

Scott SCENE

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The mission of Scott County is to advance safe, healthy, and livable communities through citizen-focused services.

February/March 2018



Conservation leaders
SWCD honors Krueger Dairy for conservation efforts
Page 8



Future Leaders event
Youth will learn about County government April 13
Page 14

Managing County assets
GIS helps staff identify, catalog, assess, track, maintain assets
Pages 16



2018 Tree Order Form
Wide variety of trees, shrubs available for spring planting
See insert



The Scott County Readmobile is ready to hit the road. Library staff will be using it to promote early literacy efforts.

Readmobile to hit streets, help families with literacy

Classrooms can come in a variety of styles and sizes, but the new Scott County Library Readmobile has a unique feature – it comes on wheels.

The Readmobile is an early learning space designed to enable programs that prepare children for reading to be delivered at convenient locations throughout the County. Inside the Readmobile, parents and caregivers can actively learn ways to interact with their children that will support early literacy development.

“The library is a proud and committed partner in supporting families and caregivers as they give their children opportunities for healthy and successful lives,” said Jacob Grussing, Scott County Library Director. He added that the Readmobile supports the County’s goal of increasing the number of children reading at grade level by third grade.

There will be no fees or charges associated with using the Readmobile. At each visit, residents will have access to trained staff, reading programs, and a collection of board

books, picture books, easy readers, and kits.

Early literacy efforts have already been taking place at local libraries, but the Readmobile will expand opportunities. “In the past two years as the Youth Services Librarian at Savage, I’ve had a great time developing relationships with families as they work on raising readers through our baby and toddler classes,” said Ally Addison, one of the staff who will be operating the Readmobile. “The best aspect of the Readmobile is the fact that it is mobile and it will travel around the County. This is an early literacy class coming to you.”

The Readmobile and start-up collection were funded by the Diane J.Sachs Trust and a grant from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. Staff and ongoing collections funds are supported by the library’s operating budget. The programming model for the vehicle was developed by staff from Public Health, Children’s Services, and the Library.
READMOBILE to page 13

Super volunteer

Betty Conroy provides 40 years of service at CAP Thrift Shop

Ninety-two-year-old Betty Conroy has been working as a volunteer in the CAP Thrift Shop for the last 40 years. Opened in 1978 as the “Eagle Creek Thrift Shop,” Betty remembers that first volunteer-run thrift shop vividly: “We had a lot of people back then, a lot of volunteers.”

Betty’s work at the Thrift Shop even predates their use of a cash register -- “We used to slip the money in a pocket of a jacket in between shifts,” she recalled. Each volunteer shift would just tell the next where the money was hidden. Since then, the CAP Thrift Shop has moved locations several times (and, yes, acquired a cash register) before reaching its current home at 712 Canterbury Road in Shakopee in 2000. Betty has been here through it all. When asked why she has chosen to volunteer for so long, Betty replied,
CONROY to page 7



Betty Conroy

Juvenile Alternative Facility provides security, support for its residents

Tucked away by the Minnesota River bottoms near Jordan are two single-story buildings that don’t look quite like a home or an institution, but in fact they are both. The Scott County Juvenile Alternative Facility (JAF) provides co-educational residential services and non-secure detention services for youth ages 11-17 taken into custody for a delinquent offense, probation violation, warrant, or 72-hour health and safety hold.

All of the youth at the facility come in through a court order, but not all youth with court orders end up at the JAF. “We don’t accept kids who are violent or under the influence when they are picked up,” said Sandy Soboy, facility manager. Those youth go either to a secure juvenile detention facility – such as one available in Carver County -- or detox. They also refer youth to hospitals if they require
JAF to page 14



The Juvenile Alternative Facility (JAF) staff provides residential and educational services for up to 16 youth ages 11-17 who are in custody for a delinquent offense, probation violation, warrant, or health and safety hold.

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Top of the SCENE

By Gary Shelton
Scott County Administrator



Effort, commitment -- not turbulence -- will bring about real change

As I am writing this article for the SCENE, the federal government is in shut-down mode, the two parties are pointing fingers at one another, and I can hear the final plays of the Vikings being crushed in another NFC Championship game. It all brings into focus French editor Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr's witty quip, "*plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose*" (English translation: The more it changes, the more it's the same thing) or -- as we say it today -- "the more things change, the more they stay the same." While we all believe that we are living in unique and turbulent times, historically, all the instability we experience doesn't seem to affect reality on a deeper level (other than sometimes to cement the status quo). Turbulence may bring issues to the forefront, but real change only comes through calculated efforts, hard work, commitment, and perseverance.

I can think of no better example of this than the enduring struggle for social justice. While the civil rights movement is associated with the mobilization of African Americans (along with many whites) led by the Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the 1950s and 1960s, the fight to gain equal rights and bring an end to discrimination and racism began well before the civil rights movement -- and continues today. In 1868, the 14th Amendment to the Constitution gave African Americans equal rights under the law; the 15th Amendment in 1870 ensured the right to vote. However, African Americans were openly discriminated against and marginalized for another 100 years through "Jim Crow" laws in the South, segregation, discrimination in the workplace, or the practice of "redlining" when attempting to buy homes or get an education throughout most of the country. The civil rights movement, through its calculated efforts, hard work, and commitment, produced the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which diminished much of the open discrimination and the Jim Crow laws. However, while progress has been made over the last fifty years, we still see racism and hatred within our country. And we have yet to erase all the devastating effects of discrimination. Today's turbulence on this topic may keep it in the forefront, but as in the past, change will only come from hard work.

On a smaller scale and closer to home, there is ongoing tumult within many of our local communities. Scott County and our cities have grown significantly over the past decade, and our growth continues to outpace many areas. This growth, and the change it drives, has been both enriching and challenging. And it has created turbulence within our communities. Pro-growth advocates have been confronted by those who fear that our growth is presenting too many challenges socially, culturally, and fiscally for schools and local governments. Social media is being used by many community activists to drive differing agendas: Distrust of government and institutions, valuing individuals over the collective community, and advocating for absolute property rights abound. And the "conservative" or "liberal" labels are being attached to individuals and groups, often with different contexts, depending on the specific issue and category (social, economic, or political).

However, regardless of the group, it seems clear that *all* generally want the same things in life and from our communities. They all want freedom -- of choice, religion, association, and speech. They all want the chance for prosperity; healthy, happy, and well-educated children; and to have crime-free streets. And no one wants to see people suffering. The only disagreement is in how to achieve these goals and herein lies the turbulence. So how do we get from the turbulence to real change?

To create meaningful, positive change in our communities, we must find an array of ways to bring divergent groups together to interact and have open and honest communication -- and eventually build trust. Change will only occur when we move through that uncomfortable space where conflict, uncertainty, and frustration occur to find a collective vision upon which we can act. As local governments work to develop their long-term visions and plans, there are multiple opportunities for residents to engage with each other to make their voices heard in a positive and productive manner. I encourage everyone to take the time and engage. Real change will not come from the turbulence, it will occur only through effort, hard work, commitment, and perseverance.

4-H volunteer spotlight shines on Belle Plaine woman

4-H focuses on positive adult leaders mentoring youth and parents through project-based opportunities and community clubs. **Lori Steinhagen** is one of the co-leaders of the Belle Plaine 4-H Club, where she has been mentoring new leaders to take leadership of the club.

Lori and husband Gary, along with their children David, Greta, and Martha, have been mentoring other families through the goat and dairy projects. They have also been hosting the annual State Fair Livestock Exhibitor BBQ at their farm. This meeting allows families to meet each other and ask questions before heading to the State Fair. Thank you, Lori, for being an outstanding 4-H volunteer for more than 12 years!



Lori Steinhagen (at right) of Belle Plaine and her family, including daughter Greta (at left), have been serving as mentors for other 4-H families.



Board reorganizes for 2018

At the Jan. 2 meeting of the Scott County Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Tom Wolf (District 2), pictured at left, was elected Scott County Board Chair for 2018; and Commissioner Barbara Weckman Brekke (District 1), pictured at right, was elected Vice Chair. The Board also honored Commissioner Michael Beard (District 3) for his service as Chair in 2017.

Commissioners' Corner

County Board Meetings through April 2018

February 20	–	County Board meeting
February 27	–	no meeting
March 6	–	County Board meeting
March 13	–	no meeting
March 20	–	County Board meeting
March 27	–	no meeting
April 3	–	County Board meeting
April 10	–	no meeting
April 17	–	County Board meeting
April 24	--	no meeting

The Scott County Board meets at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays (except if indicated above) at the Government Center in Shakopee. Visit the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov to view streaming video of Board meetings, Board agendas, and minutes of previous meetings. The Board proceedings may also be rebroadcast on your local government access cable channels; refer to your weekly newspapers for broadcast dates and times. For further information about County Board meetings, contact the County Administration office at (952) 496-8100.

Citizen Committee Vacancies

The Scott County Board of Commissioners is looking for interested citizens to serve on the following advisory committees. Members of advisory committees are provided with a per diem and mileage reimbursement for attendance at meetings. If you have any questions or are interested in serving on one of these committees, contact Deb Brazil (952) 496-8601 or via e-mail at dbrazil@co.scott.mn.us. For more information regarding a specific committee, visit the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov; click on "Your County Government," then "Boards, Commissions, and Committees." *Please note that some of the vacancies have incumbents who are eligible to be reappointed for another term.*

All Hazards Committee (1 vacancy). Currently, there is one at-large vacancy on this committee. The All Hazards Committee was formed after the events of September 11, 2001 in order to bring various agencies and organizations throughout Scott County together to discuss and plan for all types of emergency and/or disaster incidents and events. The identified goals of the committee are that all stakeholders will understand the roles, responsibilities, limitations, and capabilities of each and all response agencies allowing them to assist with emergency preparedness risk assessments, preparedness planning activities, disaster response after-action reporting, and proposal of training and exercises. The Committee meets quarterly on the third Monday of the month from 3 – 4:30 p.m.

Community Corrections Advisory Board (1 vacancy). There is currently a vacancy on this Board in Commissioner District 4. This Board is responsible for making recommendations to the Scott County Board of Commissioners as they relate to community corrections. The Board is comprised of law enforcement staff, corrections staff, judges, attorneys, social services personnel, educators, and citizens. There are five citizen members, one from each Commissioner District. Advisory Board members are appointed to serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. Persons of color and from various ethnic groups are particularly encouraged to apply. This Board meets every other month on the fourth Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

Community Development Agency (CDA) (1 vacancy). Currently, there is a vacancy on this Board in Commissioner District 5. The mission of the CDA is to strengthen the communities of Scott County by providing affordable housing opportunities to low- and moderate-income families, promoting economic development, and fostering coordination of public and private resources. The CDA meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m.

Extension Committee (2 vacancies). Currently, there are two vacancies in Commissioner Districts 4 and 5. In partnership with the University of Minnesota, the Extension Committee assists in formulating programs, recommending budgets, and selecting and evaluating the Extension staff. The University of Minnesota Extension discovers science-based solutions, delivers practical education, and engages

COMMISSIONERS CORNER to next page

Resiliency is one goal of 2040 Comp Plan

This article is the second in a series highlighting key strategies coming out of the draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which will guide growth and development of Scott County over the next two decades. With population growth projected to increase in both the cities and townships, the County's draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan provides a number of new approaches to maintain a high quality of life while protecting the county's unique identity and natural environment. A different strategy will be presented in SCENE issues throughout 2018. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan will be the subject of open houses and public hearings this spring and is anticipated to be adopted by the County Board at the end of 2018. To learn more about the plan and view or request notices on upcoming public events, check out the 2040 homepage at www.scottcountymn.gov/439/2040-Comprehensive-Plan.



ters, such as tornadoes, flooding, wildfires, blizzards, straight-line winds, and ice storms that threaten loss of life and property. The County plans for, invests in, and maintains several infrastructure systems vulnerable to these types of hazards, including roadways, bridges, culverts, trails, ditches, storm water channels, parks, and buildings; and responds to residents vulnerable to these types of risks (public safety, emergency dispatch, public health).

The hazard mitigation plan noted that the County's rural areas are particularly vulnerable to severe weather events. Power and communication outages due to severe weather typically take longer to repair in rural areas, which can increase the vulnerability of elderly populations or people living in remote areas. The rural transportation system is vulnerable to risks such as flooding or downed trees, since there are typically fewer roadway grid options (i.e., north-south or east-west routes).

"The land use and transportation plans emphasize the importance of road interconnectivity when new developments are proposed, or older neighborhood areas are re-platted," said Planning Manager Brad Davis. "This is an important principle not only to disperse traffic, but to avoid situations where folks can't get in or out of their neighborhood." Davis said it is important for the 2040 Plan to guide rural areas for 2.5-acre housing development only if the township has a comprehensive local road plan that will create a logical grid system. Davis outlined four other notable hazard mitigation measures advanced in the 2040 Plan:

- Keep habitable structures out of the 100-year floodplain, and work with local jurisdictions to update their floodplain maps;
- Limit long cul-de-sacs in new rural subdivisions and instead require multiple accesses in and out of the neighborhood;
- Ensure development stays away from bluffs and steep slopes vulnerable to landslides; and
- Continue promoting the preservation of countywide Natural Area Corridors as a means

to use the natural environment to convey and store stormwater runoff and flood waters, instead of relying on built infrastructure (i.e., ponds, dikes, outlet channels).

2. Support renewable and alternative energy sources.

The 2040 Plan promotes renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, and geothermal as an alternative electrical and heating supply for homes, farms, and businesses. Planning for and removing barriers to renewable forms of energy is seen as a way to mitigate volatile energy costs. The County's long-range plans and zoning ordinances have allowed individual use of windmills or solar panels as an energy source for decades. What's new under the 2040 Plan are goals, policies, and maps supporting larger alternative energy-producing systems such as community solar gardens.

The Plan includes an inventory of all permitted or proposed community solar gardens in the townships. These 1- to 5-megawatt solar gardens provide electricity back onto the energy grid and are operated under a subscription business model. Also included in the Plan for the first time is a countywide map and data showing how much electricity could be generated from ground-mounted and rooftop solar panels given existing technology. The map essentially shows areas across the County subject to direct sunlight and capable of generating solar energy, measured in watts.

3. Create a place to live, learn, and earn.

The Great Recession of 2008-2010 highlighted the importance of economic resilience, which is generally defined as the ability for a region or community to quickly recover from a shock or disruption. Scott County and its partner cities, townships, tribal community, and school districts have been working collectively over the past few years since the recession to build more resilience in the local economy and create a future where residents are stable, connected, educated and contributing. This collaboration has been coined "Live. Learn. Earn." and many of the key strategies coming out of this effort are advanced in the 2040 Plan. Examples of economic resilience initiatives coming out of the Plan include:

- Partnering across local government agencies (public health, transportation, housing, workforce

Review draft Comp Plan at Open Houses

Scott County invites you to attend an Open House to review the entire draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update.

