



# Kenyon Messenger™

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## K-W Schools Face Budget Cuts

One of the factors in the school district's budget problem is the loss of student enrollment during the 202-21 school year. A drop of 38 students has caused a loss of \$220,000 in state aid. The Knight Kids program also has run a loss of over 108,000 for the year due to a drop in enrollment and other Covid related issues.

*(continued on page 9)*

## Kenyon Native Named Goodhue County Citizen of the Year

Ray Sands of rural Kenyon, was named Goodhue County Citizen of the year this winter. Ninety-year old Sands started his musical journey eight decades ago when as a nine year old he received an accordion as a gift from his parents. Soon after he was playing music with the family and he knew he always wanted to be a musician. One of Sands favorite band leaders is Lawrence Welk. He recalls seeing him many years ago at the Prom Ballroom in St. Paul, where he watched him from the front row and decided right there to be a band leader. He was

also a farmer, milking his cows and running his land until he was eighty years old.

The Polka Dots were formed in 1949 to play a concert to raise funds for a new community hospital in Zumbrota. They continued to play together and recorded their first album in 1953. The band has played continuously since that time, but Ray is the only original member left. Sands remembers the original band members as all great guys. They drove to many venues to perform over the years and recalls one night traveling to Hersey, Wisconsin. "Coming into town and



**Ray Sands**  
*Goodhue County Citizen of the Year*

we see a streetlight. Turns out it was a Hiawatha Train going 85 mph. The car stopped just inches from it. It took the boys a while to calm down before playing. On the way back out of town we stopped to check the railroad crossing out," Sands relates. "Blown over by the wind and laying in the grass was the black and white crossing sign. We could just imagine the headlines – Entire Orchestra Killed by Train."

*(continued on page 6)*

## Announcements

• **American Red Cross Blood Donation opportunity:** Wanamingo, March 17 from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Community Center, 401 Main St.

• **Hiawathaland Transit:** Service hours are 7:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. Call dispatch at 866-623-7505 Monday through Friday 6am-9pm and Saturday 7:00am-5:00pm. Visit [threeriverscap.org](http://threeriverscap.org) for more information.

• **Home Delivered Meals Available** Sunday-Friday, for more info call Dee Callstrom 789-4663.

• **Kenyon SEMCAC dinners** are served Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at Gunderson Gardens at 11:15a.m. to anyone 60 or older. A suggested donation is posted. Reservations are required by signing up the day before or calling Helen Aase at 789-5315.

**Do you have an announcement?**

**Email:**

**[hometownmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:hometownmessenger@gmail.com)**

## Goodhue County Health and Human Services Vaccinating People 65+

Goodhue County Health and Human Services (GCHHS) began to vaccinate adults aged 65 and older! Adults aged 65 and older are among the most vulnerable to COVID-19 and tremendous progress has been made to vaccinate this population. Statewide, over 52% of our seniors have been vaccinated, illness and death have plummeted in long-term care settings, and COVID cases are down 89% from the November peak. The Statewide goal is to vaccinate at least 70% of Minnesota seniors before expanding eligibility to other groups.

Vaccines are here and they are saving lives however, demand for the COVID-19 vaccine still far exceeds supply. As vaccine supply increases, it will become easier to get vaccinated. Until then, it's important to take easy steps to slow the spread of illness. Wear your mask, stay 6 feet away from others, wash your hands, and get a COVID-19 test if you need one. When it's your turn, get your vaccine. After you've been vaccinated, continue following these safe practices to protect others while they wait for their vaccine.

*(continued on page 7)*



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## Nathlye E. Benrud

Nathlye Benrud, age 89, died Wednesday, February 10th at St. Crispin's Living Community in Red Wing.

Nathlye Ellen Benrud was born on July 30, 1931 in Rice County, the daughter of Herbert and Florence (Schwake) Luebke. She grew up in the

Wanamingo area, attending rural school for several years, graduating from Wanamingo High School in 1949. Upon graduation Nathlye worked in the Rice County Register of Deeds Office until her marriage on Sept. 23, 1950 to Donald Benrud. Nathlye and Donald farmed and raised their family in rural Goodhue. They were members of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Goodhue, where Nathlye was a Sunday School teacher and member of St. Luke WELCA group. She was a member of the Belvidere Home Extension Group enjoying coffee and conversation with many area ladies.

In 1985, Nathlye went to work as a Home Health Aide for the Goodhue County Public Health department, retiring in 1997. She and Donald loved to travel; they had many trips and good times with family friends. They especially enjoyed a trip to Norway and celebrating their 60th anniversary on an Alaskan Cruise. They loved wintering at their trailer in Arizona where Nathlye was a member of the Red Hat Society and enjoyed having coffee and fellowship with friends. She loved flowers, gardening, and being a homemaker, mother and grandmother.

Survivors include her children Wanda (William) Carlstrom, Jerry (Vicki) Benrud, Cindy (Greg) Ryan, and Roger (Michelle) Benrud; grandchildren

Dan (Kristi) Benrud, Krista (Ricardo) Ramirez, Travis (Sheri) Ryan, Cassidy (Scott Bignal) Post, Shamus (Ashley) Ryan, Paige (Brian) Flaherty, Emily (Dylan Mollenhauer) Benrud, Calvin Benrud, and Clara Benrud; great-grandchildren Aidan, Grayson, Amelia, Lincoln, Ian, Hannah, Cormac, Bridget and Rory; sisters Janice (Maynard) Forss and Marcia Pearson; as well as several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her

husband Donald, and her daughter Sandra.

Visitation was on Sunday, Feb. 14, 2021 from 1-2:30 pm at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 308 1st Ave, Goodhue, MN 55027. Masks and social distancing were required. A private funeral service followed, with livestreaming on Nat's obituary page at [www.LundbergFuneral.com](http://www.LundbergFuneral.com). Online condolences are welcome there as well. Interment was in the Evergreen Cemetery in Goodhue. Memorials are preferred to the repair fund of the Horticulture Building at the Goodhue County Fair, River Bluff Humane Society, or the Donor's Choice.

## Laura A. Nelson

Laura A. Nelson, 84, of Faribault, formerly of Kenyon, died Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at the Homestead Hospice House in Owatonna.

She was born July 17, 1936, in St. Cloud, the daughter of Victor and Laura (Stang) Dietman. Laura attended St. Marys grade school, graduated from the Cathedral High School in St. Cloud class of 1954. She worked for her dad. She met Herman H. Nelson and they married on September 10, 1956, in St. Cloud. They lived in St. Paul and later made their home in Kenyon on a farm in 1972. Laura worked at Owen's Fairway and then at Foldcraft. She also worked at the Coffee Cup Café and Kenyon Grill which she really enjoyed. She enjoyed reading,

puzzles, playing cards, gardening, canning and baking. Laura also enjoyed going to casinos, traveling throughout Minnesota, Colorado, Arizona, Florida and Nevada. She liked feeding and watching the birds especially cardinals. Laura had gift of entertaining and visiting with family friends. She was a social butterfly and made friends wherever she went. Laura was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Kenyon.

