



Faribault County Register

Vol. 153 • No. 19

www.faribaultcountyregister.com

For the week of May 9, 2022

Blue Earth, Minnesota • \$1.00



Thirty years of childcare
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Bucs rally for win
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She is 100 years old
Page 19

Wells mayor survives stroke scare

David Braun, 36, wants others to learn from his own experience

BY KEVIN MERTENS
Register Staff Writer

I don't believe in luck, I believe in God.

Those are the words written on a shirt proudly worn by stroke survivor David Braun.

Braun was receiving medical treatment in Albert Lea before being transported to Rochester St. Mary's Hospital.

"Things were looking pretty grave," Braun's wife, Chelsea, recalls.

"It really hit me then just how serious things were," Braun says.

Now, looking back, he realizes there were warning signs something was going on.

"The days leading up to my stroke I started having severe headaches," he comments. "I also smelled a burning smell like from an electric burn."

It was the week of



Wells mayor David Braun and his wife, Chelsea, are very happy he is still alive after suffering a stroke at the age of 35.
Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

March 28 when the symptoms became noticeable.

"By March 30 I thought I maybe had COVID again," he mentions. "I had dealt with COVID a year earlier and thought I maybe got it again."

Braun, a native of Wells, is a master electrician who works for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's electrical services.

He recalls he had a splitting headache which was so bad he almost could not load his work van.

"I was in Mankato and considered having Chelsea, come and get me," Braun states.

Braun, who just turned 36 years old on April 13, and Chelsea have been married just over a year.

"I got home and thought I would take a shower to see if that would help," he shares. "I could not get my

Wells mayor, page 8

Gaylord resigns

Served 22 years on the BE Council

BY FIONA GREEN
Register Staff Writer

The Blue Earth City Council received unexpected news at a meeting held on Monday, May 2.

A dispute over a proposed joint tennis court project between the city and the Blue Earth Area (BEA) School District led council member Glenn Gaylord to submit his letter of resignation after 22 years of service to the city.

"I feel that the council at this time is not representing the financial interests of the citizens of Blue Earth," Gaylord wrote.

At a City Council meeting held on April 18, Gaylord was the sole dissenting vote on a motion to split the estimated \$1,026,100 cost of a proposed BEA High

BE Council, page 7



Glenn Gaylord

Preserving a 2022 BEA Prom memory



Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Kids are not the only ones taking selfies these days. Here, Angie Loge grabs a picture with one of her children's friends, Kean Hicks, at the Blue Earth Area Prom held on Saturday, April 30. More pictures of the fun and festivities can be found on page 20 of this week's edition of the *Faribault County Register*.

Jalapenos a 'hot' new addition to W'bago

Owner Carlos Compan has spent 32 years cooking for others

BY FIONA GREEN
Register Staff Writer

The saying goes, 'Do what you love, and the money will follow.'

Marco Carlos Antonio Compan, who prefers to go by Carlos, has taken that advice very much to heart.

Carlos has been in the restaurant business for a whopping 32 years.

"My whole life," he says.

And, he still loves what he does.

Carlos has played many roles in the food preparation industry, serving delicious eats everywhere from nursing homes to hospitals to, of course, restaurants.

His latest venture in the restaurant business brought him to Winnebago, where



he is the proud owner-operator of one of the town's newest restaurants: Jalapenos.

It was family which led him to move from Fountain, Colorado to Winnebago six months ago.

Carlos' sister, Elsa Wilson, has lived in Faribault County with her husband, Gene, for the past two years. However, the couple used to live in Fountain with Carlos.

"I came to visit my sister on vacation," Carlos recalls. "I fell in love with this town. In the summer, it is beautiful, so green."

Jalapenos, page 7

Carlos Compan, at left, recently opened his new Mexican restaurant, Jalapenos, on Main Street in downtown Winnebago.

Staff photo by Fiona Green



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Lynn Anderson helps BE's youngest giants sprout



Lynn Anderson, pictured in front of the Blue Earth's Little Giants Early Learning Center, has been the childcare center's director/coordinator for 30 years. She was hired in September, 1992, and has been the heart and soul of the center ever since.

Submitted photo

Little Giants coordinator celebrates her 30th year of teaching little ones

By CHUCK HUNT
Register Editor

Over the past 30 years, Lynn Anderson has helped take care of hundreds, and hundreds, of children.

Anderson, who is the coordinator of Little Giants Early Learning Center in Blue Earth, just celebrated her 30th year in that posting last week.

In fact, Little Giants itself, and its previous namesake of Little Luke's, is also celebrating 30 years of service to the community.

Anderson is the only director/coordinator the child care operation has ever had.

"I was hired in September of 1992, right after I had graduated from college with a degree in elementary education, and I was licensed to teach kindergarten through sixth grade," Anderson says. "I never did need to pursue that teaching degree."

Anderson explains that Little Luke's was located at St. Luke's Lutheran Care Center, and was developed as a child care center that would be an intergenerational space, with the elderly residents and the young children in the child care doing some things together.

It opened in the fall of 1992.

The wing on the east side of St. Luke's was built specifically to be the home of Little Luke's, Anderson explains.

"But there was such a



Submitted photo

Lynn Anderson with a group of kids way back in the early years of Little Luke's, now known as Little Giants.

need for child care, and we wanted to add infant care, so we had outgrown the space," Anderson explains. "And we didn't really have room to expand."

In October of 2008, Little Luke's made some big changes. It moved to the Ag Center, became a venture run cooperatively between the city of Blue Earth and the Blue Earth Area School District, and changed its name to Little Giants.

"We operate under the Community Education part of the school district, and the city got involved by getting a loan from USDA to redo the space for us at the Ag Center," Anderson explains. "We pay the city a lease for the space, and

our payroll and expense checks come from Community Ed."

However, Anderson is quick to point out that the tuition fees which parents pay for the child care services cover all of their expenses and payroll, and always have over the last 30 years.

Right now, Little Giants is running at full capacity, which is 73 children. There is a staff of eight, plus Anderson, to care for the kids.

But, Anderson is also in charge of two other Community Ed programs.

"I am also the coordinator for Jump Start which is for pre-kindergarten kids, and has three staff members, and the before and after school program,

which is also the BE-A-Kid summer program, which has four staff members."

There can be as many as 48 kids in the BE-A-Kid program, which is for children from kindergarten through fourth grade.

"We do a lot of field trips with them," Anderson says. "So they love it."

All told, the three programs serve approximately 120 families in the Blue Earth and Blue Earth Area School District area.

There is always a need for quality child care here and around the area, Anderson says, and there never is enough, especially home day care providers.

Anderson is quick to point to the staff for the

success of Little Giants over the years.

"We have a great staff," she says. "They are all quality employees, reliable and very capable."

The staff members return the compliment.

"Lynn is very dedicated to her job, her staff, and the families in her programs," says Melissa Ahl. "She goes above and beyond to ensure that the educational, safety and emotional needs of each child is met. She can routinely be seen interacting with children of all ages, greeting with smiles, giving hugs and pep talks."

Ahl adds there has been very little turnover of staff in Lynn's 30 years as director and her dedication to

staff is the main reason.

Other staff members agreed with that statement.

"I have been here 12 years and it is definitely an interesting job," says Kerri, who along with co-worker Jessica, was in the baby room tending to eight infants all under the age of one year old. "But it is Lynn who makes it a great place to work. She is a wonderful boss, welcomes our input, is flexible and easy going."

The babies in the baby room, by the way, go by the title of 'Sweet Peas,' in keeping with the Green Giant theme at Little Giants.

After 30 years, Anderson says she still loves her job and has no intentions of retiring from it any time soon.

"It is amazing to build so many strong connections with children and families over the past 30 years," Anderson relates. "I have parents that were preschool children at Little Luke's return with their own little ones. So heartwarming to know they learned and grew in my program then, and now trust me to do the same with their own children."

She adds that the goal at Little Giants, and at Little Luke's before that, has always been to build up children with a strong foundation for pre-school, elementary and beyond.

"And most of the time, it appears we are successful," Anderson concludes. "That gives us a nice sense of accomplishment."

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2018 Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 107,500 miles, crew cab... (7618A)	\$30,987
2018 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT 101,802 miles, crew cab... (7612B)	\$32,997
2018 Chevrolet Silverado Crew Cajun Red, 67,302 miles... (7690AA)	\$33,978
2018 Chevrolet Silverado Crew LTZ Pearl White, 35,570 miles... (850A)	\$42,987
2018 Ford Fusion Hybrid SE 94,395 miles... (868A)	\$18,697
2017 Chevrolet Silverado Crew LTZ 79,135 miles... (859B)	\$39,897
2017 Chevrolet Silverado Crew Dark Blue, 126,754 miles... (861A)	\$30,197
2017 Chevrolet Malibu Hybrid 63,000 miles, 35-40 mpg... (864A)	\$19,587
2016 Ford F150 Supercrew Clean, 74,504 miles... (848B)	\$32,987
2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT Crew 41,948 miles... (7635D)	\$32,789
2015 Chevrolet Silverado LT Dbl Cab 62,104 miles... (7752A)	\$29,197
2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LTZ Crew 159,794 miles... (857A)	\$25,977
2014 Chevrolet Silverado High Country Crew Cab 129,239 miles... (860B)	\$29,397
2013 Infinity JX35 SUV 127,860 miles... (854B)	\$13,997
2009 GMC Envoy SLT 168,058 miles, clean unit... (869A)	\$ 6,995
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2016 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LTS 57,523 miles... (863A)	\$36,985
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Special Primary Election to be May 24

Blue Earth resident Carnahan one of 20 candidates on the ballot

BY CHUCK HUNT
Register Editor

This is an election year, and in 2022, there is going to be a lot of election excitement with the fact that four different elections are being held between now and the end of the year.

The first one is coming up soon, on May 24, when there will be a Primary Election to determine which candidates will face off in an Aug. 9 Special Election which will determine who will be the First District Congressman to fill out the rest of this year.

That open seat was created with the death of Congressman Jim Hagedorn, of Blue Earth.

There will be a second Primary Election on Aug. 9, at the same time as the Special Election, which, among other things, will determine who will face off on the General Election Ballot on Nov. 8, which will determine who will be the First District Congressman for the next two years.

Twenty candidates have filed to be on the May 24 ballot – 10 Republicans, eight Democrats and two others.

Mail-in ballot voting and absentee voting for the May 24 Primary Election is already underway. The Faribault County Auditor's office has sent out mail-in ballots to the seven precincts in the county which now use mail-in ballots only.

"We are seeing some of those being returned," says Jessica Blair in the auditor's office. "But requests for absentee ballots are coming in very slowly."

One of the names on the Republican side of the primary ballot of May 24 is



"Some people are surprised to learn that I live in Blue Earth. But I moved here quite some while ago and I have continued to live here in our home after Jim's death."

— Jennifer Carnahan

Staff photo by Chuck Hunt

Blue Earth resident Jennifer Carnahan is very busy as she spends every day out campaigning across southern Minnesota. She is one of 10 Republican candidates vying to fill her late husband Jim Hagedorn's position as Minnesota Congressman from the First Congressional District. A primary election is coming on May 24. There are also eight Democrats vying to become the next congressman from the First District.

that of a Blue Earth woman, Jennifer Carnahan, the widow of Jim Hagedorn.

"Some people are surprised to learn that I live in Blue Earth," Carnahan said in an interview last week. "But I moved here quite a while ago, and I have continued to live here in our home after Jim's death."

Others are not so surprised, as she admits to not taking the time to cook much, so she is a frequent visitor to Average Jo's, Farmer's Daughters and China Restaurant.

"I am lucky there are such great restaurants here in Blue Earth," she says with a laugh. "Sometimes I

feel I live at Average Jo's and Farmers' Daughters."

But lately, she has also been visiting restaurants in Fairmont, Jackson, Windom, New Ulm, Mankato and a host of other cities across southern Minnesota.

Carnahan is no stranger to politics and campaigning. Besides having been married to a U.S. Congressman, Carnahan was the State GOP Party chairperson for some years. As such she helped guide numerous Republican Party candidates' campaigns across the state.

"I am a firm believer in door-knocking," she says. Door-knocking is going from town to town in the

First District and literally knocking on doors of potential voters. If they answer the door, she visits with them. If they don't, she leaves an information flyer.

Carnahan started the door-knocking in Blue Earth, Frost and Brice Lynn and has continued to expand outward around the First District.

She and her campaign team have a list of potential GOP voters in each town, and those are the doors they are knocking on for this May 24 election.

"I have a great team with me," she says. "In the last month we have knocked on 20,000 doors."

When she was GOP Party chair, she directed a door-knocking campaign that rapped on a million doors. The record is hitting five and a half million doors state-wide, she says.

Carnahan is considered by some as the front runner in the GOP contest which has nine other candidates. She says she feels confident of her chances as she has name recognition across the First District and the state, because of her husband and because of her years of work in the Republican Party.

The other nine Republican candidates running for the right to advance to the

Special Election ballot in August are: Rep. Nels Pierson of Rochester, Rep. Jeremy Munson of Lake Crystal, former state Rep. Brad Finstad of New Ulm, Matt Benda, Ken Navitsky, Kevin Kocina, J.R. Ewing, Bob "Again" Carney Jr. and Roger Ungemach.

The eight Democrats are former Hormel CEO Jeff Ettinger, Sarah Brakebill-Hacke, Rick DeVoe, Candace Deal-Bartell, Richard W. Painter, George H. Kalberer, Warren Lee Anderson and James Rainwater.

The other two candidates are Haroun McClellan of the Grassroots Legalize Cannabis Party and Richard B. Reisdorf of the Legal Marijuana Now Party.

Carnahan says she is not surprised by the number of Republicans vying for the congressional seat, but she was surprised by the number of DFL candidates.

"Jim worked very hard to get elected and have a Republican representing the First District," she says. "He had to fight hard for several years to get there, and I believe his hard work makes it possible for a Republican candidate to be elected this fall."

And, Carnahan wants to be that GOP candidate.

"Jim was a strong leader for Minnesota and the First District and he had strong conservative values," Carnahan says. "We talked about the possibility of me running for his congressional seat because he wanted me to continue the good work he started."

