

CRESCENT

Hills • Steen • Beaver Creek

Thursday

August 17, 2017

Volume 23, Issue 33

75¢

**Imagine your
community
without your
community
newspaper.**



**Community newspapers
keep us aware of what is
happening in our local
government, schools and
our community as a whole.**

**Communities need their newspapers
and newspapers need their communities.
Thank you, readers and advertisers, for
supporting news and the community.**

Minnesota Newspaper Week

WHITEOUT

Imagine there's no newspaper

Blank front page makes a point for "Whiteout Day"

What would southwestern Rock County be like without the Crescent? Think of all that would be lost — not the least of which would be an official record of our lives.

Our archives date back to 1893. Even in an era of Google and Wikipedia, we have information — wars, floods, droughts, sickness, fires, elections, victories and losses — about our people that you can't find anywhere else.



Think of that.

Our people and events occasionally make the news in other media outlets, but the Crescent is the only news organization that exclusively covers the people and communities of Hills, Beaver Creek and Steen.

Day after day. Week after week. Year after year.

And we're keenly aware that the work we do today is the official record of tomorrow. It's important that we get it right. That's the difference between news reporters and casual social bloggers. Facebook is fun, but it's not the news.

Our fun feature stories illustrate the color and character of our people, but we also serve as government watchdogs, sitting in on public meetings and writing stories to help our residents make critical decisions and stay informed.

With our cameras and notebooks, it's our job (and privilege) to capture the moments in life that define who we are and share the stories that entertain and inspire our readers.

Without you there is no newspaper. And without a newspaper, there is no you — or record of you, that is.

We carry your stories of struggles won and lost that help us come together as people. Your courageous encounter with disease, the heartache of a home leveled by tornado or destroyed by fire, the joy of a state championship title, the street assessment proposed by the city, or the new housing development being planned down the street.

Without the newspaper acting in an objective role to collect, investigate, interview, verify and share all of this information, our connections as individuals and community would be compromised.

As Minnesota newspapers celebrate 150 years of journalism, this "Whiteout Day" recognizes all that we hold true and important for strong communities.

We pledge our continued effort to find and explain trusted stories, issues and information

that are relevant for your lives. It's what newspapers have been doing for generations. And with your continued support, it's what we will continue to do.

Readers respond:

We asked our community members to share their thoughts on what it would be like to be without the weekly newspaper. Following are some of those responses:

"Without the newspaper I would not know what is going on in other people's lives. It's very interesting and sometimes it's nice to read a newspaper instead of always using technology."
— **Grace Holthaus**, H-BC Senior

"If there was no Crescent our family would feel a big disconnect with our community."
— **Marie and Dan LaRock**, Hills

"Without the newspaper there would be no recorded history of Hills, Beaver Creek and Steen. Where would I get the articles of my grandchildren for my scrapbook?"
— **Marilyn Nelson**, Hills

"Our local newspaper is an integral part of a successful community. It is the foundation by which community members stay informed of local community living. I am proud of our local newspaper."
— **Todd Holthaus**, H-BC superintendent

"I read the Wall Street Journal and Argus Leader on a daily basis along with the Hills Crescent and Rock County Star Herald on Thursdays.

There has been a significant change in the media and where we get our information.

Personally I enjoy it when my kids are in the paper. It's important to see articles on the state of Minnesota.

Being in business the newspaper provides good information. We acknowledge our customers when they are in the newspaper.

I find it amazing how the local paper continues to be a media outlet. It's an old nostalgic habit, but I like to read the newspaper. It's fun.

Hats off to the newspaper. We work together with the local newspaper and we are very fortunate to have the Crescent. John Rittenhouse is a great sports writer.

— **Tim Plimpton**, Exchange State Bank president

Today free press is more important than ever

In Minnesota we understand the importance of a free press. It's hard to forget in our state — Minnesotans are among the most engaged citizens in the country. Last year we again ranked first in the nation in voter turnout. Minnesotans volunteer at the second highest rate in the country. And we usually look to our local newspapers as the first stop for the information we need.

In my house growing up, it was impossible to forget the importance of a free press. My dad was a journalist.

As a reporter and a columnist, my dad, Jim Klobuchar, covered it all. On the night of the presidential election in 1960, as a young stringer for the Associated Press, he was among the first in the country — if not *the* first — to call the race for President John F. Kennedy.

He was fearless, whether it was reporting from Moscow with a Soviet Intourist guide assigned to him at all times or taking tear gas covering protests outside of a political convention. Digging for the truth was his job. Finding the truth made it all worth it.

From children with cancer to Minnesota veterans, he covered the stories of every day heroes, too. He believed that all stories needed to be told, and that by sharing these stories, we deepen our



understanding of one another and become more united as a country.

So, from a very young age, I understood the important role the press has played in our democracy. And today I understand a free press is as important as ever.

Minnesota reporters have been on the frontlines of major stories since the founding of our first newspaper in 1849. They've covered good times and bad. From enlisting with the Union in the Civil War, as *Hastings Democrat* publisher Charles P. Adams did in 1861, to tireless investigating and reporting on the abduction of Jacob Wetterling, Minnesota journalists have always been committed to telling our stories.

Over the past few months, we have heard about "alternative facts." We have heard an administration official suggest that the press should "keep its mouth shut." And we have even seen efforts to limit journalists' access to elected officials.

None of this is acceptable.

Our founders enshrined freedom of the press in our Constitution for a reason. Thomas Jefferson said that our first objective as a nation should be to leave open "all avenues to truth," and that the most effective way of doing that is through "the freedom of the press."