She is survived by her children, Laura (Dennis Halvorson) Gullickson of AZ, Jane Nelson of Faribault, Herman (and Brenda) Nelson of Faribault, Scott (Lin Ming) Nelson of Faribault; grandchildren, Misty Nelson, Correen Bronstad, Paul Yankowiak Jr., Allana (fiancé, Jordan Felton) Zuccaro, Jacob Nelson, Jennifer (Diego) Marchan and Michael Zuccaro; great-grandchildren;

Paige, Darnay, Armani, Farrhyn, Jomariana, Jasean, Giana, Sofia and Gabriela; siblings, Victor (Dorothy) Dietman, Kathleen Bestgen, Marlene Rennie, Leroy Dietman, Barb (Tom) Miller, Robert (JoAnn) Dietman and Bill (Jan) Dietman; and many extended family .

Laura was preceded in death by her husband Herman Nelson; sister, Janet Dietman; brothers, Elvin and Donald Dietman.

Visitation was at Michaelson Funeral Home, Kenyon on Sunday, February 14, 2021, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM and one hour prior to the service at the church. Funeral services were held Monday, February 15, 2021, at 11:00 AM at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Kenyon. Interment was in the St. Michael's Catholic Church Cemetery in Kenyon.



ATTORNEY

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### FRANKLIN D. PETERSON

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Midweek Lent services are at Vang at 7:00 PM  
Wednesdays during Lent. All are welcome.  
Sunday worship times are:  
March 14 - Vang, 9:00 AM  
March 21 - Vang, 9:00 AM; Dennison, 11:00 AM  
March 28 (Palm Sunday) Vang - 9:00 AM

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Scripture Reading — *Genesis 11:1-9*  
"Let us . . . make a name for ourselves . . . [and not] be scattered over the face of the whole earth." - *Genesis 11:4*

God created people so that they would increase in numbers and populate the earth. At the time of the tower of Babel, everyone had the same language, and the people said they wanted to make a name for themselves and not be scattered across the earth. But God ultimately scattered them.

Why did they build a tower? They said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens. . . ." From ancient civilizations we have learned that the top of a tower was seen as a holy place where gods lived. But instead of having a holy place that would honor God, the people at Babel wanted this to be a place where they made a name for themselves. They wanted to honor themselves instead of God. In doing so, they banished God from their lives and disobeyed his command to "fill the earth and subdue it" (Genesis 1:28). Because of this rebellion, God confused their language and scattered them. Imagine how God felt as he confused the people's language. They couldn't understand each other. They couldn't work together anymore. They stopped building, and they moved away from each other.

In the end, people who drive out God cannot do well. They cannot understand each other, and they cannot work together to build a community that honors God.

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Father Cory Rohlfing  
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108 Bullis St., Kenyon  
Sunday Mass 8:00a.m.  
Wednesday Mass 5:00p.m.

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

**Kenyon Messenger**

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## Clifford LeRoy Voxland

Clifford LeRoy Voxland, 93, of Kenyon, passed away Friday, February 5, 2021 at Kenyon Sunset Home.



He was born April 28, 1927 in Holden Township the son of Herman and Rachel (Hostager) Voxland. He was baptized

and confirmed at Holden Lutheran Church. He attended Dovre country school and graduated from Kenyon High School in 1945. He served in the U.S. Army from Oct. 2, 1946 until Feb. 4, 1948. Clifford was united in marriage to Dolores Kindseth on July 24, 1948 at Hegre Lutheran Church. They made their home in Minneapolis where he attended the William Hood Dunwoody Industrial Institute graduating in 1950 at which time they moved to Kenyon.

Cliff started a construction business, building new homes, outbuildings, additions as well as remodeling jobs. He was offered the position of Manager of the Kenyon Farmers Lumber Co. in 1957, a position he held for 35 years until his retirement on Dec. 31, 1992. He remained active doing small jobs and repair jobs at home or at church.

In his retirement, he took up artistic pursuits, including scratch art, acrylic painting, and wood carving. He loved attending water aerobics classes 3 mornings a week in Faribault and enjoyed tending his flowers and feeding the birds.

Church and community were the most important things to Clifford. He served in several capacities at Holden Church, was a Sunday School teacher, a council member, and on the property committee several times. He also served on the Kenyon City Planning Commission and was past president of the Commercial Club. He was Treasurer of the Kenyon High School All School Reunion in 1997, Treasurer of Kenyon's Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2006, and a committee member of Holden's 150th Anniversary celebration in 2006. Cliff was a humble man, never boastful, jealous, or never said a bad word about anyone or anything. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He especially enjoyed his family, attending his daughter's and granddaughter's school activities and sports they were involved in. He will be sadly missed by his family.

He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Dolores; daughters Kathy (and Perry) Caron of Cannon Falls, Amy Valentine of La Crosse, WI; granddaughter, Cassandra Jo Caron of Kenyon; great-grandchildren Wyatt and Ruby; sister, Ruth Cramer; brothers and sisters-in-law, Mark and Mary Kindseth of Kenyon, Bruce and Dot Kindseth of Narragansett, RI, Jim and Shirley Cain of Pilot Mountain, NC; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Gerhard and Rudolph; sister, Evelyn Sathrum Abendschein; son-in-law Michael Valentine and an infant sister.

The family would like to thank the staff at Kenyon Senior Living and Heartland Hospice for the wonderful care that Clifford received. Also, a very special thank you to Mark and Mary Kindseth who have helped with so much along this journey.

A private family service was held with a public service to be announced later in the spring or summer.

## Steven Edward Knapp

Steven Edward Knapp, 66, of Pine Island, died unexpectedly on Monday, February 22, 2021, at his home. He was born on February 8, 1955 in Prescott, WI to Kenneth and Barbara (Gillis) Knapp. He graduated from the Wanamingo High School in 1973. He



played college football at the University of Minnesota, Waseca. He met his future wife through his sister, Mary, and it was love at first sight. On July 12, 1980 he was united in marriage to Rita Schmit in Rose Creek, MN. They lived in Hader and Wanamingo before building their home in Pine Island in 1998. They raised three children, Tim, Melissa, and Andrew. Steven farmed for many years, worked at the Wanamingo Meat Locker, DS Manufacturing in Pine Island, Crenlo in Rochester, and did carpentry work in his free time. He and Rita crafted various wood projects in which they would sell at craft shows. Steven cut and constructed the projects, while Rita would paint and put on the final touches. He was proud of his lawn and spent many hours on his John Deere perfecting it. He enjoyed camping trips with his family, which included Florida and Yellowstone. He especially enjoyed their yearly trips to Jellystone in Warrens, WI with his children and grandchildren. He and Rita traveled together to England, Ireland, Scotland, Italy, Canada, Alaska, Hawaii and many other states as well. Steven loved spending time with and spoiling his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Rita; three children, Tim (Nissa) Knapp of Fountain, MN, Melissa Loof of Story City, IA, and Andrew (Lindzy) Knapp of Rochester, MN; grandchildren, Carter, Cooper, Blake, Piper, Jack, Lillian, and a granddaughter due in May; and two brothers, and five sisters.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth Knapp and Barbara Hougo, and his foster parents, Oswald and Ethel Haugen.

A private family funeral service was at 1 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021 at Mahn Family Funeral Home, Larson Chapel in Zumbrota. Reverend Christopher Culuris officiated. A public walk-through visitation was from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home. Masks and social distancing were required. Burial was at Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery. Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com).