County Board discusses building in Frost

Commissioners decide to lease it out one more year, then sell it

BY KEVIN MERTENS
Register Staff Writer

After tabling any action on the Public Works shop located in Frost in their previous meetings, the County Board put a plan in motion for dealing with the structure when they met on May 3.

Bill Halverson of Frost has been leasing the building from the county under a lease which has not been updated since 2010. It is up for renewal again on Aug. 1.

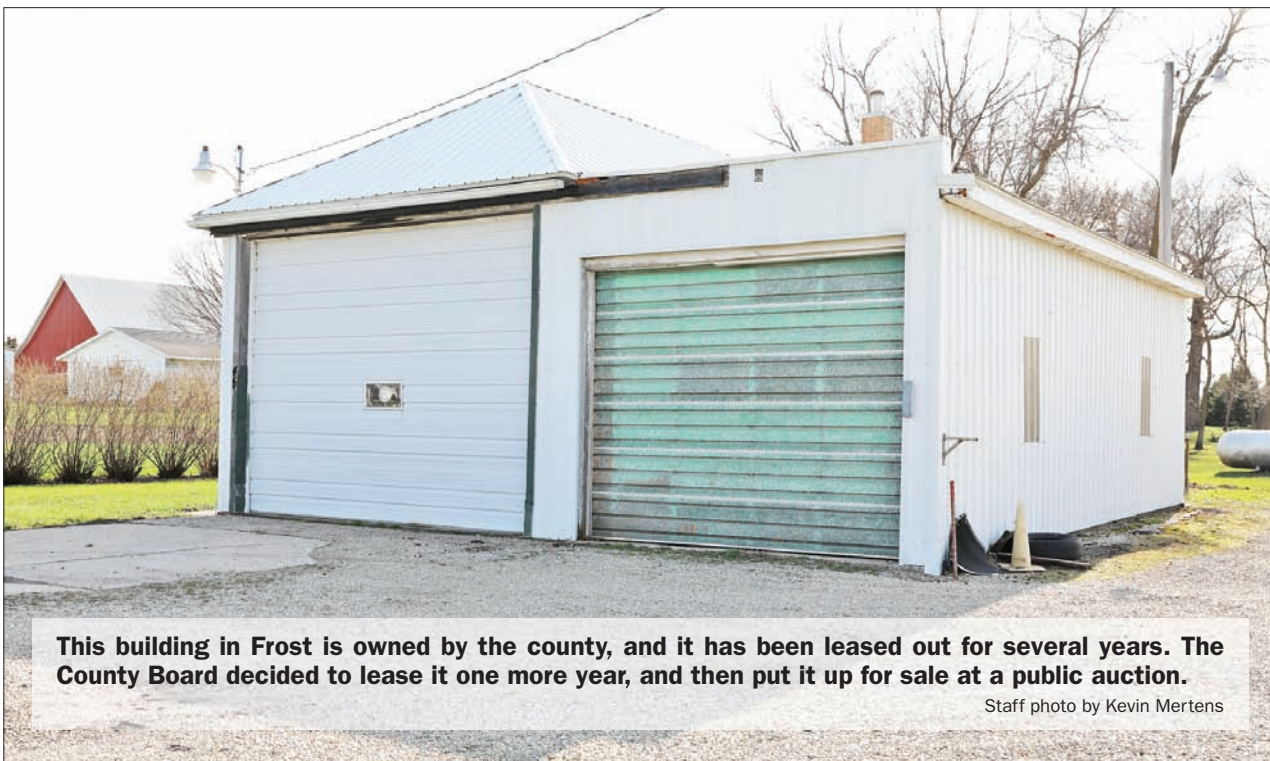
The board has discussed various options for the building, which the county no longer utilizes or needs.

One option would be to put the building up for public auction. Another, would be to retain ownership of the building and continue to lease it out with an updated lease.

The city of Frost also expressed interest in the building at one time.

"We can give the building to the city or they can attempt to purchase it at a public auction," Public Works director Mark Daly explained. "We cannot do an outright sale to the city since it is public property."

Also in question were the improvements, such as a new roof, which were made to the building by Halver-



This building in Frost is owned by the county, and it has been leased out for several years. The County Board decided to lease it one more year, and then put it up for sale at a public auction.

Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

son. Halverson provided a cost estimate, based on 2022 material prices, of over \$24,000.

County attorney Cameron Davis told the board there does not appear to be any clause in the lease that would entitle Halverson to receive compensation for improvements.

"Absent a showing that the county agreed to compensate him for those costs, or that the county is acting illegally in attempt to terminate or not renew the lease,

he doesn't have legal ground to stand on," Davis offered. "Was there ever any discussion between the tenant and the county regarding these improvements before they were made? If so, details of those conversations would be important."

After a lengthy discussion, commissioner Bruce Anderson made a motion to lease the building to Halverson for one more year at \$600 per year and then put it up for public auction.

"That would give him some time to move his stuff out if he so chooses and he would also be able to bid on the building at the auction,"

Anderson explained.

The motion passed. The term of the lease will begin on Aug. 1.

While at the meeting,

Daly asked for and received approval of a motion to advertise for the county's annual fuel supply.

Daly also presented a draft proposal of an agreement for the county's policy for improvements made to the 23 miles of County State Aid Highways which are located within municipalities in Faribault County.

"Current policies and agreements define cost splits. The county pays for reconstruction costs while the city pays for annual maintenance costs," Daly commented. "Many of these CSAHs were constructed before 1971 and did not use state aid funds. Concrete pavement repairs are expensive and burdensome to these small cities."

There was some discussion on the proposal and Daly will provide more information to the commissioners at future meetings.

County Board, page 7

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Opinions



Giving a Cheer here, a Jeer there

I know you have missed it, and it is long overdue, so get ready because here it comes, ready or not.

Another edition of your favorite **Cheers** and **Jeers** column is on its way to you this week.

Since you have all probably figured out that we are going to once again give a deserved **Jeer** to the weather, let's get it out of the way right away.

Let's face it. The weather in 2022 so far deserves a grade of "D-" at best. January, February, March and April have been cold, windy, snowy and overcast a lot. And now it is May and so far there has not been much of an improvement.

Unfortunately it is not just true for us here in Faribault County, but there has been some pretty awful weather, and bad storms, across the entire U.S.

We sure hope it improves sometime soon.

Our first **Cheer**, and it is a really big one, goes to this Faribault County business boom. There are so many stories about new businesses in the county that we have a long schedule of ones to do. New funeral home in Wells, two new restaurants in Winnebago, new boutique stores in Blue Earth, and several more businesses you will be seeing stories about in the pages of the **Register** in the upcoming weeks.

A **Cheer** goes out to David Braun, the Wells mayor, who very luckily survived a stroke and was willing to talk to us about it and share his story with us, right during the month of May, which is Stroke Awareness Month.

We are all happy to know that he is doing so well and wish him the best.

A very definite **Jeer** goes out to the higher price of gasoline at the pumps, which is putting a definite hit on just about everyone, especially those who have to drive to work or school as part of their daily routine.

In fact let's extend that **Jeer** to include higher prices of so many products we need.

A **Cheer** goes out to the city of Blue Earth and the Blue Earth Area School Board. While we have reported on some of the concerns they have had of who is paying for what when it comes to the proposed new tennis court project and discussions on where it would be built, let us not lose sight of the fact that both parties do agree that the project is needed and are working on a way to get it done.

Since we sent out several **Jeers** to COVID-19 and pandemic protocols in the past, we had best send out a **Cheer** now, since the COVID rate has dropped significantly, especially here in Faribault County.

from the Editor's Notebook

By Chuck Hunt,
Register Editor



It has become rare to see anyone wearing a face mask anymore, and I know many of us are breathing a big sigh of relief.

We all sure hope that trend can continue. While we think this COVID thing is going to be with us for a long time, at least the pandemic part of it seems to have subsided somewhat.

And, that certainly deserves a **Cheer**.

A **Jeer** goes out to whoever does any type of vandalism, but this latest deal of drilling holes in gas tanks seems about as dumb as dumb can get. Vandalism never seems to make any sense, anyway, but drilling holes in gas tanks? It takes the prize for top **Jeer** of the day.

A **Cheer** goes out to all the people who are helping support the Faribault County Humane Society. First off, a **Cheer** to those who volunteer to help out at the animal shelter. Then another **Cheer** goes to the businesses and individuals who financially assist the FCHS in the work they do, and continue to do so. They also donate pet food, pay the adoption fees and many other things.

The more we learn of all the work they do, and their dedication to all our furry friends, the more we are amazed at it all, and hope it all continues.

A **Jeer** has to once again go out to area drivers who are just plain driving too fast, or too carelessly. We continue to have far too many accidents in the county, including one recently which involved a Blue Earth Fire Department fire truck. The truck was parked on the side of the freeway, when it was hit by a semi-truck and demolished. Luckily no one was injured too seriously, or even killed.

So slow down and pay attention to your driving. Put the phone away and buckle up. The life you save could be your own, or someone you love.

A **Cheer** goes out to all of our area high school athletes who work so hard and in the spring have to put up with all kinds of crazy weather conditions. And a **Cheer** goes out to all those brave and hardy souls who bundle up and go out in those unpleasant weather conditions and support the teams.

And one more great big **Cheer** to all of you, the faithful readers and supporters of the **Faribault County Register** and other newspapers across the area.

Thanks once again for reading us.

Will you open your heart and home to a child in need?

To the Editor:

May is National Foster Care Month. The number of licensed county homes in Faribault & Martin Counties is at a critical low with only 12 providers who have active licenses in both counties. During National Foster Care month, I want to reach out to the community members in Faribault and Martin counties to ask if you would consider opening your hearts and homes to children in need.

Children who are unable to remain in their homes for whatever reason need to be moved to a safe, stable environment. Foster care is meant to be a temporary living arrangement for children whose parents are unable to care for them currently. Our agency works with families to try to prevent out-of-home placements, but when that is no longer an option, foster care is needed.

In 2020, in the state of Minnesota, about 4,800 children entered out-of-home placements. 27% of these placements were due to parental drug abuse. 13% were because of allegations of neglect. 7% were due to child mental health needs. Some children are placed in residential settings based upon a higher level of needs, however, 82% are in relative foster care. Placement with kin is preferred in order to help children maintain a sense of family, belonging, and identity. This option also reduces trauma to the children during an already unstable time in their lives.

However, relative placement is not always an option. This is where you come in. County foster homes work

Letter to the Editor

with the child foster care licenser in Faribault & Martin counties, which is Jen Nelson. Once you contact me to request an application packet, I will help guide you through the process of obtaining a child foster care license in the state of Minnesota. I will also be available to help you with any questions or concerns that you have prior to becoming licensed, and after; as I will remain your social worker while your license is active.

If you are not sure if you qualify for foster care, consider these requirements: You can be married or single. You can own or rent your home. You must be a resident of Faribault or Martin counties to work with our agency. You need to be 21 years of age or older and be able to pass a fingerprint background study. You must complete a series of pre-service trainings which will be provided to you by the county licenser. Finally, a thorough home safety inspection will be done in order to make sure your home meets all of MN's licensing requirements.

Licensed foster care providers work with our agency to assist in being a supportive connection between children and their families. The goal of foster care is to work with families to help them achieve reunification. The child's case worker will begin to develop a

Open your home, page 5

Faribault County Register ONLINE POLL QUESTION

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS...

When was the last time you had a garage sale?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Last weekend! | 0% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Within the last three years | 28% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Within the last decade | 17% |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never | 55% |

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION...

What was/is the age of the oldest person you have known?

- 95 years old or less
- Between 96 to 100 years old
- Between 101 to 105 years old
- Over 105 years old

Vote online at www.faribaultcountyregister.com

All this wind lately, brings uninvited gusts to my place

The trees gossiped in the wind.

"It's a nice day, except for the wind," says everybody capable of putting eight words together.

I've been picking up sticks in the yard. Great crop this year. I've picked rocks, too. It's a spring habit. What do you call a boomerang that won't come back? A stick. The wind finds branches or limbs with weaknesses, rips them free and deposits the sticks into the yard. The wind has been so strong this spring that it might have blown in the field rocks, too.

Before there were video games, we played pick-up sticks with thin wooden or plastic sticks. To begin the game, 20 to 50 sticks were bunched in one hand and held vertically on a table, floor or another flat surface, then released and allowed to fall in a jumble. Each player took turns attempting to remove a single stick from the pile without disturbing another. If successful, he grabbed a second stick, but if another moved, the player's turn ended. The player with the most sticks when the heap was depleted, won fame and fortune. The game is supposed to be of great antiquity, but it didn't provide good training for picking up sticks from a yard.

According to many sources, wind speeds in Minnesota are usually highest in April and lowest in July and August. They're generally greater in the day than at night. Wind speed typically increases with altitude – that's why tall people like me are most affected by the wind. I've found the windiest month in Minnesota is whatever month I'm in.

The wind howled as I stumbled down the street after

Tales from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt,
Special to the Register



leaving the post office. I leaned into the wind. According to legend, the wind stopped suddenly one spring day without any weather advisory and everyone fell over. It knocked the wind out of some fragile folks. I walked with my head down like I was searching for that dime I lost when I was seven. A plastic bag zoomed past as if it were late for an important appointment. It was headed to a large tree bending in the wind where a flock of its fellow bags was roosting. I'd tucked in my shirt to keep from being lifted into the air. I had rocks in my pockets to stay earthbound. Those, when combined with the rocks in my head, kept me grounded on a blustery day.

DNR records show gusty times in Minnesota began in 2011, with annual 30 mph gust days increasing dramatically over previous levels. Research done in 2019 by Princeton University showed average daily wind speeds are increasing across much of the globe. I'm blown away by those revelations. Walking against the wind might become

an Olympic sport. The windiest states are Alaska, Wyoming and Michigan, according to Wilbur Whistlebritches, nicknamed Windy. He said if they're not, then the windiest states are Nebraska, Kansas and South Dakota. Either way, Minnesota wasn't standing on the winner's podium, but most of Minnesota is windier than the Windy City (Chicago). Rochester frequently makes the top 10 list of the windiest cities with either Amarillo, Texas, or Dodge City, Kansas, often topping that list. Dodge City gets a lot of wind from the swinging doors of the Long Branch Saloon shown in "Gunsmoke" TV reruns.