Today, Minnesota reporters continue their dogged pursuit of the truth day after day, story after story. That reporting is on display all across Minnesota, and the Minnesota Newspaper Association has played a big part in supporting Minnesota reporters for 150 years now.

From Deborah Howell, who oversaw the Pioneer Press's first Pulitzer Prize, to Mark Kellogg, the first Associated Press reporter to die in the line of duty, reporters all across our state are carrying forward a remarkable legacy.

I'm determined to protect journalists and defend freedom of the press. My dad expects me to. The oath I took to "support and defend the Constitution" demands that I do.

If there were no news reported by newspapers...



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

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Hills City Council says no chickens in city limits

By Glenda McGaffee

At the Hills City Council meeting Tuesday, Aug. 8, the issue of chickens in the city limits was discussed.

Andrea Swenson at 201 West 2nd Street attended the meeting. "I have eight chickens in our garage and we want to keep them," she said. "They are pets for my children."

City Ordinance Section 9.21, Subdivision 1 defines "Farm Animals" as cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats, swine, ponies, ducks, geese, turkeys, chickens, guinea hens and honeybees.

It states, "It is unlawful for any person to keep or harbor these animals in city limits."

The council informed Swenson she would have to get rid of her chickens.

The council approved the following building permits at the Aug. 8 meeting:

- Dan and Ellen Fick at 300 West 1st Street to remove existing rock along east side of property and replace with new concrete.

- Paul and Sherri Kitchenmaster at 500 South Elizabeth Avenue renewal of the building permit they requested last May to remove the landscaping rock in front of their home and replace with new cement. They'll also replace a small portion of cement sidewalk and steps in the front of their home.

- Stacen and Donna Burgers at 128 South Central Avenue for a new 12-by-12-foot concrete pad to be poured on the north side of their property for a dog kennel.

- Jonathan Voss at 400 South Central Avenue for new steel roof on his house.

In other issues the council:

- renewed liquor licenses for Hidden Hills Café and Tavern and Willie's Bar, provided all state and insurance requirements are met.

- discussed that Saturday, Sept. 16, is Fall Junk Day and two roll-offs will be at the city shop. Appliances will be picked-up at the curb for a \$15 fee.



Glenda McGaffee photo/0817 lemonade stand

Young entrepreneurs

During an Elbers Auction Service sale Thursday, Aug. 10, at the Hills American Legion, young entrepreneurs use the opportunity to earn money selling lemonade to thirsty people attending the auction. They are (front, from left) Alexis Gardner-Swenson, Hailee Gehrke, (back) Kadence Rozeboom and Taylor Gehrke.

Spykerboer begins work at Hills Post Office

By Glenda McGaffee

Rebecca (Becca) Spykerboer, Steen, is the new post office worker in Hills and began her duties Friday, Aug. 11.

Spykerboer lives on an acreage near Steen with her husband, Derek, and their 4-month-old daughter Hailey.

"I am excited about my new position and happy to be working in Hills," Spykerboer said.

"I can spend more time with my daughter by not commuting as far to work."

Spykerboer's parents are Holly and Terry Metzler, Hills.

The post office is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturdays.



Glenda McGaffee photo/0817 Spykerboer Becca Spykerboer started Aug. 11 at the Hills Post Office.

Public input sought for comprehensive water plan

By Mavis Fodness

Rock County residents can help decide where state water quality dollars should be spent by attending two public meetings next week.

The meetings — Tuesday, Aug. 22, and Wednesday, Aug. 23, — are part of the One Watershed-One Plan (1W1P) Initiative for the six-county area that includes Rock County.

Informal votes at each of the public meetings will help target and prioritize concerns for a collaborative water plan.

Doug Bos of the Rock County Land Management Office co-chairs the 1W1P work group to draft a collaborative plan.

"Water doesn't stop at the county line or isn't solely defined by county lines," he said. "By planning our actions to cover

the whole drainage area of a watershed, we can better focus our efforts to effectively improve water quality."

Rock County Soil and Water Conservation District and Land Management Office are working with conservation and watershed officials in Pipestone, Lincoln, Murray, Nobles and Jackson counties to develop one strategic plan. They began meeting last fall.

Bos said each of the public meetings begins with a 20-minute introduction followed by self-guided resource tables specific to various conservation topics.

"We are planning it as an interactive-type meeting," Bos said.

After learning about the

Water plan/cont. page 4

weather
REPORT



AUG. 6 THROUGH AUG. 12 WEATHER

High temperature for the week:	82	Rain amount for the week:	0.83 inches
Low temperature for the week:	53	Rain total for August:	0.92 inches
Average temperature for the week:	68		

507-283-2333
www.hillscrest.com
hceditor@star-herald.com

Licensing centers slowly return to business as usual

By Mavis Fodness

Nearly a month after the state's Driver and Vehicle Services updated its computer mainframe, local residents are still waiting for business to return to normal.

"We are at about 20 percent functionality," said Rock County's Auditor-Treasurer Ashley Kurtz last week. "With all the different types of transactions, the system needs to be able to process with 100 percent functionality."

The upgrades took place July 17-24 at each of the state's 300 motor vehicle offices. Each office experienced delays in service after the upgrades were completed.

The upgrades replaced the 30-year-old Minnesota Licensing and Registration System (MN-LARS), according to the state's Department of Public Safety website.