**Tuesday, March 13, 2018,
6 - 8 p.m.**

New Prague High School Auditorium
221 12th Street NE, New Prague

or

**Monday, March 19, 2018,
7 - 9:30 p.m.**

Jordan High School Auditorium
600 Sunset Drive, Jordan

The County is hosting two Open Houses in different corners of the County to allow the public a chance to review the 2040 Plan and provide comments before the more formal public hearing process occurs in the spring. Each Open House will begin with a summary presentation of the Plan's key recommendations. Attendees will be able to review the tactics of the 2040 Plan in greater detail, including maps, diagrams, and handouts describing future land use, transportation, recreation, natural resource, and safe, healthy and livable strategies for the County. We encourage you to attend this important milestone in the 2040 planning process.

development, parks and trails) to develop an extensive and authentic community engagement effort to define and implement a collective vision for the future;

- Working with Scott County's First Stop Shop, identifying strategies to broaden the County's industrial base, such as targeting the development of emerging clusters or industries that (a) build on the region's unique assets and competitive strengths; and (b) provide stability during downturns that disproportionately impact any single cluster or industry;
- Promoting business retention

COMP PLAN Continued on page 14

The 2040 Comprehensive Plan is guided by a long-range vision informed and shaped by all of the widely-accepted trends, forecasts, and predictions available to community decision makers today. It's based on a general consensus of what the future will look like over the next two decades. But... what if these trends, forecasts, and predictions are all wrong? What if there are unforeseen shocks, changes, or stresses to our social, economic, or natural systems? What if there are challenges on the horizon that we haven't even considered?

With these questions of uncertainty in mind, the 2040 Plan includes goals, policies, and strategies that are intended to position the County to be more resilient in the face of economic or environmental changes. Resiliency is having the capacity to respond, adapt, and thrive under changing conditions. While not a required stand-alone chapter in the plan document, resiliency is an important principle in long-range planning and permeates throughout the plan, spotlighted specifically in the following four strategies:

1. Incorporate hazard mitigation into long range planning.

In recent years, Scott County updated its hazard mitigation plan which evaluates and ranks the major natural and man-made hazards affecting the County (as determined by frequency of event, economic impact, deaths, and injuries). This emergency preparedness plan points out that Scott County is vulnerable to a variety of potential disas-

Commissioners Corner Continued from page 2

Minnesotans to build a better future. Together, we create a better world for today and tomorrow by keeping our food safe and affordable; preparing today's youth to thrive in a complex world; ensuring Minnesota communities are strong; improving our environment; and helping families make better decisions. The Extension Committee meets four times per year (Wednesday evenings, 5:15 p.m.). For more information on Extension, go to www.extension.umn.edu or contact Tammy McCulloch, Extension Regional Director, at tammym@umn.edu or (612) 735-6161.

Human Services Resource Council (4 vacancies). The Resource Council consists of three representatives from each Commissioner District. Currently, there are three vacancies on the council in Commissioner Districts 1 and 4, and two in 3. Members serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. The Resource Council participates in development of the Strategic Plan for Health and Human Services; makes recommendations concerning the annual budget of Health and Human Services; makes recommendations related to human services programs, needs, priorities, goals, and objectives to the County Board; and receives, reviews, and comments on special interest group and community at-large input regarding Human Services plans, programs, services, and performance. Professional providers and consumers of Human Services programs are particularly encouraged to apply. The committee meets quarterly, on the third Monday at 6 p.m.

Commissioner Districts:

- **District 1, Commissioner Barb Weckman Brekke:** The Cities of Belle Plaine, Jordan (precincts 1 and 2), New Prague (precinct 2), and Shakopee (precinct 5); and Belle Plaine, Blakeley, Helena,

Jackson, Louisville, St. Lawrence, and Sand Creek Townships.

- **District 2, Commissioner Tom Wolf:** The Cities of Elko New Market and Prior Lake (precincts 2 and 3); and Cedar Lake, Credit River, New Market, and Spring Lake Townships.
- **District 3, Commissioner Michael Beard:** The City of Shakopee, precincts 1-4, 6-8, 12A, and 12B.
- **District 4, Commissioner Dave Beer:** The Cities of Prior Lake (precincts 1, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, and 7) and Shakopee (precincts 9, 10, 11 and 13).
- **District 5, Commissioner Jon Ulrich:** The City of Savage.

Want more information about Scott County?

Visit www.scottcountymn.gov/list.aspx to sign up for e-mail and/or text message alerts on everything from County Board and Planning Advisory Commission agendas and minutes to road and transit updates, bid postings, emergency alerts, and much more!



NOTIFY ME



A \$10 fee is now being charged at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility for each television, computer monitor, and residential appliance.

Environmental SCENE

By Kate Sedlacek
Environmentalist II



New fee being charged to dispose of electronics, appliances at HHW Facility

As of Jan. 1, 2018, the Scott County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility began charging a \$10 fee for each television, computer monitor, and residential appliance brought to the facility for recycling.

The decision to charge a fee was not made lightly. Environmental Services has been closely watching the amount of electronics and appliances brought to the HHW Facility over the last year. We've been concerned about covering the cost to dispose of these items, and the space need to handle and store them before they are shipped off for final disposal. Fortunately, the expansion of the HHW Facility last fall alleviated the capacity issue not only for storage of electronics, appliances, and tires, but also our main concern, hazardous waste. The addition of a driveway turn-around has also been a big success in easing traffic congestion issues for customers dropping off these items. However, the concern of increasing disposal costs remained an issue.

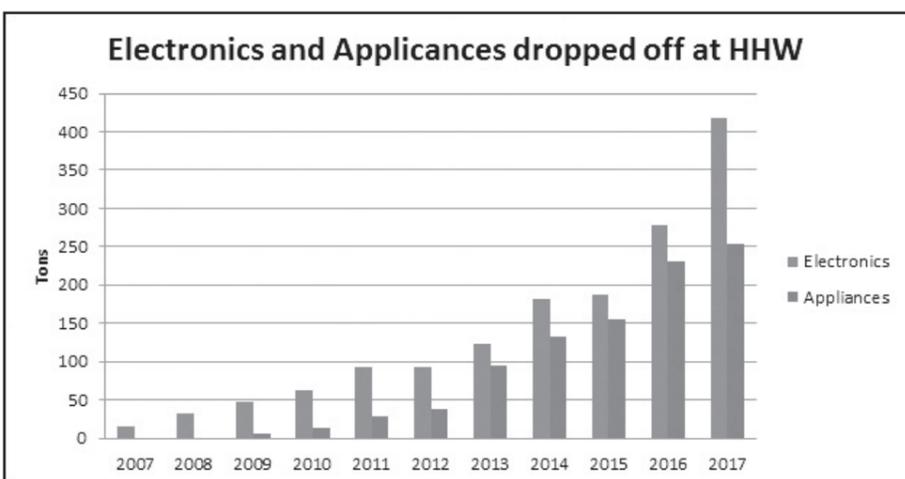
The Solid Waste Management Fee (a.k.a., HHW special assessment) helps cover the cost to dispose of hazardous waste, electronics, appliances, and tires. HHW special assessment is an annual fee applied to residential properties within Scott County. The fee is \$11 per single family home and \$5.50 per multi-family unit. The fee appears on property tax statements and is paid with your taxes. The amount of the fee is determined by the Scott County Board each year. It has been the policy of the County Board and our department to collect only enough in fees to cover the cost to operate the Facility and disposal of hazardous waste. The reasoning behind the policy is that the HHW is a service to help residents properly dispose of their hazardous waste and reduce illegal dumping.

In 2007, the HHW started accepting electronic waste after the ban on landfilling televisions and computers went into effect. Scott County realized that this ban would make it difficult for residents to properly dispose of their electronics.

We've been watching the trend in electronic disposal since we started accepting this waste, and have found the growth increasing with no indication of plateau or decline. We don't anticipate a plateau or decline for a long time because people still have electronics stored away in basements, garages, and closets; the life of many electronic devices is five to 10 years; new technology and upgrading electronics is more affordable; and the other metro counties charge a fee for electronics.

At the end of 2017, we reviewed the disposal costs again and found that the HHW special assessment could no longer cover the cost of hazardous waste and electronics. Either the HHW special assessment had to be raised, or residents would need to pay a fee for their televisions, computers, and appliances at the time of drop off at the HHW. This was a difficult decision to make. Residents like the ability to drop off without having to deal with payment; however, people tend to be more accountable for their waste when they see it costs money. Most of all, we don't want to increase the possibility of illegal dumping. At the end of 2017, the County Board decided that the HHW special assessment would not be increased. As such, Scott County joined other counties and began charging a fee for electronics and appliances.

Please go to the Scott County website [scottcountymn.gov/hhw](http://www.scottcountymn.gov/hhw) for more information on fees, items we accept, hours, and other locations that accept electronics.



Grant supports Hampton Inn's "LightStay" Program

The Hampton Inn by Hilton has a sustainability program called "LightStay." The program was developed as part of Hilton's (Hampton's parent company) corporate sustainability goals in order to measure, analyze, and improve the company's environmental impact, including energy, water, and waste. So when Nick Duff, General Manager of the Hampton Inn in Shakopee, met with Waste Wise and learned about the Scott County Business Recycling Grant, he knew the program would be a good fit for the company's waste reduction goals.

After an initial visit with Waste Wise, a few key opportunities were identified. Cardboard recycling represented the biggest opportunity to reduce trash, as cardboard makes up a large portion of the hotel's waste stream. There was also potential to divert other recyclable materials (like paper, plastic bottles, and aluminum cans) from the trash by adding recycling receptacles throughout the building.

Upon adding a single stream recycling service through their hauler, Hampton Inn saw instant reductions in their trash. "It was really a no-brainer," said Nick. "Why were we not doing this before?" By recycling just their cardboard alone, Hampton Inn is saving 9,360 pounds of material from being sent to the landfill each year. The once overflowing trash dumpsters are now only partially full.

Determined to reduce waste even further, Nick worked with Waste Wise to apply for Scott County's Business Recycling Grant Program. Through the grant, Hampton Inn received free recycling bins to place in offices, guest rooms, and in public spaces. Waste Wise will provide training for Hampton Inn staff to optimize recycling efforts



Nick Duff, General Manager of the Hampton Inn in Shakopee, was pleased to receive free recycling bins through Scott County's Business Recycling Grant Program.

and help ensure a successful program. Once all the employees are trained, Nick estimates that the additional recycling from staff and guests will push their trash levels low enough to be able to reduce trash pick-ups and save money on their waste bill.

For more information on possible assistance and funding to improve recycling at your business, place of worship, or other institution, contact Steve Steuber at Scott County at (952) 496-8473, or consult the recycling business grant information on the Scott County website at <http://www.scottcountymn.gov/1398/Business-Recycling-Grants>.

Funding for these grants to businesses comes from SCORE and/or LRD funds provided to the County from the state of Minnesota.

Grant helps Valleyview recycle 14,000 plastic bottles

When Valleyview, an assisted living and memory care facility located near Jordan, first heard about the Scott County recycling grant program, they were already recycling paper and cardboard, but their building lacked single stream recycling collection. After meeting with Minnesota Waste Wise to identify opportunities for recycling improvements, Valleyview applied for a Scott County recycling grant to place color-coded bins and signage throughout the facility.

With the grant, Valleyview added recycling stations in all of its common areas, ensuring that each trash can is paired with a recycling can. They also added a cart tipper to make it easier to transport recyclables from inside to the outside dumpster.

The new recycling setup yielded quick results, especially for plastic bottles. "We went from not recycling any plastics to recycling two to three eight-gallon bags of plastic bottles every other day," reported Valleyview's Maintenance Manager, Luke Hessing. "From a magnitude standpoint, knowing that bottles won't decompose in the landfill, recycling several bags of plastic bottles a week is substantial." Luke is working with staff to increase the recycling of other materials as well. "We are also finally having people recycle glass bottles, gallon milk jugs, and metal cans."

Valleyview will see an annual increase in their overall recycling by at least 700 pounds per year. In plastic bottles alone, they are on track to send



Recycling stations located throughout the Valleyview Assisted Living facility near Jordan encourage recycling of plastic bottles and more.

approximately 14,000 empty bottles to be recycled rather than sent to the landfill each year.

For more information on possible assistance and funding to improve recycling at your business, place of worship, or other institution, contact Steve Steuber at Scott County at (952) 496-8473, or consult the recycling business grant information on the Scott County website at <http://www.scottcountymn.gov/1398/Business-Recycling-Grants>.

Funding for these grants to businesses comes from SCORE and/or LRD funds provided to the County from the state of Minnesota.

County provides options for small businesses to properly dispose of hazardous waste

One of Scott County's Environmental Services' functions is to license businesses that generate hazardous waste. The staff also inspects them to verify they are in compliance with the rules. A main focus has been on education first, because businesses will usually manage their waste properly if they just know what to do.



Reciprocity with Dakota, Carver Counties

Over time, this program has grown substantially. The County now also accepts electronics, appliances, and tires from businesses. Since there is a reciprocal use agreement with Dakota and Carver Counties, businesses can bring their waste to whichever location is closest since payment is made directly to the county taking the waste.

First Tuesday of month is collection day for businesses

Over the years, there has been an increase in the number of companies that transport hazardous waste for processing at a facility (recycling, burning for fuel, disposal, et cetera). This trend has resulted in more options for businesses to get rid of their waste. However, that trend has not helped smaller businesses much. Usually, transporters would prefer to pick up larger loads of waste, since it costs them the same amount of money to drive the truck somewhere to pick up five or 500 gallons of waste. So, for businesses that generate small amounts of waste, disposal can be quite expensive.

Companies can now bring small amounts of waste the **first Tuesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon** (excluding holidays and holiday weekends). On those Tuesdays, the following wastes from businesses (that do not require shipping papers to transport) are accepted without an appointment: fluorescent lamps (including broken lamps), non-PCB ballasts, antifreeze, appliances, batteries, electronics, oil, oil filters, paint (latex and oil-based, no automotive), and thermostats.

Appointments required for waste needing shipping papers

Other waste from businesses, such as paint thinner and solvent, can also be accepted. However, companies must call ahead of time to set up an appointment before bringing in those wastes because they require shipping papers. **Businesses should not bring in these products during regular collection hours** because time is needed to document and process the waste. The business then receives documentation that their waste was properly managed.