The father in the comic strip "Calvin and Hobbes," said sneezing trees created the wind. If that's true, and everything in the funny pages is, we pay the price for trees having allergies.

A guy I know told me he'd been kiteboarding (kitesurfing) in an effort to make the wind his friend. The extreme sport requires the participant to ride a modified surfboard while holding onto a massive kite and using the wind for propulsion. I've put that activity at the very bottom of my list of things to do.

I believe it's getting windier, but why? Is it due to climate change, the flat-earth conspiracy having merit, the proliferation of air fryers, it's a side effect of a common prescription drug or because wind turbines are producing wind? I don't know. I'm going to need a bigger boat for all the possibilities.

But I haven't found a single wind denier.

Faribault County Register

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The Faribault County Register (USPS 058-620) (ISSN 1045-7429) is published weekly at 125 N. Main Street, PO Box 98, Blue Earth, MN 56013.

Periodicals postage paid at Blue Earth, MN 56013. Postmaster: Send address change to Faribault County Register, 125 North Main Street, PO Box 98, Blue Earth, MN 56013

Subscription Rates: In-County – \$54.00/year Out-of-County – \$64.00/year
No refunds on subscriptions. Please inform our office of address changes two weeks in advance.

Advertising Deadlines – Display, classified and legal advertising deadline is at noon on Wednesday.

15 years ago ...

Torres to wrestle for Minnesota in National High School Championships

15 years ago
Faribault County Register
May 7, 2007

Register Reflections

Lucas Torres will wrestle for Team Minnesota in the National High School Championships in April at Virginia Beach, Va.

To be a member of the Minnesota squad you either had to be a state champion or a runnerup. Unless, you were picked as a "wild card" participant.

Nicollet head coach Chad Johnson, who helps coach Team Minnesota, had seen Torres lose a heart-breaking match by a penalty point, in overtime, in the Section 3A semifinals.

That loss prevented Torres from making a second straight appearance at the State Wrestling Tournament.

Johnson chose Torres for the team.

"I wanted him to go out in style. To get a chance to wrestle against the best and see what he could do," says Johnson. "I love that kid. He's a class act."

Popular gardening columnist Hank Wessels admits gardening can be addictive — prompting his wallet to come out nearly every time he passes a greenhouse.

As much as the former Blue Earth farmer and cur-

rent **Register** writer loves gardening, he enjoys helping his peers and fostering growth in the popular hobby.

"I'm a tiller of the soil," the 76-year-old says matter of factly. "I certainly don't know it all, but I try to help."

The small eastern Faribault County city of Walters has a lot to be thankful for after receiving \$767,000 in grants and low-interest loans for its upcoming wastewater treatment project.

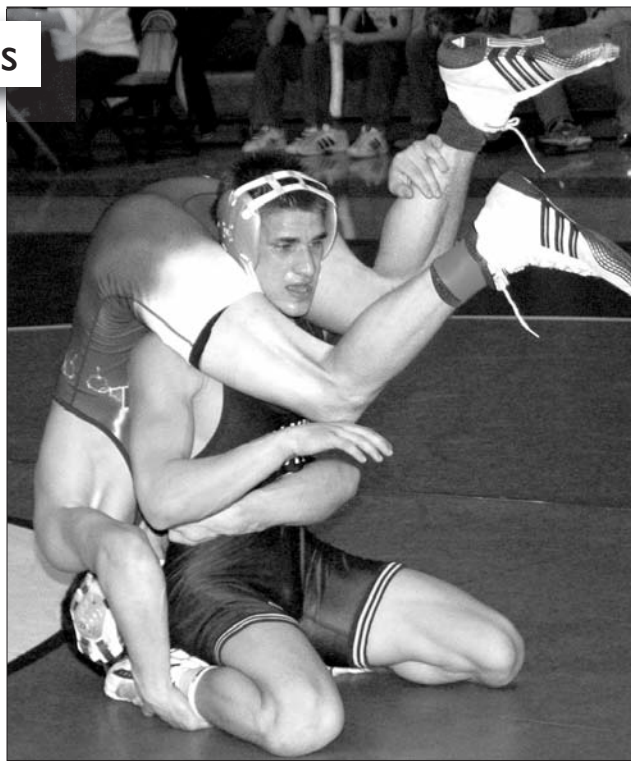
The new wastewater system will serve the town's 88 residents, which includes 40 homes and four commercial users.

Winnebago has joined the list of Minnesota cities issuing administrative fines to those who violate municipal ordinances.

Council members Tuesday night unanimously approved an ordinance outlining steps to be followed once someone is cited.

Officials have been toying with imposing administrative fines since 2004, so the idea is nothing new.

The Blue Earth Area girls softball team has been



Register file photo

Lucas Torres is shown wrestling during the 2007 Blue Earth Area season.

playing plenty of games, grabbing two wins from Waseca during a Tuesday doubleheader, while falling in the championship game of the Maple River Classic.

The Bucs now sport an 8-3 overall record, making Head Coach Bob Hanson believe his team can play against anyone.

The Buc girls track and field team won the Section 2A True Team competition

held Tuesday, May 8, in Mapleton.

BEA finished with 604 points, nearly 50 points better than second-place Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial/Nicollet with 559.

40 years ago
The Blue Earth Post
May 5, 1982

Rhonda (Martin) Harris and her husband, Craig, teachers from Australia,

talked about life in their country to students at Blue Earth Elementary School. Rhonda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Martin and has taught in Australia for the past eight years.

A former Blue Earth resident, Dr. Helen Knutt, was featured in the March edition of "Country Week." She is the former Helen Ann Hartwick, youngest child of George A Hartwick and Olivia Hartwick. She operates a veterinary hospital about 15 miles from the Canadian border at Rock Lake, North Dakota.

The Frost school building is sold to Leon Lease of Mankato for \$15,611.

Scott Ankeny Jr. announces the Blue Earth River Run Canoe race will be Sunday, May 9.

65 years ago
Faribault County Register
May 14, 1957

Blue Earth author Fred A. Sasse has just had his book entitled "The Dan Patch Story" published by the Stackpole Company of Harrisburg Pennsylvania. The story features not only the fabulous pacer horse that broke many world records in his time past the turn of the century, but also his owner, the equally fabulous Will Savage. Sasse was completing the book at

the time of his death at age 66 in Dec. 1956.

90 years ago
Faribault County Register
May 5, 1932

The Blue Earth baseball team is giving a benefit dance Monday evening, May 9, at the City Hall, with Al Menke's Orchestra furnishing the music.

Wolf-Habein Co. has Mr. M.E. Walden of the Montreal Fur Trading Co. stopping in Blue Earth for a few days to sacrifice 150 fur coats and scarves. Every garment is guaranteed and one year free storage is offered.

Among the students of District 58 who were present every day of April were Dorothy Warner, Howard Gartzke, Agnes Oelke, Norma Gullickson, Billy Ankeny, Thomas and LaDonna Gaard, Raymond Ankeny, Donald Boettcher, Marjie Boettcher and Wayne Gartzke.

The Motor Inn Company Inc. has purchased the Motor Inn garage at Blue Earth and Winnebago.

Hundreds packed the church to respect honored citizen, John Albert Conings at his funeral. In 1883, he established his furniture and funeral directing business in Blue Earth.

Local events were successful; some tips for your future business

In her most recent Constant Contact, Chamber executive director Shellie Poetter shared the following information about recent local activities:

April was packed full of events leading right in to the beginning of May. Our very first new fundraising event, "Egg My House," was a bigger success than we had anticipated. Our volunteers and I stuffed around 1,400 eggs, with 26 residential houses and one church participating. We had so much fun on Easter morning playing Easter Bunny. Thank you to all who made this event worthwhile. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. (Note: we will take those plastic Easter eggs back to use for next year. Or if you have any to do-

nate, we would love to have them to use.)

City-wide Garage Sales seemed to do well despite the weather. We had over 40 sales again this spring. I think everyone is wanting to get out and find something to do. Also, thanks to all of the folks who supported the City-wide Clean Up at the Fairgrounds.

The sixth annual Wine Walk was another success and even the weather cooperated. Huge shout-out to the committee who worked long and hard to make the event a success: Emily Davis, Julie Loge, Marie Northwick, Becki Steier and myself. The proceeds from this year's walk will go to the Blue Earth Community Sprout Project to help with repair

and maintenance of the Sprouts.

Now that May has firmly established itself, the Chamber is currently involved with the following activities: working on new social media tools; wrapping up the 2022-23 Visitors Guide, which will be available at the GWC and area businesses, as well as being sent out to visitors centers and the Mall of America; creating new fundraisers—Bingo anyone (?); preparing for summer activities, especially Arts in the Park and Giant Days; and, organizing the souvenir and merchandise area in the GWC and fin-

Blue Earth Chamber Focus

By Lill Robinson, Chamber Board



ishing updates to the information alcove—both RV and auto traffic are going to be big again this year.

The following information comes from the state and national offices of the Chamber of Commerce:

At some point COVID will be relegated to the same level of concern the flu gets every year. There are certain conveniences (and necessities) that businesses adapted during COVID that customers have become accustomed to. So, if you're making

plans for a "return to normal" you may just want to reevaluate what that looks like based on your customers' expectations.

Delivery and Curbside Pick up — People have become accustomed to sitting in their cars (or at home) and receiving their goods. Customers love the convenience; it saves time and money. If you take orders over the phone, make suggestions for other products and services that they may also enjoy. Don't miss the opportunity for upsells.

Working from Home — Any businesses that initially allowed working from home are calling people back into the office. But in a highly competitive employment market, you may want to

think of options to attract new talent. There are many cost savings in allowing employees to work from home. You may even be able to downsize your office space. There still are those people who want to work in the office, so a flexible position or a hybrid working environment might be an answer.

Online Options — If you weren't selling online before, you probably are now. But even service providers who may have found it difficult to sell online upped their video, podcast, and content marketing strategies for greater online success. If you embraced more digital marketing activities, keep it up. If you still haven't, it's (past) time.

Open your home, from page 4

Permanency Plan once the child goes into care. A team of professionals and other supportive people in the child's life will work together to determine what the best permanency plan is for each individual child. If reunification

is not possible, adoption, transfer of custody and other options are considered.

Finally, during National Foster Care Month our agency would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the amazing foster

care providers, both past and present, who have given their time and energy, opened their hearts and homes, and worked with our agency to provide an invaluable service to children and families facing a very difficult

time in their lives. If you would like more information about foster care, or to request an application packet, please contact me at Human Services of Faribault & Martin Counties. You can reach me at

507-526-3265 or jen.nelson@fmchs.com.
Jen Nelson, BS
Child Foster Care Licensor,
County Agency Social Worker,
Human Services of
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MEMORIAL WEEKEND STREETFEST
MAY 27 7PM & 28 10AM-11PM
Head to Downtown Fairmont for free all day entertainment for the whole family!
Music kicked off Friday with a concert by the Ron Keel band, continued all day Saturday with interactive performances by Squonk and Koo Koo Kanga Roo, and concluded with a 7PM concert by Mason Dixon Line.
Enjoy local vendors, artists, businesses, and multiple food trucks from around the state.
Follow the Facebook event for performer and vendor descriptions! @fntoperahouse
FREE

Obituaries

Gary C. Underdahl, 71

Elmore – Gary C. Underdahl, age 71, of Elmore, passed away on Saturday, April 30, 2022, at his home in rural Elmore. No services will be held at this time. The Lakeview Funeral Home in Fairmont is assisting the family with arrangements.

Gary C. Underdahl was born on Sept. 27, 1950, to Claire and Virginia (Marcus) Underdahl, in Albert Lea. He graduated from Frost High School. Gary served in the Air National Guard out of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, from April

of 1970 until April of 1976. On April 25, 1970, Gary was united in marriage to Judith Brandsoy in Bricelyn. After their marriage, Gary and Judy made their home in Bricelyn, Elmore, and Zeeland, North Dakota. Gary farmed for many years and retired in 2015.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Judy Underdahl; sister, Allison (James) Sunde; brother, Chris Underdahl; nieces, Tena Sunde, Jill Sunde, and Janny (Peter) Hanson; great-nieces and

nephew, Hailey Hanson, Aidan Hanson, and Iris Hanson; brothers and sisters-in-law, JoAnn and Eldo Ovrebø, Earl and Barb Brandsoy, Mary and Russ Erichsrud, Dale and Portia Brandsoy, and Carol and Jim Schroeder; many nieces and nephews; and other extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Claire and Virginia Underdahl, and brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Gene and Shirley Anderson.

www.lakeviewfuneral-home.net

BE Council, from page one

School tennis court facility between the BEA School District and the city.

The motion suggested a 60/40 cost split, with the school district repaying 60 percent of the cost, plus interest, and the city repaying 40 percent of the cost. The city would be responsible for financing the project up front.

Gaylord had been reticent for the city to take on so much financial responsibility for the project.

"This is a two million-dollar project," Gaylord said during the April 18 work-session. "A lot of responsibility for the city, a lot of risk for the city."

The council accepted Gaylord's resignation on May 2 with some regret.

Noting Gaylord was in his 22nd year on the Blue Earth City Council, council member John Huisman admitted to having mixed feelings about Gaylord's decision.

"Glenn always strived to serve all the citizens of Blue Earth, and I wish him well," Huisman said.

Indeed, Gaylord concluded his letter of resignation with the following words: "I have been honored to serve the citizens of Blue Earth for the past five-and-a-half terms as a council member."

Mayor Rick Scholtes appointed council member Wendy Cole to replace Gaylord as Blue Earth's vice mayor. Cole accepted the appointment with thanks.

The council passed a motion to advertise for candidates to fill Gaylord's position in the **Faribault County Register**. Interviews for the vacant position will be conducted at the City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, June 6.