Locally that meant the license plate tab renewals, title transfers, new plates and other motor vehicle transactions were taking longer than usual to complete.

The new computer upgrade did not affect the driver's license operations.

Pete Connell is the title clerk with Papik Motors, Luverne. He said the timeline changed significantly after the upgrade.

"Normally it would take only a day. Now it takes almost two weeks," he said.

Transactions involving another state are taking even longer to be accepted into the statewide

computersystem, forcing vehicle owners to contact the dealership for temporary permit extensions.

Meg Nelson with the Rock County Deputy Registrar Office said working through the new system errors is taking time.

"It's been real frustrating," she said. "I want to do my job but can't."

Co-worker David Wrigg said the new system has required re-entering information more than once.

He said he had to "start from scratch" on several motor vehicle applications after the new system issued error messages indicating information was not saved.

Calls to state officials has yielded some mainframe fixes, but not all the errors have been eliminated and local offices are not functioning at 100 percent.

"As long as people have patience and understanding, it will be OK," Nelson said. "In the last week, we have come a long way."

Other state Department of Public Service divisions such as the state patrol and local law enforcement have been notified of the driver and vehicle services delays.

Vehicle tabs with a July renewal date have been extended until Aug. 31. Other vehicle transactions such as temporary permits have also received extended deadlines.

For more information about possible delays, contact the local deputy registrar office at 507-283-5024.



Glenda McGaffee photo/0810 Sandbulte

Pictured are Jody (left) and Jessica Sandbulte Friday, July 14, at Lynch Arena.

Jessica Sandbulte enjoys barrel racing

By Glenda McGaffee

At the young age of 8 Jessica Sandbulte started riding horses, participating in barrel racing and pole bending events at Lynch Arena in rural Larchwood, Iowa, where she is point leader.

Sandbulte also competes in Salem, Vermillion, Huron, Lennox and Parker, South Dakota.

Jessica said she learned her love of horses from her mother, Jody, who for seven years trained Peruvian Paso Spanish horses. Jody announces at the rodeo events at Lynch Arena and

keeps track of times and places of the participants.

Jessica created the Excel computer program used at Lynch Arena to record the participants in the rodeo events.

Jessica graduated from Hills-Beaver Creek in 2014 and attends the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

This summer along with participating in rodeo events, Sandbulte is employed at the Exchange State Bank in Hills.

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Water plan/continued from page 3

various conservation areas, participants will vote on which area is the most important to them.

The informal vote will help planners focus on the top environmental concerns for a joint plan within the Missouri River Basin watershed that includes all of Rock County.

In 2015 the state's Board of Water and Soil Resources began working with local soil and water conservation districts to develop a single water management plan by watersheds, replacing water plans developed by individual counties.

The state defines a water-

shed as an area of land where water drains into a single source such as a river, stream or lake.

The Missouri River Basin group has worked with a consultant to prioritize, target and implement various conservation measures within the watershed area to improve water quality.

The collaborative plan could garner more dollars locally to implement water quality improvement practices.

Bos said previous improvements required individual counties to apply for state grants. Each county would compete for

a limited amount of dollars.

"We don't always get money to this corner of the state," Bos said.

Under the collaborative water plan the area could receive more grant dollars from the state's Clean Water Legacy Fund.

The first public meeting will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 22, at the Hickory Lodge, 2015 N. Humiston Ave., Worthington.

The second meeting will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 23, at the Pipestone County Emergency Services building at 811 Fifth St. SE in Pipestone.



117 S WATER, HILLS

Attractive bungalow located in Hills, MN. The property is near the public school system on a large beautifully landscaped yard. The home features two bedrooms, with some rooms having hardwood flooring. The main floor bathroom was previously renovated with a step in shower. The kitchen has an eat-in area and ample cabinetry space for all your needs. The lower level has a finished bedroom with, shower/sink/toilet area. There is an oversized detached single garage. Enjoy peaceful living in this tranquil setting, check it out today.



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FAMILY PICNIC  Loaded hotdogs, chips, cookies and beverages

Root Beer Floats with Tuff Campus Council, "Spirit" the Pony of Rock Ranch, Carnival Games, Popcorn Stand.

Music by Rod Scholten

RSVP with Car Show Entries to 962.3275

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Tuff News

By Shateen Lichter

Greetings from the Tuff Memorial Home.

We added a little fun to our regularly scheduled Monday Bingo game with the theme Sturgis. Many residents enthusiastically wore black and white bandanas and road sign stickers to dress the part. The blackout winner, Henrietta Haak, won the highly sought-after Harley that day! We completed the afternoon with Antifreeze (blue Hi-C) and Motor Oil (grape juice) to drink and ate Spare Tires (Oreos).

Many residents eagerly shucked sweet corn Wednesday morning and enjoyed it for dinner Thursday at noon. We are so grateful to Mark Sandager for sharing part of his harvest with us. It was "the best I've had in a long time" and "absolutely delicious!" Many families have been bringing in their garden goods, including cucumbers from Linda Wenzel and Wayne Beyenhoff, and we are grateful and thankful to all of you for sharing.

That afternoon we enjoyed a musical performance by Bob LaRoy and Bible reading with Nancy after coffee.

The Jasper WELCA sponsored Bingo on Thursday. This wonderful group of women brought an abundance of Bingo prizes and contributed toward the banana splits that afternoon. We enjoyed their visit and are appreciative of their dedication to the Tuff Memorial Home. That afternoon were Catholic services with Father Tom.

