

The Brunsville Blitz

Brunsville, Iowa

Edition 182

February 2026



Blast from the past: First blacksmith of Brunsville

Born in Germany in 1871, Fred Toel arrived in Plymouth County in 1890 and became Brunsville's first blacksmith. He lived in Brunsville for 12 years. Top left: Fred Toel stands in the cement-block shop he built.

Top right and bottom photos: The blacksmith shop stood at the corner of Pine and Ash streets, where the Premier Communications building is now located.

Upcoming Legion events

- Feb. 2** Legion meeting, 7:30/S.A.L. meeting, 7:00
- Feb. 7** Euchre
- Feb. 8** Pancake breakfast, Superbowl
- Feb. 9** City council meeting
- Feb. 27** Prairie Rose Casino Night
- March 2** Legion meeting, 7:30/S.A.L. meeting, 7:00
- March 7** Legion birthday dinner
- March 8** Pancake breakfast
- March 9** City council meeting
- March 14** Euchre
- March 16** Southern Sioux Rural Water
- April 4** Euchre
- April 6** Legion meeting, 7:30/S.A.L. meeting, 7:00
- April 11** Midwest Honor Flight
- April 12** Pancake breakfast
- April 13** City council meeting

Submitted by Nichole Tonner.

Brunsville Legion Pancake Breakfasts

All you can eat • Carryout available

Brunsville Legion Hall, 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

\$11 for adults • \$5 for children 5 to 9

Children 4 & under eat for free

Sun., Feb. 8 • Sun., March 8 • Sun., April 12

You're invited to Euchre Night

Register by 6:45 p.m., cards at 7 p.m.

Prizes depend on the number of players

\$5 entry, cash bar, you do not need a partner

Sat., Feb. 7 • Sat., March 14 • Sat., April 11

"Do Not Freeze Ride" set for February 14

Cyclists participating in Bike Central's annual "Do Not Freeze Ride" will roll into Brunsville on Saturday, February 14. They'll stop at the Corner for lunch then head back to Le Mars.

In Memory of ...

Warren Oetken, who passed away on January 11.

In Our Prayers

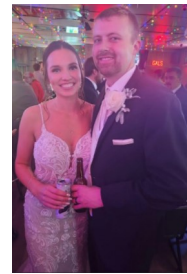
Donna Erickson
Vernon Harrington
Suzanne Heeren
Kelly Hughes
Bev Hultquist
Jim Jackson
Jeanette Jensen
Vivian Johnson
Stan Meyer
Dan Morton
Family & friends of Warren Oetken
Deb (Albright) Pick
Janice Plueger
Bill Renken
Janice Renken
Joan Renken
Rod Renken
Clark Schmitz
Kim Sherlock
Sandy Utesch Sievers
Brooklyn Smit
Max Utesch — in Happy Siesta
Lois Varenhorst
Peggy Wilken

Birthdays

Eric Lubben Feb. 2
Addison Babcock Feb. 2
Vernon Harrington Feb. 3
Brenten Bruscher Feb. 3
Karen Oetken Feb. 5
Chris Waterbury Feb. 7
Verda Koerselman Feb. 7
Steve McHale Feb. 8
B.J. Rieken Feb. 8
Bowen Rieken Feb. 8
Joslyn & Jayde Sieburg Feb. 9
Gwenith Montgomery Feb. 9
Marilyn Plueger Feb. 9
Bryistol & Rahlyd Gabel Feb. 10
Payton Bruscher Feb. 11
Harper Harms Feb. 11
Rob Von Hagel Feb. 12
Tim Rollinger Feb. 14
Rett Willer Feb. 14
Peggy Dickman Feb. 17
Keaton Koerselman Feb. 18
Dick Harms Feb. 19
Colan Borchers Feb. 19
Connie Seible Feb. 21
Jerret Westhoff Feb. 23
Elliot Kroll Feb. 27
Lincoln Renken Feb. 28
Angela Von Hagel Feb. 28
Mary Jane Tapper Feb. 28
Laura Willer Feb. 28
Lisa Livermore Feb. 28

Congratulations

Daniel Kessenich and Katelyn Langel were married at St. Joseph Catholic Church on December 27. Their reception was held at the fairgrounds.



Celebrating birthdays

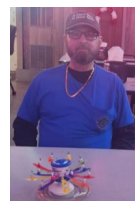


Top left: **Patty Beitelspacher** (sitting) celebrated her birthday on December 29.

Top center: **Gary Ohlrich** (on right) celebrated his birthday on January 6.

Top right: On January 6 the Wendts celebrated **Knox** (left) turning 10 and **Cooper** (right) turning 16.

Photos courtesy of Gerry Sue Krienert.



On January 6 **Dave Kilker** (far left) celebrated his December 30th birthday and **Ed Robotham** (left) celebrated his January 3rd birthday.



CITIZEN OF THE MONTH:

Susan Willer, nominated by Gisela Dittman

A Home Run of a Reunion: Reno's Florida Fantasy Camp Adventure

Steve "Reno" Dickman traveled to Florida to assist his brother Stan with the Minnesota Twins Baseball Fantasy Camp. While there, Reno took on the task of serving food. This marked Stan's 18th year running the camp, which turned out to be a tremendous success, drawing in 130 campers, enough to form 10 teams.

