

ELVIG CONVICTED OF TWO FELONY COUNTS, RESIGNS FROM CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL ELECTION IN RAMSEY JULY 30

Candidate filing for vacant council seat begins May 24

by Bryan Olson — Special to the Anoka County Record

The Ramsey City Council voted Tuesday at a Special Meeting to declare the Ward 1 city council seat vacant. A resolution establishing the procedures for holding a special election was unanimously passed by the council as well.

David W. Elvig, who has held the Ward 1 council seat since January 2003, resigned April 23 after being convicted by a jury of two felony counts of embezzling nearly \$20,000 in funds from his now defunct furniture and cabinetry business, E-Street Makers, Inc. in Anoka. The funds were earmarked for employee health benefits and 401(k) plans. The U.S. Department of Labor Employee Benefits and Security (EBSA) investigated and found that the funds had been used to pay business expenses. Much of the employees' benefit plans lapsed when premiums were not paid.



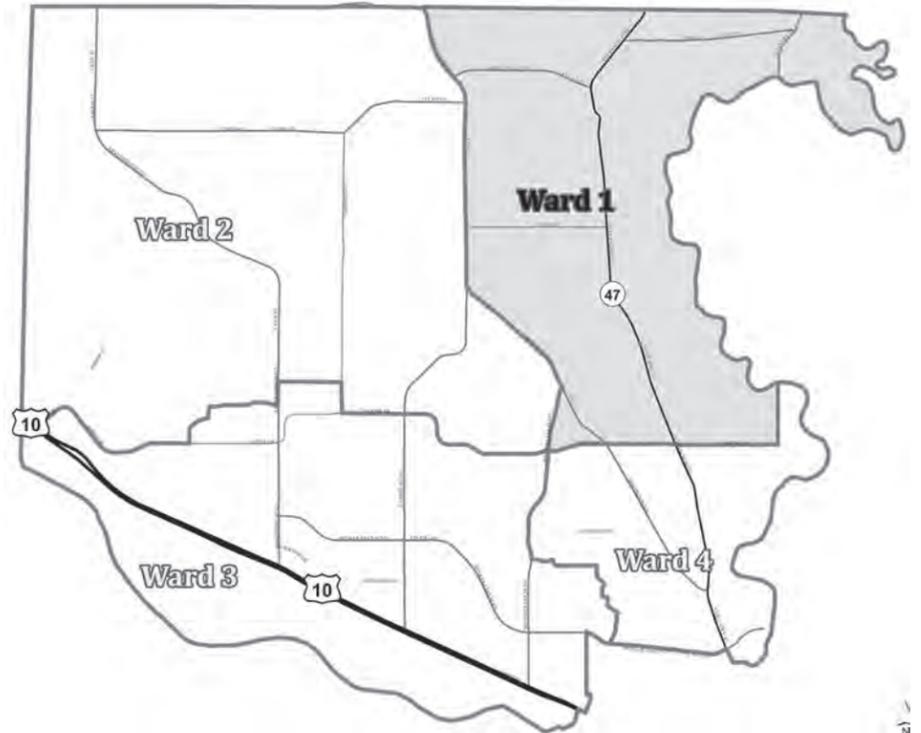
Elvig

Elvig's sentencing has been scheduled for June 17, but he chose to resign his council seat before

that outcome. Although the city's charter requires that a convicted felon cannot serve on the council, Elvig may have been able to keep his council seat if his sentence was less severe.

Ramsey's city charter states in Section 4.5.1 that if the vacant seat has a term that has 365 days or more remaining, a special election must be held within 90 days of the council declaring a vacancy. Elvig's term expires Dec. 31, 2014.

City clerk Jo Thieling worked out a schedule to meet the 90-day requirement, but found that the requirement could not be met if a primary election had to be held before the special election. City attorney Bill Goodrich said at the special council meeting that the charter is silent on the question of whether a primary election is required before a special election. The charter does



require a primary before regular municipal elections. He said that perhaps the Charter Commission should discuss these matters at a future meeting, and some consideration should be given to extending the 90-day window to 120 days.

Ward 1 takes up Ramsey's northeast quadrant, with its boundaries on the north and east being the city's boundaries, and on the west, Nowthen Boulevard and on the south, Alpine Drive.

Candidates residing in Ward 1 can file at city hall starting Friday, May 24; the two-week filing period ends June 7. Candidates who have filed but wish to withdraw their name from the ballot must do so by the close of business, Monday, June 10. Absentee voting will be open June 28 to July 29, with the Special Election to be held on Tuesday, July 30.

Oak Grove's Sullivan withdraws from Ramsey job offer

Ramsey administrator cites campaign contributions and conflicts of interest, Sullivan cites exciting prospects in Isanti, Oak Grove Mayor expresses concern

At the Ramsey City Council meeting of February 12, 2013, the council approved a resolution directing staff to start the process to recruit an Economic Development Manager.



Sullivan

Sean Sullivan was the top candidate and was provided with a contingent job offer on April 9, 2013. This was not his first time working for the City of Ramsey. He was the city's Economic Development Coordinator from 2000 to 2010. He then left Ramsey and took the position of Economic Development Director in the City of Isanti.

On April 23, 2013, the Ramsey City Council Personnel Committee presented a resolution to the full city council, recommending the hiring of Sean Sullivan for the position of Economic Development Manager. The city council approved resolution #13-04-075, to hire Mr. Sullivan effective on or near May 28, 2013 at \$37.45 per hour with a credit of five vacation days.

