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MARCH, 2021

Volume 18 • Issue 6

Announcements

• Nerstrand Elementary School is conducting enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year and has openings in all grade levels. Parents can check out information on our school by looking at our website www.nerstrand.charter.k12.mn.us and apply online if they are interested.

• Wednesday Wear, Nerstrand UMC hours are Wednesdays 1 - 6 and Saturdays 9 - 12. Women's, men's and children's clothing, shoes, accessories, linens, toys and books. All things are free with donations accepted. Come and see what we have!

• Dennison Lions Club meets monthly. During COVID-19, meeting times may vary.

• Dennison City Council meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

• The Nerstrand City Council meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7p.m. at the Nerstrand City Hall. Office hours are: Monday 8:30-11:00; Tuesday by appointment; Wednesday 8:30-11:00; Thursday 5:00-7:00; Friday by appointment. 507-332-8000.

• Warsaw Township Meeting is held the 2nd Monday of each month at the Warsaw Township Hall. Meeting time is 6:00p.m.

• The Wheeling Township meeting will be held on the second Monday of each month at 8:00p.m. at the Wheeling Township Hall. Contact Rebecca Vergin, Township Clerk.

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.

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Ray Sands
Goodhue County Citizen of the Year

Easter Sunday Services at Dennison Lutheran and Vang

Easter Sunday (April 4) Dennison at 9:00 AM and Vang at 11:00 AM.

Easter Coffee Hour/Breakfast –

Come enjoy fresh baked goods, juice, and coffee.

The Coffee Hour will be outside at Vang at 10:00 AM.

All proceeds will go to the ELCA Youth Gathering coming to Minneapolis in the summer of 2022.

Easter Egg Hunt for the young and the young at heart! The Easter Egg hunt will be at Vang at 10:00 AM.



Kathy Hupf, Jackie Ohmann,
Deeann Lukfin

CannonBelles Coffee and Ice Cream Turns Two!

CannonBelles Coffee and Ice Cream, in Cannon Falls, is turning two on April 1st. They ladies of CannonBelles have seen a lot of changes over these past two years, and plan to celebrate this milestone.

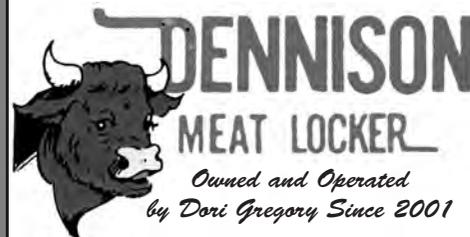
To celebrate, on April 1st, they will have balloons for children, and they will be introducing some fun new items.

(continued on page 9)

Nerstrand Fire Department Completes Training to Become "MnFIRE Aware" of the Common Health Risks Facing Firefighters

The Nerstrand Fire Department joined a growing list of Minnesota fire departments becoming "MnFIRE Aware" of their occupational health risks on March 17.

(continued on page 5)



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MENTION THIS
AD AND SAVE
SOME GREEN!

Bloom Where You're Planted

When we begin to fully follow Jesus Christ- our ambitions, our desires change- but that doesn't mean our giftings or our talents necessarily change. We are created with those- but now the focus of those gifts and talents is new. There's a story of a queen in the Bible- a young woman that was Queen of Persia. She was also a Hebrew, from the conquered people that lived with in Persia. Yet, she was beautiful and gracious and had been chosen to be the queen. The time came for her to come forward to the King to save her people- her cousin Mordecai challenged her to fulfill her true calling. "13 Mordecai sent this reply to Esther: "Don't think for a moment that because you're in the palace you will escape when all other Jews are killed. 14 If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?"

15 Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: 16 "Go and gather together all the Jews of Susa and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will do the same. And then,

though it is against the law, I will go in to see the king. If I must die, I must die." Mordecai told Esther, "Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" Perhaps she was made queen for this time- I would go a bit further-of course that's why God placed her there.) When Esther didn't try to get out of her 'job' but chose to do what would seem impossible and accept the position that God placed her in. God had given her wisdom and grace to be just the right person to reach the king and save the Jewish people.

We are to live faithful in the situation of life in which we were called to follow Jesus. We are to be steadfast, loyal, keep our promises and observe our duty. When we accept Christ as our Savior- we are called to follow Jesus and the Holy Spirit lives in us. With the Holy Spirit's help, we are to be faithful in whatever situation we find ourselves in.

When I began my journey with Jesus, I was a 20 year old stay-at-home mom. As I learned and grew in my faith, I was faithful to that calling. I strived to be the best mom and renter that I could be. I was faithful with the work I was called to do at that time. As a new believer I also felt a desire to serve in the church- the church here at South Troy had a 90 + year old organist and her health was failing- I eventually became bold enough to tell someone that I knew how to play the organ and I became the next organist until they closed the church in 1988. I was faithful to the call of God in my life at that time. But that doesn't mean

we never change- or that we stay in that same job forever. For me- I loved being able to stay at home with my children- first Jeannie and then Michael. But circumstances changed both times and I became a working single mom. I served as a maid and a waitress after my daughter's death. I strived to be the best maid, and the best waitress that I could be- so that Jesus life would be seen in me. As a waitress, which I had vowed I would never do again, I became rather good at it, I was dependable, it helped me to get over my fear of talking to people and eventually I learned to be a short-order cook too. I was able to provide for myself. Later, I ran an in-home day-care- and God blessed that work as well. Each time I strove to be the best that I could be in each situation. I learned new skills, grew more confident and more independent. I was able to tithe- to give from what I earned to the work of the church. Even more important I knew I was pleasing God because I was right where I was supposed to be.

For us to truly grow there needs to be commitment of time and resources to getting to know the other person. As we do in an intimate human relationship; we devote our time and our resources to getting to know that person and spend time with them. To become a fully committed follower of Christ- once we've accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior there are 6 things that will help us to grow our relationship with Jesus.

- Talk to Him. 1 Thessalonians 5:17,

"pray continually," Communication is essential to strengthening your relationship with God. He is there for you not only in times of need, but in times when you just want to talk.

- Obey Him. James 1:25. The least we can do for Him is to try our best to obey His commandments. In obeying God's will, we become brighter and stronger in spirit, integrity and mind.,

- Read and Study God's Word. 2 Timothy 3:16. Scriptures are meaningful and beneficial; they allow God to speak to us.

- Listen for Him Psalm 46:10, When you are finished praying, don't quickly turn toward your phone or computer, take time to stop, look, and listen for God's answers to your prayers. Communication goes both ways.

