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Winter Sports Update

The 7th Grade through Varsity basketball seasons will begin practice on January 4th. All student athletes will need to register and have a MSHSL Sports Physical on file. Just a reminder, any sports physical that was set to expire during the 2020-2021 school year was granted a one year extension by the Minnesota State High School League.

All registrations need to be completed online. The website to register is:

<https://randolphhs-ar.schooltoday.com/>

Any students that are wrestling will need to reach out to Cannon Falls for registration information. Mr. Olson's email address is olson.reid@cf.k12.mn.us.

Announcements

• **Food Shelf, located in St. Mark's Lutheran Church on Highway 56.** 1st Wednesday 8-10 a.m.; 2nd & 3rd Tuesday 4:30 - 6 p.m.; 4th Wednesday 9-11 a.m. We are an emergency food shelf and anyone needing some help, may come once a month and receive at least a week's worth of food. We also want to invite college students to come and get some supplies to help them save some expense. Thanks to the generosity of our community, our shelves are well stocked. Our volunteers are from Stanton Methodist Church, St. Mathias Catholic Church and St. Mark's Lutheran Church. We have implemented a new system of shopping with a list. We shop off of a list you fill out. We ask you stay by the back door while we are filling the list. Any questions contact Beth Bester at St. Mark's, 507-263-9182 and leave a message.

Email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

Randolph Bank Opens

Castle Rock Bank Opened Its Randolph Branch Office Earlier in December

"A Bank is not just a building, it's the people inside," David Nicolai said, as they opened the new Randolph Branch of Castle Rock Bank in early December. Nicolai continued, "This has been many years in the making" As Vice President of the family-owned bank, David had been looking to have a branch in Randolph for some time. They had looked at property to potentially

build a new building, but the location and timing was never quite right. Until 2019, when the former Crossroads Bar & Grill property was on the market after the business closed. "A business associate of ours called me and said we should take a look at the property."

(continued on page 4)



Bank Branch Manager Melissa Neperud and Personal Banker Becky Blonigen on opening day at the new Randolph Branch of Castle Rock Bank

Randolph FCCLA Toy Drive a Success



Items the girls collected and also the ones they purchased with donations.

Randolph FCCLA Toy Drive was a success. The drive raised lots of gifts for all ages of kids. The girls helped 6 organizations this holiday season with a main focus of helping their community

The girls want to Thank all of the community members, family members, and friends who donated to this toy drive. Your support is greatly appreciated!

The Toy Drive was organized by - Jocelyn Zingler 9th grader at Randolph and Serena Irrthum 7th grader at Randolph. (additional picture on page 6)

The Red Diamond Saloon in Randolph is Under New Ownership

During the state ordered shutdown of bars and restaurants, the new owners are currently doing some remodeling of portions of the building. An anticipated opening date was not available at press time.

A full story will appear in next months Messenger.

Merry Christmas AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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Thank you for your support during this challenging time!

Merry Christmas!



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Christmas isn't Cancelled!!! Focus on Community

What are some things that make a great neighbor? This year more than ever; it will and is important for us to be good neighbors. To focus on our communities. Many of us are staying close to home this year for the holidays. Our calendars are aren't filling up with Christmas parties, sports, and school concerts, that usually typify a normal Christmas season. Even the church calendar is a little more subdued. Normally our schedules are so full we struggle to even enjoy the season. With everything around us cancelled- it is a great time to remember that Christmas is not and will never be cancelled, because Christmas doesn't depend on activities, but on a person, the person of Jesus Christ. He came to earth to be the ultimate 'good neighbor.' He was willing to come from heaven-down to earth and become like the beings that He had created. He went from creator of the universe to become one of the created! He became a neighbor, a part of the community. He became one of us beginning as a baby. Isaiah wrote about his coming in chapters 7:14, "All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us'). God would send us a child- born of a virgin- and this 'baby' would be God himself- he would be "God with us!" God wrote Himself into the story of our lives. For all humankind God became one of us and He continues even now to be 'God with us.' He became the central character of our world and history. Now the one that created us and has given us life is with us in the midst of our lives and stays with us until our life in Him is completed His way, in His time for His glory. He chose to become a part of the entire world's history to become man and live within a community.

We are called to Love God and to Love our neighbors. To love and be a part of our communities. For 2020 we've had to stay closer to home and slow our lives down. Our calendars aren't as full, and we have a lot more time in our homes- at least most of us. For those that are in the health profession, many of them are working more and longer hours. And many in other essential services continue as well. But the rest of us have less activities on our schedule than previous Christmas seasons. There are those that want to tell us that Christmas is cancelled this year and that couldn't be further from the truth. This Christmas may be the one that brings us home to experience a Christmas filled with the true meaning of Christmas. What does it look like to love our neighbors? What does it look like during this pandemic to love others more than we love ourselves? Christmas is not Cancelled! Christmas is a time for us to focus on our communities more- to be good neighbors. Christmas is a time for us to live out our faith and be ready to share the reason for our faith. Jesus came to give us hope. Jesus came to be "with Us." With you, with me. He calls us as believers to share ourselves with others—to point people to Him. We do that by loving Him, and Loving People. Here are 10 ideas to Love our neighbors:

- **Check in.** If you have elderly or mobility-challenged neighbors, give them a to find out if they're doing okay or if they need any help.
- **Donate good winter clothes.** I realize we are already in our winter here in SE MN, but our clothing closet is running short on winter hats and mittens, snow pants and coats. If you are talented in making mittens, hats, or scarves those are great additions to clothing closets and homeless shelters.
- **Feed the hungry.** Spread some warmth by donating hot, nutritious meals to neighbors in your community that may be housebound and unable to get out for supplies. Donate to the local food shelf. Money is always appreciated and there is always a

need for volunteers.

- **Clear your snow.** For those of you in town, be mindful that walking on snow and ice can be dangerous, so clear your driveway and sidewalk as soon as you can after a snowfall to keep everyone passing by as safe as possible.
- **Know who to call.** If you see someone who is out in the cold and in need of help, you can get them the care they need much faster when you already know who to call. Keep the number of local homeless outreach programs in your phone so help is always just a quick call away. The Landings (507) 884-0423 and the Salvation Army (507) 288-3663 are great resources for people in need.
- **Stock your car with (bleeding bags).** Keep a few Ziplock bags filled with basic hygiene supplies and nutritious snacks to pass out to those who may need them.
- **Go on a grocery run.** If you're heading out to pick up supplies, call neighbors to find out if there's anything you can pick up for them, so they don't have to venture out in the cold weather.
- **Adopt a family.** Find out if any local organizations have holiday program in sup-

port of lower-income families who need a bit of support to celebrate the holidays. Christmas Anonymous in Plainview is taking applications for people to adopt families as well.

Lots of great ways to encourage and to support and help your community. Jesus said he came to bring good news to the poor—we can do that... share the true meaning of Christmas with our neighbors through our actions! Jesus said he came to set the captive free- we can help those that feel confined to their homes but calling them and reminding them that they are not alone, and that we care. We can encourage and pray for those that are stuck and are feeling alone. The first thing we can be a part of to show that, "Christmas Is Not Cancelled!" is to Love our neighbors. To serve and to find ways to bless them this Christmas season "God is with us." Jesus is still with us. Jesus calls us to focus on God, and on others. As we begin this Christmas season, I trust we will not be focusing on all the things that have changed, all the activities we can't do, but instead focus on bringing God's love and joy to our communities.