## Edward S. Glestad

Edward S. Glestad, of Wanamingo, passed away Thursday, Feb 26th, at Zumbrota Care Center in Zumbrota. He was born May 5, 1937 in Wanamingo to Albert and Bernice (Nodland) Glestad. He attended Wanamingo



High School building lasting memories of football games, plays, homecoming parades, and especially his senior trip to Washington DC. After high school, considering it an honor to serve his country, he trained with the National Guard stationed in Texas. Farming was a central part of Ed's life. Growing up on the family farm, he helped his dad with the dairy operation and raising corn and beans from an early age, eventually taking over the management of the family's Century old farm following his dad's retirement. His love of tractors inspired him to build his own tractor, competing in, and winning, many tractor pulls throughout the years.

Ed married Sandra Jorgenson with whom he had 4 children; they later divorced. A very hard worker always, in addition to farming, he was employed by IBM, Rochester MN up until his retirement. Ed was a life-long member of Dale Lutheran Church, Kenyon MN. Later in life, Ed remarried after reconnecting with his long-time friend Linnae Henningsen. Ed and Linnae enjoyed traveling visiting China, Hawaii, Germany and Norway. He also loved family gatherings, especially reunions, the bigger the better, hosted at the farm. A lover of animals throughout his life, he enjoyed the company of cockatiels, many dogs and also horses. He had a special talent for training the family dogs to 'sing', sit up on his outstretched hand, and even deliver milk up to the house.

Ed is survived by his wife, Linnae; children, Camilla, (Pat) Ward of Chatfield, MN and Kyrsten (Mark) Gustafson of Shoreview, MN.; one grandchild, Jakob Gustafson; two step-grandchildren, Jessi Gustafson and Nicole Ward; as well as nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Cynthia; sister, Beulah; son Jason; and his parents.

The family wishes to thank the staff of the Zumbrota Care Center for providing a loving surrounding and wonderful care for Ed throughout his time there and especially in the last 6 months when we couldn't visit him in person. We appreciate all that you did for him!

A private graveside funeral service and burial was held at 2 p.m., Saturday, February 27th, 2021 at Dale Lutheran Church, Kenyon, MN. Masks and social distancing were required. The service was available live on the Mahn Facebook page [www.facebook.com/mahnfamilyfuneralhome/](http://www.facebook.com/mahnfamilyfuneralhome/). Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com)

## David Hammel

As per his wishes, no services will be held for David Hammel. He died Friday February 26, 2021, surrounded by his family at Mayo Clinic Hospital St. Mary's campus in Rochester at the age of 61.



David Gordon Hammel was born October 16, 1959 to Gordon and Jean Hammel. In addition to being an avid outdoorsman, he also loved spending time with his grandchildren. He worked in telecommunications for 35 years.

Those left to cherish the memory of him include his wife, Diane Hammel of Wanamingo; a daughter, Hannah (Adian)

Dingfelder of West Concord; a son, Bradley (Savannah) Hammel of Zumbrota; six grandchildren; his mother, Jean Schmol and her husband Sonny; sisters, Karen (Bob) Smith, Cindy Hammel, JoAnne (Keith) Burke; brothers, Dan Hammel, Jimmy Hammel, Blaine Austad; and a brother-in-law, Dewey Wondrasch.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gordon Hammel; a son, Wesley Hammel; and a sister, Sue Wondrasch.

## Lynn Ann Fromm

Lynn Ann Fromm, 66, of Faribault, died Friday, February 26, 2021 at her home surrounded by her loving family.



She was born October 26, 1954 in St. Paul, Minnesota the daughter of Everett and Jeanette (Braun) Fletcher. She graduated from high school in Kenyon in 1972. She met Timothy Fromm in 1990 and the couple have enjoyed 30 years together.

Lynn enjoyed gardening, flowers, watching birds, boating and canoeing on the lake, walks through the woods, picnics, birthday parties, camping, and road trips. She treasured her grandchildren and went to all of their activities.

Most recently, Lynn worked at Shattuck-St. Mary's in Faribault.

She is survived by her husband, Timothy Fromm of Faribault; parents, Everett and Jeanette Fletcher of Faribault; daughters, Tami (and Matt) Thoreson of Wanamingo, Kirstie Hanson (and Brian Funk) of Rochester and Andrea (and Ethan) Johnson of Kenyon; four grandchildren, Michael (and Katie Stuart) Funk, Alex Funk, Emma Johnson and Caleb Thoreson; sister, Gail (and Dwayne) Curl of Hastings; brother, Ed (and Tammy) Fletcher of Kenyon; in-laws, Lori Tauer, Jeff Fromm, Greg (and Brenda) Fromm and Joe (and Kelly) Ellevold all of Sleepy Eye; brother-in-law, Steve Hammerschmidt of Redwood Falls and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by sister, Kay Glasgow; brother, Todd Fletcher; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Pearl and Ron Ellevold and sister-in-law, Becky Hammerschmidt.

A Public Visitation was at Michaelson Funeral Home, Kenyon on Tuesday, March 2nd from 4:00 - 7:00 PM. A Private Family Funeral was held March 3, 2021 at 11:00 AM at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kenyon. Pastor Julie Rogness officiated. The public was invited to livestream the funeral at <https://wearelivetoday.com/lynn-fromm>.

Interment was in the Kenyon Cemetery in Kenyon.

(obituaries continued on page 4)

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## Matthew Donald Peterson

Matthew Donald Peterson, 47, of Kenyon, died unexpectedly Thursday, February 18, 2021 at his home.



He was born June 26, 1973 in Faribault, Minnesota the son of Donald and Adele (Bremer) Peterson. He attended Kenyon

Wanamingo Schools and Dakota Vo-Tech in Rosemount. He was married, had two children, Marcus and Ashley, and later divorced.

In his high school years, Matthew worked for his grandfather, Milo Peterson, at the Ford Dealership in Kenyon washing cars. He also was a foreman at Metcon in Faribault for a number of years and most recently worked at the Kenyon Elevator driving semi.

Matthew was a devoted Christian and spent much of his time studying the Bible in the past few years. He was confirmed and baptized at Holden Lutheran Church.

Hobbies and interests include Nascar, watching sports which he also played in his younger days.

He is survived by his children, Marcus Peterson of Kenyon and Ashley Peterson of Rosemount; father, Donald Peterson of Kenyon; mother Adele (Earl) Beals of Owatonna; sisters, Tammy (Mark) Greden of Faribault and Jodi (Steve) Christensen of Rosemount and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by grandparents, Milo and Jean Peterson and Warren and Margaret Bremer; uncles, Michael Schnoor and Gary Bremer and cousins, Shannon Bremer and Shyla Schnoor.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

## Arthur Donald Broin

A. Donald Broin, 90, of Kenyon, died Friday, February 19, 2021, at Three Links Care Center in Northfield.



Arthur Donald Broin was born December 12, 1930, on a farm near Bombay, MN. He was the

oldest of 4 children born to Arthur and Edna (Flaten) Broin. He was baptized and confirmed at Holden Lutheran Church. He attended a rural school through 8th grade, and graduated from Kenyon High School with the great class of 1949.