- Show gratitude. Philippians 4:6 Being grateful for God's hand in your life will make you more appreciative of His constant presence and your purpose here on the earth. Being gracious goes hand in hand with expressing humility.

- Be mindful of God's presence. Psalm 139. Though it may seem like He is far away at times, He is not.

When we are totally sold out for God- and we do what He has called us to do- one day we too will hear our Lord and Savior say, "Well done- good and faithful servant!" Well done.



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LUTHERAN

Dennison/Vang Lutheran Parish
P.O. Box 117, Dennison, MN • 507-645-6042
Website: www.dennisonvang.org
Email: dennisonvangoffice@gmail.com

Pastor Paul A. Graham
Maundy Thursday (April 1) - 7:00 PM at Vang.
Good Friday (April 2) - 9:00 AM at First Lutheran and 6:00 PM at First Lutheran
Easter Sunday (April 4) Dennison at 9:00 AM and Vang at 11:00 AM.
Easter Coffee Hour/Breakfast - Come enjoy fresh baked goods, juice, and coffee. The Coffee Hour will be outside at Vang at 10:00 AM. All proceeds will go to the ELCA Youth Gathering coming to Minneapolis in the summer of 2022.
Easter Egg Hunt - For the young and the young at heart! The Easter Egg hunt will be at Vang at 10:00 AM.

God Lutheran *Marv Kormann, Pastor*
8:45a.m. Sunday School;
9:15a.m. Social & Coffee Time; 10a.m. Worship
Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
and all major church year festivals

Grace Lutheran, Nerstrand
Don Kloster, Pastor
Service 9 a.m.; Coffee Hour 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran
Martin Horn, Pastor
10:45 a.m. worship; 6:45 p.m.; New Life Radio - KDHL

Hegre Lutheran
Pastor Chris Brekke
Sunday School 9:15a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

Moland Lutheran
Nancy Edwardson, Pastor • 10:30 a.m. worship

First Ev. Lutheran
Luther Mathsen, Pastor
Sunday 9:00 a.m. worship

Wangen Prairie Lutheran Church LCMC
Curtis Fox, Pastor
24289 Cty. 24 Blvd., Cannon Falls
Sunday mornings: 9a.m. Worship; 10a.m. Fellowship
Thursdays 9:30a.m. Bible Study;
7:00p.m. Bluegrass Jam (open to public)
Bring your instruments, play, sing or just enjoy.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Make a Name for Ourselves

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.

Prayer
O God, be the Lord and King of our hearts. Let us be concerned about honoring your name, not ours. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

METHODIST

Nerstrand United Methodist
Lona Sturm, Pastor
507-330-0025
Worship 9:00a.m.

Stanton United Methodist
Rev. Gary Liker
Worship 10:15a.m.
Church Phone 507-263-4063

ST. JOHNS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Wheeling Township) 19086 Jacobs Ave., Faribault
Lona Sturm, Pastor • 507-330-0025
www.stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info
Sunday School 9:30a.m.; Worship 10:30a.m.

NEW LIFE CHURCH

Patrick McBride, Pastor
525 Beverly St., Wanamingo
9:00a.m. Sunday School for all ages;
10:00a.m. Worship Service
7:00p.m. Small Group Bible Studies - Sun.

HOLDEN-DALE PARISH

Heather Culuris, Pastor
Sunday 9:00 a.m. worship at Holden;
11:00 a.m. worship at Dale

NOTICE

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

Email your church announcements, schedule, etc. to the Mainstreet Messenger at: hometownmessenger@gmail.com



Scott L. Miller

Scott L. Miller, age 54 of Dennison, MN passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, February 28, 2021 at the Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis, MN.

Scott Loren, the son of Gene and Linda (Gilmer) Miller, was born on January 26, 1967 in Northfield, MN. Scott grew up in Cannon City, MN. He attended Faribault High School. Following high school, Scott attended Vo-Tech and received his certificate in welding. He worked as a fabricator for 36 years for various companies and he

owned and operated Scott's Country Collison, as well as Prairie Creek Collison. While he wasn't working, he enjoyed riding his Harley, collecting rocks and artifacts, being "out back" coyote calling, shooting pool, playing volleyball and foosball, throwing darts, and hunting. He also enjoyed working on stuff at Dempsey's shop, shooting guns, collecting Dale Earnhardt Sr. memorabilia. Scott especially loved spending time with his family, teaching his grandkids all the bad stuff and supporting his kids and grandkids at their sporting events. He raised his children on the farm in Dennison, also known as "Camp Scotty" because he was known for taking in troubled strays both dog and human, teaching them the ways of the world and building character. He was

known for being right 99.999% of the time.

Scott is survived by his children, Brian (Nichole) Miller of Faribault, Shauna (Daniel) Limon of Dennison, Chelsea (Jose) Morales of Dundas, Dylan (Iwalani) Miller of Mankato; grandchildren, Donovan, Faith, Skylar, Lilliana, Isabella, Alana, Axtyn, Abriella, Adelynn, Kyson, Analeigh, and Jonathan; siblings, Jim (Lou) Miller of Rosemount, Terry Millsap of Ham Lake, Jerry (Shannon) Miller of Fosston, and Kimberly (Brad) Johnson of Faribault; all his unofficial children; his beloved puppy, Dakota; and many friends and fami-

ly.

He is preceded in death by his parents Gene and Linda, maternal grandparents, Vernard and Nora Gilmer; paternal grandparents, Clarence and Ethel Miller.

A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at The River Community Church in Faribault, MN. Pastor Steve Crombie officiated.

Visitation was held at the church on Saturday from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Goodhue County Dairy Princess to be Crowned

The crowning of the new Goodhue County Dairy Princesses will take place April 10th, 2021. The Dairy Princess competition is sponsored by the dairy promotion checkoff, which helps to build demand and sales for dairy products.

Princess candidates are Cassandra Hinsch, daughter of Mike and Ann Hinsch, of Goodhue, Chelsey Lexvold, daughter of Brent and Wendy Lexvold of Goodhue, and Madison Bartholome, daughter of Jim and Lisa Bartholome of Goodhue.

Princess candidates are judged on their communication skills, personality, enthusiasm for dairy promotion and general knowledge of the dairy industry.

Traxler Law PLLC

traxlerlaw.com

Ann Traxler

Attorney

PRACTICE AREAS

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Dennison-Vang Lutheran Parish seeks to be a loving presence in the community in Christ's name. We are a community of faith that makes a difference through worship and serving outside our walls.

If you are looking for something more in your life, come check us out!