*God is with us
Christmas Is Not Cancelled!!!*

It's the most wonderful time of the year,
and we're so grateful to be celebrating it with all of you.

**We wish you all a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!**



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The King's Grace
29020 Dawson Avenue in the heart of Randolph
(adjacent to Randolph Public School grounds).
Sunday School 9:00a.m.
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Pastor Dennis Ingolfsland
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www.christumchurch.net
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Worship 9:15a.m.
Wednesdays - 5:45p.m. Wednesday evening
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Kids Club; Youth Group

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Worship 10:15a.m.
Questions? Call 507-263-4063

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY
The King's Grace
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen. — Revelation 22:21
It has been said that the last pages of our Bible bend around to touch the first pages. They bring full circle the one big story of God's love and salvation of the world. In the beginning, God the King creates the world and proclaims it good, good, very good. "Good" is the most important word describing God and God's world in the beginning.
But much that unfolds later in this story—and in our world—is not good. There is sinful rebellion, guilt, shame, corruption, violence, injustice, and disintegration. The world is broken, and we feel it in the depths of our souls. The world's history books and the daily news proclaim it unceasingly. But unceasing too in the Bible's big story is something that transforms and redeems all this brokenness: grace.
The King's grace is a phrase often used to refer to a king's favor or presence or to simply a king himself. In the Bible, it is finally the King's grace that gets the last word. Grace comes in the person and work of King Jesus. He is the one who is King of kings and Lord of lords. The first chapter of the Bible proclaims, "Good." The last chapter proclaims what is greater still: "Grace." God's big story moves from good to grace.
Whatever we face in terms of struggle, guilt, or sorrow, the King's grace gets the last word. The King's grace is the world's—and our—great hope!

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NOTICE
Due to COVID-19 check your church website or
Facebook page for updates.

Obituaries

Colton Tix

Colton Tix, age 26, of Cannon Falls, died on Sunday, Dec. 6, as the result of an unfortunate accident.



Colton Matthew Tix was born in Cannon Falls on March 9, 1994, the son of Michael and Rebekah (Sackett) Tix. He grew up in the area and graduated from Randolph High School in 2012. After high school Cole joined the carpentry trade where he received his Journeyman status. In 2018 Cole then took the opportunity to pursue his dream of becoming a pilot. Cole was about to graduate from the Aviation Program at Academy College. On August 24, 2019, Colton was united in marriage to Taylor Bickman, the love of his life. They were married at her parent's home in Randolph. He loved spending time at home with Taylor and cooking extravagant meals for the two of them. He also loved working construction with his dad and his brothers. He enjoyed doing any kind of outdoor activities, especially flying. Cole was a member of St. Mathias' Catholic Church in Hampton.

Survivors include his wife Taylor, his parents Michael and Rebekah of Northfield; brothers Cody (Holly) Tix of Hampton and Mitchell Tix of Northfield; Nephew Dawson Tix of Hampton; grandparents Bill and Donna Tix of Randolph and Timothy

and Ellen Sackett of Kenyon; father-in-law and mother-in-law Andy and Chris Otte of Hampton; father-in-law Doug Underdahl of Sogn; as well as many other family and friends. He was preceded in death by his great-grandparents Orville and Angeline Amos, Julius and Marie Tix, Max and Cleo Walker, and William and Delores Sackett.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Colton Tix Memorial Fund in care of Merchants Bank, Cannon Falls.

A drive-through visitation was held from noon - 4 pm on Sunday, Dec. 13 at St. Mathias Catholic Church, 23315 Northfield Blvd, Hampton, MN 55031. There was a private funeral mass.

Patricia A. Anderson

Patricia A. Anderson, age 70, of Cannon Falls, died suddenly on Monday, December 14, at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, following a lengthy battle with cancer.



Patricia Ann Anderson was born in Red Wing on Oct. 16, 1950, the daughter of L. Quentin and Lois (Traeger) Lundell. She grew up in Cannon Falls and had been a member of the Cloverdale 4H as a youth. Pat graduated from Cannon Falls High School in 1969 and went on to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University

of Minnesota. She worked for a short time at the Montgomery Wards desk at Bob's Red Owl, before moving to the Wards downtown. For 36 years, Pat was the President of the Cannon Falls Chamber of Commerce. She had a significant part in the success of the businesses in town. On February 16, 1974, Pat was united in marriage to Gary H. Anderson, at St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church. She was a long-time member of First English Lutheran where she was active in the choir, among other things. She enjoyed hosting events, planning meals and festivities and will be remembered for her gatherings of family and friends. Other interests were games and puzzles, as well as reading.

Survivors include her husband Gary, sons Timothy and David (Renee), brothers Jim (Diane) Lundell and DeRoy Lundell, and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Pat was preceded in death by her parents and her brother Harry.

Memorials are preferred to First English Lutheran Church.

A walk-through visitation was held on Friday, Dec 18, from 4-7:00 pm at Lundberg Funeral Home, 5839 Hwy 19 Blvd, Cannon Falls, MN 55009. Masks and social distancing guidelines were required. A private family memorial service will also be held.

John Svien

John Svien, age 66, of Kenyon, died Monday, November 30 at his home following a long illness.

John Anthony Svien, Jr. was born on June 9, 1954 in Faribault, the son of John A. and

Jannes (Hauge) Svien, Sr. He grew up in the Kenyon area and attended Kenyon High School. He worked as a farmer and had various other jobs early in life. John was a self-taught welder and worked in welding for a few years for Cannon Equipment and was a welder for Hancock Manufacturing for 25 years. On March 3, 1997 John was united in marriage to Monica Scheiber in Decatur, IL. He enjoyed going to casinos, deer hunting, and loved farming.

Survivors include his wife Monica of Kenyon, son Johnny (Jennifer) Svien of New Prague, daughter Meghan Svien of Cannon Falls; granddaughters Samantha, Katelyn, and Abigail; sisters JoAnn (Ron) Peterson of Kenyon, and Jeanette (Blair) Baalson of Kenyon; as well as nieces and nephews.

John was preceded in death by his parents John and Jannes, his sister Virginia (Roar) Nesseth, aunts, uncles, a nephew, and his grandparents.

A walk-through visitation will be from 3-5:00 pm, Friday, December 11, at Lundberg Funeral Home, 5839 Hwy 19 Blvd, Cannon Falls, Mn 55009. Masks and social distancing will be required. There will be a private family prayer service following at 5 pm. Interment will be in the Vang Lutheran Cemetery at a later date.



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To Our Neighbors at Christmas

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Castle Rock Bank's Randolph Branch Now Open

(continued from page 1)

They did, and the rest is history now. The location, right on the corner of Hwy 56 and 292nd Street E., the main road going into Randolph.