Don married Sarah Dyr Dahl in 1951, and together they had three children, Susan, Debra, and David. Soon after their wedding, Don was drafted because of the Korean War, but after basic training he was sent to France to be part of the reconstruction in Europe.

When Don came back to the US after his service, he joined Clifford Voxland's construction business and eventually Don owned the business by himself, calling it Don Broin Contractor and Builder. He was

very proud of all the projects and homes he built in the Kenyon area, and of all the customers who became good friends. Don continued to do minor jobs well into retirement.

Don was always willing to serve his community. He was an active member of the Kenyon Fire Department for around 30 years, and also served as the chief at one time. He was also an active member of the Lions Club, and served on the church council at Hauge Lutheran Church. He invested a lot of time in the restoration and maintenance of the Hauge Old Stone Church. In 2020, he was asked to be the Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day parade, which was later cancelled due to Covid.

Over the years Don enjoyed snowmobiling with friends, playing golf, and driving his speedboat for anyone who wanted to waterski. Once everyone else took turns, he also loved to waterski himself.

In 1977, Don and Sarah bought a cabin on the Gull Lake Chain (Lake Margaret) near Nisswa, MN. They owned their cabin for over 35 years, and their children and six grandchildren have wonderful memories of this place.

Don preferred to travel by car, however, after retirement he and Sarah also took great trips to Norway with their three children to visit family farms, and to Washington, DC. They also spent several winters in

Corpus Christi, TX and Fort Walton Beach, FL, as well as occasional trips to AZ, FL and CA.

Don is survived by his loving wife, Sarah M. Broin; children, Susan (Mark) Pedersen, Plymouth, Debra (Donald) Peterson, Nokomis, FL and David (Pamela) Broin, Owatonna; grandchildren, Jeffrey (Megan) Pedersen, Rachel Pedersen, Ryan (Amy) Schwake, Kristi Schwake (Nick Colbert), Peter Broin, Kelli Broin, Theresa Peterson and Kathleen Peterson; great-grandchildren, Mila, Graham, and Jack Schwake and Luke Pedersen; brother, Lowell (Nancy) Broin, Wanamingo; sister, Beverly Felten, Chino Hills, CA; and sister-in-law, Barbara Broin, Rochester.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Edna Broin; brother, Harland Broin; sister-in-law, Judith Broin; and brother-in-law, George Felten.

Visitation was at Hauge Lutheran Church in Kenyon on Monday, March 1, 2021, from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Memorial services were held Monday, March 1, 2021 at 2:00 PM at Hauge Lutheran Church in Kenyon. The Reverend Gideon Johnson officiated. Interment was in the Kenyon Cemetery with military honors provided by the Kenyon Color Guard. The service was available online at: [www.wearelivetoday.com/a-donald-broin](http://www.wearelivetoday.com/a-donald-broin)

Memorials are preferred to Hauge Old Stone Church, Hauge Lutheran Church, and Holden Park.

## Adrienne Jane Zeller Borass Nordland

Adrienne Jane Zeller Boraas Nodland, 91, of Zumbrota, passed away at Zumbrota Care Center on March 5th, 2021.



The funeral for Adrienne will be 11 a.m. Friday, March 12, at United Redeemer Lutheran Church in Zumbrota, MN

with the Rev. Dr. Margaret J. Pleiss-Sippola officiating. There will be a public visitation one hour prior to the service, at the church. Due to COVID, the service will be a private family service. Interment will be at Zumbrota cemetery immediately following the service.

Adrienne was born in Old Concord, MN on March 19, 1929 to Kenneth and Edna (Peterson) Zeller. She graduated from Wanamingo High School. Adrienne married Byron "PeeWee" Boraas Sr. in 1947, they made their home in Zumbrota. Together they had four children. Byron passed away in 1982. She then married Virgil Nodland in 1986, they made their

home near Wanamingo on the Nodland family farm. Adrienne enjoyed traveling, particularly to Arizona in the winter. She also took pleasure in gardening, playing cards, socializing, dancing, fishing and numerous other outdoor activities. Adrienne loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. The little ones brought particular joy to her in her later years.

Adrienne is survived by her children and one stepdaughter: Byron "PeeWee" (Barb) Boraas of Zumbrota; Larry (Gayle) Boraas of Red Wing; Keith (Jody) Boraas of Westby WI; Kay (Mark) Spavin of Zumbro Falls and Becky (Mark) Brakke of Rock Dell; thirteen grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren; brother Roland Zeller, Fridley.

She is preceded in death by her husbands, Byron and Virgil; her parents; brother Bill Zeller and sister Arlene Fredrickson.

The funeral will be live streamed, a link can be found at the Mahn Family Funeral Home Facebook page. Online condolences are welcome and may be shared at [mahn-familyfuneralhome.com](http://mahn-familyfuneralhome.com).

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Adrienne Jane Nodland, please visit our floral store.

## Kenyon- Wanamingo Student Receives U of M Norman Borlaug Science Achievement Award

Michael Pliscott, a student at Kenyon-Wanamingo High School has received the Norman Borlaug Science Achievement Award from the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS).

The award recognizes Pliscott's academic achievement in the sciences. As part of the award, Pliscott received the book *Ten Plants that Changed Minnesota*, written by Mary Hockenberry Meyer and Susan Davis Price. This book highlights the importance of the selected plants and their impact—both positive and negative—in the development and future of Minnesota.

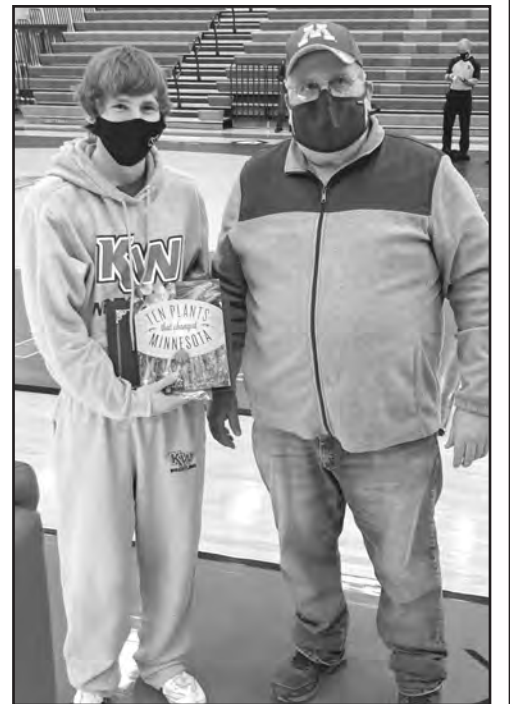
The Norman Borlaug Science Achievement Award also includes a \$1,000 scholarship upon successful enrollment in CFANS, a college within the University of Minnesota. The award was presented by CFANS Alum Lorin Pohlman of Wanamingo, MN.

The award is sponsored by the CFANS Alumni Society, a volunteer led network dedicated to connecting alumni and friends to the college; supporting excellence in the educational experience; building college pride, spirit, and community; and enhancing the reputation of the college.

About the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences The University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS), is one of the world's leading research, education and outreach institutions in the natural resource, food and agricultural sciences. Its faculty, staff and students are dedicated to the enhancement and preservation of the world's food supplies and natural resources.