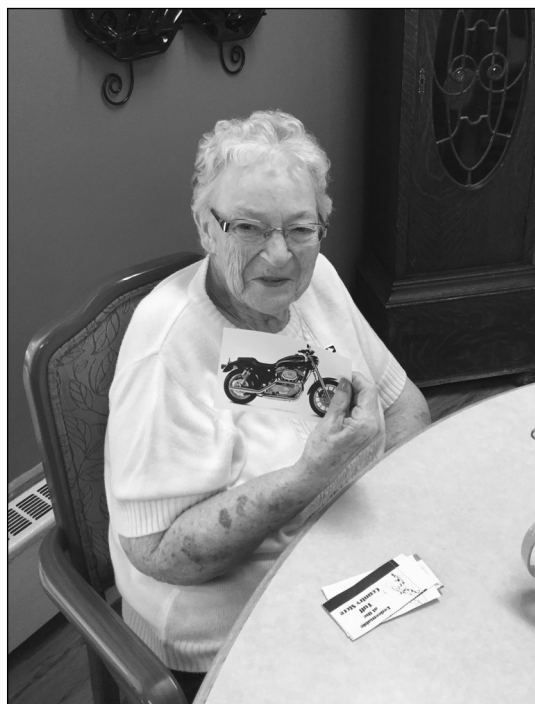
We started out Friday morning with Gerobics and a round of Scategories. At an Apron Fashion Show that afternoon we heard a reading on "Mother's Apron," remembered what our mother's and grandmother's aprons looked like, thought about their many uses and, of



Members of the Jasper Women of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) pose with Mavis Grage after sponsoring "Bingo and Banana Splits" Thursday afternoon.

course, admired a variety of aprons.

Aprons were brought in by Mary Crawford, Linda Wenzel, Glenda McGaffee, Grace Miller and Gert Rozeboom. Mary's grandchildren and Olivia and Emma Deelstra modeled the aprons for us. We also enjoyed seeing the aprons that residents designed earlier this month. A big thank-you to everyone who brought aprons in and modeled them for us.



Photos from left: Grace Miller shares an apron that was her mother's during Friday's Apron Fashion Show.



Henrietta Haak shows off the "Harley" motorcycle she won at Sturgis Bingo.



Lois Loge enjoys shucking sweet corn Wednesday afternoon.

Saturday activities included enjoying fresh muffins right out of the oven and reminiscing over button jars. Fling a Ring was played that afternoon.

We would like to extend our sympathies to the family of Otto Houg. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in the days ahead.

We would like to invite you to the Annual Tuff Car Show and Picnic from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 22. If you have a car you would like to enter, please call or email slichter@tuffmemorialhome.com with your entry by

Aug. 20. Also featured is music with Rod Scholten, a root beer float fundraiser with the Tuff Campus Council, an appearance from "Spirit the Pony" of Rock Ranch as well as a variety of carnival games. We look forward to you joining us for this end-of-summer get-together.

Looking ahead this week:

Thursday, Aug. 17: 10 a.m. Quilt Club; 2:30 p.m. Bingo.

Friday, Aug. 18: 10 a.m. Manicures.

Saturday, Aug. 19: 9:30 a.m. Reminiscing: The Year

Was ...

Sunday, Aug. 20: 9 a.m. Worship.

Monday, Aug. 21: 2:30 p.m. Bingo.

Tuesday, Aug. 22: 2:30 p.m. Bible Study; 5 p.m. Car Show & Family Picnic.

Wednesday, Aug. 23: 2:30 p.m. Tanzania Presentation.

We would also like to wish a happy birthday to residents Jim Leenderts on Aug. 17 and Grace Miller on Aug. 19.

We hope you have a great day!



WEEKLY SPORTS NEWS



Beaver Creek fastpitch state champions

The Beaver Creek fastpitch softball team took first place in the Class C Minnesota Sports Federation game played in Mankato on Sunday, Aug. 13. Sixteen teams participated in the tournament Aug. 11-13. The final score of the championship game was Beaver Creek 7, Castle Rock 5. Pictured are the Beaver Creek Fastpitch Softball Team members (front, from left) Rex Metzger, Eric Harnack, Braden Ellingson, Easton Harnack, Chris Harnack, Colton Bass, Tyler Bush, Karic Wiertzema, (back) Caleb Ellingson, Wade Jellema, Tyson Metzger, Chad Rauk, Kale Wiertzema and Brian Bennett.

H-BC welcomes new volleyball coach

By John Rittenhouse

The 2017 fall sports season brings a coaching change at Hills-Beaver Creek High School.

Susan Bork, who compiled a 48-29 record over the past three seasons and led the Patriot volleyball team to its first Red Rock Conference championship last fall, has accepted the head coaching position at Luverne this year.

Replacing Bork is Meghan (Leuthold) Zylstra, who served as a varsity volleyball assistant coach at H-BC the last four seasons.

Zylstra is a 2013 H-BC graduate who played three years of varsity volleyball during her high school years.

She also played basketball and participated in track at H-BC.

She attended the University of Sioux Falls after leaving H-BC and obtained a degree in elementary education in 2016.

Zylstra worked as a kindergarten teacher at Southwest Christian in Edgerton the last school year.



She was hired to be a second-grade teacher at H-BC's Elementary School in Beaver

Creek, where she currently resides with her husband, Chris. Zylstra is looking forward to

becoming a head coach for the first time in 2017.

"I'm super excited about this opportunity," she said.

"We did lose some key players from last year, but we also have a good group of girls coming back. I know these girls very well and they know me, so I think we will work well together."