Nicolai went on to say they have thought the area needed a bank, and with the merger of other locally owned banks in recent years, it presented an opportunity for Castle Rock to better serve the area. Castle Rock Bank has been owned by the Nicolai Family since the early 1960's, when Dan Nicolai Sr became majority shareholder after working in the bank for several years. He and wife LaVonne eventually became full owners of the bank. Dan was active in the daily operations of the bank and serving his customers right to the end of his life. He passed away in June at the age of 88. LaVonne, Dan Jr and David continue as the bank's senior management team today. An etched glass window in the entry of the new building has the banks logo and Dan & Lavonne's name on it, as a tribute to them both for over 60 years of dedication to the area. The bank built its Farmington Branch



Castle Rock Bank President LaVonne Nicolai, Personal Banker Becky Blonigen, Branch Manager Melissa Neperud, Compliance Officer Mindy Schneller and Vice President David Nicolai in the lobby of the new Randolph Branch of Castle Rock Bank. Not pictured, Vice President Dan Nicolai Jr.

building in 1981, and the Randolph location is the third. The Randolph Branch will

start with several employees, including Manager. Melissa Neperud, who will serve as Branch

(continued on page 5)

We look forward to seeing you again soon in 2021!



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Castle Rock Bank's Randolph Branch Now Open

(continued from page 4)

Joining her is Becky Blonigen as Personal Banker. Several of the things David is excited to offer the community is The Randolph Community Room, located in the lower level of the building. A wide-open space for groups and non-profits to hold meetings and community gatherings. The space is available by contacting the bank. A separate entrance to the lower level can be accessed after bank hours by key code. "We hope people take advantage of the space" Nicolai said, there are not a lot of meeting spaces in Randolph besides the school. The bank also has a changeable electronic reader-board sign, which community members can take advantage of to promote community events and announcements.

Castle Rock Bank is a full-service bank, including deposit accounts, loans, and all the amenities of the big banks, and more, but in a much more personal atmosphere. Service and Personal relationships have been a key to the bank's success for over 100 years. The Nicolai Family have con-



2018 File Photo

Dan and LaVonne Nicolai

After working at the bank several years, Dan Sr actively served as the banks President and CEO until his passing in June 2020, at the age of 88, serving the community for over 60 years.

tinued the banks mission, that "The Bank Shall Operate For The Benefit Of The Community First, Last and Always".

The Banks Drive Up and Lobby are open 7:30 to 4 PM Monday thru Friday. Although Saturday hours are not on the schedule currently, the banks Farmington Branch is open Saturday mornings 9 am to 12 PM. Due to current COVID-19 related restrictions, an official Grand Opening of the bank will be planned sometime in the Spring of 2021. Castle Rock Bank is an Equal Opportunity Lender and Member FDIC. The phone number of the Randolph location is 507-403-2777 or online at www.castlerockbank.net



Bank staff member Mindy Schneller completes a banking transaction on the first day of the Randolph Branch opening



Located in the lower level of The New Castle Rock Bank Randolph office, is the Randolph Community Center gathering room. The meeting space is available for groups, sports teams or non profits to meet. The space can be accessed after normal banking business hours, through the main entry by key code.



The new Randolph Branch of Castle Rock Bank will offer their electronic sign to groups or organizations for community related announcements.

May the joy and warmth of the holiday season stay with you throughout the year.

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Randolph, MN

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Season's Greetings

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Randolph FCCLA Toy Drive a Success



Items donated and dropped off at school.

FFA Fruit Sale



Randolph FFA Students unload the semi delivering fruit on December 16th that the FFA students sold during the annual FFA Fruit Sale, which is a major fundraiser for the Randolph FFA Chapter each year.



From all of us at First Farmers & Merchants Bank, we thank you for your loyalty and wish you the very best of the holiday season.

We will close at noon on December 24th, and will also be closed on December 25th & January 1st so our employees can celebrate the holiday with their families.

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Cannon Falls 507-263-3030 White Rock 651-258-4430



Greetings of the Season

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in the coming year and wish everyone
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A Minnesotan in the North: Christmas



By RosaLin Alcoser

Not all but many holidays over the course of my childhood are marked with some kind of minor disaster. Like the Thanksgiving table fire, or the Christmas Eve were my sister and I accidentally did a 360 on the highway in between the fifth and sixth Christmas Eve service of the night. No one ever gets hurt in these minor disasters but they make the holiday memorable and make for a good story. One that came to me this year was the Christmas that the dishwasher shorted out.

It was the Christmas of 2004, I was eight-years-old that year. Honestly, I cannot for the life of me remember what I got for Christmas that year. What I can remember is the events of the day.

It was a typical Christmas of my childhood. We got up had breakfast and did stockings before Dad went off to work to

do Christmas day services at the Medical Center in Rochester. The family would be coming over that evening for dinner and presents; in the meantime, we watched Christmas movies and worked on Christmas dinner.

I think it was a pretty normal Christmas that year... or at least it was until the dishwasher shorted out before dinner causing it to fill up with water. It was all going to be OK though because Grandpa, who had been a Navy Electrician, was going to fix it. All he needed to do was cut off the power to the dishwasher and take care of the problem.

Now the breaker box was in the garage, and I do not remember exactly how but the wrong breaker got turned off. So instead of turning off the power to the dishwasher the power to the oven got turned off instead. Which not only left Grandpa working on a live dishwasher, where thankfully nothing happened but stopped the oven.

The oven where the Christmas ham, that my mother had rubbed down with brown sugar and poured CocaCola over, had been baking. The oven that no one noticed was off until after the dishwasher had been taken care of.

I was eight that year so I don't rightly remember if we even ended up eating the ham that day once the power mixup was noticed. But I will never forget the Christmas dishwasher disaster of 2004.



MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year!

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Memories of Christmas Past

Here are some stories told by residents of the nursing homes in our community about their childhood memories of Christmas.

Margaret grew up on a farm close to Nerstrand. Her parents milked cows and it was one of Margaret's jobs to wash the milking machine parts every day. There was lots of work on the farm and she had a younger sister but Margaret did more of the work outside. She had to walk to school in town every morning and would cross the railroad tracks on the edge of town. She would hear the locomotive chugging up the long grade from Dennison as it made its way toward Kenyon, a big city in her young mind. Their neighbor would haul milk to the creamery and drop off their daughter at school on the way each morning, but Margaret made her way on foot through the cold and quiet December mornings dressed in warm clothes and carrying the lunch that her grandma had made.

As a young girl Margaret believed their family had everything they could want. Nerstrand had a clothing store, a grocery store, a hardware store, the meat market and two cafes. The farm family even had a telephone, a party line.

The phone at each house had a special ring that let you know the call was for you, and you always knew when the neighbors got a phone call as well.

And if you were real careful you could pick up the receiver and listen in. But that was not nice. They had a piano at their house and she took lessons from a neighbor lady and cultivated a love of music that lasted a lifetime.

Christmas was a special time in her childhood. Church was important to them and there was always a church service Christmas eve, where the children would put on a program. After returning home the kids were allowed to open their presents. Most were ordinary items like hand made clothes sewn by her mom and grandma. When she was nine years old Margaret recalls receiving a large doll as a Christmas present along with handmade doll clothes. The girls would play and sing Christmas carols for the family. Her favorite was "O' Little Town of Bethlehem".

Christmas Day was a typical Scandinavian feast with lutefisk and lefse and many homemade cookies and treats. Her two uncles helped with the farm work and would join the family for the big meal. Her grandma was the official lefse maker, and Margaret couldn't wait to eat lefse fresh of the griddle with butter and brown sugar. And of course there was the famous Nerstrand bologna.

Audrey grew up near Berne where she lived with her brother on her grandparents farm. Christmas Eve they always had oyster



stew. Grandpa would always go out to the barn during supper to "help a cow have a calf" and that was when Santa showed up. Santa had a bag with unwrapped presents like cracker jacks and boxes of Lifesavers hard candy.