In response to lingering doubts over the joint tennis court project, city administrator Mary Kennedy recommended an updated project plan to the council.

The city had previously determined it would be most advantageous to jointly finance the BEA High School and Putnam Park facilities. However, Kennedy brought a new financing recommendation to the council on May 2.

Kennedy suggested the two facilities should be financed separately and constructed on separate timelines.

"This proposal will (allow) BEA tennis teams to continue using the Putnam Park Courts while the new courts are being constructed at the high school," Kennedy noted.

Her proposal outlined a BEA High School tennis court construction project beginning in 2022, with a total estimated cost of \$1,026,100. As determined at the April 18 City Council meeting, the city would be responsible for 40 percent of that cost, or \$410,440.

"The current and best option for the city to finance the tennis court project is by utilizing Annual Appropriation Lease Revenue bonds," Kennedy explained. "Under this authority, the EDA would need to be involved as a partner, whereby the city would lease the property back from the EDA to make payments. This is statutory in nature."

Kennedy said the city would typically use tax abatement bonds to finance a project of this nature. However, the city has already reached its statutory debt limits through financing projects at the Faribault County Fitness Center, the Golden Spike Business Park and the city's housing development.

Meanwhile, Kennedy suggested the Putnam Park project, which would commence in 2023 according to

her recommended timeline, could be financed primarily through grant money and ARPA funds.

The project would involve a full reconstruction of the Putnam Park facility, which would include basketball, pickleball and tennis courts. The total estimated cost of the project is \$779,050, 100 percent of which the city would be responsible for.

"The city will apply for the DNR Parks and Recreation grant in the amount of \$250,000," Kennedy explained. She added there is also \$339,649.19 in ARPA funds available.

"Combining these two, \$189,400.83 would need to be allocated from the general levy, or from another source such as liquor funds," Kennedy concluded.

Finally, Kennedy proposed the city and school district create a joint powers agreement and board to negotiate future maintenance responsibilities and capital expenditure budgeting for jointly-owned athletic facilities.

"I think it's important that everybody be on the same playing field – no pun intended – that everybody knows where everybody stands," Kennedy concluded. "A joint powers board and agreement would allow a capital expenditure budget to be approved by both groups."

The council responded favorably to Kennedy's recommendation.

"I think you did a lot of good research on this Mary, so thank you," Scholtes said. "Keep moving forward. It's a good plan."

"I have been honored to serve the citizens of Blue Earth for the past five-and-a-half terms as a council member."

— Glenn Gaylord

Jalapenos, from page one

Sensing his affinity for the area, Elsa encouraged Carlos to relocate.

At the time, Carlos owned a restaurant in Fountain: Salsas, the Original. When his lease was not renewed last year, he decided to take the plunge and move from Colorado to Minnesota.

"I saw this place (for sale) – I made the decision. I decided to take Elsa's advice and move here," Carlos summarized.

The Winnebago building which is now home to Jalapenos is over 100 years old – Carlos says it was built in 1901. It used to be a drug store, and also housed a different Mexican restaurant before Carlos purchased it.

Carlos made significant renovations to the space before opening it to the public. He fixed the plumbing, painted the inside and installed new equipment in the kitchen. He also gave the entire space a thorough cleaning.

Jalapenos was spic-and-span, and ready for its opening day on April 18.

Carlos shares business has been going well so far. "Some days it's kind of busy," he says.

He strives to serve fresh, quality food to his customers above all else.

His menu offers traditional Mexican food, with



Staff photo by Fiona Green

Carlos Compañ inside his new Jalapenos Restaurant in Winnebago.

a twist, such as tacos, burritos, carne asada fries, enchiladas, nachos and chimichangas.

Carlos says ground beef tacos have been the most popular item on the menu so far. However, his personal favorite is the barbe-coa tacos.

Meanwhile, his favorite part of the restaurant business itself is simple: cooking.

"I like to build food for customers," Carlos says. He laughs, adding, "I like the compliments. I have a touch (with food)."

He adds he is thankful for the community's patience as he seeks more employees to join Jalapenos' staff.

"We are looking for

help," Carlos notes.

Currently, apart from Carlos, it is primarily his family members who are helping him out as he gets Jalapenos established.

Gene, his brother-in-law, is the restaurant's general manager. Meanwhile, Elsa often offers part-time help.

Nonetheless, the hard-working family is able to maintain fairly extensive hours. Jalapenos is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day, apart from Sunday.

You would think after all that cooking, Carlos and his family would want to spend their time anywhere but the kitchen once they clock out for the day.

However, Carlos says he and his family actually love to cook for themselves when they are not cooking for others.

Apart from the Wilsons, Carlos' family includes his brother, Alejandro, and sister-in-law, Stacy, both of whom still live in Colorado.

For the time being, Carlos himself is invested in Faribault County.

He hopes some day he will be able to open a second restaurant in the area.

"I need to be patient," he adds, though.

Right now, Jalapenos is his top priority, and he is excited to see where its future leads him.

County Board, from page 3

"I am not really expecting any action on this until later in the year," he said.

Action was also taken to approve spending \$45,000 for replacement of concrete panels on County Road 32 in the city of Wells.

Daly also mentioned the two county parks were open and Pihls Park is already receiving many reservations.

Anderson also shared the county had received one bid, in the amount of \$8,132, for repairing the roof on a building at Woods Lake Park.

The commissioners also held a public hearing on creating a subordinate service district which will be known as the Riverside Heights Subordinate Service District.

On March 22, a petition was filed with the county

auditor requesting the board to create this service district to help facilitate the installation, financing and management of an upgraded sewer system.

"In order to facilitate funding, including obtaining available grants and low-interest loans, government involvement is advisable," county auditor Darren Esser explained. "With the approval of the board, the next step is to publish the resolution in the county newspaper. Thirty days after the date of publication, if there is no valid referendum petition received by the county, the district is said to be established."

In other business:

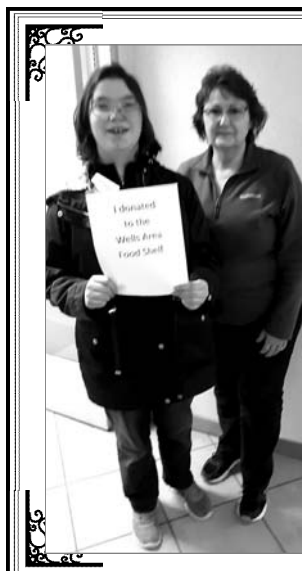
- The board approved a joint powers agreement between the State of Min-

nesota and Faribault County to investigate and prosecute identity theft and related financial crimes.

- Laketown Electric Corporation of Mankato was awarded the bid, in the amount of \$170,000, for the electrical work on the courthouse reconstruction project.

- The commissioners also voted to accept the bid, in the amount of \$300,000, from Century Construction Company of Ramsey, for the carpentry contract for the courthouse reconstruction project.

- Approval was given for Planning and Zoning administrator Lori Rebuffoni's request to attend the Minnesota Association of Planning and Zoning Annual Conference.



A very special USC School District student, McKayla, has personally donated to the Wells Area Food Shelf. Accepting the donation is Julie Robran, Treasurer of the food shelf.

The Wells Area Food Shelf would like to express our deep appreciation for the donations of food and dollars given to support the food shelf throughout the year and during the March Campaign.

Your generous support during March allows the food shelf to participate in GMCC-MN Food Share matching funds. This generosity allows the Wells Area Food Shelf to continue its mission to provide healthy, nutritious food to those in need within the twelve communities in our area.

Thank You

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to the following businesses and community members that donated to help make the 2022 BEA Post Prom party another huge success. The students enjoyed a fun and safe evening. Your support is very much appreciated! Post Prom could not happen without the generous donations received from community members and businesses like you!

10 Talents Art Center Allen and Judy Prestegard American Legion Post 89 American Family Insurance – Cliff Wuerflein Agency Associate Optometry Average Jo's Bar & Grill B & B Sanitation Bevcomm Blue Earth Area Education Assn. Blue Earth Builders – Stacy and Bekki Howard Blue Earth Flying Service Blue Earth Light & Water Blue Earth Lions Club Blue Earth Monument Blue Earth Sertoma Club Blue Earth Tire Blue Earth Valley Eye Clinic – Dr. Brent Johnson Boice Hodges Insurance Agency Buffalo Wild Wings Central Farm Service City of Delavan City of Winnebago Compeer Financial Custom Built Pneumatics Customized Landscapes Inc. DarPro Solutions David Lein - State Farm Insurance Delavan High School	Dikken's Decorating, Inc. Eagles 4486 Aerie Club Edward Jones-Chase Brandt ESCO Fairmont Ford Faribault County Register Faribault County Sheriff's Office First Bank Blue Earth First Financial Bank in Winnebago First Insurance Agency First Presbyterian Church Freeborn Pride Builders Frundt, Lundquist and Gustafson, Ltd Gartzke's Floral and Gifts G&S Drainage and Excavating Hawkins Chevrolet Hometown Sanitation Services, LLC Jake's Body Shop, LLC Joseph and Kay Tempel JSO Farms Juba's JW Accounting - Jessica Warehime Kiwanis Club of Blue Earth Leonard and Susan Sonnek Matt's Tile Installation Meyers Painting and Decorating, LLC Meyer Plumbing and Heating Minn-Iowa Agency Inc. Minn-Iowa Crop Insurance Services Minn-Iowa Golf Club, Inc. MinnValley Mutual Insurance Agency	More's Ag Center, Inc. NAPA Auto and Farm Parts Dwight and Lori Olson ONE Realty On Pointe Dance Company Pilcher Construction Pioneer Bank Profinium Remax Total Realty Rice Creek Farm Service Ron's Plumbing, HVAC & Electric Roger Grandgenett, DDS PA Rollenhagen Tax & Accounting, LLC Schedules Securities America - Todd Smith Seneca Food Corporation Shell Food Mart Spencer Owen Funeral Home St Mary's Rosary Society Stalene Cooperative TAFCO Equipment Co. Art and Doreen Tenneson Twisted Vine Floral Splash 'n Dash Carwash United Hospital District United Methodist Church - Elmore Waste Management Wells Chiropractic Winnebago Lions Club Winnebago Manufacturing Co. Yeager Implement Inc.
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We look forward to working with all past and present donors for the 2023 post prom celebration. Thank you!

~ The Blue Earth Area Post Prom Committee ~

Dan Duden FUNDRAISER

Thrivent Action Team Fundraiser Breakfast

Omelets, sweet rolls from Farmers Daughters Kitchen, fruit, juice, coffee.

Sunday, May 15, 2022

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Lutheran Church Dining Room
 Blue Earth MN

FREE WILL OFFERING (Take out available)

If you cannot attend, donations can be sent to the Blue Earth Thrivent Office

216 North Main Street Blue Earth, MN 56013

Dan Duden was recently in Rochester for seven consecutive weeks from February 13th through April 4th, receiving daily specialized radiation treatments for basal cell carcinoma and experienced many expenses not covered by insurance or medicare, such as housing, transportation, food. Transportation and housing expenses will continue intermittently for the next six months to a year. Dan is also receiving immunotherapy at Lutz cancer center in Fairmont.

Wells mayor, from page one

pants up. I actually lost balance and fell before I finally was able to pull them up. But, I could not grasp a Kleenex with my left hand. I went and laid down for awhile.”

Meanwhile, Chelsea had been making supper and informed her husband it was ready to eat.

“I got up and ate supper just fine,” Braun notes.

Braun says he went to bed and slept for four hours. When he woke up he had severe shaking and his teeth were chattering like never before.

“I tried getting up out of bed and I fell and hit my face on the night stand,” he tells. “I struggled to get up off of the floor. I could not communicate. It was like I had marbles in my mouth.”

Thankfully, Chelsea had woken up and saw her husband was bleeding.

“She noticed the left side of my face was droopy and she called 911,” Braun recalls. “Her action helped save me.”

It is part of the reason Braun is speaking out about his experience – so others might learn how to look for signs of stroke.

“May is stroke awareness month,” Braun shares. “One of the things which is preached about strokes is Act F.A.S.T.”

According to the Center for Disease Control, the F in the acronym has to do with face drooping in a person experiencing a stroke. Ask the person to smile and see if one side drops.

A is for arm weakness. Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

S is for speech difficulty. Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence and see if they slur the words.

The T stands for time to call 911 if a person is showing any of the above signs.

After Chelsea made the call, the Wells Ambulance was soon at Braun’s house.

“One of the first persons I saw was Tiffany (Cuming) from City Hall,” Braun, who is the mayor of Wells, remembers. “She



Staff photo by Kevin Mertens

Chelsea and David Braun are thankful that David has been able to fully recover from a stroke he suffered over a month ago. David Braun wants to share his story in the hope other people will learn the signs of a stroke and be prepared to take action in case they are with someone suffering a stroke. Braun has returned to his job as an electrician for MNDot while also resuming his duties as the mayor of Wells.

saw my symptoms and called for stroke protocol.”

Meanwhile, Braun remained conscious.

“I was awake and I heard what they were saying,” he comments. “I am thinking I can’t be having a stroke – I’m too young.”

Members of the ambulance squad wanted to put him on a backboard but Braun thought he could do it himself.

“I was not able to do it,” he shares. “My left side would not work.”

The Fire and Rescue squad had to come to lift him out of his house.

Braun continued to remain awake and recounts the events as they unfolded.

“They put me on oxygen right away and we headed to Mayo in Albert Lea.

When we got there, I had a CT scan,” he remembers. “The doctor said I had a moderate stroke. It was 14 on the scale. A measure-

ment of 15 is severe.”

A call went out for an air flight to transport him to St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester, but the weather was too bad and he had to be transported to Rochester by an ambulance.

“I never prayed so hard to have my life back,” Braun states.

Chelsea Braun remembers speaking to her husband as he was leaving to go in the ambulance.

“I told him, ‘I love you and you have one job. Don’t die on me,’” she says.

Braun was transported to St. Mary’s the morning of March 31 and the neuro-stroke team took over.

“They placed two stints in my head but they could not remove all of the clot so they bored through the clot

to open it up,” Braun explains. “I was awake the whole time and could feel something going on in my head. I can still point out where that spot is.”