CFANS provides students the opportunity to enter career fields with some of the best job outlooks in the country, including 14 undergraduate majors and over 25 minors ranging from agricultural education to conservation biology to nutrition. More than 2,500 students are enrolled in the college's undergraduate and graduate programs.

More information about the college is available at [www.cfans.umn.edu](http://www.cfans.umn.edu).



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# K-W Noble Knights



**K-W Noble Knights for February 12, 2021**

Front Row: Gretta Haugen, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Hudson Kruger, KG, Mrs. Tanya Short; Hudson Otte, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Jackson Adams, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Brooklyn Arnold, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Mason Quam, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky. Back Row: Trinity Nelson, Gr. 2, Mrs. Renee Hildebrandt; Madalyn Lee, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Colin Jacobson, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Mason Stoppel, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Johanna Pearson, Gr. 4, Mrs. Jena LeTourneau; Caden Starkson, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Hunter Johnson, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme



**K-W Noble Knights for February 19, 2021**

Front Row: Korbin Flotterud, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Trevin Johnson, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Haddie Breyer, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Charlie Boyum, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Joenah Breyer, Gr. 2, Mrs. Renee Hildebrandt; Adlee Lunde, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Christian LaCanne, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Morgan Laue, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Wyatt Ehrich, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Violet Peterson, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme; Colter Livingston, Gr. 4, Ms. Jena LeTourneau



**K-W Noble Knights for February 26, 2021**

Front Row: Parker Moe, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Keeton Luedtke, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Abigail Lefeld, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Raven Hawes, Gr. 2, Mrs. Renee Hildebrandt; Leon Dressel, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Bradley Arnold, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Chayton Berge, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Tristan Carel, Gr. 4, Mrs. Jena LeTourneau; Lily Durst, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Bristol Sletten, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Carlee Geisinger, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme



**McKenzie Karow**  
KG, Mrs. Katie Valek



**K-W Noble Knights for March 5, 2021**

Front Row: Ella Amundson, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Hudson Schwering, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Jacob Hackett, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Tyce Taylor, Gr. 2, Mrs. Renee Hildebrandt; Shane Laugerude, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs. Back Row: Arianna Wagner, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Braxton Moechnig, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Caleb Thoreson, Gr. 4, Mrs. Jena LeTourneau; Mason Allen, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Gus Bakken, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme



**Brayden Rapp**  
KG, Mrs. Katie Valek

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

## Kenyon Native Named Goodhue County Citizen of the Year

(continued from page 1)

Some of the highlights for the band include being invited to play at the International Polka Festival in Kitzbuhel, Austria. One hundred and fifty friends and fans accompanied the band. A few years later, the band and its fans toured Scandinavia. Another highlight was performing a concert at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington DC representing the state of Minnesota in 1997.

In November of 2000, Ray Sands and the Polka Dots were inducted into the

Minnesota Music Hall of Fame. One of his most notable appearances was in October of 2010 when he did a show with Garrison Keillor at the State Theater in Zumbrota. The following January 23rd the band performed at the Rochester Mayo Civic Center with Keillor's Prairie Home Companion along with "Sweet Dreams" a girl's trio from Kenyon, Wanamingo and Goodhue. This show appeared on over 700 stations to 4.3 million viewers worldwide.

Ray wrote "The Polka Dots Waltz" and "How Soon?". His wife Sue composed "Bryan's Polka" for their grandson. His favorite song is the Ping Pong Polka, which was popular in the early 1950's. "Flyswatter" is a unique tune that was recorded by the California alternative rock band, The Eels. They asked Sue to arrange it "polka style" and was performed by The Eels on the Late Night Show with David Letterman.

Sands said he and the band's music was featured in a 2016 film called "His Neighbor Phil," about a woman with Alzheimer's disease. The movie features

Stephanie Zimbalist and Daniel Roebuck. Sands said the first sound of the movie is from the group's old-time hit song "The Ping Pong Polka." He said the reason the band was asked to participate in the movie was because of music's known effect on

people with Alzheimer's.

Ray says "we only played four gigs in 2020. So, you get out of practice. I picked up the accordion to play and my fingers were rusty. We have some shows to do this year, but it is getting close to the end."

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## Goodhue County Health and Human Services Vaccinating People 65+

(continued from page 1)

Here is some important information on the process to register for a COVID vaccination, if you are 65+:

- Starting March 8, adults aged 65 and older were able to register online and by phone for a COVID vaccine in Goodhue County. We are also collaborating with community partners to assist community members with the registration process, more details to follow.

- Each Monday at 8:30 a.m., an online link and phone line will go live. These will both be on a first come, first serve basis.

- If you do not have the opportunity to register one week, please come back the following week for another opportunity to register to receive a COVID vaccine. GCHHS is not building a cumulative permanent waitlist for future clinics. Each week, a limited number of people will be able to

register themselves for that week's vaccine clinics waitlist. This is so vaccine doses do not go to waste if someone has to cancel, re-schedule or no shows.

- The online registration link will be available on the Goodhue County COVID website- [co.goodhue.mn.us/COVID-19Vaccines](http://co.goodhue.mn.us/COVID-19Vaccines) and on the GCHHS Facebook page [facebook.com/gchhs](https://facebook.com/gchhs).

- If you need assistance or do not have access to the internet, please call 651-385-2000 starting at 8:30 a.m. on Mondays to register by phone.

- When registering, you will be making an appointment for a vaccination clinic that will take place the same week you call.

- GCHHS COVID Vaccinations Clinics are Wednesday – Friday of each week. You will receive location details during the time of registration.

- When registering please make sure to have this information ready. It is needed to sign up.

- Mother's maiden name, phone number, and an email address.

- If the person who is eligible does not have an email address, then please use an email address of a trusted friend or family member.

- During the registration process, there will be questions regarding the Moderna vaccine ingredients and your history of allergic reactions. Please be prepared to answer these questions.

- If you are uncertain about possible allergies to Moderna ingredients, talk to your doctor before you call or register online.

Our registration staff are not able to give medical advice.

### Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector

We are excited to be a part of the strong network of health care providers including pharmacies, clinics, statewide vaccination sites and hospitals that have been mobilized to administer COVID vaccines to our residents but especially those who are most vulnerable. Agencies across the state are administering COVID vaccines to eligible priority groups.

The Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector ([mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/connector/](http://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/connector/)) is a tool that helps Minnesotans find out when, where, and how to get a COVID-19 vaccine. The Vaccine Connector will:

- alert you when you are eligible to receive a vaccine;
- connect you to resources to schedule a vaccine appointment; and
- notify you if there are vaccine opportunities in your area.

If you have questions about the Vaccine Connector or need assistance filling it out, please call our Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector Hotline at 833-431-2053.

Everyone 18 years and older, is encouraged to get the COVID-19 vaccine when it is available to them. This includes people with medical conditions, people who have had COVID-19, and those of different ages, races, and ethnicities.

[www.co.goodhue.mn.us](http://www.co.goodhue.mn.us)

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Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council Meeting was duly held in the City Council chambers at 7:00 p.m. on the 12th day of January 2021. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Henke.