They would go to Christmas Eve church service at Berne and she remembers how beautiful it looked with candles lighting the windows.

There was a Christmas tree at the church with presents underneath from Sunday School teachers and friends. The adults

would take communion and then the families would head back home where there were more gifts waiting to be opened. They would go to Rochester shopping for the holidays at stores like Woolworths, Kreskes and Donaldsons at the Miracle Mile for gifts for her brother and grandparents.

Most years there were games, clothes or a toy like a pair of ice skates, but one year she knew she had a special gift and it was the best ever. It was easy to tell what it was because however you wrap a baton, it still looks like a baton. *(continued on page 9)*

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Memories of Christmas Past

(continued from page 8)

That gift got twirled a lot long before Christmas Eve arrived.

On Christmas Day it was off to dinner at the other grandparents. The weather was always cold with lots of snow but the house was full with uncles, aunts and family. The meal was full of Swiss goodies like "Big Nothings, Rosettes, pear bread and lots of sweets.

Dale grew up on a farm near Dodge

Center where his parents raised crops. There were three boys and one girl in his family and he remembers it as a quiet time. His dad would cut a tree on the farm to decorate in the house.

They family went to church on Christmas Eve and he remembers the service with people standing up to talk and share things that were important to them during that season.

The family celebrated on Christmas Day and the children opened small gifts that were usually something they needed. Some were purchased and the rest were hand made.

Wanda was an only child and grew up in Texas on a big ranch with her parents and grandmother. She recalls that the farm house was big with lots of stairs and her dad would chop down a tree and bring it in

but they didn't have many decorations on it. The elementary school she attended would have a Christmas tree as well. A lot of people worked on the ranch and would come over to the house for the holidays and her mother did lots of cooking.

The one present that stands out in her mind was the year she received a doll. The family would go to church on Christmas Day and the young ones would put on a program which was enjoyed by all the people attending the service.

Barb grew up with a twin sister in the countryside near Danby, New York. As a child the big event was getting the Christmas tree and the two young girls would help put the tree up in the house. Gifts often included dolls but one year her father gave the twins a bicycle. The twins would help their mom make special treats such as cookies and fudge before Christmas.

She remembers how pretty the church was for the Christmas service when she was a child. Many of the gifts they wrapped were handmade which they had knitted and sewn for each other. Activities were playing with the neighbor kids sledding and building snowmen.

George grew up with two brothers and two sisters in the family home and recalls that they lived in a number of houses around Dodge Center, Claremont and West Concord. His father was a carpenter and his mother worked for Bird's Eye Canning Company in Waseca so she wasn't home very much. As one of the youngest in the



family he remembers walking to country school when he was a lad. The country school had a Christmas program they participated in and he recalls singing songs but not sure if there were gifts from the teachers. The one thing he remembers about a Christmas when he was a child was the year his dad bought an \$8.00 bicycle for all of his brothers and sisters to share.

Now at Fairview Care Center where he resides the residents get to pick out decorations for their rooms. There are Christmas stockings with their names on them and small snow sleds above the door to their rooms. They put window clings in their windows of trees, bells, Santa Claus and Merry Christmas greetings.

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Wanamingo Founded by Norwegians has Native American Name

Courtesy of Power 96 Radio

Wanamingo, Minnesota is in Goodhue County settled by Norwegian immigrants in the 1850's. A KDHL listener inquired about the meaning of the evidently Native American name. Wanamingo historian Gary Bakko educated me that when names were chosen for locations in Minnesota first the county was named followed by the townships and then the cities.

I scratch my bald head. Why would Norwegian farmers decide to give their new community a Native American name that apparently has no meaning? There is speculation about its meaning but no official document has given a definition for the name.

I was given a history book of Wanamingo that was published in 1978. It was commissioned by the Wanamingo Historical Society due to the 1976 bicentennial of the United States of America.

I have searched and searched and Bakko

obviously has searched more than me. I checked an Indian language online tool plugged in the word Wanamingo and it came out with "no matches."

Bakko believes the word relates to the numerous springs found in the area. Remember townships were named before cities so Wanamingo Township was named after an "Indian heroine in a popular novel from the nineteenth century" according to the Wanamingo Historical Society.

Bakko has collected a Wanamingo cigar box proving the name was used elsewhere. He also sent me a picture and newspaper clipping talking about the Wanamingo Ferry that was in operation in the Prarie Du Chien area of Wisconsin.

This is written about Wanamingo Township on the Genealogy Trails website.

"No other township in the county it is said affords superior advantages to the farmer. The story of the early settlement of Wanamingo has been told as follows: The first settlers came here in 1851 and were natives of Norway. Early in that year Henry Nelson (Talla) came to Dodgeville, Wisconsin from California, where he had been staying a few years and where he had accumulated a snug little sum of money. About the same time his older brother, Toge Nelson (Talla) then a widower, came back to the same place from Australia, where he also had earned some money."

"The two brothers then agreed to go to the

Northwest together and search for a home. Purchasing a team (of horses), they started, and after being on the way as far as the Root River, they heard that the territory of Minnesota contained good farming land, with wood and water. They then purchased a number of cattle and such implements as they would need for beginning farming operations."

A later accounting from the same information on the genealogy.com website talks about more immigrants from Norway. "After rambling over the new territory of Minnesota for three weeks they came June 12, to the place now called Wanamingo. They had for many days seen no white persons but themselves. At about 11 O'clock on the day named above, they crossed the north fork of the Zumbro. Toge Nelson stopped his team and looking around, saw there was a fine park with beautiful land adjacent. He exclaimed, 'Here will I live and die.' His words were fulfilled, for he died in 1889, having lived in that place thirty-five years. The whole company found it to be a desirable country for settlement, and so began their improvements.

The information reveals the first white child born in the township (1854), first marriage (1855), first store (1857).

Below is a listing of 28 United States with Native American Indian names and their meanings.

- Alaska - Great Land
- Alabama - Thicket Clearers



- Arizona - Silver Slabs
- Arkansas - Down Stream People
- Connecticut - Upon The Long River
- Idaho - Sunrise, It Is Morning
- Illinois - Men Or Great Men
- Indiana - Land Of The Indians
- Iowa - Drowsy People
- Kansas - People Of The South Wind
- Kentucky - Hunting Ground
- Dakota (North and South)- Related People
- Oregon - Beautiful Water
- Massachusetts - Great Hill
- Michigan - Great Water
- Mississippi - Father Of Water
- Missouri - Long Canoe People
- Minnesota - Sky Tinted Water
- Nebraska - Flat Water
- New Mexico - Aztec God Mexitili
- Ohio - Beautiful Valley
- Oklahoma - Land Of The Red Man
- Texas - Tejas Or Allies
- Tennessee - From Chief Tannassie
- Utah - Those Who Dwell High Up
- Wisconsin - Where Waters Gather
- Wyoming - Great Plain

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Member  

CFS Randolph Grain Bunker Upgraded



CFS expanded the grain bunkers at Randolph earlier this fall, to increase storage capacity for their farmer members. Crops conditions were favorable this year, prompting the need for the additional capacity.



CFS Grain Bunker piles, December 2020

A large, festive graphic for the holidays. The background is a winter scene with snow-covered hills, trees, and a barn. The text "Merry Christmas" is written in a large, stylized font, with "AND HAPPY NEW YEAR" below it. The Syngenta logo is prominently displayed at the bottom. The overall tone is warm and celebratory.

