said Johnson. "... When we do No Mow May next year, we need to continue to talk about what the benefits are for the community and its pollinators."

Councilor Emily Bruflat added that taking the month off from trimming her yard allowed the growth of a more diverse array of flora.

"I saw sunflowers grow all over my yard because of No Mow May, and I recognized them as sunflowers, because they get pretty tall in a month," said Bruflat. "My yard is blooming right now, thanks to this program, and I think that's really cool."

Reach Reporter Carson Hughes at 507-931-8575.
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Why do I need a Healthcare Directive ?

People of all ages should take the time to plan for their healthcare. Health directives such as Advance Directives, Living Wills, Power of Attorney are documents everyone should have. Which one is right for you?

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Tuesday, August 23
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

At River's Edge Hospital, Helen White Conference Rooms
(1900 North Sunrise Drive - Enter through the Emergency Department entrance)



To hear James Brandt, attorney at law, explain the different healthcare directives available, why they are necessary and how to create them.

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Winners chosen at random. Winners will be notified. Sponsored in part by SouthernMinn.com



~ FUN for the **WHOLE FAMILY 2022** ~

Wednesday, August 17

2 - 7 pm Stall all 4-H livestock - vet check at 7:30 pm
 4 pm 4-H Livestock Demonstrations (Show Arena)

Thursday, August 18

9 am 4-H Horse Show (Horse Arena)
 1 pm 4-H Rabbit Show (Swine Arena)
 2 pm Draft Horse Show- Halter (in front of Horse Barn)
 3 - 10 pm Carnival Opens - J & K Amusements
 5 - 7 pm Free Sweet Corn Feed (Community Club Bldg)
 5 pm 4-H Beef Show (Show Arena)
 6 pm Draft Horse Hitch Show (Horse Arena)
 6 - 9 pm FREE ENTERTAINMENT
 Doug Traxler and the Hired Hands
 7 pm Amateur Talent Contest
 - winners go to the State Fair (Pavillion)

Friday, August 19

8 am 4-H Dairy Goat Show (Show Arena)
 9 am - 4 pm True Transit Free Rides to and from fair
 (reserve by August 17th 507-388-8783)
 9 am - 9 pm Civil War Encampment open
 (Grass area North of Horse barn)
 10 am 4-H Meat Goat Show (Show Arena)
 12:30 pm 4-H Poultry Show (Swine Arena)
 2 pm Gary Tyson - Magician/Hypnotist show (Pavillion)
 2:30 pm Intro to Ax Throwing with Nye Nature Center
 (baseball field) \$5 for ages 12 and up
 3 - 10 pm Carnival Open - J & K Amusements
 4 pm Redneck Tractor Pull (Pavillion)
 4 pm Intro to Archery with Nye Nature Center
 (baseball field) \$5 for ages 9 and up
 4 pm 4-H Pet Show
 (Swine Arena, following the Poultry Show)
 4 pm 4-H Lamb Lead and Sheep Show (Show Arena)
 5 - 9 pm FREE ENTERTAINMENT
 Kern Brothers
 7 pm GRANDSTAND Demo Derby - follows
 Power Wheels Derby, Gates open at 5:30 for seating
 9 pm - 12:30 am FREE ENTERTAINMENT
 Blue Ringers

Saturday, August 20

8 am WSCA Open Horse Show (Horse Arena)
 8 am 4-H Swine Show (Swine Arena)
 9 am - 9 pm Civil War Encampment open
 (Grass area North of Horse barn)
 9:30 am 4-H Dairy Show (Show Arena)
 10 am Intro to Ax Throwing with Nye Nature Center
 (baseball field) \$5 for ages 12 and up
 10 am - 2 pm FREE ENTERTAINMENT
 Concertina Band