Zylstra realizes it might be tough to match what happened during H-BC's magical 21-3 campaign from one year ago this fall, but she believes the Patriots have the potential to be a strong team in 2017.

"It would be hard to do what we did in Suzie's last year, so I think our goal will be to place among the top three teams in our conference and that's what we'll be looking to do," she said.

"I've been telling the girls that this will be my first year (as head coach), but I'm all in with them and with what they want to accomplish. I hope they will be all in with me."

Deer hunters have additional opportunities this fall

Licenses available now; deadline to apply for antlerless permit is Sept. 7

Additional deer hunting opportunities will be available this fall, thanks to a series of mild winters and conservative hunting regulations.

According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, this has resulted in rebounding deer populations across the state.

Hunters can buy deer licenses and apply to the lottery for antlerless deer permits now.

The deadline to apply for the antlerless permit lottery is Thursday, Sept. 7.

Archery deer season opens Saturday, Sept. 16, and firearms deer season opens Saturday, Nov. 4.

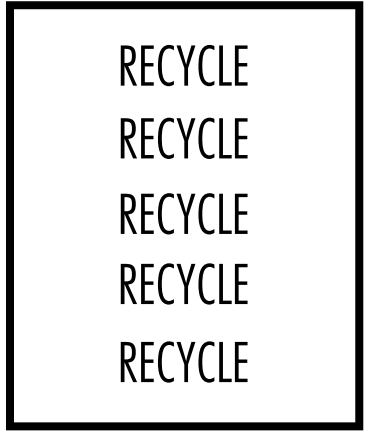
The regulations for each of Minnesota's 130 deer permit areas are set to manage deer populations toward goals established for each area.

Buying a license

All hunters who purchase licenses by Sept. 7 are automatically entered into the lottery if they declare a lottery deer permit area when they buy their license. Those who do not wish to harvest an antlerless deer are encouraged to purchase their license after the lottery deadline.

Hunters may apply using both their firearm and muzzleloader licenses. If hunters are selected for both licenses, they must select the one season in which they want to shoot an antlerless deer.

Deer hunting licenses, lottery applications and special hunt applications are available at any DNR license agent, by telephone at 888-646-6367 or online at mndnr.gov/buyalicense. Lottery winners will be notified in October.





Close the Gate

By Nancy Kraayenhof

No mistakes

I know a lot of people, but I've come to realize the most complete people I know are those who have been beaten back by life. They have known suffering, have struggled greatly and have lost much. Somehow they found their way out of the depths of all this despair and have managed to keep an optimistic understanding of their existence. They appreciate what they have even if it's what they have left after so much loss. They have learned the meaning of grace and live by it.

Complete folk have it all together and know that life is a running total of every choice you make. You are responsible for every thought you think just as much as every single action you take. Every word, every deed, everything done and, indeed, everything left undone affects your life and touches hundreds of other lives.

I know we have all heard it a thousand times or more but at the end of this line it really doesn't matter what kind of house you lived in or what kind

of car you drove. What matters is how you lived.

I think everyone has a destination — a purpose, if you will. Throughout life, we each get individual clues to remind us and gently shove us in the right direction. If we stay focused we learn our lessons and find our way.

Can there be any real joy without hardship? Can we truly appreciate this life if we never have to leave it behind? If not for the feeling of hate, would we recognize the feeling of love?

We can either hang on to negativity, blaming others for everything, or we can forgive, experience healing and love.

Just like individuals, can a society fix anything by sitting by, griping and complaining about the troubles that exist? If no one has the courage to stand up and do something about it, does anything get repaired?

Those who have known no trouble don't get the chance to pass the tests that we are sent to earth to learn. Those who have learned to roll with the punches, rather than to fear, fight and try to avoid them,

become our teachers about life and how to live it.

Elisabeth Kubler-Roth wrote, "People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within."

I have a friend who has recently experienced the terrible, sudden loss of her spouse, the father of their daughter and their main source of income all in one fell swoop by his poor choices. It is worse than if he had suddenly died because it is a living death of his choosing that affects her, their daughter and everything he had touched.

It has only been a short time and I see her rising above it already. Rather than crumpling into a pity permeated pile waiting to be swallowed up by aftershocks, she has her head up, her back straight and she is hanging on to what she has left with both hands. She will come out of this stronger and wiser. Her courage is inspiring to me.

Somewhere in the silence of my being, I feel that everything in this life has a purpose. It's difficult to think and even harder to put down on paper, but perhaps the trouble my friend is experiencing is a gift (in a horrible disguise) with a very, very, very specific purpose for her journey.

There are no mistakes or coincidences. Guilt covers everything like a heavy blanket that is hard, but not impossible, to overcome. All events are blessings with lessons to be learned from.

We need to teach the next generation of children from Day 1 that they are responsible for their lives. Free choice is mankind's greatest gift, but also its greatest curse. We can make our choices built from love or from fear.

I've had my share of trouble, I've still got plenty on my plate,

But every obstacle, yes, everyone; has helped me learn to close the gate.

Cleverly Disguised as a Responsible Adult, I'm Nancy Kraayenhof. ©2017

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Valley Springs, S.D.
igtwlb@knology.net
Bill Bates, Pastor
Sundays: 9 a.m. Worship. 10 a.m. Fellowship. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

Valley Springs Reformed Church
701 Sunnyside Ave.
Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. 605-757-6640
Norman Bouwens, Pastor
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School.