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Support Local Businesses this Holiday Season



Tim Penny
So. MN Initiative Foundation

This time of year is traditionally a time of giving. Minnesotans in particular are known for their charitable contributions – a fact that was solidified recently during Give to the Max Day when Minnesotans set a record by giving more than \$30 million to local schools and nonprofits. In addition to November being a charitable time of year, it is also the launch of the holiday shopping season. At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) we know that Minnesotans will extend their generosity by supporting local businesses during this particularly difficult year.

At SMIF, we know that small businesses are the backbone of our communities and local economy, and for many of them, this is a critical time to help keep them afloat. In addition to safely shopping at retailers that are still open, we know that many people will be buying gifts online. While online shopping has historically been an easy way to purchase items that are not available locally, this year it will be important to find ways to use that platform to purchase gifts from local places. Buying gift cards from places like restaurants, breweries and fitness or yoga studios that are currently closed to the public is a great way to support them during this time. Many local retailers also have gift cards, online stores and curbside pickup as an option this year for those who would prefer to shop from home.

Local foods businesses are another dynamic sector that rely on the holiday shopping season as an important source of income.

This holiday season looks different for everyone in a lot of ways. When it comes to holiday shopping, please consider shopping local. These entrepreneurs are our friends and neighbors and we give thanks to them as they continue to contribute to the vibrancy of our region during this difficult time.

As always, I welcome your comments and questions. You can reach me at timp@smifoundation.org or 507-455-3215.



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MDA Announces June 30 Cutoff Date of Dicamba Herbicide for 2021

MDA Approves Label with Additional Requirements for Product Makers

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) today announced it will follow federal registration and label usage for the herbicide dicamba on dicamba-tolerant soybeans in Minnesota for the 2021 growing season.

In October, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it registered XtendiMax with VaporGrip Technology by Bayer (EPA Reg. No. 264-1210), Engenia by BASF (EPA Reg. No. 7969-472), and Tavium Plus VaporGrip Technology by Syngenta (EPA Reg. No. 352-913) with new control measures to curb alleged off-site movement (spray drift and/or volatilization) issues.

From 2018 to 2020, the MDA had placed an annual June 20 cutoff date on registered dicamba products based on research and pesticide misuse complaints – a cutoff date that was not included on the federal label – to curb off-site movement; however, the

EPA has now limited states' abilities to impose further application restrictions.

New federal label requirements for the products include:

An application cutoff date of June 30 (unless growth stage cutoff comes first)

Requiring an approved pH-buffering agent, also known as a volatility reducing agent, be tank mixed with dicamba products prior to all applications.

Requiring a downwind buffer of 240 feet and 310 feet in areas where listed endangered species are located

Additional recordkeeping items

In addition to the June 30 cutoff date, XtendiMax and Tavium have crop growth stage cutoffs.

The MDA is also requiring product makers provide approved education and training of applicators and provide more Minnesota-specific data on the use of dicamba to inform future department decisions.

"Dicamba is an important tool for combating herbicide-resistant weeds in dicamba-tolerant soybeans," said Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. "However, it's also important to limit impacts on neighboring homes, farms, and gardens. It will be necessary for applicators to understand and follow new label language including complete record-keeping requirements."

Since dicamba was first registered for use on dicamba-tolerant soybeans in the 2017 growing season, the MDA has fielded complaints each year of alleged off-site movement onto neighboring property. The annual totals of complaints were:

2020: 124 reports

2019: 22 reports

2018: 53 reports

2017: 253 reports

"It is important for farmers and applicators to understand that we will increase our enforcement of the use of these products by examining application records. We believe that additional training will help ensure the label is being followed," said Commissioner Petersen. "We also look forward to working with the University of Minnesota on research to better understand how these products can move off target. Our ability to gather as much data as we can on these products is critical for their continued use in the future."

In Minnesota, the XtendiMax, Engenia, and Tavium formulations of dicamba are approved for use on dicamba tolerant soybeans only and are "Restricted Use Pesticides" for retail sale to and for use only by certified applicators.

Pesticide product registrations are renewed on an annual basis in Minnesota.

Background Information

Dicamba is used to control weeds in cotton and soybeans genetically engineered to tolerate over-the-top use of the herbicide. The chemical is highly volatile and can damage non-target plant species through spray drift and/or volatilization. Volatility is influenced by several factors including temperature, relative humidity, rate of application, and crop stage.

On June 3, 2020, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued an

order vacating EPA's pesticide registration of three products containing the active ingredient dicamba: XtendiMax with VaporGrip Technology (EPA Reg. No. 524-617), Engenia (EPA Reg. No. 7969-345), and FeXapan (EPA Reg. No. 352-913).

The MDA, citing state law, allowed for the continued use of the three products, along with the dicamba product Tavium (EPA Reg. No. 100-1623), until the Minnesota required cutoff of June 20, 2020. A cutoff date has been in effect each growing season since 2018.

On October 27, 2020, the EPA announced it was approving new five-year registrations for XtendiMax and Engenia and extending the registration of Tavium.



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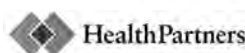
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City of Randolph Regular Council Meeting November 11, 2020

The regular Randolph City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Robert Appelgren.

Roll Call

Present were Mayor Robert Appelgren, Council Member Jacob Friedrich, Treasurer Sandy Nicolai and Clerk Mary Haro. Absent were council members Sarah Podritz, Jacob Toledo.

Public Comments

None

Minutes

A motion to approve the October 14, 2020 regular council meeting and October 22, 2020 special council meeting minutes as written was made by Friedrich, seconded by Appelgren. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 3:0.

Approval of Treasurer Report

We paid a Bolton & Menk invoice in the amount of \$4,937.50 that will be invoiced to Dan Wenstrom for Hereford Hills 4th Addition.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report as written was made by Appelgren seconded by Friedrich. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 3:0.

Approval to Pay Bills

We made the final payment to Classic Protective which was actually the third invoice which was missed but is the final payment due to them.

Motion to approve the payment of bills for November as written was made by Haro, and seconded by Friedrich. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 3:0.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

Canvas of Election Results

A motion to pass Resolution No. 20-10 to canvass the 2020 municipal election from the general election on November 3, 2020 was made by Haro, seconded by Appelgren. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 3:0.

Snowplowing City Sidewalks

Mayor asked Otte Enterprise for a price to plow the sidewalks in the city but has not yet received it. Jake indicated it is nice to get more bids but it helps to have the same company do the sidewalks that plow the roads. We should not approve anything until we get a price. We will ask them to continue to do the sidewalks until we do approve it. We will table this item until our December meeting.

Liquor License for Nate Icaza for R Bar

It was noted at our October meeting that we approved the liquor license for R Bar for the months of November and December. Clerk Haro recommended that we change the dates for the liquor license to December 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021 so that they do not need to come back to get a new license for 2021 in December since they have not yet purchased the establishment.

Motion by Haro to approve the liquor license of R Bar to be effective December 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021, seconded by Friedrich. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 3:0.

Picnic Tables

Dale Hallcock inquired about redoing the picnic tables up in the City Park since they

are in poor shape. He said he could tear them down, repaint the steel and add new wood. He would be willing to do this in his shop over the winter months. He asked if we would pay for the materials assuming he could get volunteers to help with the work. He will get estimates and let us know the price. Since we have a park fund he was given approval to go ahead and get the work done and if he needs any help to let us know.