The following members were present: Mayor Doug Henke, Council Members Dan Rehtzigel, Molly Ryan, and Tom Gard. Absent: Mary Bailey

Also, present: Administrator Mark Vahlsing, Administrative Assistant Holli Gudknecht, Police Chief Lee Sjolander, Engineer Derek Olinger, Engineer Joe Rhein, Attorney Scott Riggs, Public Works Director Wayne Ehrich, John Mortensen, and Michelle Vlasak reporter for Kenyon Leader

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Oath of Office was read by Doug Henke, Tom Gard, and Molly Ryan.

### CITIZEN COMMENT

None

### ADOPT AGENDA

**Addition: / VIII / Legal / E / 1/  
Resolution 2021-03 Accepting Donation  
Addition: / XI / New Business / D /  
KMU Supervisor Utilizing Former  
Police Chief Office**

Motion by Gard second by Rehtzigel to approve the amended agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Rehtzigel second by Henke to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes payment of check numbers, 71779 through 71871; 3640E through 3652E; and additional checks 71872 through 71891.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

### PRESENTATIONS/ PUBLIC HEARINGS/ RECOGNITIONS/PROLAMATIONS

Mayor Henke presented John Mortensen with a gift for his years of service on the City Council. Lee Sjolander will deliver Richard Nielsen's gift to him.

### ENGINEERING

#### Red Wing Avenue Project Update

Engineer Olinger stated that construction on Red Wing Avenue is completed for the winter. Some final topsoil grading, seeding, final layer of pavement, and minor miscellaneous repairs will be finished in the spring.

#### Pay Request #8 – Wencil Construction

Motion by Gard second by Rehtzigel to

approve pay request No. 8 to Wencil Construction in the amount of \$118,085.38 for work completed through December 23.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

### Kenyon Business Park/Utility Extension Project Status Update

Engineer Olinger reported that A-1 Excavating was on site until December 23rd. The storm sewer work between Engel Drive and the new stormwater pond was completed. The majority of the grading work on the site has also been completed.

#### Pay Request #3 – A-1 Excavating

Motion by Rehtzigel second by Gard to approve pay request No.3 to A-1 Excavating in the amount of \$243,266.67 for work completed through December 23.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### Change Order #4

Engineer Olinger stated that A-1's contract contained a completion date of November 30, but since the weather this year allowed them to work past this date, they are requesting that the November 30 milestone completion date be removed from the contract.

Motion by Henke second by Ryan to approve Change Order #4 for the A-1 Excavating.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Mortensen – Aye, Gard – Aye, Nielsen - Aye

Motion carried 5-0-0.

### LEGAL

#### 2021 Appointments and Designations

Planning Commission – 2 Year Term – Doug Henke, Jim Malloy

Public Utility Commission – 3 Year Term – Tom Gard

Economic Development Authority (EDA) – 4 Year Term – David Hjermstad, John Mortensen

Economic Development Authority (EDA) – 2 Year Term - Chris Mallery, Doug Henke

Library Board – 3 Year Term – Ann Traxler

Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) – 3 Year Term – Kevin Anderson

Park and Recreation Committee – 3 Year Term – Melissa Bartel

Acting Mayor – Dan Rehtzigel

Legal Newspaper – Kenyon Leader

Depository – Security State Bank of Kenyon

City Attorney – Scott Riggs, Kennedy & Graven Chartered

Prosecuting Attorney – David Jacobsen, Hero, Jorstad, Jacobsen Law Firm

City Engineer – Derek Olinger, Bolton & Menk

City Auditor – CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Financial Consultant – Per Project Basis

Investments – As Allowed Per Minnesota Statutes

Deputy Clerk – Holli Gudknecht

Weed Inspector – Doug Henke

Audit Committee – Doug Henke, Molly Ryan, Sue Dodds, Mark Vahlsing

Personnel Committee – Dan Rehtzigel, Doug Henke and Mark Vahlsing

Liquor Committee – Doug Henke, Russell Thurmes, Mark Vahlsing

Kenyon Fire Relief Association – Doug Henke and Mark Vahlsing

Motion by Rehtzigel seconded by Gard to approve committee appointments and designations.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### Resolution 2021-01: Establishing License Fees and Compensation

Administrator Vahlsing stated that there were no increases for 2021.

Motion by Gard second by Ryan to approve Resolution 2020-01.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan – Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### Annual Refuse Licenses

Waste Management, Flom Disposal Inc., Veit Container Corp (Commercial, Temporary roll off, dumpster);

#### Annual Recycling Licenses

Flom Disposal Inc., Goodhue County Public Works, Waste Management (Commercial Recycling).

**Annual Sidewalk Obstruction Licenses**

Kenyon Ace Hardware, Kenyon VFW Post 141, Mary's Rustic Rose, Che Che's Lunchera, Twice Found, D&S Banner, Taco Express

**Annual Mobile Merchant License**

**Che Che's Lunchera, Taco Express**

Motion by Rehtzigel second by Henke to approve the annual refuse, recycling, sidewalk and mobile merchant licenses.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### Kennedy & Graven

#### 2021 Rates for Legal Services

Administrator Vahlsing stated that the proposed rates for legal services have increased approximately two percent for 2021. This increase would raise the hourly base rate from \$171.50 to \$174.00 an hour.

Motion by Henke seconded by Gard to approve 2021 rates for legal services.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### Savyon, LLC donation of 111 Gates Ave to City

Administrator Vahlsing stated that Savyon LLC offered to donate a 2-acre parcel of land located at 111 Gates Avenue to the City. Savyon has removed their equipment from the former concrete plant site. A small concrete building remains on the property.

*(continued on page 9)*



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**DENNISON FEED AND FARM SUPPLY, INC.**



(continued from page 8)

Attorney Riggs stated that by state statute, the City needs to adopt a resolution to accept this donation.

Motion by Henke second by Gard to adopt Resolution 2021-03 accepting donation.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

### Review Draft Amendments to Ordinance Section 845.01 Regulation of Trees

Administrator Vahlsing stated that Public Works Director Ehrich requested that two sections of the City Ordinance 845.01 be amended. The changes would deal with the permitting of planting and removing trees and adopting a list of tree species suitable for the boulevard and yards. This would give residents a guideline on the types and sizes of trees allowed and the distances required to be planted from curbs, sidewalks, etc. Mayor Henke suggested that this may be the time to look at the restriction of trees being planted in the boulevard. Other cities restrict planting boulevard trees due to the annual maintenance and damage caused over time.

Motion by Rehtzigel second by Henke to instruct the City Attorney to revise City Ordinance 845.01 Regulating Trees in Public Streets and Public Property to reflect the discussion of the City Council.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye  
Motion carried 4-0-0.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Discuss Adoption of Administrative Policy 32 – Covering City Council issued iPads.

Administrator Vahlsing presented the revised Administrative Police #32 covering the use of City Council issued iPad. This policy was discussed at the December Council meeting.

Motion by Gard second by Ryan to adopt Administrative Policy #32 covering City Council issued iPads.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Resolution 2021-02: A Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of 2020 Donations

Motion by Henke second by Rehtzigel to approve Resolution 2021-02 authorizing the acceptance of the

2020 donations of \$21,811.00.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### Gunderson House -Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office-Summary of Final Historic Structures Report - Wold Engineering

Administrator Vahlsing summarized the historic structures report that was completed last year by Wold Engineering on the Gunderson House. The study reviewed the overall conditions of the Gunderson House and provided recommendations. The Historic Preservation Committee will use the report to rank future improvements. No action was needed from the Council as this was for information only.