First Presbyterian Church
201 S. 3rd St. P.O. Box 73
Beaver Creek
Ph. 507-935-5025
Email: lori.firstpres@gmail.com
Worship Leader Michael Blank
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. 10:30 a.m. Sunday School.

First Lutheran Church
Intern Pastor Laura Phillips
300 Maple St.
Valley Springs, S.D.
Ph. 605-757-6662
firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Thursday, Aug. 17: 7:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting at Palisade Lutheran.
Sunday, Aug. 20: 10 a.m. Joint Parish Worship.

Palisade Lutheran Church
Intern Pastor Laura Phillips

211 121st St. Garretson, S.D.
Ph. 507-597-6257
firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Thursday, Aug. 17: 7:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting at Palisade Lutheran.
Sunday, Aug. 20: 10 a.m. Joint Parish Worship at First Lutheran.
Thursday, Aug. 24: 7:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting.

Steen Reformed Church
112 W. Church Ave. Steen
Ph. 855-2336
Jeremy Wiersema, Pastor
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Worship; service broadcast on KQAD. 10:45 a.m. Sunday School. 6 p.m. Youth Group. Evening worship at 6 p.m. first and third Sundays. Wednesdays: 7 p.m. Midweek.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pastor Maggie Berndt-Dreyer
112 N. Main St., Hills
Ph. 962-3270
e-mail: bethlehempluth@alliance com.net
Saturday, Aug. 19: 10 a.m. to noon Westphal/ Stroeh bridal shower.
Sunday, Aug. 20: 9 a.m. Worship at Tuff Chapel. 10 a.m. Worship with Communion at Bethlehem.
Tuesday, Aug. 22: 9 a.m. Quilting. 6 p.m. Continuing Vision Meeting and Potluck.

Hills United Reformed Church
410 E. Central Ave., Hills
Office Ph. 962-3254
e-mail: hillsurc@alliancecom.net
Alan Camarigg, Pastor
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship Services.

Daughter and son-in-law of local couple involved in motorcycle accident

By Glenda McGaffee

Samantha and Steve Jones, Auburn, Nebraska, were involved in a motorcycle accident near Lincoln, Nebraska, Aug. 4.

They are the daughter and son-in-law of Hills residents LN and Bob Metzler.

"They were on their way to attend a family wedding in Sturgis, South Dakota, and lost control of their motorcycle," LN Metzler said.

"Fortunately they were wearing their helmets. Their two daughters, Erica and Jessica, were in a car behind them. Samantha's left leg has a compound fracture, and she has a broken arm and road rash on her arm. Steve has a shattered ankle, broken shoulder and wrist, concussion, two collapsed lungs, his liver is lacerated and his spleen has been removed."

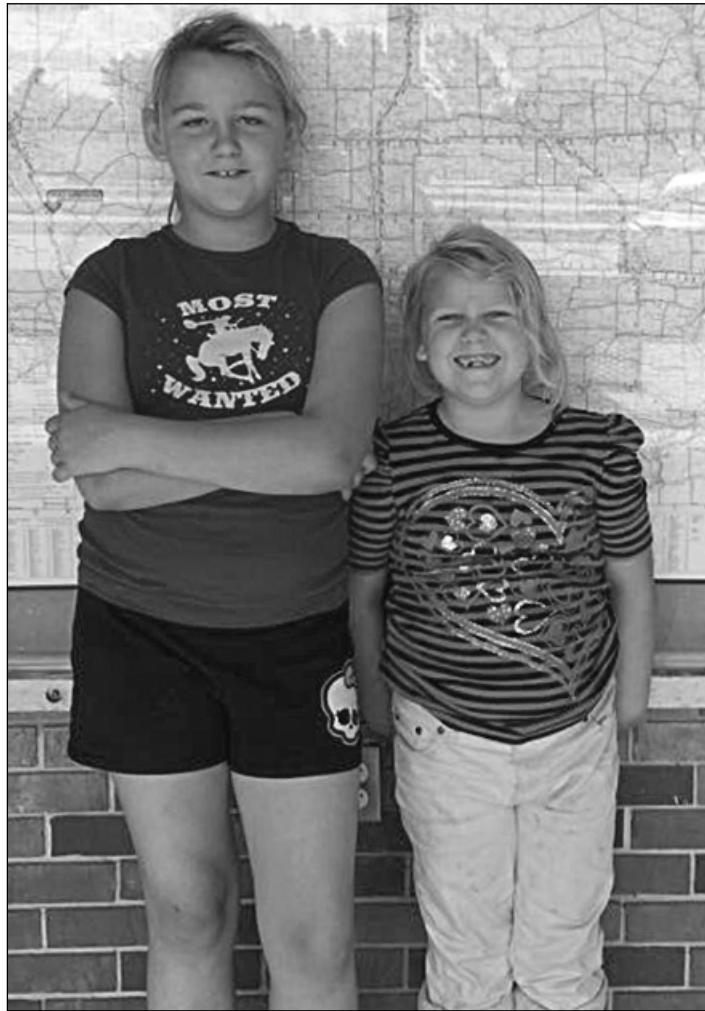
Samantha has been discharged and Steve remains in the hospital undergoing therapy.

The couple has a long road ahead, LN said.

Their daughters returned to Hills with their grandparents and will remain in Hills to attend school.

Due to the fact that they came with very little clothing, the community is asked to donate clothes that would fit the girls and bring items to Marilyn Nelson's garage at 105 North Water Avenue in Hills.