37514 3rd Avenue, Dennison, MN 55018
Website: www.dennisonvang.org
NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS: dennisonvangoffice@gmail.com

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday (April 1) – 7:00 PM at Vang.
The Maundy Thursday service lifts up Jesus' last supper with his disciples, and remembers how Jesus washed his disciples feet. In addition, we will celebrate the First Communion milestone with Dennison and Vang's 5th graders at the Maundy Thursday service.

Good Friday (April 2) – 9:00 AM at First Lutheran and 6:00 PM at First Lutheran
We are collaborating KW area churches for Good Friday. The 9:00 AM service will be an in-person worship service at First that will also be available on-line. The 6:00 PM Good Friday service will be a community "Way of the Cross" service in the parking area at First Lutheran. Around a bonfire, there will be an outdoor worship time based on Stations of the Cross. The worship experience will feature the passion story, prayer, and music. If the weather is bad, the 6:00 PM Good Friday service will be inside at First Lutheran. Please bring your own chair.

Easter Sunday (April 4) Dennison at 9:00 AM and Vang at 11:00 AM.
Easter Coffee Hour/Breakfast – Come enjoy fresh baked goods, juice, and coffee. The Coffee Hour will be outside at Vang at 10:00 AM. All proceeds will go to the ELCA Youth Gathering coming to Minneapolis in the summer of 2022.

Easter Egg Hunt
For the young and the young at heart! The Easter Egg hunt will be at Vang at 10:00 AM.

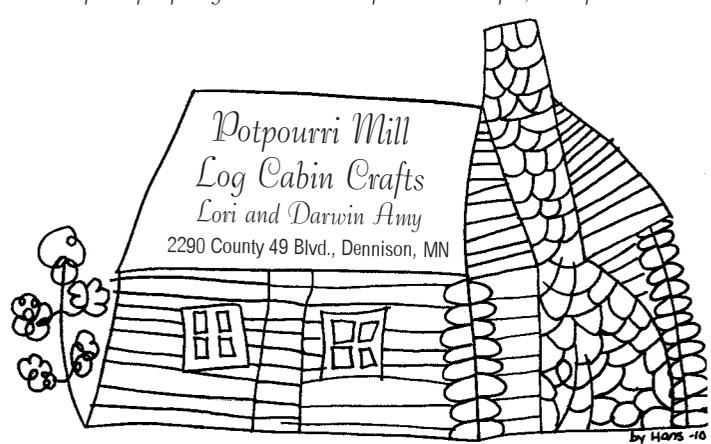
Free Food Distribution in Kenyon
There will be a free food distribution in Kenyon at the Kenyon Pool parking lot April 16 from 9:00 AM – Noon. This event is hosted by Kenyon/Wannamingo Community Ed.



Garden Thyme Craft Show

Saturday & Sunday, May 1 - 2 and May 8 - 9 from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

Our cabin is full of Spring and Summer primitive crafts, antiques and home decor.



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Phone: 507-649-1009 Email: cabincrew@frontiernet.net

~ You may also call to set up a private appointment to shop in our cabin ~

 Check out our Facebook page under "Potpourri Mill"

DIRECTIONS FROM KENYON: Go north on Hwy. 56 for 7 miles, then turn west on County 49 Blvd. Go 1/2 mile. Our cabin is right before Vang Lutheran Church.

FROM NORTHFIELD: Go east on Hwy. 246 to Dennison, continue east out of Dennison 3 miles, take a right on Hwy. 56 south for 2 long miles. Take a right heading west on Cty. 49 Blvd., go 1/2 mile. Our cabin is right before Vang Lutheran Church.

SBA Increases Lending Limit for COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loans



The U.S. Small Business Administration is increasing the maximum amount small businesses and non-profit organizations can borrow through its COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program. Starting the week of April 6, 2021, the SBA is raising the loan limit for the COVID-19 EIDL program from 6-months of economic injury with a maximum loan amount of \$150,000 to up to 24-months of economic injury with a maximum loan amount of

\$500,000. "More than 3.7 million businesses employing more than 20 million people have found financial relief through SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans, which provide low-interest emergency working capital to help save their businesses. However, the pandemic has lasted longer than expected, and they need larger loans. Many have called on SBA to remove the \$150,000 cap. We are here to help our small businesses and that is why I'm proud to more than triple the amount of funding they can access," said SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman.

Guidance on COVID-19 EIDL Identity Theft and Fraud

If you suspect that someone used your personal information without your knowledge or permission to obtain an SBA COVID-19 EIDL, please download this EIDL identity theft letter for step-by-step instructions on how to report the identity theft case to the SBA, including how to file an SBA Declaration of Identity Theft visit www.sba.gov/eidl-id-theft.

The letter also includes recommended next steps you should take to protect yourself from further financial harm as a result of identity theft, such as reporting the identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at IdentityTheft.gov as well as



Beware of Malicious COVID-19 Phishing

Protect yourself from identity theft and fraud during pandemic recovery.

Confirm any SBA disaster assistance emails by contacting (800) 659-2955, TTY (800) 877-8339, or disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Avoid scams and fraud, visit sba.gov/COVIDfraudalert



adding a fraud alert or credit freeze to your credit reports.

Federal Coronavirus Resources

State, local, and federal agencies are working together to maintain the safety, security, and health of the American people. Check out coronavirus.gov for updates from the White House's COVID-19 Task Force. Go to cdc.gov for detailed information about COVID-19 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Visit covid-sb.org, the official federal resource

website for U.S. small businesses affected by COVID-19.

Virtual Mentoring and Training

Offices around the country may be closed due to the pandemic, but SCORE, Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, Veterans Business Outreach Centers and other resource partners are providing free business mentoring and training by phone, email, and video.

Do You Have a Story Idea?
E-mail: hometownmessenger@gmail.com



Congratulations

Dan Scheffler, on being named market president of Frandsen Bank & Trust in Dundas. He is replacing Rick Risberg, who was named market president of Frandsen Bank & Trust in Hayward, Wisconsin.

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marysrusticrose.com



Nerstrand Fire Department Completes Training to Become "MnFIRE Aware" of the Common Health Risks Facing Firefighters

(continued from page 1)

The training, taught by firefighters and other health experts, gave Nerstrand firefighters actionable tips on how to protect themselves from the three problems most commonly experienced by those in the fire service – cardiac, emotional trauma and cancer – so they can continue to protect others.