The Isanti City Council then received Mr. Sullivan's letter of resignation and placed it on

their May 7, 2013 council agenda for a vote of acceptance. The Isanti Chamber of Commerce also submitted a letter to the city council expressing their appreciation of his work in the community and lamented his departure. The council also placed two additional items on their agenda for this meeting. First was a discussion of the transition, and second was an amendment to the position's job description. It appeared that these council actions would simply be ministerial in nature.

Then on May 3, 2013, the Anoka County Watchdog's weekly update focused on the City of Ramsey with an editorial titled, "Ramsey Can't Get it Right". The editorial mentioned the failed Town Center project, contract disputes, turnover in city staff, and the politics of the newly elected council members who took office in 2013. The focus of the editorial though concerned the hiring of Mr. Sullivan as the new Economic Development Manager.

The Anoka County Watchdog had this to say about the situation:

A few days ago, the city made a contingent job offer to one Sean Sullivan for the job of Economic Development Manager.

It's back to the future because Sullivan worked for the city's economic development department from 2000-2010. Presumably, the turnover on the city council paved the way for Sullivan's return.

Now let's turn our attention to the east, over in the fair burgh of Oak Grove.

This past November, Sean Sullivan was elected to the Oak Grove City Council.

As a member of the Oak Grove Council, Sullivan sits on the board of directors for the city Economic Development Authority.

The purpose of an economic development authority is to attract and retain businesses to a city in order to enhance the tax base and assist in the growth of prosperity in the city. Of course, it is an open question as to what government's role should be in economic development, but let's set that aside for the moment.

Check out the job description Sullivan was offered on contingency last week (in part):

The Economic Development Manager position plays a key role in preserving and ensuring the growth of the City's tax base in its industrial and commercial sectors. This tax base and job creation has a direct relationship to the financial health of the City and our opportunities for continued growth into the future.

At no time greater than the present have our efforts in retaining and attracting businesses to the community been more important. Our local businesses require our support and advocacy in ensuring that they survive this downturn in the economy.

No doubt, the Oak Grove EDA has a similar mission statement.

The question posed, which is an important one is: Are these two roles in conflict? Put another way, is there an inherent conflict of interest?

To be legalistic for a moment, this issue comes down to agency law and the duty of loyalty. A person who is an employee or decision maker

SULLIVAN cont. on page 3

Rundown of Proposed Tax Hikes

House Democrats passed a bill this week that would raise taxes on hard-working Minnesotans by \$2.6 billion. Hundreds of millions more in fees they propose bring the tab to around \$3 billion.

Estimates show this would cost approximately \$550 for every man, woman and child in Minnesota.

The vast majority of the dozen or so bills that will comprise the state budget for the next two years include spending hikes. Much of their proposed spending is wasteful, with the Democrats spending more on government programs and bureaucracy instead of focusing on delivering results for our top priorities.

Take the omnibus bill pertaining to Health and Human Services, which Democrats passed this week. It cuts \$26 million next biennium from the senior living baseline funding, despite that extra \$3 billion in taxpayer dollars they are looking to spend. It is concerning the Democrats want around \$3 billion in new taxes and fees, yet fail to support some of our most vulnerable citizens. Where are their priorities?

Last fall, Democrats said they wanted to make top earners pay their "fair share," but the omnibus tax bill they passed would impact all of us, regardless of income level. A new KSTP poll shows only 9 percent favor the Democrats' all-tax approach to eliminating our shortfall that is \$627 and shrinking.

Here is a rundown of some of their notable tax hikes in the tax bill:

- Cigarette tax: Increase from 48 cents to \$2.83 (113% increase)
- Alcohol tax (203% increase): distilled spirits (119%), 3.2% beer (965%) and other beer (503%). NOTE: Summit Brewing said its annual state tax bill would jump from \$550,000 to \$2.3 million under House Democrats' tax proposal.
- Income-tax increase: The House Democrat plan would make Minnesota the state with the second-highest income tax rate.
- Elimination the charitable contribution deduction for itemized deductors and replaces it with a non-refundable credit for 8 percent of the amount over \$400 donated
- Internet purchases would be taxed
- Elimination of the incentive to purchase long-term care insurance at a time when the state demographer is warning us of an aging population
- Sports memorabilia tax: Would add a sales tax of 10 percent to items related to professional sports in order to pay for the Vikings Stadium
- Rental car tax: Increase from 6.2% to 9.2%

We have a \$627 million shortfall that is increasing revenue is projected to eliminate on its own without a single tax increase. That makes the \$3 billion in proposed taxes and fees clearly about Democrats wanting to spend money faster than the state receives it. Hard-working taxpayers already pay enough.

We can only hope this monstrosity of a tax bill in the House is stripped down during conference committee meetings. The problem is, the Senate and Gov. Dayton also propose raising taxes by billions of dollars to spend more, so you can see where this is likely headed. I will continue advocating for a better approach with a more efficient, effective and responsible government, not one that wastes more taxpayer money.



Sen. Chamberlain Update

In case you missed it, this week Senator Susan Kent and I appeared on Capitol Conversations, a program hosted by Marty Owings, to discuss a number of issues facing the legislature this session. You can watch the show here:

<http://mncapitolnews.com/node/203>

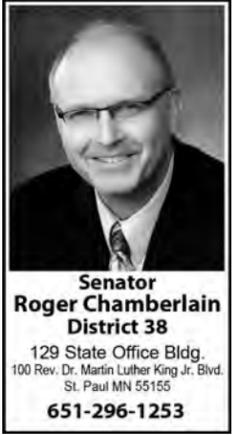
The Education bill will represent more than 40% of our state budget. Here is a brief list of the provisions in the bill:

- Expands all-day kindergarten (no family fees)
- Increases the school shift from the current 86.4% to 85.5% (90% is considered normal) and does not pay it back
- Reinstates the General Education Levy, which will increase your property taxes – on top of a statewide business property tax
- Removes student requirement to earn a passing score on a statewide exam in reading, writing, and math
- Delays implementation of teacher evaluations

The legislation spends more but we get less. It significantly increases taxes, lowers standards and includes no meaningful reforms. It is unfair to our children to continue the status-quo.

