



ROHDE INSURANCE SERVICES
1213 North Union Avenue, Fergus Falls, Minnesota

GET REAL SERVICE... FOR GENERATIONS

We have provided quality insurance protection with fast, friendly service to area residents for decades. Why go to a faceless company? Call us today for a competitive quote for all your insurance needs. **739-3295**



\$1.25

Subscribe today!
Call (218) 739-7015
or (800) 726-1781.



The **SUNDAY**
Daily Journal
www.fergusfallsjournal.com

Sunday

May 19, 2013
Vol. 140, No. 117
Fergus Falls, Minn.

Influential native

Kati Sasseville's legacy was giving to others

By Heather Rule
Daily Journal

Kati Sasseville's influence on people she met and in the community could be considered life changing.

"You should've known her," said Mark Helland, vice president of customer service for Otter Tail Power. "Every professional

should've known her. She was just inspirational to so many people."

Sasseville, a Fergus Falls native, passed away Thursday, May 16, at the age of 78. She was the oldest of seven children, raised her six children, got her law degree, worked as legal counsel for Otter Tail Power and ran for state

Senate in 1992. In her retirement, she turned her Fergus Falls home into the Forest Lodge Farm Bed and Breakfast.

She was described as brilliant, amazing, a great teacher, funny, outgoing, a natural leader, advocate, role model, and loving mother and grandmother. She was also part of the great generation, Helland said.

"She understood that the way to have a really good

life was to be able to give to others," Helland said. "And she had a rich life, but it was always in community. It was always advocating for people. "She really was a breath of fresh air."

Helland knew Kati for at least 20 years. He couldn't say enough good things about her. She experienced so many obstacles in her own life, like when her daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter were killed

See **Activist** — Page 3



Photo provided

Kati Sasseville sits with her eldest granddaughter Elise Crow Sunday, May 12 during her "best Mother's Day ever." Sasseville died Thursday.

Parade of Norway



Rian Bosse/Daily Journal

Greg Peterson led a group around Dalton on Friday afternoon for Syttende Mai. More than 100 flags were on display to celebrate the Norwegian holiday.

Cocaine, DEET, other chemicals found in Minnesota lakes

By Dan Gunderson
MPR News — 91.5 FM

MOORHEAD — A new study of Minnesota lakes finds more evidence that water across the state contains a wide range of chemicals.

INSIDE:
For sports news, see **Page 9.**

The largest study of its kind ever done in Minnesota shows chemicals from household products, prescription drugs and illegal drugs are common in Minnesota lakes.

"It's confirming what we found in our other studies, but it also showed us some new things that we didn't see before and that are new to us," Minnesota Pollution Control Agency researcher Mark Ferrey said.

Evidence shows some of these chemicals are harmful to fish, but scientists are just starting to understand the environmental effects of products we use every day.

DEET MOST COMMON CHEMICAL
MPCA scientists sampled 50 randomly chosen

lakes across Minnesota last year. They tested the water for 125 chemicals.

At least one chemical was found in 47 of the 50 lakes; one lake contained 13 different chemicals.

The common insect repellent DEET was found in 76 percent of lakes.

Bisphenol A, a chemical used in plastics, showed up in more than 40 percent of the lakes sampled.

New findings include one of the most commonly prescribed anti-depressants Amitriptyline in nearly 30 percent of lakes.

The veterinary antibiotic Carbadox was found in about 30 percent of lakes. Carbadox can only be used in hog production in the U.S. It's been banned in Canada and Europe because it can cause cancer.

And the illegal drug cocaine showed up in one third of the lakes sampled. The MPCA didn't plan to test for cocaine, but it was included in a test that looked for a variety of chemicals.

It's not unusual to find

See **Water** — Page 3

Steffen ends 24 years at Cleveland

By Rian Bosse
Daily Journal

At the start of the next school year, Carolyn Steffen will miss her fist bell in more than 20 years.

"I tell people I came with the building," Steffen joked. "Cleveland has been a wonderful place to work. It's like a second family here."

Steffen has spent 24 years as a paraprofessional, all of which have been at the school. She moved to Fergus Falls in the 1980s with her husband who worked for the United States Fish and

NEIGHBORS

Wildlife Service. After her children started kindergarten at the school, she worked as a volunteer at the building and applied to fill an open position. She started working full time in 1989.

Ever since then, she has worked with the school's electronic lunch account program and served as an aid to teachers and students.

Over her many years, there have been changes, like the switch from a ticket system that was used for students buying hot lunches to the comput-

"There was never a day when I didn't want to come to work"

— Carolyn Steffen,
School District paraprofessional

er entry system most are familiar with today.

But over that time, one thing has stayed constant: the joy of spending her day with children.

"It's fun working with the kids. You wouldn't be in this field if you didn't

like being with them," Steffen said. "There was never a day I didn't want to come to work."

One of Steffen's favorite experiences has been organizing the school's Presents for Pets program with the Humane Society. Every year around Christmas, children bring in items for the animals at the shelter. The program fosters a sense of giving within the students during the holiday.

"Every year I worry about whether we'll have enough brought in," Steffen said. "Every year the kids do it."

Steffen said that, besides the children, leav-



Rian Bosse/Daily Journal

Carolyn Steffen enters a student's account number during lunch at Cleveland School. Steffen has spent 24 years as a paraprofessional at the school and will retire after this year.

ing behind so many people she's worked with will be most difficult. Losing something that has helped define who she is won't be

easy either. "It's a part of who you are when you've been up and down these halls thou-

See **Steffen** — Page 3

MAILING LABEL

TODAY:



HIGH: 78 LOW: 59

SUNSET TONIGHT: 8:56 p.m.
SUNRISE TOMORROW: 5:46 a.m.

FRIDAY:

HIGH: 70 LOW: 57
PRECIPITATION: 0

INDEX

Comics.....5
Opinions.....4
Sports.....9
Want ads.....6-7

OBITUARIES

In today's Journal, **Page 2**
• Gladys Hovland, 97, formerly of Fergus Falls
• Terryl Jacobson, 63, formerly of Underwood
• George Wagstrom, 84, formerly of Fergus Falls
• Richard Burns, 79, formerly of Underwood
• Marjorie Grahn, 97, Vergas
• Delores Luedtke, 84, Richville

Minimally Invasive Direct Anterior Hip Approach

Joint Replacement | Joint Preservation | Sports Medicine | Arthroscopy

MATTHYS
ORTHOPAEDICS

The Logical Approach to a Faster Recovery
1-866-887-9200 • www.jointpain.md
Fargo, Mayville, Brainerd, Dickinson, Fergus Falls & Grand Forks

Schedule an appointment today with Dr. Matthys, or go online to www.jointpain.md and learn more about your pain and your treatment options.