The program has been very successful in helping smaller businesses properly dispose of waste that has been abandoned or dumped on their property. For more information on this program, go to the County's Environmental Service website at <http://www.scottcountymn.gov/568/Business-Hazardous-Waste>. or call (952) 496-8177.

Small Quantity Generator Collection Program

Unfortunately, businesses do not always manage their waste properly. Since resolving those situations results in additional time and costs for County staff, the goal is to prevent them from occurring as much as possible. Many times, businesses just need some assistance because there are no good options available to them.

After our Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility opened in 2001, the County began accepting fluorescent lamps from businesses twice per year. In 2006, the County applied for and received a permit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to operate a Very Small Quantity Generator Collection Program. This allowed the County to accept small amounts of waste generated from small businesses, similar to the wastes collected from households. It also allowed management of some of the waste generated by County facilities.

Get started with backyard chickens at March 3 class

Crack...sizzle...does the idea of fresh eggs for breakfast gathered from your own backyard sound appealing? An average chicken will lay an egg a day. If you plan on having three hens, you are looking at as many as 91 dozen eggs a year. But before you set up a coop or run out to buy a hen or a few baby chicks, there are important factors to consider. What are the best breeds for your needs? What are the ordinances in your city? Where can you place your coop, and how large can it be?



or via email at traxl042@umn.edu.

The workshop is designed for beginning chicken keepers in both urban and rural

settings. Along with learning about the popular chicken breeds and their habits, U of M Extension Educators will discuss local ordinances, where to get permission to raise chickens on your premise, coop construction and pen placement, biosecurity safeguards, feed sources, and weekly tasks necessary to keep your chickens fed, watered, and clean. Topics will also include starting baby chicks, feeding chickens for all stages of maturity, and special recommendations for pastured poultry. For more advanced poultry keepers, an expanded class is being planned for the fall of 2018.

Plan to attend the University of Minnesota Extension *Backyard Chicken and Small Flock Workshop* on Saturday, March 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Elko New Market Library, 110 J Roberts Way in Elko New Market. Cost is \$10 per person, or \$20 per household (up to three people). Pre-registration is appreciated to plan for lunch. To register, call or email Colleen Carlson, Scott County Extension Office, at (952) 494-5386

Healthy SCENE

By Lindsay Aijala
SHIP Community Health Specialist



SHIP helps employers promote worksite wellness

The majority of adults spend half of their waking hours at work, providing a great opportunity for organizations to support their employees in healthy habits within and outside of the workplace. Organizations can support their employees' health by putting together a comprehensive worksite wellness program, which is designed to support a culture of health in the workplace. Additionally, it can encourage positive lifestyle behaviors -- such as increased physical activity and healthy eating, as well as reduced tobacco exposure and stress -- through policy, systems, and environmental change. Worksite wellness programs can lead to increased productivity, decreased absenteeism, improved recruitment and retention, improved employee morale and overall improvements in an individual's health.

Scott County Worksite Wellness Collaborative

Scott County Public Health, through the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP), facilitates a worksite wellness collaborative for businesses and organizations to support these programs. The collaborative consists of a group of worksites who meet quarterly to network and learn about various wellness topics at no cost to the organization. SHIP staff provide consultation along with tools, templates, and mini-grants to support evidence-based wellness initiatives. Through the collaborative, worksites can work on a variety of wellness initiatives related to healthy eating, active living, breastfeeding support, stress management, and tobacco cessation. In 2017, 11 worksites from many industries (including school districts, health care organizations, private businesses, non-profits, and local government) participated in the collaborative and all implemented a new wellness initiative or enhanced an existing one. Each business has a unique company culture, but all were able to network and assist others in their wellness goals.

The city of Shakopee, for example, understood the needs of their employees and took a unique approach last year. The city received mini-grant funds to create an active commuter program by purchasing bicycles and introducing a bike share. These bikes are able to be checked out by employees during the workday to use for transportation to meetings within biking distance, or to use during break time to encourage physical activity and improve the overall health of employees.

Currently, a new worksite wellness collaborative is starting in Scott County. There are 16 worksites that have joined the 2018 collaborative -- six of these are new partners, while ten are part of the alumni group. The collaborative will meet in January, March, June, and September to network and learn more about worksite wellness and discuss a culture of health for their own organizations. External partners -- including the Minnesota Department of Health, the American Diabetes Association, St. Francis, and Hy-Vee -- will also attend throughout the year to present on special topics. This opportunity allows alumni worksites to continue to learn and grow in their worksite wellness efforts and inspire all participants. By participating, employers have the opportunity to receive mini-grant funds up to \$1,000 to advance their worksite wellness initiatives. With the New Year comes a new opportunity for businesses to support the health of their employees in our community!

SHIP continues to support efforts to encourage safe, healthy, and livable communities within Scott County. If you have questions about worksite wellness in Scott County or your organization is interested in participating in the Worksite Wellness Collaborative, please contact Lindsay Aijala, Community Health Specialist (SHIP), Scott County Public Health at (952) 496-8696 or lajjala@co.scott.mn.us.

WORKSITE WELLNESS

2017 Collaborative

11

Businesses in Scott County participated in the collaborative

Wellness Activities Implemented

- Bike Program
- Kickboxing classes
- Outdoor activities during break time
- Wellness rooms to support breastfeeding parents and stress management
- Healthy lunches and snack stations
- Sit/stand desks
- Water filling stations

5,000

Combined total number of employees potentially impacted

Legal SCENE

By Ron Hocevar
Scott County Attorney



Collaboration made 2017 productive

Last year was another great year of collaborative work in the Scott County Attorney's Office. Together with our partners in law enforcement, the judiciary, Human Services, the County Board, other private and government agencies, we worked together to deliver what matters – safe, healthy, and livable communities. Here are just some of the highlights from 2017 showing some of the work by my office:

- Assisted in multi-agency investigation of the Shakopee High School former superintendent resulting in 21 criminal charges including Theft by Swindle, Embezzlement of Public Funds and Receiving Stolen Property. *Case is still pending.*
- Charged four individuals for the murder of James Herron. Three individuals have pled guilty, with one remaining to go to trial.
- Charged Sergey Balandin for the murder of his girlfriend. *Case is still pending.*
- Convicted Joshua Sundblad for the murder of his two-month-old baby.
- Started to have the County Attorney's Office go paperless.
- Obtained a conviction on an individual for raping a student in the Shakopee High School.
- Assisted in multi-agency investigation involving the Mexican drug cartel trafficking of heroin. This resulted in the seizure of pounds of heroin and multiple arrests and prosecutions by my office.
- Held several public forums on the dangers of teen sexting.
- Continue to educate our children and the community on the dangers of illegal drugs. Our primary fund raiser, the 12th Annual Tee it up for the Task Force, is coming up on Sept. 7, 2018. See our website at www.ChooseNotToUse.org.
- Charged a day care provider with 1st Degree Assault and two counts of Malicious Punishment of a Child for harm caused to a 6 month old baby in her care. *Case is still pending.*
- Supported Human Services staff in the closing down of a child care provider suspected of harming a child in her care.
- My office argued over 100 tax filing cases supporting the County's position.
- Upheld paternity and child support rights by making 811 court appearances to establish and enforce appropriate child support payments.
- Handled 80 commitment and guardianship cases where individuals could not meet their own health/safety/welfare needs and required a high level of intervention. We were able to get them the help they needed and put a safety net in place for the future.

In 2017, my office handled 7,166 opened files. This is an increase of nearly 10 percent from 2016. And this number does not include the thousands of phone calls and requests for advice or assistance from the public, law enforcement, and other government agencies where no formal file is ever opened.

I am truly blessed to have such an impressive staff of legal support and attorneys working in this office, and on your behalf. Follow me on Twitter @rhocevar1 and "Like" and follow me on Facebook at @C.A.Hocevar.

Credit River Township to vote on changing election date, terms of supervisors

On March 13, during the annual Township election, Credit River residents can vote whether Township Elections should change from the traditional annual March elections to even-year November elections, aligning with the General Elections. This change is prompted by Scott County notifying townships that they will not support March elections after 2018.

Specifically, Scott County elections has informed Credit River Township that going forward, special elections and local elections on any date other than the even year State Primary and General Election dates will be the responsibility of the jurisdiction calling for the election.

Credit River Township supervisors have placed on the ballot at the March 13 election the following Town Question: *Shall the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November be designated as the date of the Credit River Township general election?*

What will change with a "yes" vote:

Supervisor terms will be for four years instead of the three-year terms that are now in effect. With a greater number of township residents voting in November elections, Credit River Township will have more residents involved in the selection of its supervisors.

Credit River will eliminate the cost

of yearly elections that generally have a low turnout, along with the added costs of absentee voting, programming of tabulators, ballot layout, proofing and orders, all equipment testing and public accuracy testing, plus supplies and the general administration of the local election. Up until now, these duties and associated costs have been covered by the County.

What won't change with a "yes" vote:

You'll still cast your ballots at the Credit River Town Hall. The annual meeting will still be held on the second Tuesday in March, and residents will still set the annual levy.

The Credit River Town Board has adopted the following plan for transitioning to November elections if the ballot measure is approved by voters on March 13. Minnesota law does not allow the township to shorten terms of office – only to lengthen them:

The supervisor position that expires in March of 2018 shall be designated "Supervisor Position A" and shall be extended so as to next be on the ballot



SmartLink promotes new Shared Vehicle Program

Coordinated public transportation services offer a lifeline for many older adults in Scott County. A large percentage of adults aged 65 and older do not drive, and while family and friends are often their resource for getting rides from place to place, public transportation services is also essential. SmartLink Transit manages public transportation for Scott and Carver Counties and is committed to finding new and flexible solutions to address growing transportation needs and allow individuals to live independently within their communities.

The Shared Vehicle Program (or "Community Bus") is one such solution being promoted by SmartLink. The Shared Vehicle Program is an incentive program based on the Federal 5310 grant that provides enhanced mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The federal grant pays for 80 percent of the cost of the bus, and the local vehicle owner pays 20 percent.

To qualify for the grant, the vehicle must be shared across two or more entities, and used at least 30-40 hours per week. Senior centers, senior living centers, cities, churches, and Community Ed groups are all excellent candidates for the program. SmartLink Transit for Scott and Carver Counties will provide coordinating services for the Shared Vehicle. Coordinating services include partner recruiting, route/time scheduling, and assistance with the Federal reporting required.

A great example of a Shared Vehicle Program started in 2015 in Norwood Young America. Norwood Young America (NYA) and SmartLink worked together to begin the grant application process. NYA saw the opportunity for a community vehicle to be available for several partners, and -- together with SmartLink -- they completed the grant process and purchased a 14-passenger bus to serve the community and partners' needs. The bus was delivered in



Community organizations and businesses can partner to receive a federal grant for a bus.



January 2017, and is operating successfully. Steve Helget, City Administrator for NYA, had this to say: "The City has greatly benefited from SmartLink's involvement in bringing transportation services and public transportation alternatives to Norwood Young America's seniors, persons with disabilities, and its residents. The city has entered agreements with the local Community Ed, St. John's Church, and the Peace Villa Campus. Local residents have also enjoyed the use of the bus for personal trips or outings. The partnership that has been formed between the city of Norwood Young America and SmartLink is benefiting the entire community, and we look forward to expanding our service area."

Through SmartLink's efforts to build awareness for this Shared Vehicle Program, there are many conversations happening now within our communities to promote the idea of leveraging a community bus. Alan Herrmann, SmartLink Transit Supervisor, has been working to create awareness about this solution and connect potential partners to participate in the Shared Vehicle Program. Starting the conversation now is crucial to building future transportation solutions. If you would like to learn more about how a Shared Vehicle may be available for your community or group, contact Herrmann at aherrmann@co.scott.mn.us.

Plans underway for Tee It Up! golf event

Save the date! ChooseNotToUse will be hosting its 12th Annual Tee It Up For The Task Force annual fundraiser which will be held on Sept. 7, 2018, at Stonebrooke Golf Club. Register by contacting Kathy Welter at (952) 239-6885 or kwelter@co.scott.mn.us. Register early, as space is limited -- and the event has filled up quickly in the last few years! Eighteen holes of golf, a cart, and lunch are included with registration. The event will also feature a live auction, hole games, and drawings. Hope to see you there!

Editorial Policy

The purpose of this publication is to provide the public with information about Scott County Government and the opportunities it offers its citizens. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Lisa Kohner, Public Affairs Coordinator, at (952) 496-8780 or lkohner@co.scott.mn.us or Claire Robling, Communications and Legislative Coordinator, at (952) 496-8597 or crobbling@co.scott.mn.us.



When the CAP Thrift Shop opened in 1978, there were plenty of volunteers, including Betty Conroy (at right).

Conroy From page 1

"You get to meet so many different people, talk to so many different people." She said she loves working with people, "messing" with clothes, and it is very close to her home.

Betty is originally from Columbia Heights and moved to Prior Lake after marrying her husband, James, in 1958. She volunteered at the Thrift Shop every day for much of her married life. Before her husband passed away two years ago, Betty chose to leave the CAP Thrift Shop for a few years to take care of her him when he became ill, though she still came in to help when she could. After her husband's death, she found she missed her work at the CAP Thrift Shop. A friend and fellow volunteer (and her friend's husband) have made it possible for Betty to come back and continue volunteering. Once a week, they pick her up from her home in the morning and drop her off again in the evening. "They have been so wonderful," Betty said.

And other workers at the Thrift Shop think Betty is pretty wonderful, too. "She comes in every Wednesday, we love her," said Jen Biros-Syverson, Production Lead Staff at the store.

Betty is one of the hundreds of volunteers who have helped to run the CAP Agency Thrift Shop over the years. As the community has grown and changed, so has the Thrift Shop. One thing that *hasn't* changed is the constant need for volunteers to help clients as they shop, to sort donations, or to price and stock items.

Prior Lake has grown a lot since Betty first moved there: "It's been a good town, a very good town. I think it's growing very nicely," she said. When asked if she felt the CAP Thrift Shop was an important part of the community, she said, "I think it should be. You know, people need things and they maybe can't get them. But they can get them here, and at a good price, and just as nice." All proceeds from the CAP Thrift Shop go directly towards CAP's programs. CAP's programs serve low-income and in crisis families and indi-

viduals in Scott, Carver, and Dakota Counties.