#### Declare Fire Engine #3-Truck #660 as Excess Equipment

Administrator Vahlsing requested that the council declare Fire Engine #660 as excess inventory and authorize it to be sold. The truck is no longer in active use and the cost of the improvements needed would be more than the value of the truck.

Motion by Gard second by Rehtzigel to declare fire engine #3-truck #660 as excess equipment and authorize it to be sold.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### KMU Supervisor Utilizing Former Police Chief Office

Motion by Henke second by Rehtzigel to authorize the KMU Supervisor to utilize the former police chief office and allow the senior citizens to use the front area of the former police department building utilizing a key pad entry system.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

#### Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

KMU Meeting: Tuesday, January 19th @ 2:00 p.m.

EDA Annual Meeting: Tuesday, January 26th @ 9 a.m. at Fire Hall

City Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 9th @ 7 p.m.

### COUNCIL AND STAFF GENERAL COMMENTS

Administrator Vahlsing thanked Richard and John for their service to the City. He also noted he had appreciated working with Joe Rhein over the years.

Councilman Rehtzigel congratulated Molly, Tom, and Doug on their election to the Council.

Councilman Ryan stated that she was excited to be a part of the Council.

Chief Sjolander welcomed Molly. He thanked Wayne Ehrich and his crew for helping them move to the new building. Lee noted that the PD had received their first round of the COVID vaccine.

Mayor Henke stated that the first meeting of the year went well and was happy to see Molly at her first meeting. He wished everyone a happy new year.

Councilman Gard welcomed Molly.

Attorney Riggs stated he was glad to see Molly on the Council and congratulated John and Richard on their years of service on the Council.

Engineer Rhein thanked everyone for everything.

Engineer Olinger stated he appreciates the opportunity to work with the Council

Motion by Rehtzigel second by Gard to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Henke- Aye, Rehtzigel – Aye, Gard – Aye, Ryan - Aye

Motion carried 4-0-0.

Holli Gudknecht, Administrative Assistant Douglas Henke, Mayor

## K-W Schools Face Budget Cuts

(continued from page 1)

The district was facing a fund balance of -2.88% by the end of the fiscal school year. The state considers a -2.5% fund balance as statutory operating debt status and can step in to demand corrective steps. Last month the board announced the termination of the school resource officer program as one of the steps to balance the budget.

The state of Minnesota has promised a Covid relief package in excess of \$320,000 for this year but as of yet the district has not seen any of it materialize and are not certain in which ways the funds may be required to be allocated. The Knight Kids summer program may be moved to Kenyon partly due to the Kenyon pool having a 1' and a 2' kiddie pool separated from the larger pool. Superintendent Boysen is looking at areas such as transportation costs, vendor contracts, activities shuttles and spending freezes to reduce expenditures. All contracts are subject to examination to determine areas which can be reduced or eliminated for cost savings. At this point the school budget deficit is anticipated to come in at -2.39% for the end of the fiscal year leaving the district little room for unexpected expenses.



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## Commissioner Corner

Greetings to District 3 Goodhue County,

I made it through another month, the training and orientation meeting have been so helpful. We are still focused on the pandemic and getting the vaccinations distributed. This week we are expanding to the 65 year olds so keep watching the county website or call the HHS dept. with any questions. I will be the first to admit that I have taken for granted all the benefits that we have here in Goodhue county. We have so many programs that help us through our lives. A lot of people will never use these programs or have a direct contact with them, but, know that they are there and ready to help. I have started to meet the people that keep these programs going and I am totally impressed with their dedication to there jobs and the people of Goodhue County. It is not said enough but I want to send a big thank you to all the staff at Goodhue county.

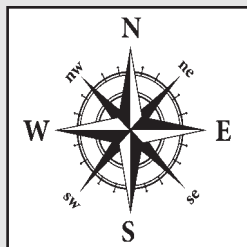
This week is the annual meetings for our townships and I want to also send a thank you to all the people that keep our townships running, you are very important to you community. Stay safe.

Todd Greseth



**Todd Greseth**  
Goodhue County  
Commissioner  
District 3

## Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes The "S" Word



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.*

That four-letter word everyone uses so casually in Minnesota is not accepted in Tennessee. If one says it the men will look at the ground and the women reach for their smelling salts. It has such a chilling effect on the natives. Strikes fear into their hearts at the mere mention of it.

We are talking snow. And I don't mean blizzard snow or snow storm or even enough to send the snow plows out in Minnesota. Just white flakes from the sky and people go nuts. The mention of snow on the news and local folk race to the Piggly Wiggly and buy up milk, bread and eggs. I guess French Toast is winter survival food down here.

So, after three winters down here we finally got hit. The in-famous February "snow-mageddon" of 2021 that slammed across the nation delivered an icy treat to Tennessee. We were hammered with an astounding two inches of snow. Life shrieked to a halt. Businesses were closed, cafes shuttered, school cancelled, no postal delivery and the radio broadcast winter survival tips. They had to repeatedly warn folks not to walk out on the lake because a quarter inch of ice cannot support a person.

My neighbor has two four-wheel drive trucks and his wife will not leave the house if it snows. Roads don't get plowed like they do in Minnesota. I think the county here has one snowplow truck and it looks like a one-ton pickup with a blade on front. So, the snow just stays on the roads and waits for the sunshine. They have a philosophy here that God put it there and He will take it away when He is ready. But the young guys with four-wheelers and UTV's love it. I see them flying down the snow-covered roads like they were on the salt flats. So, not to keep you in suspense, a couple days later the temperatures were in the 50's and the sun melted all the evidence.

We had a couple spending their Valentine's Day weekend honeymoon at our rental cabin down by Big Sandy River and they were snowed in. Not really snowed in, but just unwilling to drive with snow on the road. We gave them an extra day free stay so they didn't have to brave the snowy roads back to Clarksville right away. It will give them a good story to tell for the rest of their life.

## A Minnesotan in the North: False Spring



By RosaLin Alcoser

The worst part of warm weeks in mid February is that it gives one false hope of an early spring... this will most likely not be the case.

The reason why the false hope is so bad this year is the weather being in the 30s is because it came right after being between 0 and -22 degrees. Naturally this has made the 30s feel a lot warmer than it really is.

Native Minnesotans are calling this warm snap the start of sweatshirt weather. Personally all I have done is wear a less heavy coat and left it unbuttoned unless I am going to be outside for a long period of time. But then again we all know that I do not take being cold as well as those of you who have always lived in Minnesota.

Either way the snow is getting shorter early this year which is nice. However, its all fun and games until it gets cold again. After all there are still four more weeks of winter or is it five?

Honestly I am not so sure anymore about how many more weeks it is till spring at this point. But I am sure that it will come along at some point in April or May just like it does every year.

## Houseplants 101



Teri Knight



BRRRR... baby it's cold outside! We're hunkering down indoors with our houseplants and noticing some things.