The training class was hosted by the Minnesota Firefighter Initiative (MnFIRE), the statewide advocacy organization that equips firefighters and the people who care about them with

resources to address the growing health crisis in the Minnesota fire service. MnFIRE recently received a \$400,000 grant from the Fire Service Advisory Committee (FSAC) to train all Minnesota firefighters to become "MnFIRE Aware" of their occupational health risks by June 30, 2021. The Nerstrand Fire Department joins a list of more than 8,000 firefighters who have already received the training statewide.

"By participating in this important training, Nerstrand proved that the health of their hometown heroes is a priority," says George Esbensen, MnFIRE president. "There's a health crisis in the Minnesota fire service and it's more important than ever that firefighters across the state are aware of their heightened risk for cardiac, emotional trauma and cancer issues."

More and more Minnesota firefighters are tragically losing their lives due to occupational health issues. In addition to cancer and cardiac-related deaths, four to six active Minnesota firefighters die from suicide each year.

In addition to conducting MnFIRE Aware Trainings both in person and online at no cost to departments, MnFIRE offers a confidential, toll-free helpline (888-784-6634) for firefighters in crisis. The nonprofit is also spearheading a legislative initiative to improve access to care for firefighters in need of treatment for cancer, cardiac and emotional trauma issues - the Hometown Heroes Assistance Program, which is planned to be introduced during the 2021 legislative session. Learn more at MnFireInitiative.com.

Nerstrand Fire & Rescue Receives Grant to Purchase Gear Washer/Extractor



Nerstrand Fire & Rescue recently received a \$4,600 grant from the Minnesota State Fire Marshal for the purchase of a Gear Washer/Extractor. A gear extractor is specially designed to meet NFPA standards to maintain the protective material in fire turnout gear. This washer, along with other preventative measures, will help reduce the amount of carcinogens firefighters are exposed to after a fire response.

Keeping your name in front of your potential customers is an essential part of marketing your business in today's competitive market.

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#20295U

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Anhydrous Safety Should be Top Concern This Spring

The MDA offers safety tips for those maintaining equipment and applying and transporting NH3

Many farmers and applicators will soon be applying anhydrous ammonia (NH3) ahead of the planting season. Even with a rush against time and the weather, safety should never be compromised. Recent

accidents involving anhydrous ammonia have proven how dangerous and deadly the chemical can be when not handled properly.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is providing the following tips to farmers and applicators so they can safely apply anhydrous ammonia.

Always wear appropriate goggles and gloves. Never wear contact lenses.

Be sure to have a clean, adequate emergency water supply of at least 5 gallons.

Exercise caution when making connections and disconnections as if lines contain anhydrous ammonia.

Stand upwind when connecting, disconnecting, bleeding lines, or transferring NH3. Also, close, bleed, disconnect, and secure valves and transfer lines when tak-

ing breaks or disconnecting lines, and be sure to handle hose end valves by the valve body.

Position equipment away and downwind from homes, people, and livestock.

Safety is also key to those maintaining anhydrous ammonia equipment. Never assume NH3 lines are empty, always wear proper protective equipment, and have access to safety water.

When towing a nurse tank down the road, drive sensibly. Do not go any faster than 30 miles per hour, display a slow-moving vehicle (SVM) emblem visible from the rear, and be sure the tank is secured to the tractor or truck with two separate, independent



chains that supplement the hitch pin/clip.

If an accident or spill occurs, immediately call 911 and then the Minnesota Duty Officer at 1-800-422-0798 or 651-649-5451.

You can find more safety, storage, and transportation information on the MDA's website at www.mda.state.mn.us/nh3.

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507-789-6321

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We are proud to show our gratitude to the many men and women who make agriculture possible.

We know that food doesn't just arrive at the grocery store or magically appear on our dinner table. There's an entire industry dedicated to providing plentiful and safe food for consumption.

And it's important to remember that American agriculture is not just doing it, but doing it better and more effectively!

Consider this:

- Each American farmer feeds about 165 people.
- Agriculture is America's #1 export.
- New technology means farmers are more environmentally friendly than ever before.



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Help the Red Cross Refuel the Blood Supply

Race to give blood for a chance to win a trip for four to the 2022 Indianapolis 500®

American Red Cross



The American Red Cross is calling for donors of all blood types, especially those with type O blood, to race to give blood and help refuel the blood supply.

This spring, the Red Cross is teaming up with INDYCAR® to urge people to help keep the blood supply on track by donating blood or platelets. Schedule a donation appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

As a special thank-you, those who come to give blood or platelets April 1-15 will automatically be entered to win a VIP trip for four to the 2022 Indianapolis 500®. The Red Cross will also automatically enter all who come to give in April for a chance to win one of five \$1,000 e-gift cards to a merchant of choice. Additional details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Indy500.

The need for blood doesn't take a pit stop

When seconds count in the race to save lives, it's the blood already on the shelves that helps most. More donors are needed now to help ensure hospitals are ready to respond to the needs of patients this month.

Every day patients like Sarah Spinner rely on lifesaving blood products. In December 2012, Spinner experienced a life-threatening pregnancy complication and required 16 units of red blood cells in addition to multiple units of platelets and plasma as doctors fought to save her life.

Sarah spent two nights in the intensive care unit and held her son for the first time while someone held her arms up because she was so weak. "He was the most amazing thing I had ever seen – aside from the face of my husband. I was so thankful to be alive!"

Although this wasn't the ending that they expected, Sarah said she is grateful that "my body held on when it's life was pouring out of it. I get goosebumps thinking about the fact that I'm still alive because so many people donated the blood I needed to survive."

Important COVID-19 information for donors

The Red Cross is testing blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Testing may also identify the presence of antibodies developed after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. Red Cross antibody tests will be helpful to identify individuals who have COVID-19 antibodies and may now help current coronavirus patients in need of convalescent plasma transfusions. Convalescent plasma is a type of blood product collected from COVID-19 survivors who have antibodies that may help patients who are actively fighting the virus. Plasma from whole blood donations that test positive for high levels of COVID-19 antibodies may be used to help COVID-19 patients.

Donors can expect to receive the results of their antibody test within two weeks through the Red Cross Blood Donor App or the donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org. The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test. To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, it is important that individuals who do not feel well or believe they may be ill with COVID-19 postpone donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional pre-

cautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Rice County

Faribault
4/6/2021: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Bethlehem Academy, 105 Third Ave. SW

4/15/2021: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Eagles Club, 2027 W. Grant St.

Lonsdale
4/7/2021: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Legion, 115 Second Ave. NW

Northfield
4/5/2021: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Culver's, 960 S. Hwy 3

4/12/2021: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., First United Church of Christ, 300 Union St.