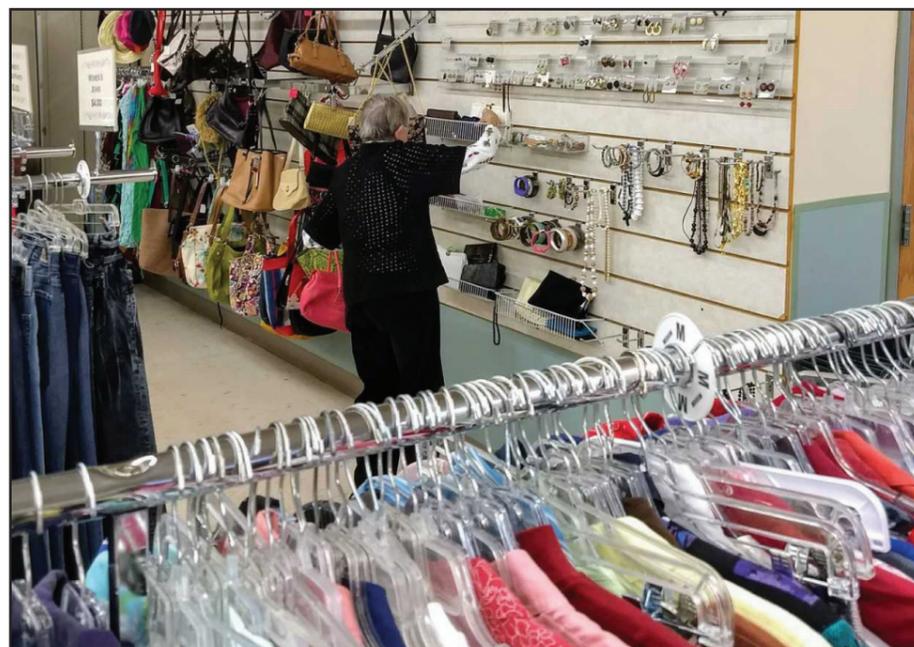
After all these years, people will come into the store and recognize Betty and say how glad they are to see her back. "It's fun to have someone come in that you haven't seen in years," she said. Betty will often joke with customers, and her favorite customers are often the smallest. "I like to see people coming in with little kids. The kids all look at the toys and take things off the shelf and put them all over the place. The kids are usually pretty good." Betty has noticed that more and more CAP clients have begun shopping in the Thrift Shop. "That's good," she said, "they're the ones that need it."

In 1978, Betty said there were many volunteers at the CAP Thrift Shop, but those numbers have dwindled over the years. "People want to do something they get paid for, and I don't blame them," she said. The numbers of volunteers have begun to climb again in recent years. As the community has grown, so has the number of donations received every day at the CAP Thrift Shop. "People keep bringing more and more things... We really need the volunteers to help here, there is always something to do," says Betty. The CAP Thrift Shop is thriving with new donations, a new layout, and sales on already low prices. But more volunteers are always needed. Anyone who is interested in volunteering can go to www.capagency.org/be-a-volunteer or call Tamra Klassen at (952) 402-9841.

Betty repeated many times how fantastic the other volunteers have been over the years. "This has been a wonderful place to work. It's been perfect," she said.

About CAP Thrift Shop

The CAP Thrift Shop provides the community a place to shop for or donate gently used quality clothing and household goods. CAP Thrift Shop is open to the public. For more information, visit <https://www.capagency.org/community-outreach/thrift-store/>.



Betty Conroy finds plenty of volunteer work to do at the CAP Thrift Shop.

CAP Corner

FoodShare Month coming, Thrift Shop remodeled

By Joseph Vaughan,
CAP Executive Director

There is such hope that comes with each new spring, and 2018 is no different. We accomplished so much in 2017 thanks to our community partners, and I look forward to all the good we will continue to do together this year.

In November, CAP Agency was voted 2017's Best Local Cause by *SW News Media!* This was a great way to end a year full of awards. In 2017, CAP was also awarded the Gold Seal of Transparency from GuideStar, two Gold MarCom Awards for client stories, a Gold dotComm Award, and a Gold Hermes Award. So far in 2018, we have received AVA Digital Awards for videos sharing the stories of a few of our client families. Thank you to the staff and volunteers whose work is being so widely recognized!

Hope for the Holiday was an incredible success again this year. Thanks to hundreds of donors, we distributed gifts to over 3,000 families in need. A huge thank you not only to those who donated, but also to our volunteers who helped to hand out the gifts and toys. Seeing the smiles on the faces of the children and families is a highlight of each holiday season for us.

The CAP Agency Thrift Shop underwent significant changes in 2017. From remodeling the shop to new sales and promotions, not to mention the first annual Holiday CAP Thrift Shop events, it has been a great year. If you haven't yet stopped by to check out the changes, please do! The CAP Thrift Shop is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.. The shop is located at 712 Canterbury Road South in Shakopee. And don't forget that the Thrift Shop also accepts donations of clothing, household goods, and more.

Create, plan entries now for Scott County Fair

Even though it has the fewest days of any other month, doesn't February seem to be the longest one of the year? At this point in this brisk season, a lot of people would be more than willing to trade a bracing winter day for a warm summer afternoon with a light breeze.

While there is no reason to wish *any* of our days away, there are things one can do to fill the coldest of them with warmth and happiness. The Scott County Fair, held the last weekend in July, has plenty of space to display your winter handiwork in the creative arts building.

Try out some new recipes, or perfect an old one with a new twist. There are few things in life that can rival the smell of baked goods wafting from the kitchen. However, fresh cut lumber is the preferred aroma for wood workers. February may be the perfect time to hole up in the shop and start building this year's purple ribbon winner.

You can travel the world over and not find the beauty that is out our back door. Even in February, there are scenes that need be captured by your camera. Bring your kids along and see the world through the eyes of a child with your camera shutter (while you *shudder* through the cold). The memories will last forever, and you may even win first place with your photographs. Don't for-

Go to www.capagency.org for more information.

One of CAP Agency's biggest innovations in 2017 was the launch of our **Mobile Food Shelf**. Thanks to grants from the Schulze Family Foundation, St. Francis Regional Medical Center, and Allina Health, CAP is now able to deliver food to those in need who are otherwise unable to access a food shelf or other resources. In 2017, 5,632 people obtained food assistance through CAP Agency. We are grateful for the opportunity to help even more of our neighbors in the coming year.

FoodShare Month

March is Minnesota FoodShare Month! The largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together various community organizations, businesses, and faith communities to help stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide. In 2017, over \$8 million dollars and 4.7 million pounds of food were raised by Minnesota food shelves and Minnesota FoodShare. Food donations can be dropped off at the CAP Agency Food Shelf at 712 Canterbury Road South in Shakopee, Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monetary donations can also be made online at www.capagency.org/donate or mailed to 712 Canterbury Road South, Shakopee, MN, 55379. Last year, CAP Agency distributed 716,687 pounds of food. The need for food increases every year, and it is thanks to your donations that we are able to continue to fill this need.



The Scott County Fair has plenty of space to display your winter handiwork, so plan your entries now.

get to encourage your children to work on their Fair projects too!

As you page through the seed catalogs planning this spring's plantings, keep the Fair in mind. Flowers and vegetables are some of the most popular entries at county fairs. You may want to start some seeds inside to get a head start.

Maybe you know a senior citizen (someone seventy or older) who spends their time volunteering and serving others. You could nominate them for the Scott County 2018 Senior Citizen award to be given during the Fair this July.

All of the details for nominations and the creative arts entries can be found at scottcountyfair.org. Stay warm, and get busy!

Local farm leads by example in conservation efforts

From cover crops to no-till to alum-treated bio-logs, Krueger Dairy is continually trying new practices to see how they can incorporate conservation into their dairy operation. Each year, the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) chooses a local citizen or organization as *Conservation Leader of the Year*. They look for someone who is taking initiative to implement conservation practices. The choice was clear this year, when Krueger Dairy was chosen.

Paul and Rose Krueger, along with their son Tim and his wife Amy, own and operate Krueger Dairy, an operation with 200 dairy cows near Jordan. They raise alfalfa, soybeans, and corn, followed by a cover crop of winter rye. Krueger Dairy started using cover crops after Paul Krueger learned about the benefits while he was attending continuing education for his certified crop advisor certification. For the last four years, Krueger Dairy has been making cover crops work for them. They plant winter rye after the corn is harvested for silage in early fall. The rye grows through the fall, and goes dormant in the winter. In early spring, when many surrounding fields are bare, these fields are covered with rye. The rye is then harvested for forage for the dairy cows, and soybeans are planted.

Last fall, they continued to try new cover crops by planting winter wheat after harvesting soybeans. Paul says that "... with dairy cows, using cover crops is a no-brainer." Not only is the soil covered during the winter and early spring is improving soil health, the winter rye is forage for their animals.

Krueger Dairy is also experimenting with no-till. They have taken one field in their usual soybeans, corn, and cover crop rotation and for the last three years have been seeding with a no-till drill rented from the Scott SWCD. The yield from this field has been comparable to the tilled fields, so they are satisfied with the results so far, and are considering using the no-till method on more fields if they continue to have good results.

In 2017, Krueger Dairy installed water quality inlets



Krueger Dairy was recognized as Outstanding Conservationist for Scott County at the MASWCD Annual Convention. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Scott Schneider, Scott SWCD; Rob Casey, Scott SWCD Supervisor; Jim Fitzsimmons, Scott SWCD Supervisor; Rose and Paul Krueger, Krueger Dairy; Doug Schoenecker, Scott SWCD Supervisor; Troy Kuphal, Scott SWCD.

and alum-treated bio-logs around tile inlets with materials provided by the Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District's (PLSLWD) Farmer Led Council. The water quality inlets filter debris out of the water; the bio-logs slow down the water allowing particulates to drop out, and the alum in the logs hold onto the soluble phosphorus. Both practices result in cleaner water entering the tile lines. In addition to farming their land, Krueger Dairy also farms rented land. Though this land is rented, the Kruegers have worked to protect its water and soil resources. Krueger Dairy has worked with their landlords, the Scott SWCD, and PLSLWD to install two acres of filter strips on rented land.

Krueger Dairy not only leads by example, they take time out of their busy schedules to be conservation leaders in their community. Paul Krueger has taken a leading role in the PLSLWD's Farmer Led Council, a group of local farmers who develop and guide the implementation of strategies to help lower the amount

of nutrients that agriculture is contributing to the watershed. Paul is also a former member of the Scott SWCD Board of Supervisors. Both of these activities show his commitment to conservation by illustrating that he not only cares about how conservation can work for him, but how he can bring conservation to others in his community.

Krueger Dairy is an example of passing down conservation from one generation to the next. Paul's son Tim has taken a leadership role in Krueger Dairy, and continues to work towards the goal of conservation that Paul began, and is instilling a conservation ethic in his son and daughters.

Krueger Dairy was nominated for the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation (MASWCD) Districts' Outstanding Conservationist Award. They were recognized at the MASWCD's Annual Convention on December 5 along with other Outstanding Conservationist nominees from throughout the state.

Local residents have been planting trees for 30 years

When Jim and Cathy Curtis purchased their building site in New Market Township in 1986, they knew they wanted to start planting trees right away. At that time, their property was a cornfield, but they had visions of windbreaks and wooded areas. That next spring, they came to the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District's annual tree sale to purchase tree seedlings and got to work.

After the Curtis' planted trees that first year, they just kept going. They continued coming back to the Scott SWCD trees sale to increase the number and variety of trees on their property. Over the years, they have planted Paper Birch, Sugar Maple, Black Hill Spruce, Colorado Blue Spruce, Norway Pine, Lilacs, and Red Osier Dogwood. Cathy noted that they "... planted the Red Osier Dogwood for their bright red color in the winter."

When it comes to purchasing trees from the Scott SWCD tree sale, she especially likes the Backyard Bundle which includes five tree species "because of the variety it offers." Putting in and taking care of all these trees is

not an easy task. They have dealt with drought years which meant extra watering, and have put up deer fences around some of the smaller trees to protect them from browsing deer. Overall, they have had good luck with the success rate of the trees they have planted. With all these trees added to their property, Jim and Cathy have noticed an increase in wildlife and a reduction in wind. They are also grateful for the added privacy that the trees provide.

The old saying goes, "The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago; the second best time is now." The Curtis' are a great example of how planting a tree today offers great benefits in the future. If you're looking at your empty backyard and thinking that it is not worth planting small tree seedlings because they won't amount to much, think again. Before you know it, those trees will be providing shade, privacy, and slowing down the wind.

If you're ready to add trees to your property, the Scott SCWD tree sale offers a variety of species. Use the paper form included in this volume of the SCENE or visit scottswcdtrees.com



Jim and Cathy Curtis of New Market Township have noticed an increase in wildlife and a reduction in wind because of all the trees they've planted on their property over the years.

to order your tree seedlings. The trees will be available for pickup at the Scott County Fairgrounds on April 27 and 28.

Call the Scott SWCD office at (952) 492-5425 with any questions about the tree program.

No-wake restriction remains on McMahon Lake

In 2017, the McMahon (Carl's) Lake no-wake restriction went into effect on May 26. The water level at ice-in never dropped below the elevation to remove the restriction last year.

As spring approaches and the lakes open up, the no wake signs will remain at the public access and the restriction of a slow, no-wake speed limit of five miles per hour within 150 feet of the shoreline will remain until the water level falls below the elevation and the signs are removed.

Cover crop expert to speak March 15

Cover crop expert, Gabe Brown, will be the featured speaker at an upcoming Cover Crop Workshop in Le Center. He will discuss how cover crops can add profitability, reduce input costs and keep nutrients on your land on March 15. Jerry Ackermann of southwestern Minnesota will speak on his 19-year journey from conventional tillage to no-till/strip till to cover crops on his 1200 acres.

This workshop is a must for anyone who is considering cover crops because they will have a chance to ask questions of the speakers who have many years

of success. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, March 15 at the American Legion in Le Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free to attend and lunch is provided, so registration is requested. More information and registration can be found at scottswcd.org or by calling the Scott SWCD office at (952) 492-5425.

The Scott, Carver, and Le Sueur Soil and Water Conservation Districts, along with the Scott Watershed Management Organization, have come together to put on the workshop.



Gabe Brown

Moving forward into final design for 13/21 project

On Nov. 6, 2017, the Prior Lake City Council passed a resolution approving the Project Management Team's (PMT) design recommendation to move forward with the **A-2 alternative**. The selected alternative includes:

- A three-quarter access at Duluth with a westbound left turn lane;
- A roundabout at Arcadia Avenue;
- A half three-quarter access at Main Avenue with an eastbound left turn lane;
- A roundabout at Trunk Highway 13.



This alternative also includes a northbound left turn lane from Trunk Highway (TH) 13 onto Pleasant Street.

What happens now?

Selecting this alternative marks the end of preliminary design and begins the final design phase of the project. Final design is where the PMT will determine how the project will be built. This includes creating construction documents (the project "blueprints"), designing the details that will make this project unique to the Prior Lake Community (streetscape amenities, planting design, pavement treatment, et cetera), and developing a construction staging plan. Construction is planned for 2019.