Like dull color, browning tips, yellowing or leaf drop. What could be going on? A few things. Our homes aren't getting as much light and humidity at this time of year and that has an affect.

My Norfolk Pine is not pleased... and frankly, I'm embarrassed. BUT, my home is very dry and I didn't check the moisture as well as I should have.

But my Mother-in-law tongue is a happy camper.

Two plants, different needs. Something very helpful I've learned is, when you first purchase your houseplant, keep it in the pot it's been growing in. These are designed to drain.

Place the new plant in your decorative pot, if there's no drainage to that one, then either make a hole in the decorative container or use a plastic saucer underneath so your plant doesn't sit in water. That's the quickest way to kill them.

Another thing, invest a few bucks in a moisture meter. I had no idea how helpful that it was going to be! Mine also measures pH but you can buy ones that measure soil temperature too!

For plants that require humidity, pebble trays of water and/or misting are two of the best things you can do for them.

Be sure to know which plants need it. For instance, my norfolk pine enjoys a mist, but the sansevieria does not! Unless I'm wiping down his leaves and drying them off!

Remember that our houseplants are mostly dormant right now, they're taking some down time. In other words, don't fertilize them right now.

Too much stimulation when they would really rather relax! Sort of like having a dark roast coffee right before bed time!

*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.*



Mother-in-law tongue  
2020 aka Sansevieria

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# Entertainment

### CROSSWORD

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SUDOKU ANSWERS

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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: MARCH MADNESS
- ACROSS**
1. Theories
  5. T in Greek
  8. Tarzan's mom, e.g.
  11. Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, e.g.
  12. Ingredient in talcum powder
  13. Spectator
  15. 5,280 feet
  16. Tiny river
  17. Note taker
  18. \*Last NCAA basketball winner
  20. Any day now
  21. Antiquarian's concern, pl.
  22. Diana Ross and Michael Jackson movie, with The
  23. Saw a nightmare
  26. Caribbean rattles
  30. Witch's spell
  31. Flocked-to destinations
  34. Goo or slime
  35. Plural of ostium
  37. Leo mo.
  38. Eurasian goat-like antelope
  39. Showing signs of use
  40. "Yo, \_\_\_\_!"
  42. \*Nothing but it
  43. Wrap a baby
  45. \* \_\_\_\_-elimination
  47. Outrage
  48. Fraternity K
  50. One of the Bridges
  52. \* \_\_\_\_ 1 schools only
  55. \_\_\_\_less but pennywise
  56. Decanter
  57. In a frenzy
  59. Threesome
  60. Turkish monetary unit, plural
  61. Dumpty establishment
  62. Common conjunction
  63. New York time
  64. Male deer
- Down**
1. Singular of #1 Across
  2. Rikers Island weapon
  3. Burkina Faso neighbor
  4. Himalayan mountaineer
  5. Tarnish
  6. " \_\_\_\_ fair in love and war"
  7. \*School with most NCAA basketball titles
  8. Choir member
  9. Hammer part
  10. Blunder
  12. Sad, to mademoiselle
  13. Radio studio sign
  14. \*Mid-major school that's become major powerhouse
  19. Kind of ray
  22. Is no longer
  23. Arabian sailing vessels
  24. Restart from seed
  25. Uncredited actor
  26. The Wise Men
  27. Acting as a prompter
  28. Snow impression
  29. Eric Heiden's "shoe"
  32. \*Oklahoma State's super freshman \_\_\_\_ Cunningham
  33. Mixed breed puppy
  36. \*2021 NCAA Tournament location
  38. What Edward Scissorhands does
  40. Stout relative
  41. Dream big
  44. Ancient Celtic priest
  46. Water nymphs
  48. Fuzzy fruit, pl.
  49. Deflect
  50. Sanders' campaign slogan "Feel the \_\_\_\_"
  51. "National Velvet" author Bagnold
  52. Expunge
  53. Fail to mention
  54. Scotia predecessor
  55. School-related org.
  58. Liquor store pony

## Minnesota Produce Farmers Asked to Complete Annual Questionnaire

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is urging all Minnesota produce farmers to fill out the 2021 Grower Questionnaire. Produce farmers are asked to complete the questionnaire annually to determine how the federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule applies to their operation and what steps they must take to comply with safety regulations which are based on several factors including sales outlets and volume.

By completing the questionnaire, farmers receive official notice from the MDA Produce Safety Program regarding their farm's requirements, as well as get information about trainings and general on-farm produce safety. While participation in this questionnaire is voluntary, farmers who opt out will be contacted by the MDA to determine the farm's regulatory status under the Produce Safety Rule.

Data collected from the annual questionnaire provide the MDA with a more accurate assessment of Minnesota's expanding produce farming sector including the num-

ber of farms and annual sales. This information also assists the MDA in developing resources to meet the needs of produce farmers.

Data collected from approximately one third of the state's estimated total number of produce farms has verified that Minnesota:

Has at least 80,000 acres dedicated to produce production

Has at least \$39,000,000 in annual produce sales

Has more than 1600 produce growers and that number continues to increase each year

The privacy of questionnaire respondents is safeguarded; farm contact and location information are classified as private or non-public data. The 2021 MDA Grower Questionnaire is available online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProduceSafety](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ProduceSafety)

Farmers can contact the MDA Produce Safety Program at 651-539-3648 or email [producesafety.mda@state.mn.us](mailto:producesafety.mda@state.mn.us) for more information.

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## Preliminary results from pesticide study show widespread neonicotinoid exposure in Minnesota white-tailed deer

Preliminary results of a study testing white-tailed deer spleens for presence of neonicotinoid pesticides show exposure of deer throughout the state, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Further analysis is required to determine if the levels of exposure seen are high enough to adversely affect deer health. Additional study results related to exposure levels will be available this spring.

Neonicotinoids, often referred to as "neonics," are the most widely used class of insecticides worldwide and are found in more than 500 commercial and domestic products in the U.S. They are present in a wide array of products used for insect control in homes, gardens, yards, and crops, as well as on pets.

The DNR launched a research project in fall 2019 following a study conducted on captive deer in South Dakota that raised concerns about potential adverse effects of neonicotinoid exposure, including reduced fawn survival.

The DNR asked Minnesota deer hunters to submit spleens from their harvested wild deer. Nearly 2,000 people requested sampling kits to participate in the study and 800 spleens were collected from all areas of the state.

"We wanted to know if wild deer in natural settings are being exposed to neonics and if certain habitat types had a higher risk," said Michelle Carstensen, DNR's wildlife health program supervisor. "Minnesota is a great place to ask this question, as deer are dispersed across the forest, farmland, prairies, and urban landscapes."

The DNR's preliminary results show that deer across the state have been exposed. Of the 800 deer spleens that hunters harvested in Minnesota during the 2019 hunting season, 61% of samples indicated exposure to neonicotinoids.

While these preliminary data focused on deer, Minnesota Department of Health believes there is likely little-to-no human health risk for consuming venison from deer that may have been exposed to neonicotinoids. These early findings suggest concentrations found in the deer spleen samples were far below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's allowable levels for consumption of other foods, like fruit or beef, that may have neonicotinoid residue.

The Minnesota DNR is planning additional sampling this fall and is exploring future research options on neonicotinoids in wildlife.

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