4/13/2021: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., First United Church of Christ, 300 Union St

4/14/2021: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., First United Church of Christ, 300 Union St.

Goodhue County

Kenyon
4/5/2021: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., St Michael's Catholic Church, 108 Bullis St.

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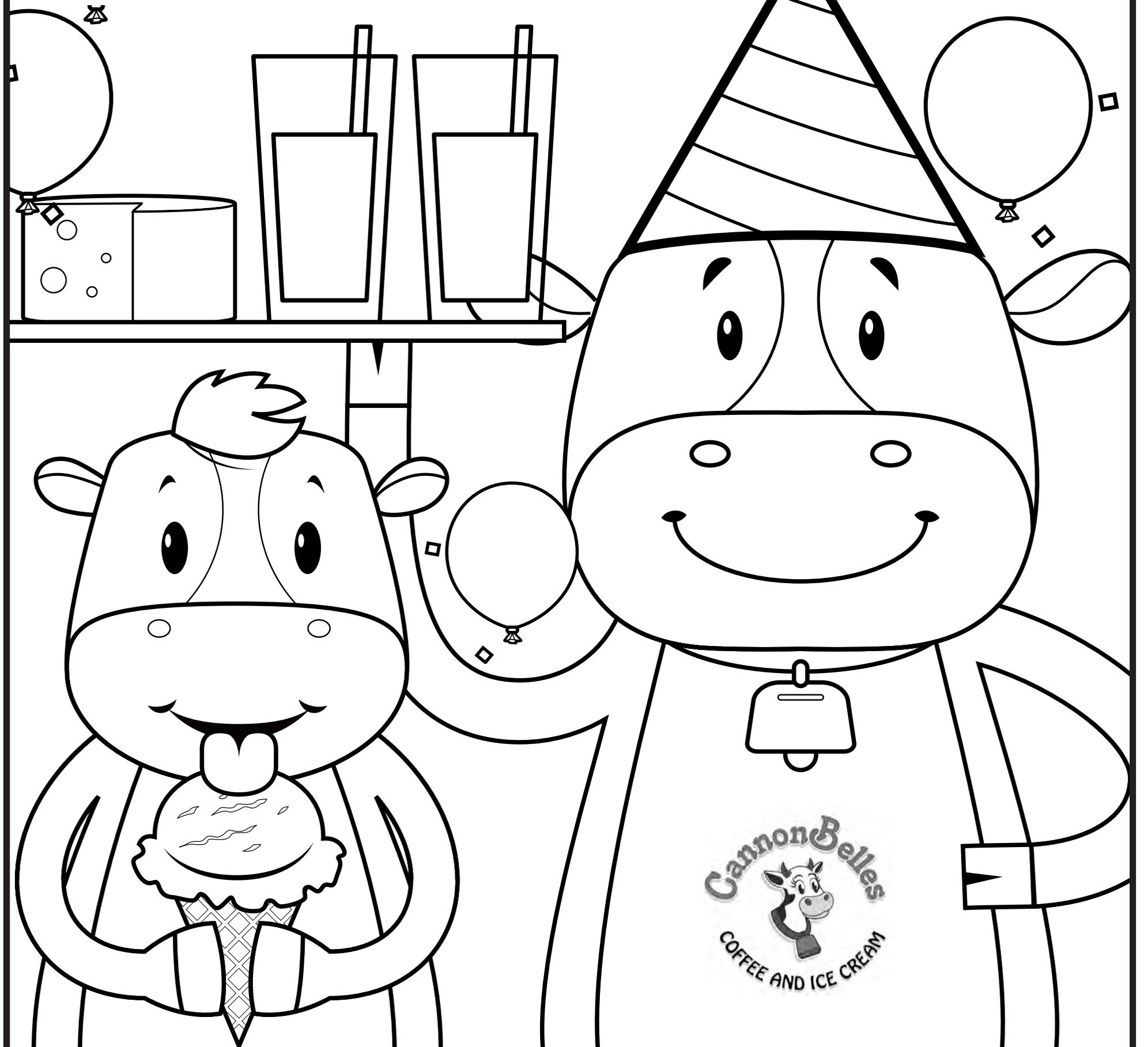
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Kenyon Native Named Goodhue County Citizen of the Year

(continued from page 1)

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 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."

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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CannonBelles Coffee and Ice Cream Turns Two!

(continued from page 1)

Their new menu will debut, including their famous grilled cheese, wraps, chicken salad sandwiches on croissants, and side salads. Another fun addition will be ice cream flights, which are a board of 4 sample sized ice creams for people who can't choose between all of the wonderful flavors.

Throughout April, they will also be holding a coloring contest. The coloring pages can be picked up at CannonBelles and must be returned by April 25th. Winners will be chosen from various age categories to win a \$5 gift card.

Their anniversary events are not the only

exciting things happening for the Belles. CannonBelles Cheese construction of their cheese plant in Cannon Falls is beginning again. Concrete footings will be poured around April 1st. You'll be able to keep track of their progress on their Cheese company's Facebook page (@CannonBelles), where they will be posting time-lapse videos each week.

They anticipate the plant to be up and running mid to late summer.

April looks to be an exciting month for the CannonBelles, and they cannot wait to commemorate this anniversary with the entire community.

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You Can Build a Connection with Goodhue County Children During Child Abuse Prevention Month this April

The Goodhue County Child and Family Collaborative (GCCFC) recognizes the importance of caring connections, supportive environments, and positive experiences for all children and families during Child Abuse Prevention Month in April.

“April is a time to help our community members learn the important role they play in fostering safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments children need for healthy development,” explained Jeff Sampson, Cannon Falls Public Schools Superintendent and GCCFC Chair.

Children and families in our communities are facing unprecedented stress during the pandemic. But we know there are programs, strategies and policies that are proven to strengthen families so they can

address their basic needs and better care for their children.

“Science tells us that connections matter,” said Maggie Cichosz, GCCFC Coordinator. “Our work to build positive connections, stable foundations, supportive communities, and strong families where all children can thrive has never been more important than it is now.”

Childhood adversity is a preventable problem and the past year has shown us that supporting families is essential to prevent child maltreatment and neglect. All adults play a role in creating caring connections and nurturing environments for the healthy development of our future generation of parents, leaders, and community members. Goodhue County’s future prosperity depends on it.