Senator Bev Scalze, Senator Chuck Wiger, and I have met with the governor to discuss the future of the White Bear Lake water level issue we have been working on. I am pleased to report that the meeting was productive. The governor gave us his assurance that he was committed to fixing the issue, and I am confident we can now move forward on our solution.

If you'll recall, Senate File 497, the bill I am authoring with Sen. Wiger on this issue, will appropriate \$500,000 for a ground water and surface water issue study, and another \$1 million to identify possible solutions to the problem.



Sen. Petersen Takes Position on Budget

This year our focus is on setting the government's two-year budget. I know that the hardworking taxpayers I represent care that every dollar is spent wisely and I believe Minnesotans deserve better than the all tax budget from the DFL.

The Senate DFL's tax plan asks hardworking taxpayers for more money to fund more wasteful spending. The proposed tax plan will raise taxes on Minnesotans across the board, from new taxes on clothing, auto repairs, haircuts, snack foods, and over-the-counter medication to increased taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and home utilities: everyday items that will affect everyone's pocketbook.

Every dollar of taxpayer money should be spent efficiently and effectively, and not on a more expensive bureaucracy or wasteful items. We owe it to Minnesota taxpayers to prioritize our projects of statewide importance and cut out any waste.

However, the DFL proposal includes many misplaced priorities. We all agree that funding is necessary to maintain our states' roads, bridges, and infrastructure, and this is the type of spending that is necessary for the government. Instead, only 3% of the DFL planned spending will go to our infrastructure while money goes to snow-making in northern Minnesota and a sculpture garden, among other unnecessary items.

To move our state forward, we need to cut waste and make government more effective. My approach is to go line-by-line and cut the waste before we ask for another dime from hardworking Minnesota taxpayers. We need to balance our state's budget in this way, and I am proud to represent you in Saint Paul at the Capitol with the goal of doing exactly that: balancing our budget and fighting for Minnesota taxpayer and families.



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REPS. ABELER AND NEWTON APPOINTED TO SELECT COMMITTEE ON VETERANS HOUSING

State Representative Jim Abeler, R-Anoka, and State Representative Jerry Newton, DFL-Coon Rapids, were recently appointed to the Speaker's Select Committee on Veterans Housing. Rep. Newton will serve as chair of the committee.

"As legislators, we recognize the value of our veterans' service, and the work of this committee will help us to remain engaged in showing our appreciation of their many sacrifices," Rep. Abeler said. "We owe the veterans who call Minnesota home a debt of gratitude for the freedoms that we hold dear."

Over the next year, Rep. Abeler and Rep. Newton will examine the unique housing issues Minnesota veterans face, including veterans with long-term care needs and homeless veterans, in order to recommend policies that assure safe, high-quality and cost-effective housing.

"As a 23-year veteran of the U.S. Army, I was especially pleased to have been selected to chair the Select Committee on Veterans Housing," Rep. Newton said. "We have a long waiting list of Minnesota veterans seeking safe, affordable housing and assisted living. They protected and served us, and now we need to meet their immediate needs, as well as look at the long-range needs of our large, aging veteran population."

The Select Committee on Veterans Housing will hold hearings over the legislative interim and will issue a report with their recommendations by February 1, 2014.



State Reps. Abeler and Newton discuss veterans legislation on the Minnesota House floor. Photo courtesy of Minnesota House of Representatives Photography.

SULLIVAN *cont. from front page*

for an organization has a duty to be loyal to the organization and do nothing that would harm to the organization.

Moreover, these same people have what's called a duty to avoid "usurpation of a corporate opportunity." This means that the person can't do anything to take away an opportunity for the organization to fulfill its mission. In this case, that includes opportunities to attract and retain businesses for the city.

If hired, is there an inherent conflict of interest?

Assume he takes that job in Ramsey and stays on the Oak Grove council. When he's out on the job each day, is he working to bring economic development to Ramsey or Oak Grove?

While sitting on the board of directors in Oak Grove, will there be votes he will be called upon to make that benefit Oak Grove at the expense of Ramsey?

He will also have knowledge and access to proprietary information from both cities regarding strategies and resources available for economic development.

There is no doubt that these two cities are competitors when it comes to attracting and retaining businesses.

The situation would be similar to a person being hired to work as a senior vice president for Ford while serving on the board of directors at GM.

Moreover, there is a political component to this analysis.

Sullivan ran a successful campaign for city council last year.

Did he receive political contributions from donors who have an economic interest in the City of Ramsey?

If so, does he owe a debt of political gratitude to people who will then lobby him to make decisions in Ramsey that accrue to their financial benefit?

The Watchdog won't hazard a guess regarding a formal legal analysis.

What we do know is that common sense would tell anyone that this situation bears some careful legal analysis.

Perhaps Ramsey and/or Oak Grove have undertaken this analysis.

If not, why not?

On Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 5:30pm, four days after the Anoka County Watchdog editorial was released, the Ramsey City Council held a special meeting in order to set the date for the special election to fill the Ward 1 seat of David Elvig, who resigned after being convicted of two felonies for theft by swindle.