What is "construction staging"?

Construction staging encompasses the steps that need to be taken during construction in order to build a project. This includes the sequencing and timing of work, and considers the construction schedule, key



The approved design for the Highway 13/21 project includes roundabouts at Highway 13 and County Road 21 and at Arcadia Avenue and County Road 21, and a three-quarter access at Main Avenue with an eastbound left turn lane.

travel routes, detour routes, access in/out of an area, public safety, and specific business needs among others.

The construction staging for the 13-21 Downtown Improvement Project will be coordinated with the construction staging for MnDOT's TH 13 Reconstruction Project (from CH 21 south to TH 17/CH 282). The city of Prior Lake, Scott County, MnDOT, and the Project Consultants understand how important both County Highway (CH) 21 and TH 13 are to getting around in Prior Lake and the region, and therefore will be work-

ing in the coming year to develop a staging plan that minimizes the negative impacts of construction, while providing a safe, efficient, and cost-effective construction strategy.

How can you stay informed?

The end of preliminary design does not mean the end of engagement efforts with the Prior Lake community. Please continue to watch the project website, www.movingforward13-21.com, and Facebook page for upcoming events throughout final design.

FAST-TRACK Challenge wins 2018 state award

The Prior Lake Technology Village and Scott County First Stop Shop received the 2018 Program of the Year Award from the Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM) for the FAST-TRACK Business Challenge. In January, EDAM hosted an awards ceremony as part of its annual Winter Conference to recognize projects and professionals in the economic development industry who have gone above and beyond or faced significant challenges in the last year.

The Program of the Year Award recognizes a creative new program or initiative that has been developed to help businesses and a community to thrive, grow, and prosper. Award nominees could include programs or initiatives that focused on businesses, workforce, business retention and expansion, financing, start-ups, clusters, entrepreneurs, or several other economic development initiatives.

The FAST-TRACK Business Challenge was a successful, Scott County-



Pictured left to right: Megan Barnett-Livgard (EDAM President and GreaterMSP), Casey McCabe (Community Development Director -City of Prior Lake), Jo Foust (Business Development Specialist - First Stop Shop), Patrick Stroh (Technology Village Board Member), Gerry Hughes (Technology Village Board Chair), and Matt Brown (1st VP EDAM & City of Coon Rapids).

wide, collaborative effort to encourage economic development and aid start-up businesses. The FAST-TRACK Challenge was coordinated through the Scott County First Stop Shop and Prior

Lake's Technology Village. Established businesses throughout Scott County provided donations, serving as service providers and sponsors for the event; and the City of Savage hosted and taped

the event. Winners were awarded cash prizes and various services essential for a start-up, including accounting, website design, graphic art design, legal assistance, and business counseling.

"Creating resources that help your local businesses succeed is so important to the health and vitality of a community," says Megan Barnett-Livgard, EDAM President and Greater MSP Business Retention and Expansion Manager. "The enormous success of this program proves that programs like this are not only necessary, but imperative to a thriving economic environment."

Patrick Stroh, Technology Village Board Member and FAST-TRACK Committee stated, "We are honored to receive EDAM's Program of the Year award. We have common goals of growth, innovation and economic development in our businesses and communities and we aspire to continue advancing this work for our collective future good."

Garden Fever 2018 focuses on growing food, helping pollinators

The Carver-Scott Master Gardeners will be hosting their annual Garden Fever event on Saturday, March 3. Registration is set for 8 - 8:45 a.m. The program will be held from 8:45 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Chaska Event Center, 3210 Chaska Blvd.

The cost for the event, which includes a buffet lunch, vendor exhibit, silent auction, door prizes, as well as presentations and speakers, is \$35 if paid by Feb. 23 by check, \$37 if paid online, or \$40 if paid online between Feb. 24 and March 2 or on the day of the event.

For more information, contact: info@carver-scottmastergardeners.org or call (952) 466-5300. Get tickets at: www.carver-scottmastergardeners.org/garden-fever.

Presentations and speakers:
Edible Yards from Theresa Rooney

Imagine your yard feeding you, the wildlife, and pollinators. Ideas and suggestions will be provided on how to incorporate edible plants into new and existing landscapes, along with some tips about keeping /handling the critters that may want to enjoy them too.

Growing and Using Herbs from Maren Christopher, Carver-Scott Extension Master Gardener
Growing herbs is easy and rewarding! Learn the basics of growing herbs, harvesting, and presentation. You will leave with recipes and enthusiasm galore for growing your own herbs.

Ways to Make Your Landscape Eco-Friendly from Rochelle Eastman, Carver-Scott Extension Master Gardener
Making your garden environmentally friendly can

sound like an overly complicated project. However, you'll learn there are a multitude of simple, sound gardening practices that can easily be implemented to make your landscape more eco-friendly.

Plant Seeds to Help Bees: Issues Facing Bees and the Importance of Good Forage from Ana Heck, Beekeeper, Project Coordinator, and Grant Writer with the University of Minnesota Bee Lab's Bee Squad

Minnesota is home to over 400 species of bees. Bees face several challenges, including pathogens, parasites, pesticides, and lack of pollen and nectar-rich flowers. University of Minnesota Bee Squad's Ana Heck will speak about the current issues facing bees, as well as opportunities to keep bees healthy.



Five facts about charitable contribution and your taxes

By Shawna Faith Thompson, Extension Educator

Many people donate to benefit charitable organizations. However, come tax time, the person who made the donation might *also* benefit. That's because taxpayers who donate to a charity may be able to claim a deduction for the donation on their federal tax return. Here are five facts about charitable donations:

- 1. Qualified charities.** A taxpayer must donate to a qualified charity to deduct their contributions. Gifts to individuals, political organizations, or candidates are **not** deductible. To check the status of a charity, taxpayers can use Exempt Organizations Select Check on IRS.gov.
- 2. Itemize deductions.** To deduct charitable contributions, taxpayers must file Form 1040 and itemize their deductions. To do this, taxpayers complete Schedule A, Itemized Deductions. They file this form with their tax return.
- 3. Getting something in return.** Taxpayers may receive something in return for their donation. This includes things such as merchandise, meals, and event tickets. Taxpayers can only deduct the amount of the donation that's more than the fair market value of the item they received. To figure their deduction, a taxpayer would subtract the value of the item received from the amount of their donation.
- 4. Type of donation.** For donations of property instead of cash, a taxpayer can only deduct the fair market value of the donated item. Fair market value is generally the price they would get if they sold the item on the open market. If they donate used clothing and household items, those items generally must be in good condition. Special rules apply to certain types of property donations, such as cars and boats.
- 5. Donations of \$250 or more.** If a taxpayer donates \$250 or more in cash or goods, they must have a written receipt from the charity. The statement must show:
 - The amount of the donation;
 - A description of any property given; and
 - Whether the taxpayer received any goods or services in exchange for their gift, and, if so, must provide a description and good faith estimate of the value of those goods or services.

Taxpayers can also use the Interactive Tax Assistant, Can I Deduct my Charitable Contributions. This tool helps determine if a charitable contribution is deductible. For more information, contact Shawna Faith Thompson, Financial Capability Educator, U of MN Extension at shawnaf@umn.edu.

Adapted from:

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/five-facts-about-charitable-contributions>



Scott County 4-Hers attended a Science Matters 3-D printing event Dec. 28 at Bayer Crop Science.

Bayer Crop Science hosts 4-Hers for STEM workshop

Thirty-three 4-Hers, along with parents and Scott County Commissioner Barbara Weckman Brekke, attended a *Science Matters* 3-D printing event Dec. 28 hosted in partnership with Scott County 4-H and Bayer Crop Science. This partnership was aimed to introduce Scott County youth career options in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and agriculture fields. During this career day, youth took part in a 3-D workshop where they participated in a Bayer Facilities tour, networked with Bayer professionals, as



well as attending a 3-D printing workshop where they had the hands-on experience of fabricating 4-H spinners.

This partnership addresses the need for enhanced STEM education and growing its workforce by fostering a love of scientific exploration in students across urban and rural areas around the country.

4-H Shooting Sports meeting set for March 1

An informational and orientation meeting about the 4-H Shooting Sports program is planned for Thursday, March 1, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the SCALE Regional Training Facility (17706 Valley View Drive, Jordan).

Shooting Sports is a game of skill, knowledge, practice, and concentration. In the 4-H Shooting Sports and Wildlife Project, youth gain important skills that carry over for them into the rest of their lives. Within the Shooting Sports Program, the focus is on decision making, teamwork, self-discipline, building self-confidence, and problem solving. They also focus on safety, sportsmanship, fostering positive relationships with peers and adults, building awareness of career opportunities, and strengthening connections with families through participation in lifelong recreational activities.

The Scott County 4-H Shooting Sports Program follows the curriculum from the University of Minnesota Extension Program, and is taught by national and state certified 4-H instructors. These adults instruct 4-H members in firearms safety and marksmanship and also on wildlife curriculum.

The shooting disciplines include ar-

chery, BB gun, air pistol, air rifle, .22 rifle, shotgun, muzzle loading, and wildlife. Within these disciplines, 4-H members are able to test their shooting, wildlife, and sportsmanship skills in county, state, and national competitions.

The Scott County Shooting Sports program is open to all youth in grades three through one year post high school and meets at the SCALE Regional Training Facility on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (January-August).

If you're interested in joining the program or would like to find out more information, please call the Scott County Extension Office at (952) 492-5388 or plan to attend the Shooting Sports Orientation and Informational meeting on March 1. Both youth and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting; we will be going over rules, forms, winter schedules, facility tour, and recommended equipment lists. You can register for 4-H that evening. There is a \$20 4-H enrollment fee, and \$30 Shooting Sports fee (purchase of individual equipment is *not* required; equipment is available for use during the program).

4-H dog project kick-off meeting is April 3

Does your dog sit, stay, and heel ... or is he in desperate need of some obedience training? Maybe you want to have some fun with your pet and try taking her through an obstacle course. Think about joining the Scott County 4-H Dog Project!

The Scott County 4-H Dog Training program is open to all youth in grades 3 through one year post high school. Dogs must be over 6 months old and up to date on all vaccinations. Training will be at the Scott County Fairgrounds (7151 190th Street West, Jordan) -- *training dates to be determined.*



If you're interested in joining the program or would like to get more information, call the Scott County Extension Office at (952) 492-5384 or plan to attend the Dog Training Informational Night on Thursday, April 3 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Both youth and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting. We will be going over rules, forms, schedules, facility tour, and recommended equipment lists. **No dogs** at this meeting. You can register for 4-H that evening. There is a \$20 4-H enrollment fee, and \$30 training fee.

The objectives of the Minnesota 4-H Dog Project are to develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, and sportsmanship. Youth will also experience pride and responsibility while being involved with their dog, learn a greater love for animals, and develop a more humane attitude towards them.

Within the dog project, young people have the opportunity to try three different specialization areas: **showmanship**, **obedience**, and **agility**. The purpose of *showmanship* is for 4-H members to develop skills and knowledge in dog show handling. Showmanship also allows members to learn about breeds of dogs and general grooming responsibilities. *Obedience* training is used to demonstrate the usefulness of dogs as companions. The basic objective of obedience is to produce dogs that have been trained and conditioned to always behave in the home, in public places, and in the presence of other dogs, in a manner that will reflect credit on the sport of obedience. The third area of training is agility. *Agility* training encompasses the dog's agility, briskness, confidence, and a handler's control over an obstacle course designed for dogs.



Library News

Libraries offer gardening programs, Winter Reads

Winter Reads

The Winter Reads adult reading program is in full swing this month! You can choose to participate at your branch library or online. In addition to weekly prize drawings, we've added a list of reading and winter activity suggestions to complete and earn a winter-themed button. There are also free author programs scheduled at our libraries. Check out the Winter Reads page at www.scottlib.org/WinterReads for more information.

Hands On 2018

If you're beginning to catch cabin fever, we have a nice distraction for you – Hands On, our art exploration series for adults. These art classes are for people who want to try out various art forms. This year we have classes on Chinese Brush Painting, Wire & Bead Jewelry, Calligraphy, Block Printing, String Art,

Pallet Signs, and more. The classes are free, and run February-April. Class size is limited, and advance registration is required. Visit your local library to pick up a brochure of the class offerings, or go to www.scottlib.org/Events to see the classes and to register.

Master Gardener programs

Spring is just around the corner, and thoughts of what to do with your garden this year may be flitting through your head. Get a head start with the Carver-Scott County Master Gardeners! Free programs begin in February and will cover such topics as vegetable gardening, annuals, fruit trees, and flowers for pollinators. Programs will be held February-April at the Shakopee and Prior Lake libraries. Check the events calendar at www.scottlib.org/Events for more information, or see below for a complete list. No registration required.

SHAKOPEE LIBRARY <small>235 S. Lewis (952) 233-9590</small>	
TUESDAYS at 6:00 PM	
Beginning Vegetable Gardening	February 20, 2018
Annuals: Summer Stars	February 27, 2018
Flowers for Pollinators	March 6, 2018
Container Gardening	March 13, 2018
Minnesota's Poisonous Plants	March 20, 2018
Fruit Trees for Your Home and Garden	March 27, 2018
PRIOR LAKE LIBRARY <small>16210 Eagle Creek Ave (952) 447-3375</small>	
MONDAYS at 6:30 PM	
Beginning Vegetable Gardening	February 26, 2018
Annuals: Summer Stars	March 5, 2018
Flowers for Pollinators	March 19, 2018
Container Gardening	March 26, 2018
Minnesota's Poisonous Plants	April 2, 2018
Fruit Trees for Your Home and Garden	April 16, 2018

STEM programs for preschoolers and families to begin in March

The Scott County Library is pleased to announce that we will be hosting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) events just for preschoolers and their families. These "First Step STEM" events will feature self-directed stations with preschool-friendly activities, like a wind tunnel, Code-A-Pillar, or kid microscopes, with take-home sheets to continue the fun after the event.

Each library location will hold at least one First Step STEM event in spring and one in summer, including morning, evening, and weekend events. Check the full schedule on: www.scottlib.org/events.



First Step STEM events are funded in part with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using federal funding, CFDA 45.310 – Library Services and Technology Act, Grants to States Program (LS-00-17-0024-17).

4-H animal science project helps non-farm youth lease animals

Kids often ask for a pet dog or cat, but what about the young people who beg their parents for a pet cow?