Build a connection with children and families during Child Abuse Prevention Month this April:

- Participate in Wear Blue Day on Thursday, April 1st to help raise awareness for child abuse prevention. Show us your blue on social media with the hashtag #BuildAConnection.
- Follow the Goodhue County Child & Family Collaborative on facebook (facebook.com/GoodhueCFC) and Instagram (@GoodhueCFC).
- Participate in Digital Advocacy Day on Wednesday, April 21st! Let your representatives know you support family friendly policies, such as paid sick and family leave, that help reduce stress of parents and caregivers.

- Schedule a training for your business or group on understanding adversity, resilience, and how to build connections with youth. Visit www.gccfc.org for more information.

- Invest Upstream: Donate to local organizations and schools that help families and children thrive.

Because together, we can build strong families and resilient children.

About the Goodhue County Child & Family Collaborative:

The vision of the Goodhue County Child & Family Collaborative is for all Goodhue County families to have the resources,

skills, relationships, supports and opportunities they need to be strong and resilient. The Board of Directors includes representatives from Goodhue County Health and Human Services, Cannon Falls Public Schools, Goodhue Public Schools, Kenyon-Wanamingo Public Schools, Red Wing Public Schools, Goodhue County Education District, Goodhue County Court Services, Three Rivers Community Action, Fembrook Family Center, Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center, United Way of Goodhue, Wabasha, and Pierce, and Red Wing Youth Outreach.



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Decide, Commit, Succeed



By Harvey Mackay

President Dwight Eisenhower was raised on a Kansas farm, and he never forgot its lessons. In response to a difficult question put to him at the National Press Club, Eisenhower said it reminded him of an incident in his boyhood.

"An old farmer had a cow that we wanted to buy," Eisenhower recalled, "so we went to visit him and asked about the cow's pedigree.

"The old farmer didn't know what the word pedigree meant so we asked him about the cow's butterfat production. His answer was that he didn't have the foggiest idea. Finally we asked him if he knew how many pounds of milk the cow produced each year.

"The farmer shook his head and said, 'I

don't know. But she's an honest cow, and she'll give you all the milk she has!'

"Well," Ike concluded, "I'm like that cow. I'll give you everything I have."

President Eisenhower didn't just want to get by. He was committed to do his best. You can see when people are committed to a project or cause; they refuse to settle for anything less than their best. They are willing to learn and work hard.

Steel magnate Andrew Carnegie said people fall into three basic categories: those who did not do all their duty, those who only professed to do their duty and those who did their duty plus a little more.

If you make a commitment, you need to see it through. No slacking off, no excuses. Commitment must start from the inside out. Commitment means staying loyal to what you said you were going to do, long after the mood you said it in has left you.

"Commitment unlocks the doors of imagination, allows vision and gives us the right stuff to turn our dreams into reality," said James Womack, founder and chairman of the Lean Enterprise Institute.

Some might be tempted to back off those dreams when the going gets tough – which it often does. But being truly committed provides the motivation to persevere, another word that is important in seeing projects and dreams through to the finish.

Commitment is a prerequisite to success. Commitment is the state of being bound – emotionally, intellectually, or both – to a course of action. Commitment starts with a

choice and is sustained by dedication and perseverance. Actions speak louder than words.

"There's a difference between interest and commitment," said Ken Blanchard. "When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when it's convenient. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses, only results."

Lou Holtz, the Hall-of-Fame college football coach, believes there are four things any person or organization needs to be successful.

"First," he says, "you have to make a commitment to excellence. Second is complete attention to detail. The third thing is to have sound fundamentals, and the fourth requirement is discipline."

Lou says: "Have you ever seen a team run on the field yelling, 'We want to be number two?'" Everyone wants to be number one. Those who actually achieve it are those who are willing to put the blood, sweat and tears into their effort."

I will add another essential element of commitment: confidence in your ability to succeed. Ask any successful entrepreneur how often they questioned their judgment, their sanity. I'd wager that any who were truly committed had some moments of uncertainty. But they believed in their potential. As I've preached so many times, it's important to believe in yourself, even when no one else does.

I'm not sure how people can be totally

satisfied with themselves if they are not committed to doing their very best. Sure, there are



going to be failures, but that's no excuse for not trying your hardest. You can't hold back because of fear of failure.

I firmly believe that all human success is the result of persistent commitment. Not luck, not just being in the right place at the right time. Commitment is a decision that is easier to make than to see through. Commitment is what keeps you forging ahead once the initial glow has faded.

We'll go back to the barnyard for some perspective. A chicken and a pig were talking about commitment.

The chicken said, "I'm committed to giving eggs every morning."

The pig said, "Giving eggs isn't commitment, it's participation. Giving ham is total commitment."

Mackay's Moral: Motivation is what gets you started. Commitment is what keeps you going.

Reprinted with permission from nationally syndicated columnist Harvey Mackay, author of the New York Times #1 bestseller "Swim With The Sharks Without Being Eaten Alive."



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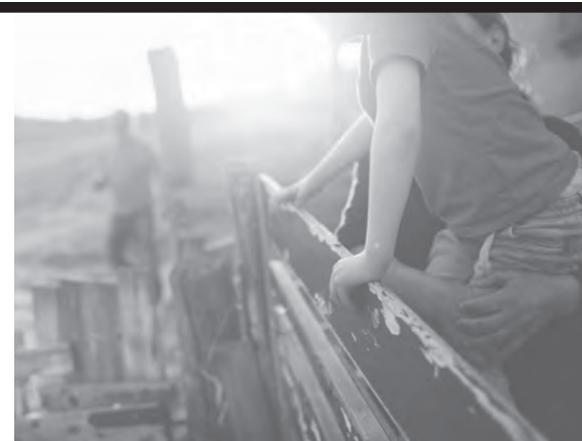
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City Council Meeting Minutes February 9, 2021

Nerstrand City Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:00p.m. Those in attendance via Zoom were Mayor Niki Portillo, Council Members Monica Gernandt, Tom Voge, Jennifer Valek and Jennifer Schwab. Other people in attendance were Public Works Director Steve McDowell, City Clerk Dana Jans, and 14 Nerstrand residents.

Roll Call

Entire Council is in attendance, Valek, Voge, Schwab, Gernandt, and Mayor Portillo.

Tyler See with Abdo, Eick, and Meyers

-Tyler See presented draft audit results it could not be finalized because they are waiting on guidelines from the state. No changes are expected. There were four findings, internal control, and limited variation of duties which are two of the most common findings. The final two findings was donations that are received did not go in front of council for acceptance and a late payment to Lake Country Community Bank for the GO bond. This payment has since been paid.

Secretary's and Treasurers Report

-Motion to accept the Treasurers and secretaries report with the changes to maintenance by Councilperson Gernandt, seconded by Councilperson Voge, motion passed unanimously. Gernandt would also like to see the minutes on the website.