Just before the meeting adjourned, City Administrator Kurt Ulrich announced to the council that Mr. Sullivan informed him that he would not take the Economic Development Director position they offered him. Mr. Ulrich made reference to Mr. Sullivan receiving campaign contributions from Ramsey businesses and other conflicts of interest related to his service on the city council in the City of Oak Grove. Mayor Sarah Strommen replied that



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the council would have to start up their personnel committee again.

Later that Tuesday evening at 7:00pm, Isanti Mayor George Wimmer announced at the beginning of the Isanti City Council meeting, that agenda item #L-5 would be removed from the agenda. The item was titled: Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan. The mayor stated that the resignation "has been rescinded by Mr. Sullivan. He is not resigning his position." Later in the meeting when the council was discussing an unrelated issue, the mayor made a comment to "Sean", indicating that Mr. Sullivan was present in the council chambers.

There are conflicting reasons as to why Mr. Sullivan chose not to take the position in Ramsey and then withdrew his resignation from Isanti. When contacted by the Record about Ulrich's statement concerning campaign contributions and conflicts of interest, Mr. Sullivan stated, "The reasons I withdrew from consideration are in the resignation letter I sent to Mayor Strommen and the Ramsey Council. I did not cite campaign contributions as a reason for my withdrawal from the position." Mr. Sullivan further stated, "Deeper review of the position itself in Ramsey led me to the conclusion that it was not the best fit for me. Further review of my current position and the exciting prospects on the horizon ultimately led me to the final decision to remain in Isanti."

In city council campaign finance reports filed in 2012, Mr. Sullivan states that he raised \$575 in contributions and spent \$1,654.89. Mr. Sullivan disclosed the specifics of only one donation in the amount of \$200, which was from Jim Deal, 16191 Makah Street NW, Andover, MN 55304. (Note that state law only requires disclosure of donations over \$100.)

Mr. Deal is a developer associated with the Ramsey COR (Town Square) development. Mr. Deal and one of his companies also donated \$6,800 to an independent expenditure political group named Citizens for a Responsible Government (See full story in 1/3/13 edition of the Anoka County Record). This group

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supported city council candidates in Ramsey, in addition to county commissioner candidates in several Anoka County Commissioner districts.

It is unknown whether Mr. Sullivan was a direct or indirect beneficiary of independent political expenditures from this group or any other group as campaign finance reports would not provide this level of detail. It is also important to note that in theory, independent expenditure political groups are not supposed to be coordinating or discussing their activities with the candidates they are supporting.

Oak Grove Mayor Mark Korin expressed concern about the situation. He stated, "I was shocked when I heard the news. I am concerned about all of this. How do you deal with elected officials when in their employment is in conflict with the mission of the organization?" Mr. Sullivan is currently an elected member of the Oak Grove City Council and an appointed member of the Oak Grove Economic Development Authority.

Mayor Korin indicated that this issue would continue to be discussed in the community and stated that he has received many calls from residents in the past week who were concerned about the implications. He stated, "I work very hard to bring a strong ethical leadership standard to the city and perception is 99% of the view."

In each of the three cities affected, the discussion will continue but in starkly different manners. In Ramsey, the discussion will be related to the restarting of the search process for a new Economic Development Manager. In Oak Grove, the conflict of interest issue will be a topic of discussion. In Isanti, the council and business community, who both were very complimentary of Mr. Sullivan's work, are happy that he will remain in their employment.

Editor's note: The Record was unable to obtain a copy of Mr. Sullivan's resignation letter in time for publication.

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Minnesota Tenth Judicial District – Anoka County Trial Court Calendar (abridged)

Trial dates, time, and courtrooms listed on this page are subject to change – call ahead to verify at (763) 422-7350 or visit the courthouse at 325 East Main Street, Anoka, MN 55303