The leasing program within the 4-H animal science project a great opportunity for youth -- who may live in the city -- to experience showing an animal, even though they don't live on a farm. Participants will lease an animal (cows, chickens, goats, sheep, horse, et cetera), complete a lease agreement with the owner, work with that animal starting no later than May 15, be able to par-



ticipate at the County Fair, and potentially win a trip to the State Fair. Youth must be enrolled in 4-H and have a passion for animals. For more information on the leasing program or how to get involved in 4-H, please contact Ian Marquez at (952) 492-5384 or marqu350@umn.edu.

EmergenSCENE

By Captain Scott Haas
Emergency Management
and Communications Director



Evolution of emergency management in U.S. traced back to Clara Barton

The United States experienced an historic year of disasters in 2017. Together, we witnessed three major hurricanes, record wildfires in the west, and the deadliest mass shooting in our nation's modern history. In each of these events, local, state, and federal emergency managers played a role in the response to and/or recovery from the event. As a society, we've come to expect help from our government if and when we become victims of disasters, but surprisingly, the idea of help following a disaster is a relatively new concept. In fact, prior to the Galveston Hurricane of 1900, there was seldom any federal response to disasters in our nation; prior to 1950, there was no position similar to an emergency manager at the local level.

The history of emergency management in the United States can be traced back to one person: Clara Barton. Clara Barton was a Civil War Nurse who discovered a passion for helping people in their most desperate times. After the war, Clara devoted her life to helping victims of disasters and created the American Red Cross. For the next several decades, as disasters like the Johnstown Flood, the Great Chicago Fire, the Galveston Hurricane, and the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906 impacted our nation, Clara Barton and the Red Cross were often the first to arrive and the last to leave, delivering food, clothing, caskets, counseling, and other basic needs.



From around 1900 until the 1950s, most United States citizens did not expect the federal government to contribute to relief efforts following a disaster. The consensus at the time was that disaster relief was the responsibility of neighbors, faith-based organizations, and other charitable organizations. However, two things occurred in the 1950s that caused disaster relief and preparedness to evolve.

First, the Cold War created a need for local communities to have a Civil Defense professional who would help them prepare for attacks. Civil Defense professionals quickly morphed from preparing not only for a Soviet attack, but also for natural disasters. Civil Defense

professionals are considered the first of the modern emergency managers.

Another change that occurred in the 1950s was television. For the first time in history, rather than just hearing about or reading about a disaster, citizens saw the impacts of the disaster. People saw the devastation and the faces of the victims, and soon began demanding the government take a larger role in disaster relief.

Following the historic flooding caused by Hurricane Betsy in 1965, the National Flood Insurance Act was passed, which helped provide flood insurance to citizens who had property at risk of flooding. Today, many people still don't realize that most home insurance policies do not cover flooding.

In the 1970s, the Disaster Relief Act was passed. This act led to the creation of FEMA in 1979. FEMA was formed to be a disaster relief organization and had no directive to respond to disasters, they were instead created to help communities recover from disasters. Under the Disaster Relief Act, FEMA would not show up to a local disaster unless the local jurisdiction declares an emergency and the financial impact of that emergency reaches a certain dollar amount. The Disaster Relief Act was amended in 1988 and became known as the Stafford Act.

Emergency Management as a profession arrived in Minnesota in 1996, when Minnesota Statute Chapter 12, "Minnesota Emergency Management Act of 1996" was passed. Chapter 12 mandated that each county in Minnesota must have a director and deputy director of emergency management, and laid out what the duties of those positions are. It also created a state emergency management organization within the Department of Public Safety known as the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM).

The attacks on September 11, 2001 led to the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and gave emergency managers new responsibilities that included preparing and recovering from terrorist attacks. Emergency managers are now responsible for preparing for natural disasters, man-made disasters (such as a train derailment or power failure), and intentional acts.

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf states, and many failures occurred. One failure was the public's expectations of FEMA. FEMA, which was still considered a recovery agency, was criticized for their slow and inadequate response. Following the disaster, the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act was passed. This legislation reorganized FEMA, required emergency planning for vulnerable populations and pets, and allowed FEMA to become a response agency prior to the disaster when threats appeared imminent.

In 2017, FEMA was once again put to the test with Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. While there were still obvious improvements to be made in the disaster relief process, it was clear FEMA had learned lessons from Hurricane Katrina that improved their ability to manage devastating events today. While there were clear improvements, there were also gaping weaknesses that will hopefully be addressed.

Emergency management is a relatively new career in which responsibilities are quickly expanding. Today's emergency manager needs to have a vast range of skills in order to prepare for and respond to the threats and hazards that may occur anytime. Emergency managers have to have a mindset that allows them to believe a disaster can and will happen here, and preparing for the impact of those disasters needs to begin now.



SCALE

Scott County Association For Leadership And Efficiency

You've probably heard of it, and maybe even read about it already, but we're going to try and make the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (a.k.a., SCALE) a little more relevant to you and your neighbors by bringing you SCALE "news you can use" – updates on road projects, local events, community developments and programs, and other things you might want to know – such as how your tax dollars are being put to use.

City of Savage

City Administrator Barry Stock announces retirement

After serving in local government for more than 35 years, Barry Stock is retiring effective March 31, 2018. The City of Savage greatly appreciates his leadership, dedication to public service, and all he has done for our community. Stock provided a three month notice to allow the Mayor and City Council time to select the next Savage City Administrator. The Mayor and City Council immediately began the process to ensure a smooth transition in organizational leadership.



Barry Stock

Savage earns Triple A bond rating

Standard and Poor's (S&P) recently upgraded the City of Savage's bond rating to AAA. The much-coveted Triple A bond rating is the highest credit rating a city can receive, and puts Savage in a very select group with only 22 other Minnesota cities who have achieved a AAA rating from either S&P or Moody's.

The upgrade reflects Standard & Poor's opinion of the City's solid budgetary performance and strong financial management. "This is a significant milestone and a goal that we have been working to achieve over the past 15 years," said City Administrator Barry Stock. "This top credit rating is reflective of the City's commitment to managing taxpayer dollars responsibly," added Mayor Janet Williams.

The Triple A rating puts the City in a better position for capital improvements. "The higher the bond rating, the lower the risk," explains City Finance Director Julie Stahl. "The lower the risk, the lower the interest rate charged to the borrower. Simply put, Savage can borrow money for capital projects like fixing roads, sewers, and parks, and repay it at the lowest possible interest rate thanks to the Triple A rating."

"Our hard work, year after year, in making smart and strategic investments will come back to Savage taxpayers in the form of reduced borrowing costs when interest rates start going up," says Stock.

In its report, S&P listed many factors that contributed to Savage's high rating, including:

- A very strong economy with market values back to pre-recession highs;
- Strong wealth and income indicators;
- Per capita income that is 130 percent higher than the nationwide average;
- Very strong management with strong financial practices;
- Reliance on local revenue over state-provided aid to fund operations;
- Very strong budget flexibility, with an available fund balance of 57 percent of operating expenditures; and
- Over 81 percent of direct debt scheduled to be repaid within 10 years.

2018 Parks and Recreation calendar now available

This year's calendar features beautiful photographs of our community parks and natural areas, and includes

information on the family-friendly activities, events, and programs that are offered throughout the year. To get your free copy, stop by Savage Public Works (13770 Dakota Avenue, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.), City Hall (6000 McColl Drive, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), or the Savage Public Library.



The Savage Day of Service attracts a variety of volunteers.

Service Day Saturday, April 21

Stop by Savage City Hall between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on April 21 to participate in multiple service projects benefitting local non-profits. Travel around the city campus and complete simple hand-on projects, like making a fleece dog blanket to benefit an animal shelter, repacking bulk bags of rice for a local feed shelf, or decorating lunch bags for Meals on Wheels. Enjoy complimentary face painting, chair massages, visits with the police and fire departments, food, and so much more. This is a free event, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors. For more information, go to servicedaysaturday.wixsite.com/savage.

From Shakopee:

Easter Egg Hunt is March 24

Hop to it! You are cordially invited by the Easter Bunny to the annual Easter Egg Hunt & Candy Grab at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 24 at the Community Center and Muenchow Fields. Enjoy egg hunts by age at 11 a.m. with activities, games, crafts, prizes, and more. Be sure to bring your Easter basket.

This free event is held rain, snow, or shine! The event is scheduled to take place outdoors, but will be moved inside if inclement weather. Please be on time --the egg hunt is over quickly! Additional activities take place after the hunt is concluded. The Easter Egg Hunt is sponsored by Shakopee Parks and Recreation and the Shakopee Jaycees.



The Shakopee Easter Egg Hunt will be held March 24 at the Community Center.

Top Secret Project exhibit comes to Shakopee March 15

Shakopee Police Department is teaming up with the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation to bring the *Top Secret Project: Decoding the Mysteries of the Teen Domain* to Shakopee Thursday, March 15.

The *Top Secret Project* is a unique traveling exhibit designed to help parents recognize unfamiliar hazards, which are often in plain sight. Using a simulated teenager's bedroom, the interactive exhibit includes hundreds of items, which when seen through an education lens, could be a sign there's a problem. The exhibit is interactive and accompanied by a presentation and discussion with presenters from Hazelden.

News you can use...

6-6:30 p.m. Resource Fair and Bedroom Exhibit
6:30-8 p.m. Presentation/Discussion
8-8:30 p.m. Informal Q&A

This free event will be held at Shakopee West Junior High, 200 10th Ave. E.

From the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community:

In keeping with its tradition of giving, the SMSC provided nearly \$18 million in donations this past year for education and scholarships, veterans, youth causes, health initiatives, economic development, and local communities. Working with local governments and communities on mutually beneficial projects represented some of the more meaningful and rewarding relationships of the past year, and the Community looks forward to continuing in this spirit of collaboration in the months and years to come.

Shakopee Dakota Convenience Store unveils new look

After months of renovation, Shakopee Dakota Convenience Store #1 has officially unveiled its new and improved space to the public. Guests can now expect new selections and old favorites in an inviting, fully remodeled interior space. Located across the street from Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, the store's large-scale remodel freshened up the interior space and now includes additional selections in the deli.

Playworks plans Winter Wonderland Party

Looking for a fun way to get out and about with your family this winter? Mark your calendar for the Playworks Winter Wonderland Party on Feb. 17 and bring the kids down for an afternoon of snow-themed fun. From 3 – 6 p.m., the Playworks Atrium will be transformed into a scene of wintry magic, with activities ranging from slide relays and a snowball toss to "pin the carrot on the snowman" and making snow and snowflakes. All are welcome to attend! Standard Atrium rates apply, and children ages 4 - 12 may be dropped off.



A grand opening was held in January for the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community's Mystic Lake Center which features a 70,000-square-foot event center and 180 new hotel rooms

Mystic Lake Center now open

Construction of Mystic Lake Center—the SMSC's new hotel tower and convention space—has officially reached its conclusion, with the space celebrating its grand opening in January. Featuring a 70,000-square-foot event center and 180 new hotel rooms, Mystic Lake Center can accommodate groups of all sizes for a variety of event needs, including conferences, expos, weddings, business meetings, and other special events. The space has been designed to reflect and highlight the natural scenery of the area, with sweeping views of the golf course and natural elements woven into many of its interior features. The public opening in early 2018 capped off a nearly two-year-long project to bring the state-of-the-art building to life. Visit mysticlakecenter.com for more details about everything the center has to offer.

To prevent identify theft, consider fraud alert, freeze or lock on credit files

After the Equifax breach, some people are considering placing a *fraud alert* on their credit file. Others will *freeze* or *lock* their credit files to help prevent identity thieves from opening new accounts in their name. Here are some FAQs to help you decide what's best for you.

Fraud alert

- **What is it?** A fraud alert requires companies to verify your identity before extending new credit. Usually that means calling you to check if you're really trying to open a new account.
- **How does it work?** The process is easy -- you contact any one of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, TransUnion) and that one must notify the other two.
- **How long does it last?** An initial fraud alert lasts 90 days. After 90 days, you can renew your alert for an additional 90 days, as many times as you want. Military service members who deploy can get an active duty alert that lasts one year, renewable for the period of deployment. Identity theft victims (whose information has been misused, not just exposed in a breach) are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which lasts seven years.
- **How much does it cost?** Fraud alerts are free.
- **Is this for me?** With a fraud alert, you keep access to your credit and federal law protects you. But an initial fraud alert lasts only 90 days, and then you'll need to remind yourself to renew it every 90 days.

Credit freeze

- **What is it?** A credit freeze limits access to your credit file so no one, *including you*, can open new accounts until the freeze is lifted.
- **How does it work?** To be fully protected, you must place a freeze with each of the three credit reporting agencies. Freezes can be placed by phone or online. You'll get a PIN to use each time you freeze or unfreeze, which may take one to three business days.
- **How long does it last?** A freeze lasts until you temporarily lift or permanently remove it (except in a few states where freezes expire after seven years).
- **How much does it cost?** Fees are set by state law. Generally, it costs \$5 to \$10 each time you freeze or unfreeze your account with each credit reporting agency. You can get a free freeze if you

are an identity theft victim, or in some states, if you're over age 62.

- **Is this for me?** Freezes are generally best for people who aren't planning to take out new credit. Often, that includes older adults, people under guardianship, and children. People who want to avoid monthly fees also may prefer freezes over locks.
- ## Credit lock
- **What is it?** Like a freeze, a credit lock limits access to your credit file so no one, *including you*, can open new accounts until you unlock your credit file.
 - **How does it work?** Like a freeze, to be fully protected, you must place locks with all three credit reporting agencies. With locks, however, there's no PIN and usually no wait to lock or unlock your credit file (although the current Equifax lock can take 24 to 48 hours). You can lock and unlock on a computer or mobile device through an app -- but not with a phone call.
 - **How long does it last?** Locks last only as long as you have an ongoing lock agreement with each of the credit reporting agencies. In some cases, that means paying monthly fees to maintain your lock service.
 - **How much does it cost?** Credit reporting agencies can set and change lock fees at any time. As of today, Equifax offers free locks as part of its free post-breach credit monitoring. Experian and TransUnion may charge monthly fees, often about \$20.
 - **Is this for me?** Depending on your particular lock agreement, your fees and protections may change over time. So, if you sign up for a lock, it's hard to be sure what your legal protections will be if something goes wrong later. Also, monthly lock fees can quickly exceed the cost of freezes, especially if the lock fees increase over time.

For more information about ways to protect your identity, check out the FTC's resource page about the Equifax data breach. And if your personal information is misused, visit IdentityTheft.gov to report identity theft and get a personal recovery plan.

If you have any questions at all please feel free to contact me, Shawna Faith Thompson, U of MN Extension Financial Capability Educator, at (952) 492-5383 or shawnaft@umn.edu.