He also learned the cause for his clot.

“I had bleeding occurring on the brain and it clotted back

into the artery and closed it off,” he notes. “I never felt critical. I could think. I could remember. But, all of the charts called me critical.”

Once the procedure of putting the stints in was complete he was put in an ICU (Intensive Care Unit) where the nurses would come in every 10 minutes to test him.

“They asked, ‘Can you feel this? Can you touch

your nose? Can you touch the nurse’s finger?’” he recalls.

Amazingly, his speech came back immediately.

“But, my arm movement did not come back right away and it was another reminder of just how serious things were,” Braun adds. “Too much thinking would wear me out.”

He was moved from the ICU and placed in a normal recovery room on April 1, where he was able to get a decent night’s sleep.

“I had a lot of cognitive tests and by the end of the day (April 1), everything was working fine,” Braun comments.

He was originally told it would be six months before he would be back at work and he would have to endure two to three months of physical therapy.

But, on April 2, the Wells resident was able to walk 900 feet and climb

two flights of stairs.

“My physical therapist said I did not need to be here and she was going to go talk to someone,” he remarks.

Braun was released later that day and walked out of the hospital on his own with no dietary or driving restrictions.

However, he was told to stay away from work for two weeks and not to lift over five pounds. He is also on blood thinners to help in the removal of the rest of the clot. These restrictions will be on for 90 days from the day of the incident.

He will have a CT scan at the 90-day mark and another one after one year.

“People cannot believe this happened because of my age,” he notes. “But, a stroke can happen at any age.”

It took him two weeks before he could type well with his left hand but he has now returned back to work and things are going fine.

“The outpouring of support I have received has been incredible. My friends are shocked at how well I am doing,” Braun comments. “I am even more shocked.”

He shares he is making some changes in his life and is trying to eat better because he does not want to be lying in a hospital again.


Braun expresses his thanks for all who helped him during the critical time when the stroke occurred, including Chelsea, the EMTs, the police and fire departments, the people from Mayo, his neighbors with their messages of hope and prayer and the miracle from God.

“Others have asked why me?” he states. “I know why, because I knew I could handle it. Now, I want to be an example that you can survive and thrive after a stroke.”

For more information on how to spot signs of a stroke and steps to take to prevent a stroke, visit the Center for Disease Control website and type “stroke” in the search bar.

“I kept thinking I can’t be having a stroke – I’m too young.”


— David Braun



National NURSES WEEK







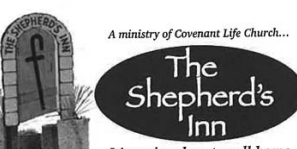



MAY 6-12

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Register Sports

Bucs rally for victory over Huskies

Tie the game with five-run sixth inning and win it in the seventh

BY KEVIN MERTENS
Register Staff Writer

Trailing 7-2, the Blue Earth Area Buccaneers rallied for five runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to tie Jackson County Central and then scored the winning run in the bottom of the seventh inning to triumph over the visiting Huskies 8-7 on Tuesday, May 3.

"It shows what can happen when you stay focused through adversity," BEA head coach Paul Nienaber said. "It is a good lesson to learn."

Carson Sturtz scored the winning run after leading off the bottom of the seventh inning with a line drive single to left field. Next, Luke Schonborn laid a bunt down the third baseline. The JCC fielders let it go hoping it would roll foul. But, the ball remained in fair territory to put runners on first and second with zero outs.

Kean Hicks came to the plate intending to lay down a sacrifice bunt to advance the runners to second and third. However, the bunt by Hicks, which was fielded by the pitcher, was thrown into right field and Sturtz came home with the winning run.

The Bucs had taken a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning at Veterans Field when Hicks walked and Logan O'Hara followed with a line-drive home run to left field.

After facing just six batters through the first two innings, BEA starting pitcher Taylor Davids ran into some trouble in the third inning. A combination of two walks, two singles and two



"It shows what can happen when you stay focused through adversity."

— Paul Nienaber, BEA baseball coach

Parker Meyers, above, successfully steals second base in BEA's game against MCW on May 2. Logan O'Hara, bottom left, got the win against the Mavericks. Anthony Carr, bottom right, came in to get the final out against MCW and then picked up a win the next day in relief of Taylor Davids against the JCC Huskies.



Staff photos by Kevin Mertens

errors allowed the Huskies to push four runs across the plate to take a 4-2 lead over the Bucs.

JCC added two more runs in the top of the fourth inning before Anthony Carr came in to relieve Davids.

Carr had gotten the final out in the Bucs' win the previous night against Martin County West.

Against the Huskies, Carr would pick up the win by hurling three and one third innings while allowing one run on two hits. He did not issue a walk and struck out three JCC batters.

The Huskies' only run off Carr came in the top of the sixth inning and gave the visitors a 7-2 lead.

BEA's big rally in the bottom of the sixth inning began with Luke Schonborn being hit by a pitch with one out.

Schonborn stole second and scored on a single by Kean Hicks. O'Hara was then hit by a pitch to put runners on first and second.

Nick Barke hit into a fielders choice with O'Hara being forced out at second base and Hicks moving to third.

A single by Adam Schavey scored Hicks with the second run of the inning while Barke advanced to second base.

Colton Hubly was hit by a pitch to load the bases.

Parker Meyers laced a triple to the gap between the center fielder and the right fielder to clear the bases and tie the game at 7-7.

Carr set the Huskies down in order in the top of the seventh inning allowing the Bucs to win the game in

BEA baseball, page 12

Boys, girls each third in BSC events

Weather finally allows the golfers to get in the swing of the game

BY KEVIN MERTENS
Register Staff Writer

The Blue Earth Area boys golf team finished in fourth place in the nine-team invite held at St. Peter's Shoreland Country Club on Tuesday, May 3.

The host Saints won the event with a score of 304. Faribault was second with 307, Fairmont took third with 314 and BEA had 331.

Ashton Lloyd finished in third place overall individually with an 18-hole total of 71, just two shots off of the medalist, Anthony Nicolai, of the Saints.

Lloyd recorded three birdies and 10 pars for the day.

Nathan Murphy finished in a four-way tie for 15th place with a score of 83. He had one birdie and seven pars.

Tied for 30th place was Jackson Blondin who carded an 88 with one birdie and four pars.

Eli Blagg and Gordy Bruellman each shot an 89 to tie for 32nd place and Kyren Sunken shot a 91 to finish tied for 37th.

Big South Conference East Division

With a cloudy sky and temperatures in the low to mid 40s, six teams competed in a Big South Conference meet at Minn-Iowa on Monday, May 2.

Fairmont won the team competition with a score of 309. St. Peter was second with a score of 325, Blue Earth Area was third with 339, Waseca was fourth with 358, Jackson County Central took fifth with 360 and New Ulm was sixth with 374.

Individually, Ashton



Eli Blagg, left, watches his drive on hole No. 4 at Minn-Iowa Golf Course at a Big South Conference, East Division contest on May 2. Jackson Blondin, right, sinks his putt for a birdie on the par three hole No. 7.



Staff photos by Kevin Mertens

Lloyd finished tied for fourth place with an 18-hole score of 78.

Lloyd had eight pars and shot a one-over-par score of 37 on the front nine. He had one birdie on the back nine while finishing with a 41. Lloyd finished with 11 pars for the day.

Kyren Sunken finished in a tie for 12th place with a score of 85. He finished with one birdie and five pars.

Jackson Blondin had one birdie and five pars to finish with a score of 87 and a tie for 15th place.

Rounding out the team scoring for the Bucs was Eli

Blagg who shot an 89 to finish in a tie for 18th place. Blagg finished with two pars.

Also golfing for the Bucs were Gordy Bruellman, who shot a 92, and Nathan Murphy, who carded a 93.

BEA 198, MR 229

Blue Earth Area golf coach Travis Armstrong juggled his lineup when the Bucs played host to the Maple River Eagles at Riverside Town and Country Club on Friday, April 29. The Bucs responded with a 31-stroke victory over the Eagles, winning 198 to 229.

BEA's Cooper Peterson

was the medalist in the nine-hole competition. He finished with a 48.

The Bucs' Cale Borris shot a 49 to tie for second place while his teammate, Manny Granillo, finished in fourth place with a 50.

Nathan Goette shot a 51 for the Maroon and Gold to tie for fifth place and complete the Bucs' team scoring.

Hunter Viland and Max Loge also golfed for BEA. They tied for seventh place with a score of 54.

Girls Results

Rose Lake Golf Club, located east of Fairmont, was the site of a Big South

Conference, East Division, girls golf competition on Tuesday, May 3. The same six schools had met in St. Peter the previous day.

Fairmont once again won the team portion of the meet with a score of 165. St. Peter had a score of 173 to take second place. Blue Earth Area was third with 194, New Ulm finished fourth with 198, Jackson County Central took fifth with 209 and Waseca was sixth with 215.

Payten Gudahl was the top finisher for Blue Earth Area. She finished with a nine-hole total of 45 to take eighth place, six strokes be-

hind the medalist from Fairmont, Solveig Senf, who carded a 39.

Katelyn Storbeck shot a 46 to finish in a tie for ninth place.

Next, for BEA, was Kylie Rosenau who carded a 50 to finish in a tie for 17th.

Madison Ehrich and Rylan Storbeck each shot a 53 to tie for 20th and Liz Beeler shot a 54 to finish in 22nd place.

Big South Conference East Division

Shoreland Country Club
Fairmont shot a 364 to win by 15 strokes over the host St. Peter Saints in an East Division meet of the Big South Conference held on May 2, at Shoreland Country Club in St. Peter.

Blue Earth Area nabbed third place with a team score of 403.

Taking fourth was Waseca with 410. New Ulm was fifth with 420 and Jackson County Central was sixth with 450.

Payten Gudahl carded an 18-hole score of 93 to lead the Bucs and tie for fifth place overall. Gudahl had one birdie and one par for the day.

Katelyn Storbeck finished in a tie for 13th place with a score of 102. Her round included two pars.

Rylan Storbeck and Kylie Rosenau had the final two scores which contributed to BEA's total. They each shot a 104 to tie for 17th. Rosenau had three pars.

Also golfing for the Bucs were Madison Ehrich who shot a 106 to finish in 20th place and Liz Beeler who finished with a 112 to tie for 28th.

BEA boys second at LCWM/N Invite

Luke Norman sets Buccaneer outdoor record in the discus event

BY KEVIN MERTENS

Register Staff Writer

Sunny skies and temperatures in the 50s greeted the Blue Earth Area track teams when they participated in the Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial/Nicollet Invitational on Tuesday, May 3, at Lake Crystal.

The Buccaneer boys had a good showing with 123 points to finish in the runner-up spot behind the host Knights in the eight-team event.

Jacob Grandgenett, Gabe Torres, Austin Skaden and Jack Norman joined forces to take first place in



the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 47.57.

The 4x200-meter relay team of Waylen Douglas, Skaden, Austin Stauffer and Torres registered a time of 1:40.55 to finish in second place.

In the 4x400-meter relay, it was Grandgenett, Aaron Lorenz, Gage Barker

BEA track, page 12

Members of the BEA girls track team finally got to enjoy some warm weather at a track meet when they went to Lake Crystal on May 3.

Submitted photo

USC wins three straight in baseball

Before Kenyon-Wanamingo snaps their streak with a 9-6 defeat

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

After winning three games the week before, the United South Central Rebels baseball team suffered a loss on Tuesday, May 3, at the hands of the Kenyon-Wanamingo Knights.

The final score was 9-6.

USC jumped out to a 4-0 lead at the end of the first inning, but Kenyon-Wanamingo came back with two runs in the second and two more in the third to tie up the game.

Then the Knights scored a run in the top of the fourth inning to take a 5-4 lead. However, the Rebels responded with two runs of their own in the bottom of the fourth to regain the lead at 6-5.

Unfortunately, that was the last scoring for USC, while K-W came up with another run in the sixth to tie it up again, this time at 6-6, and three more in the eighth to take the win.

The Rebels were out-hit 10-8 by the Knights.

Zale Bushlack led the Rebels at the plate, going 3 for 3. Jackson Spizzirri and Taybor Conley were both 2 for 5 batting. Spizzirri had an RBI and scored two runs while

Conley had two RBI and scored one run.

Ethan Elvebak had the Rebels' other hit, and it was a double.

Blake Schroeder pitched six innings and gave up five runs, all earned, on eight hits. He walked five and struck out eight.

Colten Quade came in for the final two innings and gave up three runs on two hits. He walked two and struck out one.

Next up for the Rebels was a game scheduled for Thursday, May 5, at Blooming Prairie. Results of that game will be in the next week's edition of the *Faribault County Register*.

USC 11, WEM 4

The United South Central Rebels baseball team completed their third game in three days with a 11-4 win over the Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Buccaneers, on Thursday, April 28, in Waterville.

The Buccaneers had the early lead when they scored a run in both the first and second inning.

However, the Rebels came back with a five run third inning, to grab a 5-2 lead they never relinquished. USC added another run in the fifth inning, then had another five run inning in the sixth.

WEM tried a comeback in the bottom of the seventh, scoring two runs, but it was much too little too late.

The Rebels out-hit the Bucs 8-5. Colten Quade led the USC batters going 3 for 3, including a triple and three RBI.

Zale Bushlack was 2 for 3 and Nick Bushlack was 2 for 4, including a double. Jackson Spizzirri got the Rebels' other hit, going 1 for 3.

Quade pitched four and two-thirds innings, giving up two runs on two hits, walking seven and striking out seven Buccaneer batters.

Aiden Crabtree pitched two and one-third innings and gave up two runs on three hits, walked none and struck out two.

This week the Rebels team was scheduled to host Hayfield on Tuesday, May 10, and play at Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton on Thursday, May 12, and at Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial on Friday, May 13.

USC 11,

Alden-Conger/Glenville-Emmons 5

The United South Central Rebels had another big game the previous day, Wednesday, April

27, when they downed Alden-Conger/Glenville-Emmons 11-5.