Grant from MPFA

We need this resolution to submit to the state for the acceptance of bond money for the city sewer.

Jake asked what role the city plays in the spray irrigation fields. We have to make sure it gets done and done properly. We have to do spray irrigation because of environmental rules as we would not be able to get a permit to discharge to Lake Byllesby.

A motion was made by Friedrich to approve Resolution No. 20-11 on Applying for a Grant From the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority, seconded by Haro. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 3:0.

Bolton & Menk

Brian Hilgardner and Matt Blazer Bolton & Menk gave a presentation on the \$13 million bond that we are to receive from the MPFA. No environmental impact statement will need to be done because of the size of Randolph.

They indicated it is an amazing opportunity for the city. They can mold the project to be \$13 million. Once they get through the preliminary design we can trim what needs to be cut if needed. Brian indicated that he thinks the project will get completed with the bond money. There is other opportunities out there for other grant options. It has to be completed by October 21, 2023. We could maybe get more money and include the curb and gutter with the project. They indicated that the state is getting stricter and stricter and would most likely force the city within the next 10 years to do something about a sewer system. This project just includes the sewer system and the roads and does not include curb and gutters or water main lines. The money will need to go through a bank. We should talk with a financial advisor to help us set up a plan to save for the future.

The work would go up the right of way and stub a service at the right of way. The homeowner would be responsible to hook up to the stub. Grant money may be available to help assist with the hook up. We can determine that the current working septic's do not have to hook up for 10 years or whenever we determine or until if they sell their home but that can be decided later.

Bolton & Menk are here to answer any questions we have. Communication is a huge item for this project. They have a great communication department. They will put together a fact sheet. There will be numerous open houses to inform the public of the project. There will be a public web page for individuals to ask questions, there will be handouts.

Their price of doing the work is included with the \$13 million.

They will give us a price to include curb and gutter for further decisions to be made.

For any future developments that would fall to the developer. Is was asked what if a

development would start during this project? They suggested that we get a planner to update our ordinance and discuss it with our attorney. We could put a moratorium on any future developments right now until we know exactly what is going on with the project for the next six months or a year.

It was asked "Will the ponds be built for some growth?" – yes they will be. They estimate that the average house uses 100 gallons for person per day for sewer – that is what it will be designed for. The ponds can be built for the current size or for growth – they will need help with these type of decisions. The ponds should begin by next Fall.

Time is of the essence. They are asking for the preliminary portion of it to move forward. They need to move forward on surveying.

We do not have to get bids for professional consultant services. We could directly select Bolton & Menk.

We should have the other council members present and tell the public we got the grant and are looking at possibilities if they have any interest in it to attend but we are not ready for a public meeting so we should just call it an informational meeting on a \$13 million grant that was awarded to the City of Randolph. We will post it and put it on Facebook. We will plan on next Wednesday, November 18 at 6:30.

Matt noted that anybody can call him with any questions – he is always available to take calls and answer questions.

Jake will get the booklet and update Sarah and Bob will update Jake Toledo before our special meeting.

We will have to set up short term financing through a bank as the money funnels through them.

We should ask Mr. Kelley to see if the school is available for use for the public meetings so we are able to social distance . Bolton & Menk could do a video so people could watch it.

Miscellaneous

Sandy noted that Northfield Wifi will be increased to \$2,500.00 a year for rent starting in 2021. Sandy also noted that she talked with Midco about connecting to their internet and gave the rates as follows:

\$88/month; or a 2 year contract would be \$78/month or a 3 year contract would be \$68/month

We should do an extender to the fire department for their use and the city will pay the invoice.

We should pay the garbage and the internet since this is for city hall.

It was noted that we need to do our final budget at our December meeting so did we want to meet before 7 pm to go over anything and it was concluded that we will start our meeting at 7 pm.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Friedrich, seconded by Appelgren, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 3:0.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Haro

City of Randolph Special Council Meeting Thursday, November 19, 2020

The special Randolph City Council meet-

ing was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Robert Appelgren.

Roll Call

Present were Mayor Robert Appelgren, Council Members Jake Toledo, Sarah Podritz, Jacob Friedrich and Clerk Mary Haro, treasurer Sandra Nicolai was present on Zoom.

City Septic/Sewer

Brian Hilgardner and Matt Blazer from Bolton & Menk gave a presentation on the \$13 million bond that we are to receive from the MPFA.

They gave an overview of the project and studies in the past. What improvements are funded – what is eligible. The project communication and some advantages to accepting the bonding bill grant money. We will not talk about tonight is the exact extensae of the project.

There will be no increase to taxes or any assessment is they just do the \$13 million project. The preliminary engineering meeting will be after they do the survey.

They can mold the project to be a \$13 million project. They feel very confident they can get the project done for \$13 million and will do it how the city wants it done.

It is for sanitary sewer improvements and things affected by the sanitary sewer. It will include funded services up to the right of way, streets construction, the holding ponds, and administrative pieces. What isn't funded is the water main, curb and gutters, water services. We can look at drainage issues in the ditches so they can be regraded when we are working in the area for areas that have flooded.

They will send out questionnaires and surveys. They will have at least three project open houses - one to get information, one closer to the preliminary engineering and one before construction. Must use the money within three years of when the bill was signed on October 21, 2020 so it must be completed by October 21, 2023. We should start first with the ponds next fall and then the street construction would be two years after that.

Some questions included "If my septic system is fine why should I pay to help someone who fails" – there is no tax dollars increase. "If someone fails why doesn't he install a new one" – some lots are too small to install one for their home and can't be properly treated so then they fail quicker. Some lots are just not big enough. The new lots have a primary and secondary sites on their lots.

"Who is going to pay to maintain and operate the system." We would hire a sanitary sewer operator and we would bill for the services which covers the maintenance and operations.

"Am I required to hook up to the system if my system is working." You could hook up to when you need to.

"Can the system be expanded to accommodate growth." Yes.

"What is the cost to replace septic system." It can range from \$7,000 - \$25,000.

"Who is managing the money" – the money goes through Public Facilities Authority ("PFA").

"What happens with overruns" – we can trim the project back if needed.

"What if citizens don't pay for their sewer services then what are we going to do" – we will assess them.

(continued on page 16)

Local Government

If you're not hooked up to it you won't be billed for it. They could not give us rates at this time but they will come up with some average rates.

"Are the streets going to get any wider?" That is not the plan.

"Will there be a connection fee?" This needs to be discussed. Some communities give a 15 year window or when they sell their home then they need to hookup. Every person will have a fee to hook up – it is just a matter of when. The city needs to decide the window. There may be grant opportunities to look for money. "Would the County have a say in when residents have to hook up to the sewer?" – they said no that it is up to the city to make that call. Mike Slavik, Dakota County Commissioner, indicated there are grants available for low income residents for the hook up fee.

"It was asked if the school needs to hook up." It will be up to the school if they want to hook up right away.

"If the cost came in under \$13 million could we use the money for hookup fees for residents?" and the answer is no because of the way the bill was written.

Usually the hook up fee is approximately \$5,000 - \$6,000. The city will install up to the right of way with a stub. It will be the homeowners responsibility to hook up the system which will involve digging in yards so it will be the homeowners responsibility for their yards and landscaping. They will give us preliminary number of a range of what a hook up fee would be.

It was noted that a septic system will eventually fail.