Source: *Lisa Weintraub Schifferle, Attorney, FTC, Division of Consumer & Business Education*

Watershed plan to be available for review near mid-March

The Scott Watershed Management Organization has been busy throughout 2017 updating its Watershed Management Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to define top issues and priorities for managing, protecting, and preserving natural surface and groundwater systems within the Scott WMO and Scott County. The plan includes goals, policies, and strategies.

The first draft release of the 2019 – 2026 Plan will be in mid-March. The public will have 60 days from the release date to review the draft Plan and submit comments. Please check the website at <http://www.scottcountymn.gov/1488/Comprehensive-Water-Resource-Plan> to see the announcement and to have a chance to comment on the draft Plan. Once the draft Plan is posted, instructions on how to submit comments will be included.

Safety SCENE

By Luke Hennen
Scott County Sheriff



Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet helps find vulnerable missing children, adults

Few things are as scary as finding out one of your loved ones is missing. When your loved one has a condition such as autism, dementia, or short-term memory loss, these vulnerable populations sometimes have a tendency to wander off and get lost. These families are constantly taking measures to ensure their loved ones don't walk off and become potential victims.

The Scott County Sheriff's Office understands the amount of vigilance these families endure on a daily basis. We also understand that if these individuals go missing, the risk for injuries or a loss of life is more elevated than the risk to an average citizen. For this reason, our office uses Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet to help locate our vulnerable population if they go missing.

The Sheriff's Office has partnered with Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet for over eight years. The program, which currently serves 15 clients and their care providers in Scott County, assists our office in finding these individuals in a timely manner. Individuals who participate in Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet are fitted with a bracelet/transmitter that makes it possible for deputies to locate the client if they wander and get lost.

One of the clear benefits of Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet has been the relationships our deputies have established with those who are served by this program. Scott County Sheriff's Office Deputies make monthly visits with the families involved in this program to ensure the devices are working properly and replace batteries, but also more importantly, to establish a close relationship with those who have the bracelet/transmitter. The deputies speak with the Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet clients personally. The hope in these visits is, should a search need to occur, the lost victim will feel comfortable being approached by a deputy.

The Sheriff's Office use of Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet was recently used as an example by Senator Amy Klobuchar as a progressive way to serve children on the autism spectrum and citizens with cognitive disorders during her Dec. 10 press conference to promote the bi-partisan "Kevin and Avonte's Law." Project Lifesaver is clearly beneficial to our community, especially our vulnerable populations.

If you or someone you know is interested in Project Lifesaver, you can register your loved ones directly through the Safety Net website at www.safetynettracking.com or by contacting Sgt. Bob Ryan at rryan@co.scott.mn.us or by calling him at (952) 496-8410.

Project Lifesaver/SafetyNet is an example of how our office can work alongside our citizens to increase the safety of all. Our deputies want to help people who are in danger, but they would much prefer to keep everyone out of danger in the first place. This program allows us to build upon our relationships with our citizens while also utilizing technology to enhance the safety of our vulnerable population.



Follow me on Facebook @sheriffhennen



Library Director Jacob Grussing (left) talked to County Commissioners and staff as they toured the Readmobile.

Readmobile

From page 1

The Readmobile is not a traditional bookmobile. Rather than simply functioning as a mobile book pick-up and drop-off site, the Readmobile is all about building the capacity of parents and caregivers to guide the literacy development of the children under their care.

Preparing children for success in school begins with quality opportunities for a strong start, which is why the County is focusing on children birth to age 5 and their caregivers, said Grussing. Research shows that a child's capacity to learn begins at birth. Nurturing

care and stimulation during the first five years builds the foundation for future learning and success. Economists also report that high quality early learning is critical and cost-effective. Quality early learning experiences provide long-term benefits to both the child and society, alleviating poverty and resulting in lower incarceration rates, higher graduation rates, better health, and a strong ability to find and keep employment.

Visit www.scottlib.org/events to learn about the Readmobile Open House on Feb. 21 at the Marshall Road Transit Station in Shakopee.

Veterans' SCENE

By Jerry Brua
Director of Veterans Services



Contaminated water at Camp Lejeune may have caused health problems for veterans

In the early 1980s, contaminants were found in wells at Camp Lejeune, NC. The contaminants included trichloroethylene (TCE) -- a metal degreaser, perchloroethylene (PCE) -- a dry cleaning agent, and vinyl chloride, benzene, and other compounds. It is estimated that the wells were contaminated since the mid-1950s until February 1985 when the wells were shut down.

There is evidence of an association between certain diseases and the contaminants found in the water supply at Camp Lejeune during this period of time. The Veterans Administration has established a **presumptive service connection** for eight diseases (listed below). Active duty, reserve, and National Guard members who served a Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River, NC. for a minimum of 30 days (cumulative) from August 1, 1953 through December 31, 1987 may be eligible for disability benefits.

The presumptive diseases are: Adult leukemia, aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes, bladder cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, multiple myeloma, Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and Parkinson's disease.

Evidence requirements: Records that show service at Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River for at least 30 days (cumulative) between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987. Medical evidence showing you have a current disease on the list of presumptive conditions. Must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

Widows: If you are the widow of a veteran who service at Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River during the eligible period and the veteran passed away from one of the presumptive conditions you may be eligible for VA benefits.

Family member health care reimbursement: Family members of veterans who also resided at Camp Lejeune during the qualifying period are eligible for reimbursement of out-of-pocket medical expenses related to 15 covered health conditions. VA can only pay treatment costs that remain after payment from your health plans.

The 15 conditions eligible for reimbursement for family members are: Esophageal cancer, breast cancer, kidney cancer, multiple myeloma, renal toxicity, female infertility, scleroderma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, lung cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia, myelodysplastic syndromes, hepatic steatosis, miscarriage, and neurobehavioral effects.

If you have questions, need more information or wish to discuss filing a claim with the Veterans Administration, please contact the Scott County Veterans Service Office at (952) 496-8176.

Comp Plan Update From page 3

and expansion programs (e.g., Economic Gardening or other enterprise supports) to assist firms with economic recovery post-disruption;

- Identifying strategies to build a resilient workforce that can better shift between jobs or industries when their core employment is threatened through job-driven skills strategies and support organizations;
- Working with Scott County's First Stop Shop, using geographic information systems (GIS) and economic databases to track available development sites in Scott County;
- Ensuring redundancy in telecommunications and the County-owned fiber networks to protect commerce and public safety in the event of natural or manmade disasters; and
- Promoting affordable and workforce housing options so residents can live and work in Scott County in close proximity.

4. Promote local food production and healthy eating.

The most recent County Residents' Survey asked citizens about food insecurity and its importance to community planning. Results found that 89 percent of respondents said "access to adequate and healthy food choices is *essential* or *very important* to advancing a healthy community." In response to these survey results, the *2040 Plan* delves deeper into food planning issues.

"Food system planning is a relatively



new topic getting covered in long-range comprehensive plans," said Davis,

although many elements of the food system -- such as growing, processing, packaging, distribution, and disposal are directly aligned with traditional planning topics around land use, farmland preservation, industrial zoning, transportation, freight movement, recycling, and landfills. Planning for a more robust local food system is one way to mitigate the spikes in food costs, supply, and quality if a community is solely dependent on the national food system.

The *2040 Plan* includes a map showing how many grocery stores can be reached by vehicle or transit ride in 10 minutes from any location in the county. This mapping analysis found that most residents (97 percent of the population) live within a 10-minute drive or ride to at least one grocery store. There is a small pocket in the southeastern part of the County (in the corners of New Market and Cedar Lake townships) where citizens reside outside a 10-minute drive. This food access mapping was conducted and shared with each city, and included additional information such as local bus routes, sidewalks, trails, and neighborhoods where many households are without a vehicle.

"Hopefully, all of these different strategies advanced in the *2040 Plan* will make Scott County more resilient and better positioned in the future if we do see some shocks or surprises," said Davis.

Youth may sign up for April 13 Future Leaders program

Scott County will be hosting the 17th annual Future Leaders of Scott County event on Friday, April 13. This event affords selected 8th and 9th graders from Scott County schools who are studying government a hands-on opportunity to learn about county government outside of the classroom environment.

County officials and staff have been visiting 8th and 9th grade government classes throughout the County, briefly introducing the topic of county government and inviting interested students to apply for the *Future Leaders of Scott County Day* program. Selected students -- limited to 100 due to space and budget constraints -- will be matched with County employees (mentors). Students will then spend the day "shadowing"

their mentors and preparing for and participating in either a mock jury trial, a mock county board meeting, or visiting the SCALE Regional Training Facility in Jordan to see up close how law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public safety professionals are trained for their live-saving work.

Interested students should watch for announcement of the event at their respective schools. The deadline to apply is Feb. 28. If you are an interested student studying civics -- or the parent of an interested student who does not attend a traditional school in Scott County -- please contact Tracy Cervenka at (952) 496-8164 for further information, or Google "Future Leaders of Scott County."



The Juvenile Alternative Facility (JAF) is on Valleyview Drive near Jordan.

JAF From page 1

more intensive medical or mental health services.

"A parent can't place a child here," explained Eric Schultz, a JAF program supervisor. "Youth need to be placed here through the police or social workers with a court order."

Youth who come through corrections are placed for a 36-hour hold. Prior to the end of that hold, they must be seen in court. After a preliminary court appearance, they could be sent back to the JAF, or released under adult supervision until further juvenile court proceedings occur.

Other youth may be brought to the facility on a 72-hour health and safety hold, often because of homelessness or from problems that require that they leave their home or current living situation. Others may be waiting to get into a treatment program, explained Mark Bouressa, a JAF program supervisor.

All of the youth participate in a thorough assessment process to determine health, educational, and emotional issues. If they are in the facility for 10 days or longer, they must have an individual treatment plan with goals. These are established by meeting with the youth, parents, and professionals, said Ann Hanson, the JAF case manager. The plans help determine each youth's next steps and how they can achieve them as quickly as possible.

The JAF is designed for 16 youth, five girls and 11 boys. They are segregated in different parts of the residential building that opened in 1998 and is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Corrections. The school building opened in 2004 and is staffed by two licensed teachers and a paraprofessional from the Southwest Metro Intermediate District (formerly the Carver/Scott Educational Cooperative). Academic credits earned are transferred to the students' home schools.

Residents begin their day at 6:30 a.m., with classes starting at 8:30 a.m. Food is provided by the Scott County Jail. Youth also have available daily group sessions, counseling services

from the Scott County Mental Health Center, recreation, community projects, cultural activities, behavioral management assignments, cognitive skills, training, and evaluations. There is an outdoor basketball and volleyball court on site, as well as a group room for ping pong, yoga, and other activities, but in order to ensure the youth have enough opportunities for physical activity, they are bused to the Dakota Fitness Center twice a week. Group outings to parks, service projects such as Feed My Starving Children or Loaves and Fishes, and the County Fair are permitted for those who earn privileges. Youth also have assigned chores at the JAF, and they can earn an allowance of \$3.50 a week for personal items such as soda and candy.

Youth are banned from using cell phones and -- with the exception of supervised classroom time -- computers. Five phone calls to family members are permitted per week; calls are dialed and supervised by staff. Calls to attorneys and professional workers are also allowed, as well as visits. The only other visitors permitted are family members and clergy, and those visits need to be scheduled with staff. "Being a bit secluded helps the kids focus on working on going home," said Soboy.

The average stay at the JAF is about 20 days, and it is rare for someone to stay longer than six months, said Soboy. Most youth return home or to foster care.

Since there are not many facilities like the JAF in the state, staff receives calls for placement from other counties almost daily, said Schultz. If beds are available and the placement is appropriate for the JAF, the youth are accepted under contracts. Typically, only about half of the residents are from Scott County. Some may be from as far away as Winona County.

"Our goal is to create a safe, stable, and supportive place for the kids," said Soboy, who has worked at the facility since it opened 20 years ago. "We all want them to move on to the next step in meeting their goals."

Historical SCENE

From Codeine to Cherry Coke -- A brief history of drug stores in Scott County

By Kathleen Klehr, Scott County Historical Society Executive Director

Anyone that's needed cough syrup, pain relievers, antibiotics, or other necessary medications knows that a trip to the local drugstore is usually all that's required to help us along the road to recovery. The local drugstore has long held a strong place in the history of our neighborhoods and hometowns.

Pharmacy was *do-it-yourself* from the start.¹ Prior to the 18th century, apothecaries not only mixed and dispensed their own compounds, they often prescribed them too. It was in the 1700s when specialty apothecary shops began to pop up – early models of modern drugstores. One of the first in colonial America was established in 1729, and manufactured medicines throughout the Revolutionary War. At the same time, medicine shows and “snake-oil” salesmen would travel from village to village hawking some type of medicinal remedies in sparsely populated areas. There was no method of control or regulation of the sale of products, many of which were mixed with questionable material and could be harmful. Although the mixing of remedies has a long history, the dispensing of drugs from a registered pharmacist didn't begin in the early 1800s.

It wasn't until a meeting of apothecaries in 1821 that the first formal college of pharmacy was established with the founding of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy (PCP)³. This body set a strict code of ethics and expelled anyone that “adulterated” medications or knowingly sold “articles of that character.”⁴ They also set up a committee of inspection to verify the purity, safety, and effectiveness of medicines – a game changer! They published formulas for the fabrication of previously “secret-formula” patent medicines, which was an essential step toward self-sufficient pharmaceutical manufacturing in the U.S.⁵

Miss Piesinger of New Prague was the president of the Minnesota State Board of Pharmacy in 1923 – the first woman in the U.S. to become the president of a state board. She had been in business in New Prague since she purchased a drugstore in 1908; she ran the business with her sister, Barbara Piesinger. When Miss Piesinger

purchased another drugstore in Northfield, Barbara remained to run the New Prague store.

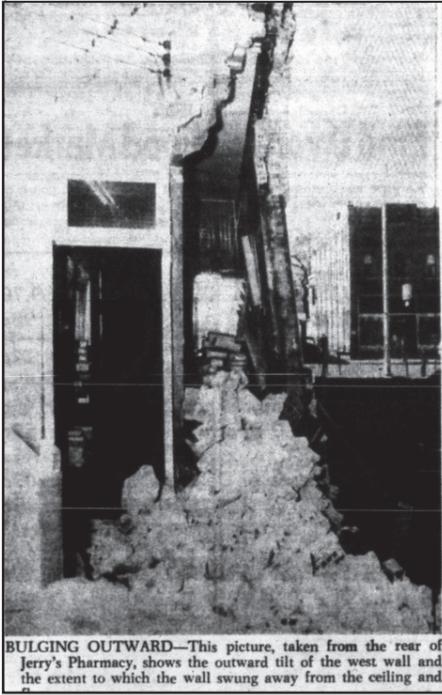
Pharmacies not only created and sold medicines, they also sold a variety of other items, from cleaning supplies to ice cream sodas. Schoell's Drug Store placed a Christmas ad in the 1898 *Belle Plaine Herald* showcasing goods other than medicines available for purchase, and Geo. J. Stratton, druggist, placed a paint ad.