USC came up with four runs in the second and third innings, another two runs in the fourth and a single run in the sixth, for their scoring.

A-C/G-E had a single run in the second and third innings and three in the bottom of the sixth.

The Rebels out-hit their opponents 13 to six. Leading the way at the plate for the Rebels was Zale Bushlack who was a perfect 3 for 3 batting, with three RBI.

Taybor Conley was 2 for 2 and scored three runs. Konner Harpestad was 2 for 3 and Nick Bushlack and Jackson Spizzirri were both 2 for 4.

Spizzirri, Harpestad and Zale Bushlack each had a double.

Ethan Elveback and Jon Martinez each had a hit for the Rebels.

Conley was the winning pitcher and went two and one-third innings. He allowed two runs on one hit, walked three and struck out two.

Martinez came in for three innings and allowed three runs on four hits, walked three and struck out five.

Zale Bushlack came in for one and two-thirds innings and al-

lowed no runs on six hits, walked none and struck out four.

USC 3, Triton 1

The Rebels' first game of three in a row was a lot closer than the next two would be.

United South Central defeated the Triton Cobras by the close score of 3-1, on Tuesday, April 26.

The Rebels took the early lead by scoring one run in the top of the first inning. They increased the lead to 2-0 when they scored another single run in the top of the fourth inning.

Triton came back with a run of their own in the bottom of the sixth, making the score 2-1.

But, USC got another run in the top of the seventh, and held the Cobras scoreless in the bottom of the seventh, and went home with the 3-1 win.

The Rebels barely out-hit the Cobras 5 to 4.

Colten Quade and Konner Harpestad each hit a double, and Ethan Elvebak, Jackson Spizzirri and Jon Martinez each had one single in the game.

Blake Schroeder pitched the whole game, giving up the one run on four hits, walked three batters and struck out nine.

Neubauer is medalist at Hayfield and girls finish first as a team

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The United South Central Rebels boys' golf team placed second at a Gopher Conference meet on Tuesday, May 3, at The Oaks Golf Club near Hayfield.

The Rebels were just edged out of first place by three strokes. Blooming Prairie came in first with a team score of 167, while the USC boys shot a team total 170 for second. Kenyon-Wanamingo shot a 197 and Maple River had an incomplete score.

The low score of the day, and medalist honors, went to USC sophomore Kaydyn Neubauer, who shot a 38. It was his second first place finish of the season.

Rebel senior Luke Pederson and sophomore Blake Bullerman tied for third place with identical 41 scores. Senior Nick



Carter Hart chips to the green earlier this season while golfing at Riverside Town and Country Club.

Schindler shot 50, for 13th place. Levi Hinkley carded a 52 and Carter Hart a 55 to round out the USC scoring. The USC Rebels now

have a season record of 13-4. Their next meet was slated to be Thursday, May 5, at Riverview Golf Course by New Richland.

USC Girls

The United South Central Rebels girls' golf team participated in a regular-season conference meet at The Oaks in Hayfield on Tuesday, May 3.

"The course provided many challenges that are not regularly a part of conference meets," coach Cheryl Koestler says. "Given these challenges and soggy ground conditions, scores were much higher than usual."

United South Central won the meet with a team score of 285. Other schools participating were Maple River, Kenyon-Wanamingo and Blooming Prairie.

Individually, Emma Heggen led the way for the Rebels, shooting a 61 which put her in fourth place for the meet. Elizabeth Romano took sixth place with a 64.

Rebels victorious over Knights 7-3

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The United South Central Rebels girls' softball team notched another big win last Tuesday, May 3, when they downed the Kenyon-Wanamingo Knights 7 to 3.

The Knights scored one run in the bottom of the first inning and that 1-0 lead lasted until the top of the fourth inning when the Rebels scored three to take a 3-1 lead.

USC then scored another three runs in the top of the sixth inning to expand their lead to 6-1.

K-W scored one run in the bottom of the sixth inning to make it 6-2, and both teams scored a run in the seventh to make the final score 7-3.

Hannah Meyer led the Rebels at the plate, getting two hits, scoring a

run and having an RBI.

Sam Swanson, Mariah Anderson, Molly Wegner, Brylee Neubauer, Erica Johannsen and Taylor Schroeder all had one hit for USC. Anderson's hit was a double and Wegner's was a triple which scored two runs. The Rebels out-hit the Knights 8-5.

Anderson pitched all seven innings, giving up the three runs on five hits, walking one batter and striking out 13.

The Rebels' next game was scheduled to be Thursday, May 5 against Blooming Prairie. Those results will be in the next *Faribault County Register*.

This week the USC girls will play at Hayfield on Tuesday, May 10, and host Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton on Thursday, May 12.



Logan O'Hara

O'Hara pitched the Buccaneers to a win in their game against Martin County West on Monday, May 2. The next day he belted a two-run homer to give BEA an early 2-0 lead against Jackson County Central in a game the Bucs eventually won 8-7.

Blue Earth Area Athlete of the Week

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Bucs lose to tough St. James team

Also drop conference games against the Eagles and the Huskies

BY KEVIN MERTENS

Register Staff Writer

Blue Earth Area knew they were facing one of the top teams in the area when the St. James Area Saints came to town on Tuesday, May 3.

The Saints came into the game with a 5-2 record and each of their losses had been by one run.

St. James Area used one hit, five walks and a hit batsman to score four runs in the first inning on their way to a six-inning, 10-0 victory over BEA.



Taylor Klabunde

Kylee Johnson got the only hit for the Bucs, who struck out 12 times against the Saints' pitcher, Addie Bowers. Bowers did not issue a walk in her complete game victory.

St. James Area added two more runs in the top of the second inning before being held scoreless the next three innings.

The Saints pushed four more runs across the plate in the top of the sixth inning to secure the 10-0 victory.

Windom 10, BEA 0

The Eagles' Jenna Veenker surrendered only one hit to Blue Earth Area and Veenker's teammates scored 10 runs in the first three innings to take the opening game of a doubleheader by the final score of 10-0.

The five-inning contest was played in cold and windy conditions in Windom on Monday, May 2.

Reagan Machacek had the only hit for the Bucs, a double in the top of the second inning.

Windom 9, BEA 2

The Bucs did better in the second game of the doubleheader but still ended up on the wrong end of a 9-2 score.



Olivia Dutton is all business as she gets ready to hurl the softball to the plate in the Bucs' game against St. James last Tuesday. Dutton and Kylie Eckmann have shared the pitching duties for BEA this year.

Windom was the visiting team on the scoreboard for the second game and took a 2-0 lead in the top of the

first inning. BEA responded by tying the game at 2-2 in the bottom of the first inning.

With two outs Taylor Klabunde and Reagan Machacek hit back-to-back singles. Claire Sullivan hit a

double to right field to score Klabunde. Kyla Roiger followed with a single to right field to

plate Machacek and tie the game 2-2.

Windom took the lead for good with four runs in the top of the second inning.

The Eagles added one run in the fourth inning and two more in the sixth inning.

Machacek had two hits in the game while Olivia Dutton, Klabunde, Sullivan and Roiger each had one.

JCC 10, BEA 0

The Blue Earth Area softball team had trouble getting their offense in gear when they traveled to Jackson on Friday, April 29, to take on the Huskies in a Big South Conference game. The result was a 10-0 victory for Jackson County Central.



Kyla Roiger

JCC held the BEA batters to just three hits in five innings of play. Meanwhile, the Huskies had seven hits and took advantage of three errors by the Bucs' defense to score their 10 runs.

It was a scoreless first inning but JCC plated two runs in the bottom of the second inning to take a 2-0 lead.

The hometown Huskies added five more runs in the bottom of the third inning and two more in the bottom of the fourth to go up 9-0.

JCC then produced one run in the last half of the fifth inning to end the game with a 10-run lead.

BEA's hits all came from the top of their batting order. The first three batters in the Bucs' lineup, Kylee Eckmann, Olivia Dutton and Reagan Machacek each had one hit.

Eckmann was on the mound for the Bucs. She gave up 10 runs on seven hits while striking out five and walking five batters.

Bucs down Cardinals and Bluejays

But they lose to the St. Peter Saints to even their record at 3-3

BY FIONA GREEN

Register Staff Writer

The Blue Earth Area boys tennis team had a rough go of it two weeks ago, losing matches to Worthington and Luverne. However, last week improved their season record to 3-3.

St. Peter 6, BEA 1

The Bucs' latest away match was against St. Peter on May 3. The Bucs suffered a loss to the Saints on Tuesday, 6-1.

BEA's Vern Johnson was defeated at No. 1 singles by Marty Anderson, 6-4, 6-4.

However, Nick Frundt delivered BEA its sole victory at No. 2 singles, slamming Fede Zimmerman in straight sets, 6-0, 6-1.

At No. 3 singles, Jamie Johnson suffered his first defeat of the season against St. Peter's Cooper Dean in a close match, 7-5, 6-3.

No. 4 singles showcased a three-set battle between Buc Joe Frundt and Saint Ezekiel Riback. Riback took the first set 6-4, but the second set went to Frundt, 6-4. Riback reversed the score in his favor in the final set, 6-4.

No. 1 doubles featured a nail-biter between BEA's Devin Haase and Brady Lorenz and St. Peter's

Anders Dixon and Tyson Schmitz. The first set's tiebreaker went to St. Peter, 7-6 (8-6), but the Bucs took the second set 6-4. The third super set was eventually St. Peter's, however, 10-4.

No. 2 doubles was a quick win for St. Peter's Will Elias and Ben Taylor against BEA's Jerry Passe and Seth Stevermer. The Saints took the match in straight sets 6-0, 6-1.

No. 3 doubles also went to St. Peter. Bucs Calvin Farrow and Seth Mathews were defeated by Saints Colton Abels and Quinn Dixon 6-4, 6-4.

BEA 7, Redwood Valley, 0

The Bucs were more successful when they traveled to Redwood Valley on May 2. They slammed the Cardinals 7-0 at the Monday match.

BEA's Vern Johnson took on Andrew Muetzel at No. 1 singles, defeating his opponent 6-2, 6-1.

Buc Nick Frundt snagged another win for BEA against Jacob

Zoellner at No. 2 singles, 6-2, 6-1.

Joe Frundt fought a three-set battle for BEA against Cardinal Drew Lundeen at No. 3 singles. The first set was Frundt's, 6-4, but Lundeen flipped the score in his favor on the second set, 6-4. The third super set went to Frundt, 10-7.

At No. 4 singles, Redwood Valley's Zzykiel Rendon was no match for BEA's Jamie Johnson. Johnson took the match in straight sets, 6-0, 6-0.

The BEA doubles players also had a good night.

At No. 1 doubles, Bucs Devin Haase and Brady Lorenz defeated Cardinals Cole Johnson and Canyon Hicks 6-3, 6-3.

The match was also BEA's at No. 2 singles. Jerry Passe and Seth Stevermer went up against Redwood Valley's Marco Ramos and Joe Davilla and took the match in straight sets, 6-2, 6-0.

No. 3 singles was a quick win for BEA. John Lappe and Calvin Farrow scored a final victory for the Bucs against Melayna Nez and Ben Jorgenson 6-2, 6-1.

BEA 6, Waseca 1

BEA's boys tennis team reclaimed their winning record

when they trounced Waseca, 6-1, in an away match held on April 28.

No. 1 singles player Nick Frundt was first to snag a victory for the Bucs against Bluejay Tyler Jellum. Frundt made easy work of the match, finishing Jellum off in straight sets, 6-1, 6-1.

At No. 2 singles, BEA's Vern Johnson secured an equally quick victory against Waseca's Oliver Rohwer. The match was over in straight sets, 6-0, 6-1.

Jamie Johnson faced Bluejay Jacori Jellum at No. 3 singles and scored another win for the Bucs in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1.

No. 4 singles was contentious, but ultimately tallied a victory for the Bluejays. Buccaneer Joe Frundt battled Waseca's Henry Huttemier through three sets before Huttemier was declared the winner.

The first set was Huttemier's, 6-3, but Frundt flipped the score for the second set, taking it 6-3.



Nick Frundt



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BE Council talks housing – for animals

Impound services and poultry practices both topics of discussion

BY FIONA GREEN

Register Staff Writer

It is truly a menagerie out there. At least, a Blue Earth City Council meeting held on Monday, May 2, gave that impression.

A significant portion of the meeting was devoted to the subject of housing – that is, housing for Blue Earth's non-human residents.

The evening kicked off with discussion about the partnership between the city and the Faribault County Humane Society (FCHS). The city has been concerned about a lack of clear communication with the FCHS regarding impounded animals.

"Although the impound and humane society are operating under one roof right now, they are not one operation," city administrator Mary Kennedy clarified.



Mary Kennedy

"When an animal comes into impound, it is city property at that point. If we don't know when an animal comes in, we're missing several steps within animal ordinances that the council has put in place," Kennedy explained.

Kennedy wished to put documentation in place to clarify the city and FCHS's separate, but linked roles in caring for stray animals.

"Currently, the humane

society is providing services without a contract," Kennedy said. "I recommended that we put an RFP (Request For Proposals) out to the public for impound services. The humane society would have equal opportunity to respond to the RFP."

Debbie Johnson, president of the FCHS, attended the May 2 worksession to answer questions on behalf of FCHS.

The council was particularly interested in updates about a new facility which FCHS is in the process of renovating.

Mayor Rick Scholtes noted FCHS would need to be installed in the new building to be eligible to provide impound services for the city. The conditions at their current facility are inadequate.

Johnson responded, "We're getting there. The building cost more than we had expected. We're doing renovations as we can afford them."

However, she added the FCHS has signed a contract for the building's purchase, and hopes to open the new facility this summer.

Johnson seemed interested in submitting an RFP for animal impound services once the new facility is operational.

"We really would like to continue providing impound services," Johnson said. "We're not doing it for financial gain – we're doing it on behalf of the animals."

At the regular City Council



Register file photo

A Blue Earth resident requested the City Council revise an ordinance about residential chicken ownership so her daughter could raise chickens for 4-H, as the girls pictured above were able to do last summer.

meeting, the council approved the RFP for animal impound services.