The clothing can be placed



Jessica Jones (left) and Erica Jones are in Hills with their grandparents while their parents recover from their injuries.

in the blue plastic container. The sizes are girl's pants 10 and 14-16, shirts 10-12 and medium and shoes size 2 and 6. They will also need winter

coats, snow pants and boots.

LN Metzler said, "This town is wonderful and I have never lived in a place like this."

community events

Meetings

Parkinson's Support Group will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, in St. John Lutheran Church for a program explaining Rock Steady Boxing.

MS Support Group will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, at Southwest Health and Human Services in Luverne. All persons with MS, family and friends are invited. For info call 283-2069 or 283-2964.

Narcotics Anonymous will meet every Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Steen Reformed Church. Contact Robert for more information 507-329-2642.

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Mondays in the United Methodist Church.

Narcotics Anonymous meets at 7 p.m. Fridays and for basic text study at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the basement of St. Catherine Catholic Rectory, 203 E. Brown St., Luverne. Use east door. For more information call 507-220-0137.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays in the United Methodist Church, Luverne. Call 605-321-4324.

Road closure from Manley to I-90

County Highway 17 (20th Avenue) between Manley and I-90 is closed for the construction of a new bridge over the Beaver Creek. The project will take 10-14 weeks. Motorists should use County Highway 4 to Manley during the closure. Call 507-283-5010 with questions.

Food ministry Aug. 17

New Life Celebration Church monthly food ministry will be from 5 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, in the Luverne Senior Center for those having trouble putting food on the table.

Children are asked to wait outside. Call 283-4366.

'Sounds of Strings' at Hinky Aug. 17

Harold Tilstra will perform "Sounds of Strings" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, at the Hinky House.

A reception will follow. Freewill donations are appreciated. The Victorian home is also open from 2-4 p.m. Thursdays during the summer.

Ben Clare

Ice Cream Social

Ben Clare United Methodist Church will host their Ice Cream Social from 5:30-7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, at the church at 26762 Ben Clare Ave., rural Valley Springs, South Dakota.

The menu includes pork loin sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad, a variety of chips, beverages and pie and ice cream.

A freewill offering will be accepted. Proceeds support UMW and UMM projects.

Mammals of the Mounds Aug. 18

Learn about the tracks and trails of common mammals at Blue Mounds State Park. Meet at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 18, in the amphitheater at Blue Mounds State Park. Bring a camp chair or blanket.

Quarry hike Aug. 19

Learn the history behind man's relationship with the rocks of Blue Mounds with a slow-paced hike of less than a mile with some rocky areas and stepping down required.

This guided tour will explore the Historic Quarry Trail on the south end of the park. Meet at the climbers' parking lot, (second parking lot on County Road 8) at 10 a.m. Aug. 19.

Build a Bison: Hooves to Horns on Aug. 25

Help a naturalist "build" a bison by transforming an audience member through dress-up. This program is for youth of all ages to learn the anatomy of a bison and what makes this animal perfect for the prairie. Meet at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25, in the amphitheater at Blue Mounds State Park. Bring a chair or blanket.

Prowling the Prairie Aug. 26

Join a park naturalist for a hike across the prairie to look for tracks, trails and other signs of wildlife. This two-mile hike will take visitors out to the bison viewing area and back. Meet at the visitor's center parking lot at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26.

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State Sen. Bill Weber receives CGMC Legislator of Distinction Award

State Sen. Bill Weber was recognized by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) Aug. 3 during the Coalition's three-day summer conference in Fergus Falls for his positive impact on the state's tax policy.

Sen. Weber, a Republican from Luverne, is serving his second term in the Minnesota Senate. The award is given to legislators who helped advance CGMC's policy during the preceding session.

In the 2017 legislative ses-

sion, Sen. Weber served as the chief author of CGMC-supported legislation to increase Local Government Aid (LGA) funding to bring the program back up to its 2002 benchmark.

His strong leadership and persistent advocacy helped to ultimately secure a \$15 million LGA boost in the final tax bill, which will help cities across the state pay for essential services and important amenities.

"As a former mayor, Sen. Weber is keenly aware of the key

role LGA plays in keeping rural communities strong," said Sara Carlson, mayor of Alexandria and president of the CGMC. "By serving as chief author of four LGA legislation, he demonstrated a strong commitment to improving Greater Minnesota cities."

CGMC is a nonprofit, non-partisan advocacy organization representing 90 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

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Peekin' in the Past

10 years ago (2007)

•Marlon Top, Steen, and his adopted daughter, Sun Mee, recently traveled to Seoul, South Korea, to meet Sun Mee's biological mother.

The two went with a group of adopted children and their parents from across the nation. Marlon had always left the possibility open for them to meet, but he wanted to wait until Sun Mee was 16 so she could enjoy it.

25 years ago (1992)

•When the June 16 tornado whipped through Chandler and Lake Wilson area, it also created havoc with the Southwest Minnesota Telecommunications system. But according to Greg Spath, Hills-Beaver Creek will be able to broadcast Spanish I and II and physics.

In jeopardy, however, is receiving human anatomy. This class was taught from Chandler. However, Chandler and Lake Wilson students and teachers were forced to attend school in Slayton this year due to the storm. The newly paired school has been renamed Murray County Central.