At the preliminary meeting they will include adding additional options on and let us know the cost.

If we take the \$13 million and it only builds the ponds then we spend the money for just the ponds to start on the project. We do not have to go over the \$13 million.

Mike Slavik did indicate that if we did need an extension there is a process that can be done to extend it past the three years.

If we would improve the county roads then Dakota County would cover the cost otherwise the cost of the road would be in the \$13 million.

It was asked about our water lines and the current state they are in. If they are cast iron then we will have problems. It was told that the city has plastic water lines which is good news. If the water main has to be moved because of building the sewer then that water main will be replaced with the money but just to replace it then it would be at the city's cost.

We will be accepting bids and the city will have to make a decision on which contractor to go with.

Any resident that has a working septic system there will be no cost to them at this time as they will not be forced to hook up to the system unless their septic fails. If you have a failed system your cost would be to hook up to the system at a cost at approximately \$5,000 - \$10,000 and pay quarterly usage fees.

We want communication to be a relayed to residents and they indicated that they will have a website that includes everything they are doing, three to four open houses, meet

with homeowners when construction starts. In the website they will have an interactive GIS mapping tool. People will be able to leave comments that they have questions to. They will do monthly newsletters once construction starts. We will have a direct line to the contractor.

Bolton & Menk do all of the communication and the council will have to make decisions that they cannot make. They are professional consultants and hired to complete the project. To make decisions to impact the city.

Clerk Haro made a motion to accept the money from the PFA and move forward with the project and hire Bolton & Menk as the project engineer, seconded by Appelgren. All voting in favor, none

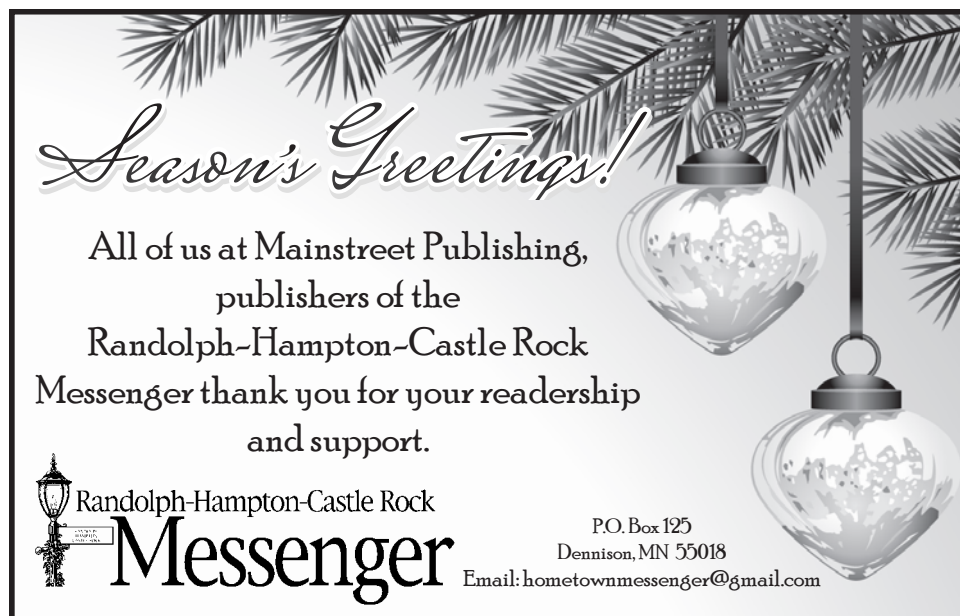
opposed, motion passed 5:0.

They will get communication out to citizen of what is going to happen and get a website up and running. They will start doing a survey in the public right of way. We should note on the city Facebook page that they will see individuals doing the survey and will see them working around the city. We noted that we want to get information to citizens before action is taken.

Adjournment

Motion to close the meeting made by Podritz, seconded by Appelgren the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m. All voting in favor, none opposed, motion passed 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Haro



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Local Government

Hampton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2020

The Hampton City Council met on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at the Hampton City Hall for the regular scheduled meeting. Present were Mayor Knetter; Council Members David Luhning and Anthony Verch. Council Members Victor Anderson and Kati Evertz-Garcia were absent. Also present was Cory Bienfang, City Engineer.

Regular Meeting Called to Order - Mayor Knetter called the Regular Scheduled Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Disclosure of Interest - John Knetter mentioned that the Fire Department of which he was a member requested that he add an item to the agenda.

Approval of October 13, 2020 Public Hearing and Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes - Motion by Luhning seconded by Verch to approve the October 13, 2020 Public Hearing and Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3:0.

Approval of Disbursements - Motion by Verch seconded by Luhning to approve the November disbursements. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3:0.

Public Comment - Dennis Kolm addressed the Council as a tenant in a rental unit within the City of Hampton and had been informed that inspections were due this year and requested they be postponed or completed virtually with Covid numbers rising. Knetter said that he would check on the virtual capability with the Building Inspector to provide options to families with vulnerable situations.

Petitions, Requests, and Communications - Knetter explained that the Fire Chief could not attend the meeting due to other commitments, but as changes had been made to the Bi-laws to clean up and update old language requested that the Council be notified. Motion by Luhning seconded by Verch to add the item to the agenda. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3:0.

Ordinances and Resolutions
Resolution 2020-14 Canvas Election Results - Wendy Carpenter, City Clerk stated that the ballot counts on the Resolution were numbers sent from the County at this time but mentioned that ballots were still being counted. Knetter commented that there could be an amendment if required. Motion by Luhning seconded by Verch to certify the election results counted at this time. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3:0.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees
Engineer Report - Cory Bienfang, City Engineer stated the two assessment appeals in regards to the 2019 Street Project would be formally settled and executed after the publication of the rezoning ordinances approved at the prior meeting.

Bienfang explained that he had received four quotes on a generator for the Main Street lift station and with the authority granted to the Mayor by the Council, awarded the project to the lowest quote of approximately \$45,000.00. The City Engineer said that a payment to the Contractor had been approved to utilize the funding of the CARES Act and final disbursement would be after complete install

which could be as long as four months. Luhning questioned the type of fuel that would be used. Knetter confirmed that propane would be used but the size of the tank and options of purchasing verses rental were all things still being considered. The Mayor thanked Cory for all of his expertise and time spent on the projects at hand.

Water / Sewer Report - John Knetter mentioned that the discharge was complete.

Park Report - Council suggested posting the ice rink maintenance position on Facebook as no one had shown interest at this time. The City Clerk said that she would wait a week before publishing the opening.

Street Report - Luhning commented on the street plowing delayed due to the weather and complimented the snow plow contractor on such great communication as it was needed already this year.

Unfinished Business
Discussion on Ordinance Regarding Parking Restrictions/Enforcement - Knetter suggested tabling the item until a full Council was present. Luhning agreed and felt that a month may show any problems that needed to be dealt with. Motion by Knetter seconded by Luhning to table the item. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3:0.