The RFP stipulates proposals must be submitted to Kennedy by May 27.

At the regular City Council meeting, discussion strayed from housing cats and dogs to housing poultry.

Blue Earth resident Patricia Backstrom attended the meeting to request revisions to a certain ordinance.

"I am requesting to amend the current ordinance restricting backyard birds," Backstrom said. "Currently, the requirements are a \$55 annual fee and a permit that requires

punitive for my daughter to need consent to participate in 4-H," Backstrom said. "The fact that (my neighbor) is using his dog to prevent my daughter doing 4-H seems a bit ludicrous."

The council was concerned about the loose dogs. "If you see these dogs running at large, that is a violation of city code and it is a huge fine," Kennedy said. "We want that documented."

As for the ordinance, Scholtes directed Kennedy to research why neighbor consent was made a requirement in the first place.

Scholtes implied there is a possibility the ordinance could be revised.

"By the time we get it changed, it might be too late for you," he acknowledged. "But we will look into it and let you know."

In other business, the Blue Earth City Council:

- Passed Ordinance 22-09 conveying HRA and city-owned property to Briar Cliff Properties, LLC for \$395,000. The property is a duplex on Fourth Street.

- Passed Ordinances 22-10 and 22-11, which split the Fourth Street duplex property into two separate entities.

- Passed Ordinance 22-12 conveying HRA and city-owned property to Morris D. Hanson and Barbara Hanson for \$245,000. The property is located at 101 Bluestem Drive.

- Received Blue Earth Light & Water's annual financial report at the work-

session. No significant financial issues were identified.

- Issued permits to Hansen Sanitation to pick up refuse within Blue Earth's city limits, and to Las Potrancas, a Mexican food truck owned by Ramon Vega Ramirez.

- Reviewed a property tax repayment incentive plan drafted by Kennedy, which could serve as the city's addition to a recruitment incentive package program developed by several local business leaders.

- Did not pass Resolution 22-14 to elect the standard allowance available in the amount of \$339,649.19 for the expenditure of ARPA funds. Council member Ann Hanna's motion to pass the resolution died for lack of a second.

The resolution would have allowed the city more freedom in how they are able to spend ARPA funds.

- Passed resolution 22-15 approving judges for the 2022 special election.

- Passed resolution 22-16 providing for the competitive negotiated sale of \$5,015,000 in general obligation bonds, series 2022B. The bonds will be used to finance various street improvement projects and utility projects.



Rick Scholtes

Kiwanis celebrates 100 years with \$100 thousand

BY CHUCK HUNT

Register Editor

The Blue Earth Kiwanis Club is celebrating their 100th year of service to the Blue Earth community, and club members have one big goal they wanted to attain to celebrate the milestone: give out at least \$100,000 in scholarships to Blue Earth Area High School seniors – to celebrate their 100th anniversary.

And, with the help of many donations from businesses and individuals, as well as having many other groups and organizations sponsoring scholarships, the Kiwanis Club has made that goal – and then some.

For 38 of the 100 years the Kiwanis Club of Blue Earth has been in existence, they have sponsored the annual BEA Scholarship and Academic Awards Program.

For the past several years, the Kiwanis Club has partnered with First Bank Blue Earth and the name of the program changed to Kiwanis/First Bank Blue Earth Academic/Scholarship Program.

The number and amounts of the scholarships has increased over the past 38 years. For many years it was four or so scholarships of \$1,500 each.

It has increased over the years and this year, in 2022, the Kiwanis Club and First Bank Blue Earth have partnered up to award seven \$2,000 scholarships, for a total of \$14,000.

Those scholarships will be awarded at this year's program, which is all set for this coming Friday, May 13, at the Performing Arts Center at Blue Earth Area High School.

In addition to those seven scholarships, many others are awarded by many organizations, individuals and businesses, often in memory of someone who believed in education.

And the good news? It looks like the Kiwanis Club, with help from all its friends and supporters, has reached its goal.

"The total amount of scholarships given out the night of the program has been increasing over the



Register file photo

There will be \$115,000 in scholarships awarded at this year's Kiwanis/First Bank Blue Earth program.

years," says Kiwanis member John Huisman, who has chaired the Kiwanis scholarship committee since its inception 38 years ago. "Last year there was a total of \$97,000 in scholarships

handed out that night, so we thought doing \$100,000 during our club's 100th year was attainable. And it was."

It was recently announced that the total amount of scholarship

money to be awarded to BEA seniors on Friday night will actually top \$115,000.

And, that amount is actually higher, because not all of the scholarships BEA's

class of 2022 will receive are awarded during the program Friday night. There are other local and college scholarships they will be receiving at other times.

The Blue Earth Kiwanis

Club is nearly as old as the overall Kiwanis organization itself.

Kiwanis was started in 1915, while the Blue Earth Club was started just seven years later.

A representative of the national Kiwanis organization was in Mankato in the summer of 1922 to start a club there, and then also decided to come to both Blue Earth and Fairmont.

The first meeting of the Blue Earth Kiwanis Club was on Sept. 19, 1922, at noon, at the Methodist Church. Their Charter Night Banquet was held on Dec. 5, 1922. It was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall. There were 32 charter members of the club.

The Blue Earth Kiwanis Club is going to celebrate being 100 years old with another banquet, set for later this year, in September.

More details on the celebration will be announced later this year.

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Area News Briefs

BE is spic-and-span after Clean Up Day



Staff photos by Chuck Hunt

Enduring some cold, rainy conditions at the Faribault County Fairgrounds, participants had a fairly successful Blue Earth City-wide Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 30. Members of the Sentence to Serve group, as well as other volunteers, unloaded items from vehicles and put them in the collection truck.

Terrific Kids



Staff photo by Chuck Hunt

Each month, the Blue Earth Kiwanis Club recognizes BEA Elementary students who are truly 'Terrific Kids.' On Friday, April 29, the students pictured above were awarded a certificate for their hard work at school. In the back row, left to right, are Oliver Rauchbauer, Brandon Olivares, Saile Reyes and Cooper Sickler. In the front row, left to right, are Will Jones, Max Haase and Lincoln Tonne.

Hit-and-run crash by BE

A two-vehicle accident east of Blue Earth on Sunday, May 1, became a little confusing for emergency personnel responding to the call, as only one vehicle was at the scene.

The accident was reported at 10:55 a.m. at the intersection of County Road 16 and County Road 5, according to a report from the Faribault County Sheriff's

Office.

While deputies were en route to the accident, they were advised that one of the vehicles had fled the scene. When they arrived they found one vehicle and debris from another one.

The driver at the scene was a juvenile from Winnebago. He was transported by ambulance to the UH D ER in Blue Earth with

minor injuries.

The second vehicle involved in the accident was later located in Blue Earth.

The crash is still under investigation by the Faribault County Sheriff's Office.

The Blue Earth Fire Department and United Hospital District Ambulance Service assisted at the scene.



Submitted photo

The BE Police Department has lately received three separate calls regarding damage to parked vehicles. The perpetrator, as yet unidentified, has been drilling holes into the vehicles' fuel tanks, as pictured above.

Vandal targets vehicles

At approximately 6:55 a.m., on May 1, the Blue Earth Police Department, and the Blue Earth Fire Department were dispatched to St. Luke's Lutheran Care Care for a report of a large amount of gasoline spilled on the pavement in the parking lot.

Upon further inspection

it was discovered that a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado, belonging to an employee of St. Luke's, had a hole in the fuel tank. The damage to the tank appeared to have been caused by someone drilling into it. Approximately 20 gallons of fuel had leaked from the tank onto the parking lot pavement.

In the subsequent days since, the police department has received two other calls about vehicles with damaged to their fuel tanks due to drilling during the night hours.

If anyone has any information please contact the Blue Earth Police Department at 507-526-5959.

BE Lions Club Athletic Event will be May 20

The 62nd Annual Blue Earth Lions Club Athletic Program will be held at Blue Earth Area High School on Friday, May 20. The program will be at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at the High School with dessert following the program.

Students in grades 7-12 who have earned

a JV or Varsity Letter will be recognized. Special awards will be given to selected seniors.

Tickets can be purchased the night of the program for \$10 per ticket or from any Blue Earth Lion's Club member.

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F.A.S.T.

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- Confusion or trouble understanding other people.
- Difficulty speaking or difficulty understanding speech.
- Trouble seeing with one or both eyes.
- Problems walking or staying balanced or lack of coordination.
- Dizziness or severe headache that comes on for no reason.

These businesses urge you to know the signs and symptoms of stroke and get help if you or someone you know shows these symptoms.

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Faribault County Clean-Up Days

These collections are open to all residents of Faribault or Martin County. Other collections sites are also scheduled - Check yearly schedule on the Faribault or Martin County websites.

WELLS • HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ONLY
Tuesday, May 10, 2022 • 9 a.m. - Noon
250 5th Avenue, Faribault County Highway Department Garage

Minnesota Lake
Saturday, May 14, 2022
City Garage
229 Park Street

Delavan
Tuesday, May 17, 2022
6 - 7 p.m.
By the Gazebo

Kiester
Saturday, May 21, 2022
9 a.m. - Noon
Farmer's Coop Elevator lot,
corner of
Front & Third Streets

Frost
Tuesday, June 7, 2022
6 - 7 p.m.
In front of the Fire Hall

Easton
Tuesday, June 21, 2022
6 - 7 p.m.
By City Hall

Winnebago
Thursday, June 23, 2022
5 - 7 p.m.
City Hall Parking Lot

Bricelyn
Saturday, June 25, 2022
9 a.m. - Noon
Bricelyn City Shop

ITEMS ACCEPTED

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE - NO CHARGE

Examples - Latex or Oil Based Paint, Fuels, Degreasers, Garden Products, Paint Thinner, Furniture Stripper, Roofing Tar, Household Chemicals, Rechargeable Batteries, Cell Phones

NO Fluorescent Bulbs or Ballasts

NO EMPTY PAINT CANS - Only cans containing liquid paint will be accepted
NO AG CHEMICALS OR BUSINESS PRODUCTS WILL BE ACCEPTED - Ag Chemicals can be brought to the hazardous waste facility in Truman by special appointment all 507-776-3232 for arrangements

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FURNITURE - \$15.00/item

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No Yard Waste, Construction, Remodeling or Demolition Waste

Questions: Call Billee Rabbe, Solid Waste Coordinator in Faribault and Martin County
507-776-3232

District Court Records

Larry G. Schnoor (DOB 09/05/1935) Mankato - Speed 60 Zone 73/60, fee: \$135.

Magdalena Grzywa (DOB 02/16/1984) Palos Hills, IL - Speed 70 Zone 79/70, fee: \$125.

Riley D. Haning (DOB 12/14/2001) Winnebago - Speed 60 Zone 72/60, fee: \$135.

Jennifer A. Hipelius (DOB 08/26/1963) Burr Ridge, IL - Speed 70 Zone 91/70, fee: \$225.

Chandler J. Karl (DOB 07/25/1998) Blue Earth - Fail to change address/name within (30 days), fee: \$105.

Sara M. Kirsch (DOB 11/12/1972) Frost - Speed 55 Zone 78/55, fee: \$225.

Annaliese M. Klinkner (DOB 11/10/1997) Winnebago - Speed 60 Zone 75/60, fee: \$145.

Roger L. Paz Pacheco (DOB 12/02/1990) Wells - Speed 55 Zone 72/55, fee: \$145; No Minnesota drivers license, fee: \$100.

Dalton D. E. Westphal (DOB 12/12/1996) Winnebago - Speed 70 Zone 84/70, fee: \$135.

Hayley D. Olson (DOB 04/21/1999) Wells - Traffic regulation - school bus-stop signal extended/red lights flashing- other drivers, fee: \$185.

Brandy L. Crail (DOB 06/21/1990) Lakota, IA - Drivers license- driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type, fee: \$185; Traffic regulation- driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle, fee: \$200.

Joseph J. Nichols (DOB 06/15/1996) Blue Earth - Drivers license- driving without a valid license or vehicle class/type, multiple licenses prohibited, fee: \$185.

Brody J. Anderson (DOB 01/25/2004) Frost - Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use, fee: \$110.

Colten D. Bargo (DOB 08/14/2000) Rockholds, KY - Speed 70 Zone 100/70, fee: \$285; Careless driving-operate any vehicle carelessly on street or highway, fee: \$100.

Rebecca C. Brandt (DOB 09/03/1974) Shevlin - Speed 55 Zone 82/55, fee: \$285.

Christopher E. Earl (DOB 10/10/1966) Maxwell, NM - Speed 70 Zone 81/70, fee: \$135.

Rebecca R. Glimsdal (DOB 02/06/1963) Frost - Hands-free law- engage in cellular phone or video call, fee: \$135.

Ruchika Sharma (DOB 03/15/1985) Wheeling, IL - Speed 70 Zone 80/70, fee: \$125.

Drew M. Theilen (DOB 06/27/1999) Ames, IA - Speed 70 Zone 90/70, fee: \$225.

Courtney J. Waters (DOB 09/10/1986) Elmore - Speed 70 Zone 80/70, fee: \$125.

Karissa E. Lopez (DOB 05/08/2004) Winnebago - Traffic - speeding - exceed limit 60 mph where appropriate 70/60, fee: \$125.

Cameron R. O'Connor (DOB 02/02/1999) Faribault - Harassment- restraining order- violate and knows of temporary or restraining order, supervised probation one year, fee: \$460.

Bruce E. Parks (DOB 04/10/1984) Wells - Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use, fee: \$110.

Nicolette M. Bock (DOB 11/16/1982) Winnebago - Speed 55 Zone 69/55, fee: \$135.

Klinton E. Egelhoff (DOB 04/27/1976) Loves Parks, IL - Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use, fee: \$110.

Alexander J. Friedman (DOB 12/08/1991) Lincolnshire, IL - Speed 70 Zone 79/70, fee: \$125.

Chad J. Larson (DOB 01/08/1971) Carlisle, IA - Speed 70 Zone 82/70, fee: \$135.

Anna M. Niles (DOB 12/10/2003) Forest Lake - Speed 70 Zone 86/70, fee: \$145.