50 years ago (1967)

•Friday, August 18, residents of the Steen Community will be hosts at the Hinkly Museum in Luverne. Open house will be from 2 to 5 p.m. and all residents of the county are invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. John Rozeboom are the oldest couple living in Steen. If they are feeling well enough, they will be the guests of honor that day. They were born in the Netherlands 87 years ago and married in 1901, which means they have enjoyed 66 years together. They moved to Steen from Sioux County, Iowa, in 1917 to a farm northwest of Steen. They retired in 1945 and have been living in Steen since that time.

75 years ago (1942)

•Wheat can be purchased in Rock County during August for 74c a bushel for feed, R.C. Juhl, county AA chairman, announced today.

All sales of wheat will be on a whole wheat basis and the purchaser must use it for feeding purposes. The price is based on 85 percent of estimated corn parity and is a part of the government's plan to feed 125 million bushels of wheat in order to maintain livestock and poultry production, save transportation, and to relieve the critical grain storage situation.

100 years ago (1917)

•The firm of Steensen & Sundal which for so many years has been associated with the building up and development of our little city, is today only a matter of history. Last Saturday evening saw the transfer, whereby J.C. Steensen withdrew from the firm, leaving his partner, T. T. Sundal sole owner and manager.

A little history in connection with this popular firm that is now no more, would not be amiss at this time. Mr. Sundal was a stranger in Hills eighteen years ago, when he hired out to Mr. Steensen, coming here from Baltic, S.D., and for six years continued in his employ. Mr. Sundal then held interest in the drug store, and up til last Saturday has been a member of the other business interests that demanded much of his time in the state of Washington, Mr. Steensen in 1908 turned over the active management of the store to Mr. Sundal and gave his entire time to his interests in the west. The continued success of our drug store has been due to the enterprising and wide-awake proprietor, Mr. Sundal, who is ever ready to pull off his coat and jump into any proposition with both hands.

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Sweet corn for conventions

Members of the Hills United Reformed Church Youth Group in grades 9-12 attend a convention every year, and money earned from the sale of sweet corn is used to pay for travel expenses. This year Dalton Vis, Leah Buys, Tess Velgersdyk and Arie Van Dyken attended the convention at Biola University in LaMirada, California, July 17-21. Pictured Friday, Aug. 11, are (from left) Grace Buys, Leah Buys, Case Van Dyken, Arie Van Dyken and Levi Van Dyken. The youth group members are selling sweet corn at Orv's Station in Hills.

Glenda McGaffee photo/0817 sweet corn



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I-90 bridge project in Rock County: Travel information moves from Beaver Creek to Adrian rest area

Motorists are advised to pay close attention on Interstate 90 from the South Dakota border through the Beaver Creek area as traffic changes are made to accommodate the progress on the bridge work.

The Travel Information Center at Beaver Creek is now closed for about two months. However, travel information will be provided at the Adrian eastbound rest area during the closure.

Traffic will continue to be reduced to two-way on two lanes until October when crews have completed their work on top of the bridges. Motorists are advised to use caution in the work zone and watch for workers, equipment and traffic control devices.

The westbound Rock County Road 4 ramp is expected to re-open in about two weeks at which time the eastbound County Road 4 ramp will close. Watch for signing.

The project includes repairing four bridges and replacing lighting and high-tension median cable.

PCI Roads, LLC has been awarded the project with a bid of \$6,791,565.

Information about I-90 projects in southwestern Minnesota can be found at www.dot.state.mn.us/d7/projects/I90preserve.

For updated road condition information, call 511 or visit www.511mn.org.

Traffic restrictions eased on I-90 Luverne to Magnolia next week

Interstate 90 from Luverne to Magnolia will be open to four lanes midweek next week (around Aug. 23) and the westbound ramp at Magnolia will open as the concrete repair and shoulder paving is completed.

Motorists need to continue to be aware of workers in the area as the project also includes upgrading the lighting system with LED lights at Highway 75 in Luverne and adding a new LED lighting system at Rock County Road 3 at Magnolia.

Duininck Inc. was awarded the project with a bid of \$2,532,842.

Information about I-90 projects in southwestern Minnesota can be found at www.dot.state.mn.us/d7/projects/I90preserve.

For updated road condition information, call 511 or visit www.511mn.org.

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legal notice

Corporate Dissolution Vetch Insurance Agency Inc.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DISSOLVE VETCH INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. BY ITS DIRECTORS AND SHAREHOLDERS AND NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS.

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ROCK TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, CREDITORS, AND CLAIMANTS: Notice is hereby given that Vetch Insurance Agency, Inc. is in the process of dissolving. A notice of intent to dissolve has been filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota dated August 7, 2017. Notice is hereby further given that ALL CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS having claims against said corporation are required to present that same, in writing, to Jennifer L. Eisma-Reinke, as the legal representative of said corporation, within ninety (90) days after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

Dated: August 7, 2017 Jennifer L. Eisma-Reinke Eisma & Eisma Attorneys at Law 130 East Main, P.O. Box 625 Luverne, MN 56156 I.D. # 389457

(08-17, 08-24, 08-31, 09-07)



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Large advertisement for Hills Crescent with text: 'Do you have town news? Interesting history about the Hills, Beaver Creek, Steen area? Call Glenda. 962-3697'. Large 'CRESCENT' logo and 'Hills • Steen • Beaver Creek' text.

Large advertisement for 'Facts matter' with background text collage. Main text: 'Facts matter. Real news matters. Our Founding Fathers knew knowledge was power when they made freedom of speech our First Amendment. Now more than ever, journalism matters. Facts matter. Real news matters.' Includes 'CRESCENT Hills • Steen • Beaver Creek' logo.