Date	Time	Location	Case Number	Type	Case Name	Judicial Officer	
5/20/2013	10:00 AM		02-FA-12-301	Dissolution with Child	In the Marriage of Colleen Patricia O'Neil-Zuvich and Michael Jeffrey Zuvich	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Court Trial
5/20/2013	1:30 PM		02-FA-11-2054	Dissolution with Child	In the Marriage of Nicholas Matthew Anderson and Shanna Elizabeth Anderson	Fitzpatrick, Thomas M.	Court Trial
5/21/2013	10:00 AM		02-FA-12-1063	Dissolution with Child	In the Marriage of SHAUN PAUL SWENSON vs Angela Marie Swenson	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Court Trial
5/21/2013	1:30 PM		02-FA-12-1702	Dissolution with Child	In the Marriage of Doreen Lynn Halvorsen and David Arthur Halvorsen	Sullivan, Barry A.	Court Trial
5/22/2013	10:00 AM		02-FA-12-1063	Dissolution with Child	In the Marriage of SHAUN PAUL SWENSON vs Angela Marie Swenson	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Court Trial
Date	Time	Location	Case Number	Type	Case Name	Judicial Officer	
5/13/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-11-2245	Civil Other/Misc.	Daryl Gislason, Judith Gislason, Gislason Concrete Pumping, Inc. vs Corey Gislason	Johnson,Lawrence R. ,	Court Trial
5/13/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-12-1415	Contract	TCF National Bank vs Jason Witte	Meslow,Douglas B. ,	Court Trial
5/13/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-12-3464	Civil Other/Misc.	Michael P Henderson vs Russell Clark, Blaine Police Officer, Blaine Police Department	Johnson,Lawrence R. ,	Court Trial
5/13/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-12-5721	Trust	In re: The Holmstrom Family Trust dated October 21, 1992, amended April 5, 2001, September 25, 2007, November 21, 2007 and February 23, 2011	Meslow,Douglas B. ,	Court Trial
5/20/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-11-5358	Civil Other/Misc.	Denron Construction, Inc. vs Ronald Woolcott, JP Morgan Chase Bank, NA, as successor by purchase by FDIC as Receiver for Washington Mutual Bank, Washington Mutual Bank FA, Beneficial Loan and Thrift, Co., Citibank South Dakota, N.A. et al	Hall, Sharon L.	Court Trial
5/20/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-11-8543	Conciliation Appeal	George L. Clarke vs ZEKE OAKS	Hall, Sharon L.	Court Trial
5/20/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-12-2257	Conciliation Appeal	Thomas Tribble, Nadine Leonard vs Cars 4 Less	Street,Dyanna L. ,	Court Trial
5/20/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-12-2677	Civil Other/Misc.	Wenzel Engineering, Inc. vs William E Fogerty, Carmel C Fogerty, Lake Area Bank, John Doe, Mary Roe et. al.	Hall, Sharon L.	Court Trial
5/20/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-12-3380	Civil Other/Misc.	KleinBank vs Duane K Gay, Kimberly A Gay, New York Community Bank	Hall, Sharon L.	Court Trial
5/20/2013	9:00 AM		02-CV-12-4236	Civil Other/Misc.	Woodmen of The World Life Insurance Society, a Nebraska corporation vs Robert F Almeida and Ramsey Spectators, Inc, a Minnesota corporation	Hall, Sharon L.	Court Trial
5/20/2013	9:00 AM	W411	02-CV-13-2286	Eviction (UD)	PFS MHC, LLC vs Randy Klemetson	Fredrickson, Tammi A.	Court Trial
Date	Time	Location	Case Number	Type	Case Name	Judicial Officer	
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C150	02-VB-12-28845	Crim/Traf Non-Mand	State of Minnesota vs ASHLEY JEAN THELEN	Fredrickson, Tammi A.	Court Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-10-1068	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs ERIK PAUL EGGLESTON	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-10-5970	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs MICHAEL SCOTT BARNARD	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-11-6125	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs NICOLE MARIE STERLING	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-11-7374	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs IMER MEHMEDOVIC	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-1732	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs GARLAND DEAN BARNES	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-2326	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs DONTE MARICE CAMPEAU	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-3119	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs JASON WILLIAM OLSON	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-3294	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs DOUGLAS HIRAM COLEMAN	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-5078	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs DENNIS JAMES VOLLHABER	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-5239	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs NATHAN CLARENCE FRANKLIN	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-5469	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs KEEVIN LEVELL HARVEY	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-5480	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs MOHAMUD MOHAMED HASSAN	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-5641	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs ALICIA MICHELLE TAYLOR	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-5929	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs Kevin Bradley Kraut	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-6055	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs LORI ANN BALFANY	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-6312	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs Frederick Warren Thorne, III	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-6544	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs Douglas Ralph Sibbet Jr.	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-6556	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs TIMOTHY STEPHEN YURECKO	O'Fallon,Daniel A. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-6706	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs DAVID LEE YOUNKIN	O'Fallon,Daniel A. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-6784	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs JOYCE SEBASTIAN MALLE	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-6799	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs LANNIE LANNELL FISHER	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-6854	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs JEREMY DARRELL JONES	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-6912	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs TERRANCE BRADLEY HARRELL Aka Terrence Bradley Harrell	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-6926	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs JEFFREY ALONZO TURNER	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-7009	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs CHRISTIAN LAUREN LEHMAN	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-7099	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs QUINCY DWAYNE WRIGHT	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-7161	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs DAVID RICHARD SCHINAGEL	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-7311	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs Daniel John Gundersen	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-7323	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs BARBARA SUE SKOG	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-7352	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs Andrew Steven Victoria	O'Fallon,Daniel A. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-7403	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs MATTHEW SIMBA ISIKA	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-7426	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs RYAN MATHEW GAEDKE	O'Fallon,Daniel A. ,	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-7688	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs RYAN MATHEW GAEDKE	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-7721	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs MICHAEL LEE DELANEY	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-8032	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs TRAVIS LEE DOCKTER	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM	C230	02-CR-12-8450	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs SANDRA KAY ALMLEAF	Walker Jasper, Jenny	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-8483	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs TEQUILA MARIA MORRIS	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-8579	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs GEORGE ABDULAHI ROGERS	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-8639	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs ASHLEY RAY BROWN	Cunningham, James A., Jr.	Jury Trial
5/13/2013	8:30 AM		02-CR-12-8643	Crim/Traf Mandatory	State of Minnesota vs DOUGLAS RALPH SIBBET, Jr.	Larson,Kristin C. ,	Jury Trial

Observations from the Field

Prayers at the council meeting. Many people are unaware that prayers are said before the state legislature convenes. When it's been done on the city government level however, it has sometimes been a news-maker.

The White Bear Lake City Council had a tussle about it some years ago but when the North St. Paul mayor declared a "Bible Week" in the city, nothing was disrupted. The Apple Valley city council once made a "Bible Week" proclamation as well.

For many years the Columbia Heights City Council has had a policy of inviting local clergy to give an invocation at the start of each council meeting.



City Manager Walter Fehst ad-libs an invocation to start a city council meeting.