Former Black Stallion Building Use - Vivian Vaaj and her associate addressed the Council and explained that she had altered her business plan as the embalming would not be done on site. Verch questioned the traffic flow. Vaaj said that only immediate family would be allowed due to Covid restrictions but normally evening hours were busier for visitation and a meal, typi-

cally Friday evening through Sunday with a procession on Monday morning. Vivian said that all ceremonies are held indoors. Knetter thanked Vaaj for her interest in a Hampton business but was just concerned with the building use and impact on city streets as there was no longer a direct access from Highway 52 and would like the City Attorney to address the issue, but as she couldn't attend the meeting due to another commitment and that there were only three Council Members present, would prefer to table the item until next month to be able to hear additional feedback. The Mayor confirmed with the City Engineer that a controlled Minnesota Department of Health license and permit would be needed. Luhning commented on excessive traffic on the side streets and had safety concerns. Vaaj mentioned that at this time it was an allowed use and the Council agreed and thanked her for her attendance and transparency. Vivian said that she would be moving forward and would be available to work on traffic issues if needed.

New Business
Fire Department Bylaws - Knetter spoke on the minor updates and that the City Clerk would be providing copies to the City Council. Motion by Luhning seconded by Verch to approve the update. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3:0.

Adjournment - Motion by Luhning seconded by Verch to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion passed 3:0. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Carpenter

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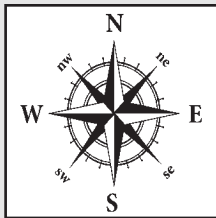
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Fiber Optic in the Backwoods



By Terry Campbell

This column is written by Messenger editor and Minnesota native Terry Campbell.

Terry now splits his time between Minnesota when it's warm here and Tennessee when it's cold here.

I lived in the country in Minnesota all my life. It would take both hands to count the number of Internet providers I have had in Minnesota over the years. Some started out good and then fizzled as more customers ate up the bandwidth. Some under-performed as soon as they were installed. One would think that 17 miles from Rochester would deliver better Internet. My last experience in Dodge County was with Minnesota WiFi and I have to say that they were consistent and delivered what they promised. The \$130 per month for 30mbps down and 10 mbps up seems a little steep though.

So, after moving to Tennessee I needed to

have a reliable Internet provider since I work online for a living. In 1933 the Tennessee Valley Authority was commissioned to provide electrical power to the rural areas in the state as a way to increase the standard of living. Fast forward to the 21st century and the Cumberland Cooperative produces hydro-electric power as well as coal fired electrical power to all citizens. There is a power line to every rural address in the state and they decided to string the Internet to every home as well. And not just Internet, but high-speed fiber optic Internet.

So I live five miles out of town and High Speed Fiber Optic Internet is at our door. \$50 per month and no connection fees or modem and router deposits for 250mbps up and 250mbps down. Internet so fast it will make your head spin and priced lower than any slow provider back in the snow state. I am often asked how I manage to put ten newspapers together each month while living 800 miles from Minnesota. High quality Internet is the answer.

So in Minnesota you have cold weather, 10X higher property taxes, a state income tax, poor Internet service, and a city which wants to defund the police while rioters burn it down in the summer. And in Tennessee you have great Internet at a low cost, no county planning and zoning departments, low real estate taxes and no state income tax and the people love their law enforcement departments. You might have figured out why I moved here.

Holiday Plants and Their Meaning



Teri Knight



I thought it would be fun to share some tidbits on other holiday plants.

Ahhh but for 2021, Holly may be in our thoughts! Holly stands for good luck! The ancient Romans and Greeks were the first to deck their halls with boughs of holly.

Holly bushes always stay green, and need little to no maintenance, even during the harshest winters. For those of us in the northern climes, Winterberry holly is a native plant worth growing.

The ancients believed the bush was sacred. Romans would send holly wreaths to friends, family, and especially newlyweds gifts of goodwill and good wishes.

Mistletoe is known for romance, the kiss under the mistletoe! While the Norse mythology isn't nearly as pleasant, today, kissing under the mistletoe today indicates forthcoming happiness and fertility.

Mistletoe is also said to be used in other unusual ways, such as placing it above a baby's bed for protection from evil spirits. A sprig placed under the pillow of a young girl is said to inspire the dreams of her future husband. Technically it's not the nicest plant as it's a parasite! Humans have had some interesting traditions through the centuries!!

The yew, with it's vivid red berries is a slow growing and low maintenance shrub. It's sprigs are lovely in fresh arrangements.

But there's a fascinating and long history behind the shrub. It is said to be one of the oldest shrub on Earth. The ancient Druids looked to the yew as a symbol of everlasting life, honoring it as a sacred plant. Throughout European history, yews were planted in churchyards to symbolize a long life. Keep in mind, it's toxic to animals and humans. There are many types of yews.



Mistletoe hanging

Teri Knight became a Master Gardener with Dakota County, Minnesota in 2003. She currently produces her website, www.gardenbite.com, that supplements her daily radio program which has aired Monday thru Friday on radio stations throughout Minnesota since 2007. In 2017, several stations in Wisconsin began airing her show. Teri's been involved in community projects which include a Junior Master Gardener program for 8 to 12 year olds, designing and planting a garden for a women's center and various other organizations! Besides all that, Teri is News Director at KYMN Radio and can be heard weekdays on AM 1080 and 95.1 FM The One, From Northfield, MN.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

- THEME: FAMOUS LANDMARKS
- ACROSS
1. Octagonal sign
 5. "Don't have a ____!"
 8. Can of worms
 12. Pathetic
 13. Spanish sparkling wine
 14. Pico de gallo
 15. WWII side
 16. Like word of mouth
 17. Church song
 18. *Victoria in Zimbabwe or Horseshoe in Canada
 20. *Home to Rock of Cashel and Blarney Castle
 21. Massachusetts university
 22. "____ Be Home For Christmas"
 23. Olympic torch, e.g.
 25. On the move
 28. Menu words
 29. *Golden Gate or Mackinac
 32. Goodbye, to bambino
 34. Ruling in Islamic law
 36. Variable, abbr.
 37. Can, with thou
 38. South American monkey
 39. *Versailles or Buckingham
 41. Thus far
 42. Yoko's John
 44. Collectively
 46. Party bowlful
 47. Memory failure
 49. Goals
 51. *St. Basil's or Canterbury
 55. Independent, slang
 56. Initial stake
 57. Field of Dreams state
 58. More than one stylus
 59. Barnes and Noble or Barnum and Bailey
 60. Jaunty rhythm in music
 61. Don Quixote's enemy
 62. Urge Spot to attack
 63. Besides
- DOWN
1. BBQ side
 2. Taxon, pl.
 3. Fail to mention
 4. Bygone Spanish money
 5. Jeweler's unit
 6. Egg-like curves
 7. *The Western one in Israel or the Great one in China
 8. *La Sagrada Familia or St. Peter's
 9. Having wings
 10. ____ of Man
 11. Scottish cap
 13. Ceiling panel in the Pantheon
 14. Type of wheat
 19. Cuban dance
 22. Glacier matter
 23. Medieval knight's spiky weapon
 24. Coffee shop order
 25. *Home to Taj Mahal
 26. Phonograph record
 27. Artist's support
 28. Back, at sea
 30. Director Reitman
 31. Indian restaurant staple
 33. Giant Hall-of-Famer
 35. *Moulin Rouge or Netherland's landmark
 37. Incense without prefix
 39. Weasel-related onomatopoeia
 40. Enigma machine's output
 43. One born to Japanese immigrants
 45. Roman magistrate
 47. Hawaiian veranda
 48. V.C. Andrews' "Flowers in the ____"
 49. Naysayer's favorite prefix
 50. Bucolic poem
 51. Type in all ____
 52. Agitate
 53. Hole punchers
 54. Like the White Rabbit
 55. Any doctrine



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