Let's get cookin'

Stop by Iowa State Bank of Brunsville for Brunsville Centennial cookbooks. They contain 388 pages of delicious recipes submitted by local people you may know. They make wonderful gifts and are only \$10.

St. Peter Lutheran Church notes



The congregation in 1967

The three photographs above depict the St. Peter Lutheran Church congregation in 1967. The group was so large that it had to be divided across three separate images.

These pictures were first published in the 50th anniversary commemorative booklet for St. Peter Lutheran Church in Brunsville, Iowa, in 1967.

Baptism on February 1, Soup Off on February 22

St. Peter's church services are typically held on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. On Sunday, February 1 there will be a joint worship service at Christ Lutheran Church at 10 a.m. William Max Baumgartel will be baptized during the service. A

meal will follow.

A Soup Off is scheduled for Sunday, February 22 at Christ Lutheran Church. Now in its second year, the event will also feature a silent auction.

Lenten schedule — all services at 7 p.m.

Feb. 18 (Ash Wednesday) at Christ Lutheran with communion

Feb. 25 at St. Peter

March 4 at Christ Lutheran

March 11 at St. Peter

March 18 at Christ Lutheran

March 25 at St. Peter

April 2 (Maundy Thursday) at St. Peter with communion

April 3 (Good Friday) at Christ Lutheran

Be in the know!

Attend the next council meeting

The next Brunsville City Council meeting will be held at the Legion on February 9 at 5:15. p.m.

Don't miss out on events!

Remember to mark your calendar with events found in each Blitz.

Interested in submitting information or photos?

The deadline is the 25th the month before publication. Thank you for your submissions, donations and support.

All are welcome to "break into the bank"

The Craig Coffee Club invites you for coffee on Saturdays at 9 a.m. in the former Iowa State Bank building.

Thank you for your donations and support of The Brunsville Blitz!

We're very busy and need more volunteers to jump on board! Want to volunteer, adopt or donate? Contact us today!

 **Wet Nose Rescue**
Plymouth County Animal Shelter & Adoption

1331 Hawkeye Ave SW, Le Mars • (712)540-5919
wetnoserescue@outlook.com
caeyes2011@gmail.com

Recipe of the month: Red Velvet Cake

1/2 c. butter or margarine	2 T. cocoa
2 eggs	2 oz. red food coloring
2 1/4 c. flour	1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. buttermilk	1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt	1 tsp. vinegar

Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs. Mix well. Add flour and buttermilk alternately. Mix well. Pour in food coloring. In small dish, add baking soda and vinegar together. Mix into cake batter. Bake in 2 (8-inch) greased and floured layer pans or jellyroll pan at 350° for 30 minutes. Cool.

FROSTING:

3 T. flour	1 c. butter (no substitutes)
1 c. milk	1 c. sugar
1 tsp. vanilla	

Cook flour and milk until thick. Stir constantly. Cool to room temperature. Cream sugar and butter and vanilla until very fluffy. Add to milk and flour mixture. Blend until like whipped cream.

The above recipe was submitted by Bev Hultquist and can be found on page 160 of the Brunsville Centennial Cookbook that was published in 2010. Centennial cookbooks hold 388 pages of delicious recipes and are available for \$10 at Iowa State Bank in Brunsville.

Town trivia

Ready to play? Decide whether each statement below is true or false.

1. The first meeting was held in 1916 to organize a Sunday school in Brunsville.
2. Tools from Frank Toel's blacksmith shop were stolen by robbers who used them to break into other businesses in town.
3. Tug-of-war contests took place at the ball diamond during the Diamond Jubilee in 1985.

Answers will be printed in the March edition.

Discover more online

To learn more about Brunsville history and read previous editions of The Blitz, go to brunsvilleiowa.com.

To learn more about St. Peter Lutheran Church and view old church booklets, go to stpeterbrunsville.com.

Be sure to like **The Brunsville Blitz, Brunsville Centennial and Beyond** and **St. Peter Lutheran Church, Brunsville, Iowa** on Facebook.

Quote 'Ems

Love conquers all things except poverty and toothache. — Mae West

Marriage has no guarantees. If that's what you're looking for, go live with a car battery. — Erma Bombeck

Love is just a chocolate substitute. — Melanie Clark Pullen

I love you more than coffee. But please don't make me prove it. — Gerry Attrick

Do you believe in love at first sight, or should I walk by again? — Unknown

Before you marry a person, you should first make them use a computer with slow Internet service to see who they really are. — Will Ferrell

I love you no matter what you do, but do you have to do so much of it? — Jean Illsley Clarke

The best sign of a healthy relationship is no sign of it on Facebook. — Unknown

I married for love but the obvious side benefit of having someone around to find my glasses cannot be ignored. — Cameron Esposito

Marriage is like a walk in the park ... Jurassic Park. — Unknown

I never want to be away from you again, except at work, in the restroom or when one of us is at a movie the other does not want to see. — Lemony Snicket

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Get published All are welcome to submit information, photos and advertising to be published. Negative and political submissions will not be published. The deadline is always the 25th the month before.

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Donate All donations are applied toward the cost of supplies. Staff members are volunteers. Thank you to all who donate!

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