There have been a few occasions recently where this task has fallen to the city manager, Walter Fehst. We presume it's on short notice, when a minister has not been able to attend. It must be an embarrassing

moment for Mr. Fehst because he does not do too well with off-the-cuff speeches that are far removed from his forte as a city manager. The last time he said the council prayer, at the invitation of the mayor, it reminded me of that Robert Mitchum movie, "The Wrath of God."

The movie contained a memorable, incongruous scene where Mitchum, as a mercenary posing as a priest, is asked to say grace before supper. Grasping for comforting words, he intones, "rub-a-dub-dub, thanks for the grub."

I mentioned the prayers to some Minneapolis residents. They were aghast. "Is that legal?" they screamed. Yes, it is.

It's curious that the praying only occurs at city council meetings when there is an audience present, either in the room or at home via television.

Customer service needs improvement at Fridley City Hall. In my youth I worked for business owners who all shared the same philosophy: customer service was "Number One." Although many of the applicants for the city manager job in Fridley said that satisfied customers (taxpayers) were important to them, apparently that is not the case with the employees. Take for example the city clerk, who was nowhere to be found when I went there looking for public information that had been set aside for the *Anoka County Record*. Fridley's clerk demands that appointments be made so she

can schedule her time, "because I may not be here," she said. An appointment shouldn't have been necessary since we had been led to believe the information had been prepared and placed in a folder, waiting for our perusal.

Not having been told anything about our request, another one in the office made phone calls and "texts" to locate her. She finally turned up bursting into city hall like a cyclone an hour later, at 4:30. So where was she? At a retirement party for a long-time city employee. It seemed that many of the city staff were over there — at the municipal building referred to as the "nature center".

I suggested that perhaps retirement parties should be held after hours or on weekends, and not during the taxpayers' time. The clerk couldn't believe such impertinence.

Taxpayers should always remember they are forgotten. Few, very few, government employees remember whose pockets their salaries are coming from.

Later, the clerk was tapping her foot, waiting for me to scan the last page of the newspaper's public information request. As soon I returned the documents, she closed up her window and was out the door thirty seconds after 5 o'clock. In less than two minutes, the rest of the building had emptied.

If you have business at Fridley City Hall, you had better not wait until 4:59, and don't forget to make an appointment.

The unanimous vote. A simple question or a different perspective is seen as very disagreeable by many people. There are too many who believe all votes by government bodies should be unanimous, partly because it's easier and not a lot of thought has to go into it. Dissent is Bad.

During the April 8th Columbia Heights City Council meeting, councilman Bruce Nawrocki cast the lone vote against one item and then voted with the rest of the council on a following similar item, to which his opponent in the last election, Catherine Vesley guffawed and gestured emphatically to fellow library supporters who were in the audience with her. (A larger than usual council audience was present for the discussion of a possible city library project.) Vesley, a Library Board member and former chair of same, evidently had a hard time controlling herself after witnessing a rare unanimous vote of the city council.

The "cool cats" in city hall. They spend a lot of taxpayers' time and money trying to show off how hep they are. They don't care one whit how their misdeeds are affecting the public's ability to get what is theirs — information.

One of the many new allures is the use of outside services to deliver you information. With all those well-paid "I.T." staffs they employ, one would think this could be done in-house. I don't believe there is a single city hall around here that has developed its own web site. Everything is purchased off the shelf. That gives the employees more time to keep their coffee cups filled and to chat with one another.

We are always disturbed to find how the "bells and whistles" often impede speed, simplicity and convenience to the user. Do we need "embedded readers" for documents and "embedded players" for video? No. Just put the files on a server for downloading. What's so difficult about that?

You would be amazed to know how many clerks and government office workers do not know how to make a meeting packet properly and post it on a web page. Where is the training? Third-graders have their own websites these days.

OBSERVATIONS cont. on page 6

OPINION

Bryan Olson

Contributing Writer
Anoka County Record

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS CALENDAR

ANOKA COUNTY
Anoka County Govt. Center
2100 3rd Ave.
Anoka MN 55303-5024
Ph.: 763-323-5700
www.co.anoka.mn.us

Tues. May 14
Anoka County Board — Management Committee 8:30 am, followed by County Board, 9:30 am at Columbus City Hall, 16319 Kettle River Blvd

Thurs. May 16
Community Corrections Advisory Bd, Noon, Rm 710, ACGC
Public Safety Cmte., 3 pm, Public Safety Ctr., Andover

Mon. May 20
Public Works Cmte., 9 am, Rm 772, ACGC
Library Board, 5:30 pm, Library offices next to Northtown Library

Tues. May 21
Human Services Cmte., 8:30 am, Rm 710, ACGC
Anoka Co. HRA, 10:30 am, Rm 705, ACGC

Information Technology Cmte., 10:30 am, Rm 772, ACGC
Finance & Capital Improvmts. Cmte., 1 pm, Rm 772, ACGC
Intergovernmental & Community Relations Cmte., 3 pm, Rm 772, ACGC

Tues. May 28
Management Cmte., 8:30 am, Rm 772, ACGC
Anoka County Board, 9:30 am, Rm 705, ACGC
Anoka Co. Extension Cmte., 3 pm, Bunker Hills Activity Ctr.