Jacob M. Pettigrew (DOB 05/05/2003) Malden, MA - Speed 70 Zone 92/70, fee: \$225.

Emmanuel X. Garcia-Granados (DOB 04/27/1996) Mankato - Front and rear license plates required, fee: \$115; Window tint less than 50% light transmittance, fee: \$50.

Joseph B. Kirkwood (DOB 08/08/1977) Minneapolis - Speed 70 Zone 85/70, fee: \$145.

Maria M. Rodriguez Saucedo (DOB 09/28/1987) Owatonna - Speed 70 Zone 80/70, fee: \$125; No Minnesota drivers license, fee: \$100.

Reid L. Weiland (DOB 04/03/1979) Garner, IA - Speed 70 Zone 80/70, fee: \$125.

Derek L. Alvarez (DOB 12/29/1984) Blue Earth - No MN drivers license (after 60 days residency/30 days CDL), fee: \$185.

Kelly L. Anderson (DOB 02/23/1962) Box Elder, SD - Speed 70 Zone 85/70, fee: \$145.

Alston C. Baratklimesh (DOB 09/17/1987) Stewartville - Speed 55 Zone 71/55, fee: \$145.

Jeffery J. Roessler (DOB 04/06/1964) Wells - Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use, fee: \$110.

Samantha J. Slattery (DOB 03/31/2000) Franksville, WI - Speed 70 Zone 90/70, fee: \$225.

Ricky D. Wright (DOB 01/02/1972) Blue Earth - Driving after suspension, fee: \$285.; Display tabs of another vehicle, fee: \$300.

Nicol D. Grimm (DOB 04/18/1978) Madison Lake - Speed 60 Zone 73/60, fee: \$135.

Beth M. Hagmann (DOB 04/15/1957) Leland, IA - Duty to drive with due care, fee: \$125.

Matthew A. Hall (DOB 09/29/1972) Mankato - Speed 55 Zone 70/55, fee: \$145; No Minnesota drivers license, fee: \$100.

Kenneth B. Nelson (DOB 11/01/1977) Tracy - Brake lights minimum of two, fee: \$125.

Daniel D. Schoneck (DOB 04/05/1979) Delavan - Speed 60 Zone 64/60, fee: \$125.

Matthew J. Simon (DOB 02/21/1971) Minnesota Lake - Speed 55 Zone 67/55, fee: \$135.

Michael S. Torres (DOB 08/18/1975) Mankato - Non-emergency stop on freeway, fee: \$125.

Tamyia L. Profit (DOB 12/09/1988) Miami, FL - Traffic regulation - uninsured vehicle - owner violation, fee: \$285.

Zoe L. Gorton (DOB 05/13/2002) Albert Lea - Suspended object, fee: \$125.

Travis D. Risk (DOB 04/21/1976) Granada - Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use, fee: \$110.

Amy P. Stenzel (DOB 08/08/1966) Winnebago - Speed exceed in special zone set by commissioner 64/45, fee: \$145.

Dylan R. Breeggemann (DOB 04/14/1992) Amboy - Traffic- drivers license- driving after revocation, fee: \$285.

Carol L. B. Schroeder (DOB 03/07/1958) Alden - Speed 60 Zone 79/60, fee: \$145.

Michael D. Harris (DOB 05/25/2002) Brooklyn Park - Traffic- drivers license- driving after cancellation, fee: \$285; Traffic regulation- driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle, fee: \$200; Traffic - speeding - exceed limit of 30 mph- urban district 45/30, fee: \$60.

Erin M. Lawrence (DOB 12/29/1997) Blue Earth - Traffic regulation - driver approaching intersection fails to yield right of way, fee: \$135.

Keegan S. Henning (DOB 10/31/2001) Lakeville - Speed 70 Zone 84/70, fee: \$135.

Mary E. Wical (DOB 04/12/1972) Lacey, WA - Speed 70 Zone 87/70, fee: \$145.

David R. Rochefort (DOB 07/29/1999) Carlos - Disorderly conduct - offensive/abusive/noisy/obscene, fee: \$185.

Benjamin M. Duff (DOB 08/07/1978) Hartland - Traffic- drivers license- driving after suspension, fee: \$285; Motor vehicle registration-operate unregistered vehicle/without plates on public streets/highway, fee: \$100.

Ethan M. Bertucci (DOB 12/06/1991) Fort Atkinson, WI - Speed 70 Zone 85/70, fee: \$145.

Terry L. Gunsolus (DOB 10/20/1954) Pemberton - Exceed allowable 80000 pound gross weight, fee: \$285.

Elias D. Kauffmann (DOB 06/20/2001) Wells - Driving after revocation, fee: \$285.

Terry A. Roessler (DOB 09/24/1965) Wells - Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use, fee: \$110.

Anthony Sandoval (DOB 03/15/1990) Fairmont - Traffic- drivers license- driving after revocation, fee: \$285.

Gilberto Amaro, Jr. (DOB 06/29/1999) Blue Earth - Possess ammo/any firearm-prior gross misd convictions and no subsequent convictions, local confinement 58 days; Drugs- third degree-possess- methamphet/Amphetamine in school/park/pub housing zone, MN correctional facility 46 months, fee: \$585.

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A century has gone by, and it's still a wonderful life

BE native Anna Mae Feldick Hutchins about to celebrate her 100th birthday

BY FIONA GREEN

Register Staff Writer

We all get an annual opportunity to celebrate another trip around the sun. However, it is quite rare for someone to complete that journey 100 times.

Friday, May 13 will mark one Blue Earth native's 100th revolution, nonetheless.

"I think it's quite a milestone, to tell you the truth," says almost-centenarian Anna Mae Feldick Hutchins.

She was born on May 13, 1922 to Martha and George Cook, a fact which Anna Mae admits "doesn't seem possible."

She and her four sisters, Emmabelle Chaffee, Georgia Sailor, Frannie Nelson and Crystal Worden, were graduates of Blue Earth High School. Anna Mae herself donned her cap and gown in 1940.

Blue Earth Area High School still stands over 80 years later. However, Anna Mae notes some changes.

"I think it was different than it is now," she considers. "We had to obey, and of course my family was strict."

Anna Mae chuckles as she recalls when her family wrote her a permission note to 'pick flowers' on Senior Skip Day so she could participate in the tradition with a clear conscience.

Anna Mae had a long life ahead of her following her graduation.

"I've been a busy lady," she says.

After attending Hamilton Business College in Mason City, Iowa, Anna Mae worked as a cashier at the First and Farmers National Bank in Blue Earth. Then, a chance meeting in 1946 changed everything.

That August, Anna Mae was visiting friends in Buffalo Center, Iowa, when she met a dashing young man named Lawrence Feldick as he was collecting the offering at a First Baptist Church service.

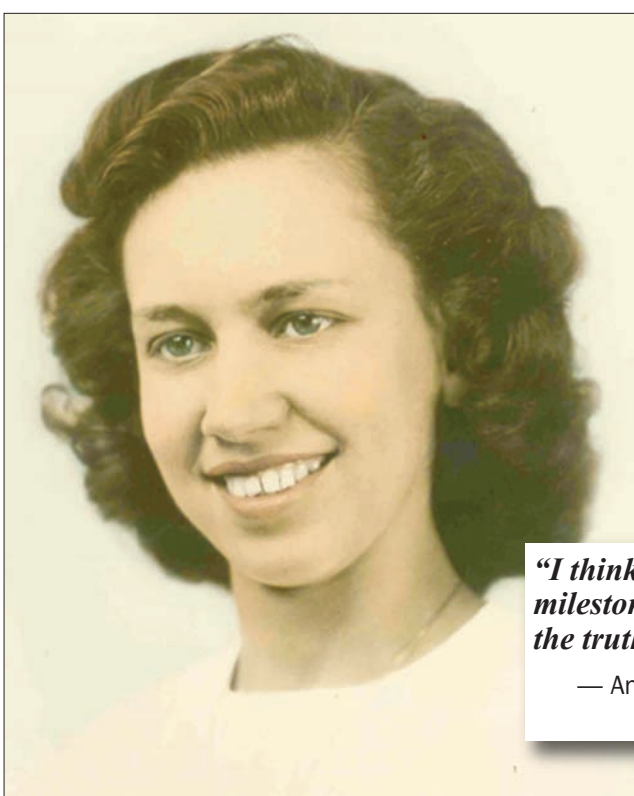
"When he passed the offering plate, he said, 'I'll meet you outside,'" Anna Mae recalls.

The pair convened after church, and Lawrence offered to take Anna Mae home. She declined at first, explaining she had driven her sister's car, but Lawrence insisted.

"We went down to Blue Earth, and went to the ice



Anna Mae Feldick Hutchins celebrated her 95th birthday with five generations of family members in 2017. The event is pictured top left. In the back, left, is Anna Mae's son Larry Feldick, holding her great-great grandson Hudson. Back, right, is Anna Mae's granddaughter Jennifer Essick. In front, left to right, are Anna Mae's great-granddaughter Brianna Olson, Anna Mae herself, and her great-granddaughter Crystal Gambell. Anna Mae is holding her great-great grandson Barrett. Top, right, is Anna Mae's Blue Earth High School graduation picture in 1940. Bottom, left, Anna Mae is pictured at her wedding to her first husband, Lawrence Feldick, on August 14, 1948. Bottom, right, Anna Mae celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary to her second husband, Harold Hutchins, in May of 2019. In the back row, left to right, are Anna Mae's son, George Feldick, daughter-in-law Sandy (Garvick) Feldick, and son Larry Feldick. In front are Anna Mae and Harold.



"I think it's quite a milestone, to tell you the truth."

— Anna Mae Feldick Hutchins

cream shop. He didn't have any money," she laughs. "It all went from there."



"It's been a good life, and I am thankful for it."

— Anna Mae Feldick Hutchins

cream shop. He didn't have any money," she laughs. "It all went from there."

Lawrence had enlisted in the U.S. Army, and informed Anna Mae shortly after their first date he would be leaving for basic training on Sept. 1.

The couple was clearly smitten, however, and did not forget their short time together while they were separated.

"After his basic training, (Lawrence) came home on furlough and proposed to Anna Mae," says Beth Feldick, Anna Mae's sister-in-law.

It was some time before the pair met at the end of the aisle. Following their engagement, Lawrence

was stationed near Sarebo, Japan.

"The soldiers remembered riding the troop train through Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and saw the craters made by the atomic bombs which had been dropped there," Beth shares.

Lawrence's journey home was not exactly smooth sailing. He contracted malaria in Japan and was hospitalized there for a considerable time.

However, by March of 1948, Lawrence was honorably discharged from the army and returned home to Anna Mae.

The pair was united in marriage on Aug. 14, 1948, at First Baptist Church in Blue Earth.

They settled in Blue Earth, where Lawrence worked as a mechanic for 18 years at Holland Implement, formerly known as Eide Implement. They had two children: Larry Feldick and George Feldick.

The couple fell upon hard times in 1967, when Lawrence was diagnosed with liver cancer. He died a few months later on Jan. 21, 1968, when he was just 42 years old.

Following the tragedy, Anna Mae found work as a stenographer at Frundt & Hibbs Law Firm.

"I had just lost my husband - I wasn't going to go out with anybody," Anna Mae recalls.

However, she met some-

one very special from her past in the fall of 1968.

Harold Hutchins had been a schoolmate of Anna Mae's back in the day.

"I met him when I was three, and he was four," Anna Mae says.

Harold's family relocated to Duluth when he was 13, and the pair lived their separate lives for some time.

It was 1968, practically a lifetime later, when they were reunited.

"He came into the law office all dressed up in a black silk suit and top hat," Anna Mae reminisces. "He picked me up and kissed me in front of all the girls. That sealed the deal."

After that, Harold and Anna Mae did not wait

long to start their new life together. They were married on May 30, 1969, and then re-located to Battle Creek, Michigan where Harold began a career as an engraver for the International Paper Company.

The family explored several different Midwestern locations over the next few years, living for some time in Des Moines, Iowa, and Peoria, Illinois.

Then, Anna Mae and Harold returned to their childhood home in 1987 after Harold's retirement. "Harold had a heart at-

tack, and we decided to retire in Blue Earth where we knew people," she says.

The couple lived there happily for 20 years, but eventually relocated to independent living apartments in Fairmont in 2007.

Later, Harold contracted an illness, and the couple made one last move to Windom. They were able to celebrate their 50th anniversary in May of 2019 before Harold's death on Nov. 18, 2020.

Harold took his final journey to Blue Earth the following May, where he was laid to rest in the Blue Earth cemetery.

Anna Mae, meanwhile, still makes her home in Windom at Sogge Good Samaritan Nursing Home.

She is in disbelief about her approaching birthday, but also could not be more grateful for the past century.

"It's been a good life, and I am thankful for it," Anna Mae says. "I'm so thankful I still have my mind. I've had two wonderful men, and I have done things to help people."

Anna Mae particularly enjoyed teaching Sunday school and music throughout most of her life. She even directed a senior citizens group at a church in Peoria, an experience which she considers "quite an accomplishment."

She will celebrate her birthday next week with four generations of family members, from her sons to her great-great-grandchildren.

"I'm looking forward to that," Anna Mae says.

Her family hopes to collect cards to commemorate the occasion, which may be addressed to Anna Mae Hutchins at Sogge Good Samaritan Nursing Home, 705 Sixth Street, Windom, MN 56101.

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BEA Prom 2022



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The theme of the 2022 Blue Earth Area Prom was "Welcome To Fabulous Vegas." The event was held on Saturday, April 30, and the gymnasium was decorated to resemble the bright lights and other scenes associated with the Nevada 'hotspot.' Senior president Marissa Benz and her escort, Aaron Lorenz, led the grand march followed by senior vice president Kylie Rosenau and Waylen Douglas. Although the weather tried to put a damper on the day's festivities with another bout of rain, those attending the prom enjoyed the celebration. They took time for pictures after the grand march before preparing to hit the dance floor. A Post-Prom Party was held beginning at 11 p.m. and continued until 5 a.m. the following morning.

Staff photos by Kevin Mertens



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