Closed Meeting

-Motion by Councilperson Gernandt to move forward with the purchase agreement

contingent on the green shed be taken down, the LP and poles will not be moved in relation to the sale of the property and with the purchase amount of \$4,000.00, seconded by Valek. Gernandt, Motion passed unanimously.

-Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-03 to approve the lot split by Councilperson Gernandt, seconded by Councilperson Voge, motion passed unanimously.

New Business

-Donation from the City of Dennison in the amount \$196.52, motion by Councilperson Voge, seconded by Gernandt. Motion passed unanimously.

-Mayor Portillo would like to hold a work/goal setting session in the future. Gernandt likes the idea but would like to wait until in person meetings resume. This would be open to public to attend and be held before or after a regular City Council meeting. Mayor Portillo has a coworker, Janelle Tepin is willing to facilitate this meeting. Motion by Councilperson Gernandt to hold a work session before the April meeting seconded by Councilperson Valek, motion passes unanimously.

Report from Public Works

-Everything is running good.
-Pulling a well and installing a generator this year when weather improves.

Fire Department

-No questions regarding the report submitted by Fire Chief Joe Johnson. Bonde will attend the March meeting to discuss a change in payout amounts for Fire Relief. They voted to draft a Resolution to increase from \$50 to \$500 per year of service. This

is more in line with the rest of the state and other cities our size.

Report from Mayor

-Training for Mayor and other councilpersons as well. Portillo will also be attending National Parliamentarian Association which goes over Parliamentary Procedure. Code book needs to be updated, American Legal Publishing is sending an example.

Announcements

-City Hall to be closed February 15
-Discussion on the St. Johns Big Woods Run. Councilperson Valek asked questions in regards to the path they will take through town and the amount of vehicles. Representative from the run assured that all safety guidelines put forth by the state and CDC will be followed. As of now the run

path has not been decided., council would like to know the route when decided. Motion by Councilperson Gernandt to rent the park, seconded by Councilperson Valek, motion passed unanimously.

Complaints and Concerns

-A complaint was received from a resident. Discussion on how to proceed with complaints in general. Research will be done in regards to all complaints to make sure council handles it correctly.

Approval of Bills

-Motion to approve bills by Councilperson Gernandt, seconded by Councilwomen Valek, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:
Dana Jans, Nerstrand City Clerk

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**City of Dennison
Regular Council Meeting
February 4th, 2021**

The February Dennison City Council meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Ann Anders on Thursday, February 4th, 2021 at 7:00 pm via zoom. Present were Councilors Ann Anders, Councilor Schiell Schiell, Heidi Cooke and Councilor Ruddle Ruddle, and Clerk Jessica Page. Mayor Flaten was having connection/audio issues. Dan Storlie and Nate Sparrow were present at City Hall.

Approval of Minutes: Councilor Ruddle noted some corrections to the January meeting minutes. The chemical used in the phosphorus system was noted as ferric sulfate, and should be corrected to ferric chloride. Councilor Schiell move to accept the minutes as amended. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 4:0. Councilor Ruddle moved to approve the treasurer's report, Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 4:0. Note, this and all following votes were taken by roll call.

Building Permits: None

Administrative Issues:

1. Force Main: They need info on the liner for the ponds. It appears that we have exhausted the resources that are available to the City, and will need to have a sample taken of the liner to determine what is needed to repair the liner when the project is completed. Estimated cost would be about

\$1000 to obtain a sample, plus the cost to determine what material. Carley noted that it might be more as this was a very broad estimate of the cost.

Councilor Ruddle move to take a sample. Councilor Schiell 2nd 4:0 no Jeff

Carley noted it is normally heat sealed liner. She will contact the contractor to get a sample done as soon as possible.

City was informed that the fence was taken down in an area where the force main was being worked on right by the lift station. This was not addressed previously in any of the planning, and the fence needs to be fixed. Carley thinking they need to still have access to it. Ask owner if we can put something up temporary and then have them fix it in the spring. City will need to let Carley know what they need to do.

2. Phosphorus project: Meeting with MPCA was held on the 15th. City has agreed to some due dates for various parts of the plan to deal with not meeting the dates previously set for the phosphorus shed. Council needs to review the Schedule of Compliance that was written up by the MPCA after the meeting and approve. Councilor Schiell move to approve the Schedule of Compliance. Councilor Anders second. Motion passed 4:0.

Do we want to pay on any additional ISG invoices for this? Oldest are from 7-31-2019 @ \$1750.00, 9-30-2019 @ \$2052.87, and 11-30-2019 @ \$1238.13. Remaining

invoices are for 2020, and 2021

Councilor Anders move to pay the 2019 invoices Councilor Schiell second. Motion passed 4:0.

There will likely be a funding gap for the phosphorus system, Mayor has relayed information to the council about using Minnesota Rural Water and a micro-loan. If the council wants to know more, the Mayor said he could ask the director to meet with Council. This can be looked at during work session.

Several questions had come up regarding the needs for the phosphorus building. What type of eye wash station? Portable gravity fed? Yes, that is what the City will need to go with. It needs to be 300 gallons for alum/ferric chemicals.

Might need a slightly bigger tank for the chemical. Go with one tank instead of two. One six hundred gallon tank makes the most sense.

Carley has everything else that she needs for their plans.

ISG will do the HVAC

Would like to know why the electric or lp?

Councilor Anders move to have ISG go ahead with bidding. Councilor Cooke second. Motion passed 4:0.

3. I and I issues: Mayor spoke with Bill Dunn about the advantages/disadvantages of continuing with PPL and getting on the IUP for 2022. Going to get more feedback from him before the meeting. Emailed Carley about the costs to get on the IUP. Next deadline for that is March 5th, so the council needs to decide if it wants to move forward. One advantage of the PPL, is that we could do the work in phases. Mayor Flaten would recommend using our sewer savings to pay for engineering costs to get on the IUP for 2022.

The City does not have any smoke test

information. A smoke test would need to go into the plan. Mayor Flaten, who arrived at City Hall, said the easiest way to get the money would be to sell bonds. It is not known what the costs would be. Can discuss more at a work session.

Mayor Flaten will put together a document of the pro and cons and costs, etc.

4. Tobacco Ordinance comments or questions? Will vote next month. Councilor Ruddle will come up with a clean version.

5. Snow plowing Jan 15th had heavy wet snow and it was a little late in getting plowed. Suggestions to have the contractor try to plow in a little more on the roads to make them wider, as well as encourage them to start earlier.