FRIDLEY
Fridley City Hall
6431 University Ave NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Ph: 763-571-3450
www.ci.fridley.mn.us

Mon. May 13
Special Joint City Council and Commissions (Planning, Charter, Environment, Appeals) Conference Mtg., 6 pm, Meeting Rm 1 (lower level)
City Council mtg, 7 pm

Tues. May 14
EQEC (Environmental Quality and Energy Comm.), 7 pm

Wed. May 15
Planning Comm., 7 pm

Mon. May 20
City Council, 7 pm

HAM LAKE
Ham Lake City Hall
15544 Central Ave NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
Ph: 763-434-9555
www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Hours: M-Th 7 AM - 4:30 PM
Fri: 7 AM-12 NOON

Mon. May 13 & Tues. May 28
Planning Comm., 6 pm

Wed. May 15
Park & Tree Comm., 6 pm

Mon. May 20
City Council, 6 pm

LINWOOD TWP
Linwood Town Hall
22817 Typo Creek Dr. NE
Linwood, MN 55079
Ph: 651-462-2812
linwoodtownship.org

Mon. May 13
Senior Advisory Bd, 9:15 am

Tues. May 14 & 28
Town Board, 6 pm

Tues. May 21
Planning Comm., 7 pm
Decoration Day memorial VFW service Monday, May 27, 11 am at cemetery

OAK GROVE
Oak Grove City Hall
19900 Nightingale St. NW
Oak Grove, MN 55011
Ph: 763-404-7000
www.ci.oak-grove.mn.us

2nd and last Monday of month
City Council, 7 pm (EDA follows council mtg on last Monday)
(No Council meeting on May 28)
3rd Wednesday
Parks Comm., 7 pm
3rd Thursday
Planning Comm., 7 pm

RAMSEY
7550 Sunwood Dr. NW
Ramsey, MN 55303
Ph: 763-427-1410
www.ci.ramsey.mn.us

Thurs. May 9
Parks & Rec. Comm., Elmcrest Park, 16303 Quicksilver St NW, 6:30 pm

Tues. May 14 & 28
City Council "work session" 5:30 pm, reg mtg, 7 pm, followed by HRA
Thurs. May 16
EDA, 7:30 am, COR Rm, 2nd fl City Hall
Tues. May 21
Public Works Cmte., City Council "work session", 6 pm

ANOKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1318 McKay Dr NE #300
Ham Lake, MN 55304
Ph.: (763) 434-2030
anokaswcd.org

Mon. May 20
Board of Supervisors, 5 pm

CENTENNIAL ISD #12
4707 North Rd
Circle Pines, MN 55014
Ph.: (763) 792-6000
isd12.org

Mon. May 20 & June 17
School Bd "regular" mtg, 6:30 pm

Mon. June 3
School Bd "work session", 5:30 pm

FRIDLEY ISD #14
6000 W Moore Lake Dr
Fridley, MN 55432
Ph.: (763) 502-5000
fridley.k12.mn.us

Tues. May 21
School Bd "work session," 5:30pm, Public Comment, 7 pm, Business Mtg 7:30 pm, Fridley City Hall

SPRING LAKE PARK ISD #16
1415 81st Ave NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432
Ph.: (763) 786-5570
springlakeparkschools.org

Tues. May 14
School Bd, 6:45 pm

Tues. May 28
School Bd "work session", 6 pm

QCTV Cable Commission
Ramsey, Andover, Champlin, Anoka
Thurs. May 16, 10 am, Anoka City Hall

North Metro TV Cable Commission
Ham Lake, Blaine, Spring Lake Park, Lino Lakes, Lexington, Centerville, Circle Pines

Wed. May 15, 6 pm, Cable Commission, Spring Lake Park City Hall, 1301 81st Ave NE, SLP

Meetings listed on this page are subject to change — call ahead to verify

TAKE THE COMMUTER CHALLENGE!

TWO WAYS TO SIGN UP

- Visit MyCommuterChallenge.org
- Text **PLEDGE** to **21970** to register for the 2013 Commuter Challenge.

Message and data rates may apply.

OBSERVATIONS *cont. from page 5*

The Blaine city newsletter is not on the city web site; it's housed on a third-party website called "issuu.com". It has this "cool" way of "thumbing through" the newsletter in an embedded reader. The layout is just like a magazine and when you turn the pages it makes a "whoosh" sound. Isn't that neat? If you want to download the PDF file and save it however, you must register and create an account with Issuu.com. Issuu, along with You Tube and many other similar sites exist only to collect information about you to sell to advertisers. They are not there as a public service run by philanthropists.

State statute says no one has to identify themselves when making a public information request of government. Many local governments are violating at least the spirit of that edict when they shuffle off public information for distribution by third parties — private sector businesses that may have usage and accessibility policies that may be at odds with public information laws.



A Blaine city newsletter as it appears on the issuu.com website. The user is given other links to visit on the right. Although too small to read here, the third link is titled "Like a Muhfucker"

Government also has no control over how these third-parties operate their businesses. The Blaine city newsletter, as found only on the Issuu.com web site, is often accompanied by "girlie" magazines as secondary choices available on the page. At least that's what I would call magazines that have swimsuit-clad ladies on the covers. This site has a myriad of magazines, newspapers (by the way, the *Courier* newspaper in the St. Francis school district area also places its editions on Issuu) and documents that offer a wide range of content. Too wide for some tastes.

The same cautions can be leveled against the use of You Tube. Some government meetings, including those of the Spring Lake Park school board, are found on this web site which can easily take you from innocuous home movies to pornography, and many things in between. The content and advertising on these third-party private sector web sites cannot be predicted or controlled in any way, which could bring great embarrassment to government users.

ANOKA COUNTY LIBRARIES LEGACY FUND PROGRAMMING PAGE AND STAGE: "BAREFOOT IN THE PARK"

Anoka County Library, in partnership with the Lyric Arts Theater, is pleased to offer a "Page & Stage" performance of Barefoot in the Park on Sunday, June 9th, beginning at noon at the Lyric Arts Main Street Stage, 420 E. Main Street in Anoka.

