

Historic Jail Will Be Open During Potato Days



to be built in Barnesville. It is located just west of the Old City Hall and police station on Highway 9. The jail was constructed at the turn of the 20th century and served the community for 80 years.

It was retired from service in 1979 and the would-be occupants of the cells have since been transported to the Law Enforcement Center in Moorhead. There is a new facility there to house prisoners and law enforcement staff.

Barnesville has had a long history with no serious crime. It has been over 80 years since the last murder occurred in the

city in 1936. But Barnesville grew up as a rough and rowdy railroad town when it was chartered in 1882. As a railroad hub with a lot of saloons, there was more than enough drinking going on to see a regular flow of customers through the old jail. Like Sheriff Andy's Mayberry, most of the jail's occupants got the chance to sleep it off and then go home the next morning.

The Barnesville Jail is one of the few structures with that type of character that still exist across the State of Minnesota. The jail is listed on the National Registry of Historic Buildings. Stop by, snap a few pictures

from inside a jail cell and then enjoy the rest of Potato Days as a free man, woman or child.

And of course not! . . . No matter how bad the behavior of kids, spouses, or in-laws, we're not keeping them in our jail.

SPUD-FACT

First European nation which gladly accepted potato into their cuisine was Spain. They immediately introduced potato as invaluable military and navy ration that prevented formation of scurvy.

Kids been unruly? . . .
Spouse won't listen? . . .
Looking for a place to stash your mother-in-law? . . .

The Old Barnesville Jail may be just the answer you're looking for. The jail will be open during both days of the

SPUD-JOKE

What do you call a potato wearing glasses?

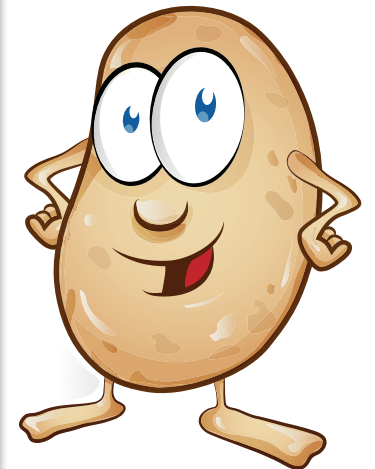
Answer:
A spec-tater.

Potato Days Celebration, Friday and Saturday, August 25 and 26.

Actually the jail will be open, but not for business. There will be no jailer or police officer on duty at the premises.

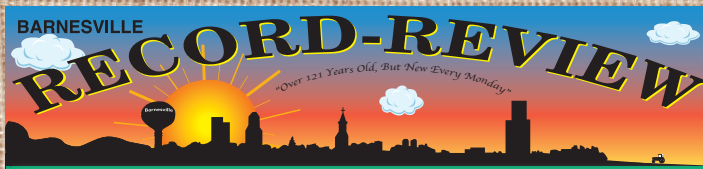
There are no tour guides and no fees or fines to go to jail. The doors won't lock but it's a great opportunity for a photo op. The cells doors swing both ways so you can see what it looks like to see the world from both sides of the bars.

The Barnesville Jail was one of the first permanent buildings



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