6. Approval for check signers. Jeff/Ann/Councilor Ruddle/Councilor Schiell/Heidi/Jess

Councilor Ruddle move that all the above listed people are approved as signers. Councilor Schiell second. Motion passed 5:0

Citizens Issues: Ice rink is ready to go.

Mayors Issues: None

Utilities: Nate reported there is plenty of pond storage. He also noted that there is too much stuff going through the bar screen. Towels, rope, rags, etc

Need to put something in the newsletter not to flush stuff down the toilet. Could cost them as a homeowner. Might need to mention to businesses.

Councilor Cooke move to pay the bills. Councilor Schiell second. Motion passed 5:0.

Councilor Ruddle move to adjourn. Councilor Cooke second. Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: Regular meeting is Thursday March 4, 2021 at 7:00.



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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

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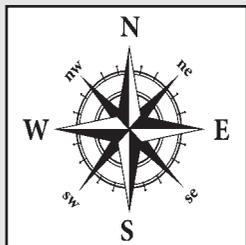
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Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes The "S" Word



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 Clarkesville right away. It will give them a good story to tell for the rest of their life.

Maple Syruping



Teri Knight



The sap is flowing! It's not too late to tap your trees for some golden goodness. Although it looks like water coming out of your tree! You don't have to have Sugar Maples to make some great syrup. The only difference is the percentage of sugar content in the tree sap.

Years ago we tapped Silver Maples that produced delicious stuff. YOU can also tap Boxelder trees. So, apparently there is one good thing from a Boxelder tree.

You need about 40 gallons of maple tree sap to make 1 gallon of pure maple syrup.

Interestingly, the United States and Canada are the only countries in the world to produce maple syrup. Interestingly, only 19 states produce Maple Syrup. It's a completely natural food, meaning nothing is added. Only water is evaporated from the sap. You need several freeze/thaw periods for a good sap flow. So the temps need to drop below freezing at night and then rise above during the day.

A tapping tree should be at least 10 inches in diameter from 4 feet above ground. You can generally get 10 to 12 gals of sap per tree. So if you have a few Maples in your backyard, you could make yourself a good batch of maple syrup and there is NOTHING like the real deal.



Silver maples tapped

March is a key month for sap flow as the trees stop flowing once their buds set. Many area parks tap trees and some of them have yearly pancake breakfasts, except for this year and last... alas!

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.

A Minnesotan in the North: False Spring



By RosaLin Alcoser

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.

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 one

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 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. Dumpy establishment
 62. Common conjunction
 63. New York time
 64. Male deer
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 4. Himalayan mountaineer
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 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

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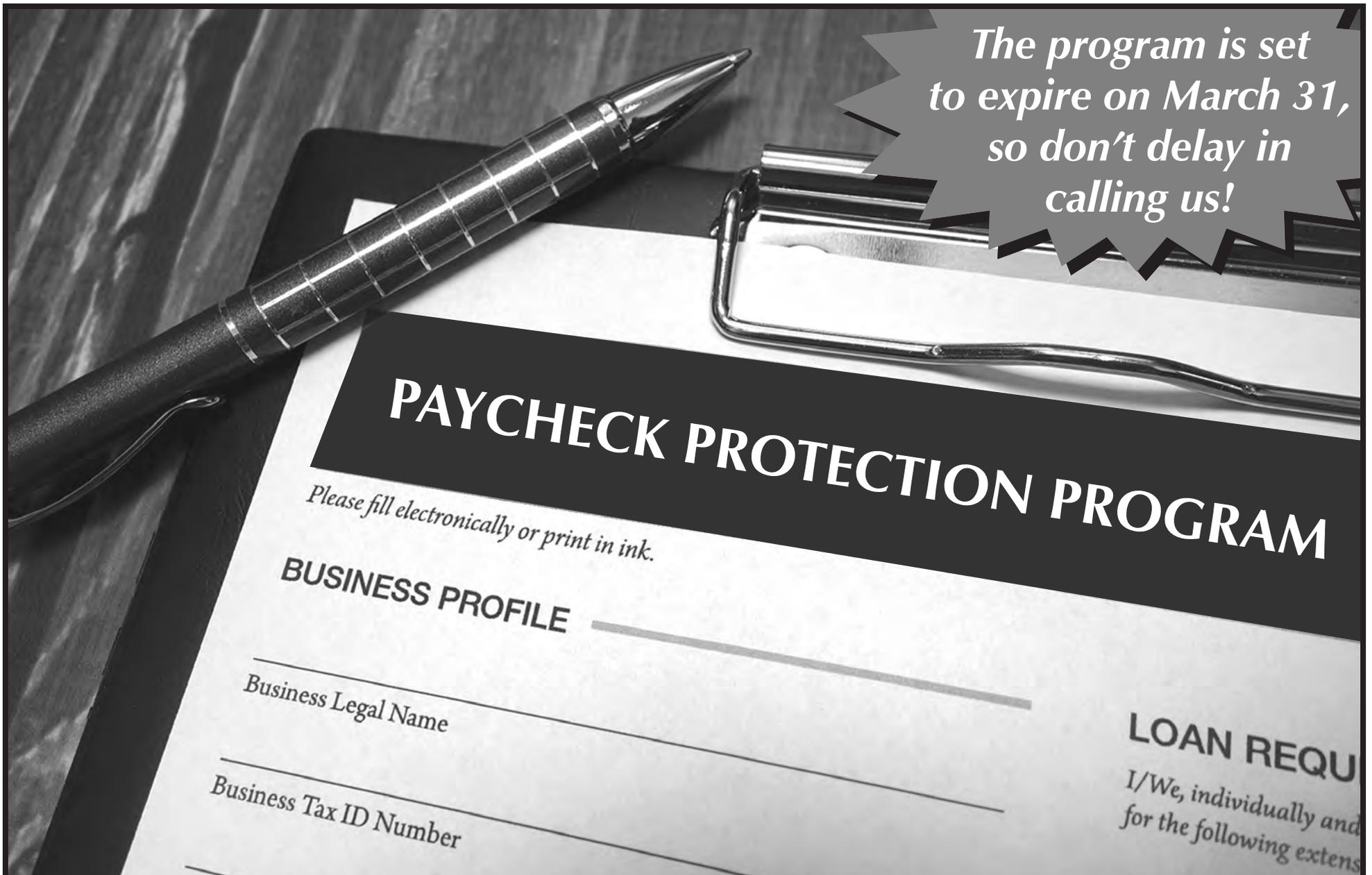
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