Participants will receive a copy of the script and a study guide to prepare for the pre-show discussion. Cristopher Tibbetts will facilitate the discussion of the script, its characters, and "what to look for" in the performance. Participants will enjoy the performance of "Barefoot in the Park" and then stay for a post-show discussion where the cast and director hold a question and answer session with the audience.

In Neil Simon's timeless "laugh out loud" comedy, Paul and Corie Bratter are newlyweds who are realizing the honeymoon is over. He's a serious young lawyer and she's a free-spirited bride. Their tiny "top-of-the-building-with-no-elevator" Manhattan apartment is perfect to keep a meddlesome mother-in-law away. "Barefoot in the Park" proves the theory that opposites really do attract in one of Broadway's most enduring and successful romantic comedies!



"Discussing the play before and after the performance creates a deeper appreciation for this heartfelt comedy," said Library Board Vice President Melanie Keister. "Watch how the actors and actresses bring the characters you have imagined to life."

The program is open to ages 15 and older. Registration is required and seating is limited. To reserve a spot, contact the Main Street Box Office at 763-433-2510 extension 101 and mention the Anoka County Library Barefoot in the Park "Page and Stage" program. Participants must register by May 31 and are expected to take part in all aspects of the program, including pre-show and post-show discussions.

To register for this free event, call 763-433-2510, extension 101. This event is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. For more information about Lyric Arts Theater, visit www.lyricarts.org. For more information about this program and Anoka County Library, visit anokacountylibrary.org.

If you don't believe that government can be embarrassed, here is a true-life story that occurred in Maplewood:

The city's cable television channel dedicated to city hall information and meetings was about to air a live city council meeting.

Moments before the gavel came down, the FM rock radio station that was being used to provide continuous audio on the channel during down times, aired an advertisement for "K-Y Jelly." Viewers must have thought times have really changed. The product advertised is often used in the bath houses of San Francisco.

How could this happen? Lazy, unimaginative, unsupervised employees bought a \$79 tuner at Best Buy and rigged it into city hall's television system, tuned in their favorite station and walked away.

This is yet another example of not being able to control content. There is not a radio station in the metro that doesn't have advertising. Even KBEM-FM and Minnesota Public Radio have advertising. The paramount question is whether advertising of any kind should be on the government television channel. The city newsletter may have advertising, but the content of that is controlled by accepting or not accepting certain ads. With a radio station, what is coming next cannot be predicted.

When the word spread that the Maplewood city council had this embarrassing moment, the lazy and unimaginative employees for other government channels did not do anything to correct the problem, except to post a notice on the channel during down times: "if you are offended by the radio station we are playing, please let us know."

It's about time that city managers and elected officials grapple with what they loathe the most — the need to become "micro-managers." They have to first acquaint themselves with some of the most basic points of video, computer and internet technologies that are now being taught in the elementary and middle school grades. This ignorance or indifference has led to many bad choices made by their unsupervised employees. We only bring up Issuu, You Tube and off-the-shelf web site designs as a few examples — there are many more.

The state's public information and open meeting laws are bound to be overhauled some day as many of them are 40 years old, a time before computers, the internet and cable television. Rather than wait until the hammer comes down on them, local governments ought to learn how to post a meeting packet on its web site before the legislature does it for them. Anyone with half a brain should realize that such things will some day be required by state statute. *ACR*

The Oak Grove Lions Club is bringing back our city festival in Oak Grove, MN.

Acorn Day August 10, 2013 1 to 8 pm

Proposed activities will include a great time for everyone. There will be games for Children, Crafts, Fire Department Display, Food, Car Show, Bingo, Country Western Band and other educational displays and entertainment. There will also be the Lion's Wellness Van that will be checking blood pressure, Cholesterol, and other concerns free of charge.

We will need volunteers to help with various aspects relating to the event, please call for details on planning meetings etc. Call Lion President Mark Silernagel 763-753-2215 or Lion Roger Welch 763-753-4810

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

Mystie Labs
2. Principal Place of Business:
1519 Sherman Lake Road, Lino Lakes MN 55038

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:

Christopher Allen McLaughlin, 1519 Sherman Lake Road, Lino Lakes MN 55038

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: April 10, 2013, #666701600026

/s/ Christopher Allen McLaughlin
(Published April 25, 2013, May 9, 2013, Anoka County Record)

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

Spirit 'N Me
2. Principal Place of Business:
3054 93rd Avenue NE, Blaine MN 55449

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:

Teri Ann Guse, 3054 93rd Avenue NE, Blaine MN 55449

4. This certificate is an amendment of Certificate of Assumed Name File Number: 661323100022, originally filed on 3/16/2013, under the name: **Divine T.A.G. Team**

5. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: April 17, 2013, #666701600026

/s/ Teri A. Guse, President
(Published April 25, 2013, May 9, 2013, Anoka County Record)

WILDER PAGEANT

Walnut Grove, MN
36th annual outdoor drama based on the life of
Laura Ingalls Wilder
July 12-13, 19-20, 26-27, 2013

Performed along the Banks of Plum Creek **888-859-3102**
Reserved Seats \$14.00
General Admission \$12.00

walnutgrove.org

BUSINESS OWNERS: JUST FILED AN ASSUMED NAME? Publish your notice here for a \$40.00 Flat Fee

Public information not on government websites: PublicInfoOnline.com

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VERIFIED MEMBER OF THE MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Anoka County RECORD PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

MAY

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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JUNE

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JULY

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