Drugstores not only dispensed pills, powders, and tinctures, they also created fountain drinks to cure or aid some illnesses. The drinks were concoctions or extracts of various drugs that were flavored and effervesced to make them palatable. Many of these early drinks contained cocaine and caffeine – a combination used to cure headaches. The soda fountain was a place to go to get some “pep.”⁶ Subsequently, the 1914 Harrison Act banned the use of cocaine and opiates in over-the-counter products, but by that time the Liquid Carbonic Company showed up with “soft drinks” that weren't habit forming – just *flavor*⁷. The drugstore soda fountain really took off in the 1920s during prohibition, filling a void caused by the closing of bars.⁸ “The bar is dead, the fountain lives, and soda is king!”⁹

Drugstores were social hubs, experiencing a golden age from the 1900s to the 1950s. During this time, pharmacists owned their drugstores and soda fountains. Pharmacists would take a doctor's prescription and make the medication by scratch. They needed to know how to compound chemicals and extracts into various dosages and forms like capsules, tablets, and liquids. In the early 1900s, companies started showing up that created active chemicals for pharmacists to purchase, making less work for them¹⁰; however, compounding continued to be practiced by every pharmacy until the late 1950s.

By the 1960s, locally owned and operated drugstores began to find it difficult to comply with the volume of government regulations. Small family drugstores would often have people whose only job was filling out forms to comply with regulations, and faced a decline in reimbursement from insurance companies. Larger, national chains were able to get better deals with insur-

Building Buckles And Partially Collapses As Spectators Watch



BULGING OUTWARD—This picture, taken from the rear of Jerry's Pharmacy, shows the outward tilt of the west wall and the extent to which the wall swung away from the ceiling and

ance companies and thus thrive.

It was during this time that Jim Brady opened a Walgreens in Savage (1962), and Jack Andrews opened a Rexall Drug Store in Prior Lake (1961). An article in the October 4, 1962 *Minnesota Valley Review* stated the Brady Walgreens would have 48 departments, a coffee shop, and gifts as well as a pharmacy, all run by friendly Irish gentleman, Jim Brady. A *Prior Lake American* article not only outlined various departments and products, it also outlined Mr. Andrews' background and qualifications as well as he and his wife's religious and service organization membership.¹¹

The most unusual drugstore story came from New Prague. Jerry Smith, owner of Jerry's Pharmacy, had his business (literally) crumble before him in 1954 when nearby construction caused the collapse of the west wall of his building. After careful inspection, citizens helped Mr. Smith salvage stock, although the building was a total loss.¹²

Each town in Scott County had at least one drugstore, all with similar histories: Family run businesses, located in downtown buildings, boasting

a soda fountains, and shifting over time to an owner-operated chain stores. The drugstore was a town staple, providing much-needed items from medicine to comic books, Cherry Cokes to greeting cards, and each owner took pride in their business and contributed to town memories and culture.

Learn more about drugstores and businesses in Scott County at the SCHS research library – located at 235 Fuller Street South in Shakopee. You can also visit on the web at www.scottcountyhistory.org.

(Endnotes)

1 It wasn't until the 1900s when most pharmacies stocked their shelves partially with medicines prefabricated by the growing pharmaceutical industry instead of custom-produced medicines made by individual pharmacists. The pharmacist was *the* quality control expert.

3 Pharmacy schools acted as professional associations and promoted the education and profession of pharmacist, calling themselves apothecaries. They called out “inferior druggists” and questioned their motives – the term “druggist” at this time was a negative term denoting a non-trained medication provider.

4 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_pharmacy_in_the_United_States#cite_ref-Hunsberger1_15-0

5 One of the earliest notices of a drugstore in Scott County was found in the *Scott County Courier*, September 29, 1877, p. 2, col. 3, states the Klinkhammer drugstore had already been in business in Scott County for 10 years.

6 <http://drugstoremuseum.org/index.php/soda-fountain/soda-fountain-history>.

7 *Ibid.*

8 Prior to Prohibition, most drugstores did not have a soda fountain or sandwich counter.

9 <http://drugstoremuseum.org/index.php/soda-fountain/soda-fountain-history>.

10 <https://www.drugstoremuseum.com/compounding-pharmacy/>

11 *Prior Lake American*, June 7, 1961, p.1.

12 *New Prague Times*, May 13, 1954, p.1.

SCHS exhibits feature tourism, Great War in Scott County

Wish You Were Here: Tourism in Scott County: Scott County has been a vacation destination for over a century! This exhibit explores the many tourist spots that have attracted visitors over the years, including the resorts at Prior Lake, Mudbaden Sulphur Springs, the Renaissance Festival, Canterbury Park, Mystic Lake, Valleyfair, Elko Speedway, and more! See amazing photos and artifacts, and share your favorite memories of these fun places! Exhibit open until August 2018.

The Great War in Scott County: This exhibit marks the 100th anniversary of America's entry into World War I. Explore the war's impact on Scott County through the stories of those who served abroad and those who aided the effort from home. Exhibit open through November 2018.

All Things Minnesota Book Club, Thursdays, 3 – 5 p.m. The All Things Minnesota Book Club meets monthly

at the SCHS. New members always welcome! *Free.* (SCHS requests that book club members become Historical Society members.)

Getting Your (Indiana) JONES On: How Indiana Went Wrong *gasp*, Thursday, February 22, 6 – 8 p.m. Game Night, archaeology style! Get inside the brain of an Archaeologist and their persistent questions about ethics. *Free* – registrations required at <http://bit.ly/2IYIoWn>.

Getting Your (Indiana) JONES On: What's in Indy's Pack, March 22, 6 - 8 p.m. Discover the type of tools needed to dig in archaeology from books to trowels. Workshop led by Archaeologist Steven Blondo. *Free*, but registrations required at <http://bit.ly/2F1XaUV>.

Scott County Crazy Quilters, Thursdays, 6 – 8 p.m. Join in the hand-craft fun, all levels of skill

welcome. *Free.* (SCHS requests that Quilter members become Historical Society members.)



St. Patrick's Day – Kids Kraft, Saturday, February 24, 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. Listen to St. Patrick's Day stories and make a “lucky shamrock” to take home. *Free*, but registrations are requested. This program introduces children to museums, supports literacy, and provides an opportunity for great family fun!

Easter Fun Kids Kraft, Saturday, March 31, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. For ages



2-8. Peter Cotton Tail sniffs spring in the air, and we're having lots of fun with Easter stories and a craft, plus a special Easter egg hunt in the Stans Garden! *Free*, but registration required for supplies. This program introduces children to museums, supports literacy, and provides an opportunity for great family fun!

Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SCHSHistory and follow us on Twitter @ScottCountyHist. Call (952) 445-0378, email info@scottcountyhistory.org, or visit www.scottcountyhistory.org for more information. Scott County Historical Society is located at 235 Fuller St. S. in Shakopee.

County asset managers aided by new technology

Scott County's most valuable and critical physical assets are dispersed far and wide across its 767-mile highway system. The days of tracking these roadway assets on paper maps, spreadsheets, and field notebooks are coming to an end. With the aid of new technology, County asset managers have moved towards implementing web-based, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as a solution to help oversee public work's assets. GIS helps County staff identify, catalog, assess, track, and maintain any number of assets, such as pavement condition, street signs, traffic signals, culverts, guard rails, even down to the paint striping on the roadways. GIS enables field workers to view assets and related information from the convenience of a smart phone, digital pad, or computer with a click of a mouse.

This move to a more mobile asset management system is part of the County's larger focus on data-driven decision making. The County's GIS department is on the front lines of this new focus making sure staff knows what data is available and how to keep it as accurate and up-to-date as possible. "We are getting a lot of requests from County staff for mobile applications that allow them to collect and generate data out in the field. This mobile approach has positive effects on data accuracy, updatability, and staff efficiency," said Tony Monsour, a County GIS analyst. "Without having to transfer notes from clipboards and pictures from camera memory cards, the amount of errors and time involved in these tasks has gone down dramatically."

One of the newer technologies GIS staff is using is a mobile application called "Collector" developed by ESRI. This mobile application gives staff a platform to perform higher accuracy data collection while synchronizing with the County's GIS system in almost real time. Matching Global Positioning System (GPS) technologies to this type of field work gives staff the versatility of using mobile devices such as smart phones or tablets, and provides the abil-



Today's surveyors use GPS total stations to collect digital data about assets.

ity for field staff to quickly improve data collection work flows.

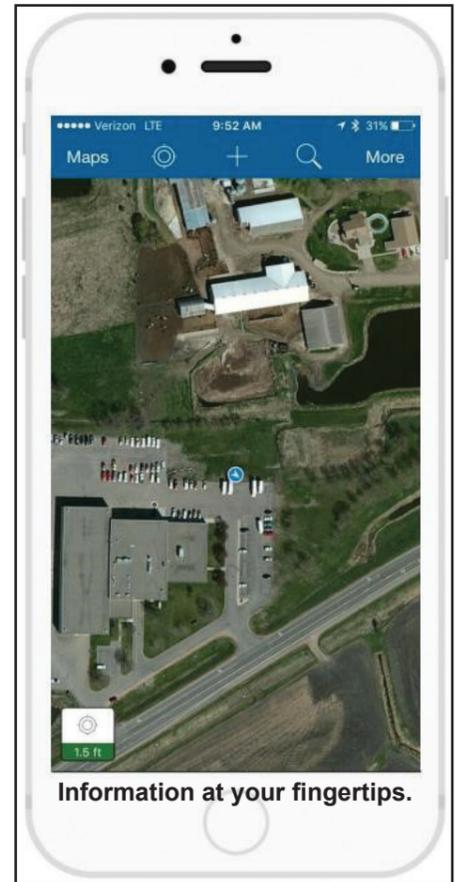
In the past, conventional survey methods were used to collect information in the field using handwritten notes. Staff drew on maps and typed out corresponding tables with information (such as pipe size or sign type). These maps and spreadsheets would be used by highway maintenance crews out in the field, and stored back in the office in rolled-up tubes or in flat files. That methodology is changing. Today's surveyors use GPS total stations to collect digital data about assets, then feed this information into GIS programs that produce highly accurate digital mapping that can be easily accessed by managers on-screen and in the field.

This technology is useful to a growing county like Scott that continues to add new assets with each new lane mile added to the highway system, and it also enables field crews to verify characteristics of existing assets. For example, one of the characteristics captured for signs is a requirement to comply with the Federal Highway Administration standards for sign reflectivity (or how visible a sign appears when illuminated with headlights). Field personnel can

now log this characteristic, along with type of post, condition of sign, post height, and other details right in a collector app. Other assets, such as drainage outfall structures, can be inspected in the field to see how the structure meets the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program standards. Field personnel can log the type of outfall, stream, or water body receiving runoff discharge, the presence of illicit discharge, and overall condition of the structure.

Bringing all of this information on various assets – both new and existing – into one single database has its advantages, according to GIS analyst Aaron Chisholm. It enables staff to create a system of overlay mapping that allows asset managers to view multiple layers containing a vast amount of information simultaneously. And then going even deeper than just mapping assets alone, Chisholm explained that GIS and asset software can support planning and prioritizing work activities; tracking progress and costs; triggering work orders that automate the process for reoccurring maintenance; and notifying crews to perform work through smart phone and digital pads being used in the field. As a result, work crews experience a more efficient response time when having access to asset mapping, historic records, digital work orders, and inspection forms from their field vehicles. Field crews can also close out their work orders and inspection forms in the field, sending notification to managers, through the GIS asset management program that work has been completed.

As the asset information is entered and updated over time, managers can run reports on costs associated with assets located within a spatial region (i.e., township, watershed district), or reports on assets of a certain characteristic (i.e., failed reflectivity assessment, damaged guardrails). This single database becomes an invaluable tool that can help support budgeting for future rehabilitation projects through informative maps showing failing assets thematically.



With the increased use of spatial technology in the County's decision-making processes, GIS staff strive to make sure that this technology is being used properly so that its output -- typically maps -- are portrayed accurately. Monsour knows there is a growing demand for GIS-based asset management and workflow efficiencies across the departments, and the possible use of this technology is endless. "The difficult part will be keeping up with the data owners and ensuring we have the most accurate information available. The other component that makes our job fun and interesting, yet difficult, is keeping up with the current technologies available to us," said Monsour. "The technology is always improving. Our goal is to make it all so seamless that our staff is unaware they are even using GIS for their work."

Living on the Land course begins in April

Want to raise sheep, but have been too *sheepish* to ask for information? Want to know what's the difference between sod and soil? Can a pasture also be a pig pen? Would you like to grow your knowledge of what it takes to live in the country or get more enjoyment out of your current acreage?

Living on the Land is an eight-session course offered by the University of Minnesota Extension designed to walk those new to land ownership through a process of selecting a purpose and developing a plan for their small acreage. Participants will take stock of what they have -- land, soil, woodlands, and buildings -- and assess their personal resources and skills to develop long- and short-term goals. Learn why the living soil shouldn't be treated like dirt; what's up in the watershed; how to co-exist with wildlife, woods, and weeds; the basics of growing pasture, fruits, and vegetables; and elements of raising animals, such as feeding, fencing, and manure management. These basic yet essential topics will help you become a good steward of your land, and prepare you for more advanced learning opportunities. The program includes classroom discussion, field trips, fact sheets, booklets, and online resources.

Past participants of *Living on the*



There are many hands-on activities at the Living on the Land sessions, including weed identification.

Land enjoyed interacting with other beginning land owners, appreciated having face to face access with subject matter experts, and gained new insights for what is possible on their acreage.

Living on the Land will be held Monday nights, April 2 to May 14, from 6 to 9 p.m. in Elko New Market. Class fee is \$225 for up to two people per farm. For questions and to register, contact the Scott County Extension Office at (952) 492-5410.



NEW Location!

Come check out the **NEW**
Mystic Lake Center and
support victims of
domestic violence!

Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women's
19th Annual

Jeans & Gems

Date: Friday April 27, 2018

Time: 5:30 p.m. Social Hour/Cash Bar
7:00 p.m. Dinner

Place: Mystic Lake Center
(The Waconia Ballroom)
2400 Mystic Lake Blvd.
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Register Online
@www.svabw.org

For more information, contact SVABW
952-873-4214
info@svabw.org
visit our website—www.svabw.org