12 pm Micro Mini Tractor Pull
 (Sportsmen's Club Pavillion)
 12 - 10 pm Carnival Open - J & K Amusements
 12:30 pm Intro to Archery with Nye Nature Center
 (Baseball field) \$5 for ages 9 and up
 Kids Pedal Pull (Registration at 2)
 2:30 pm New Prague Area Community Band
 Concert (Community Club Stage)
 3 - 4 pm 4-H Premier Showmanship
 4:30 pm St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers
 (Pavillion)
 5 - 5:45 pm FREE ENTERTAINMENT
 Boogie Land Entertainment
 5 - 8 pm Truck & Tractor Pull (Grandstand)
 - Gates open at 4:30 for seating
 6 pm FREE ENTERTAINMENT
 Smokescreen
 8 pm - 12 am

Sunday, August 21

8 - 11 am 4-H Pancake Breakfast (4-H building)
 9 am - 4 pm Civil War Encampment open
 (Grass area North of Horse barn)
 10 am - 1:45 pm Bake & Take Baking Contest
 - Judging at 2 pm (Creative Arts Bldg)
 10 am - 3 pm Classic Car Show (By Sportsman's Club)
 FREE ENTERTAINMENT
 Boogie Land Entertainment
 12 - 2 pm Larry Novotny One Man Band (Pavillion)
 12 - 5 pm Carnival Opens - J & K Amusements
 1 pm Bean Bag Tournament - registration starts
 at 12 pm (Sportsmen's Club Pavillion)
 1 pm Kids Pedal Drag Race (at the Car Show)
 1 pm Senior Citizens/Century Farms/Farm
 Family of the Year (Pavillion)
 1 pm Ranch Rodeo (Horse Arena)
 2 pm 4-H Ribbon Auction (Show Arena)
 5:30 pm 4-H general projects, poultry, swine
 and rabbits released
 6 pm 4-H all other livestock released
 6 pm All Buildings Close

Building Hours

4-H Family Center: 9 am - 10 pm
Heritage Building: Thursday 4 - 8 pm, Friday 2 - 6 pm, Saturday 10 am - Noon & 2 - 6 pm, Sunday 11 am - 4 pm
Creative Arts: 10 am - 9 pm
Commercial Building: Thursday 8 am - 9:30 pm, Friday & Saturday 9 am - 9:30 pm, Sunday 9:30 am - 6 pm
All buildings close on Sunday at 6:00 pm

August 18-19-20-21

Le Center, MN

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No ATVs, UTVs or unregistered golf carts are allowed on the fairgrounds. Dogs are not permitted unless part of a registered exhibit or registered service dog.

~ **FEATURED EVENTS** ~

Demolition Derby

Friday, Aug. 19 - 7 pm (gates open at 5:30 for seating)
 Age 5 and under Free; Children 6-12 - \$5.00;
 Adults (13 & over) - \$20.00; Pit Pass - \$20.00
 Follows Power Wheels Derby

Blue Ringers

Friday, Aug. 19 - 9 pm - 12:30 am

Kids Pedal Pull

Saturday, Aug. 20 - 2:30 pm
 Registration starts at 2 pm (Pavillion)

Truck & Tractor Pull

Saturday, Aug. 20 - 6 pm (gates open at 4:30 for seating)
 Age 5 and under Free; Children 6-12 - \$5.00;
 Adults (13 & over) - \$20.00; Pit Pass - \$20.00

Smokescreen

Saturday, Aug. 20 - 8 pm - 12 am

Classic Car Show

Sunday, Aug. 21 - 10 am - 3 pm
 (by Sportsmen's Building)

Bean Bag Tournament

Sunday, Aug. 21 - 1 pm
 Registration starts at Noon (by Sportsmen's Building)

J & K Amusement Carnival

Thursday, Aug. 18 - 3-10 pm
Friday, Aug. 19 - 3-10 pm
Saturday, Aug. 20 - 12-10 pm
Sunday, Aug. 21 - 12-5 pm



Registration forms available at www.lesueurcountyfair.org