

Postal Customer ECRWSS

Volume 16 • Issue 4

A Dream Realized; Dundas Welcomes Little Village ELC

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Shortly after the birth of their first child, Tawna Schneider knew that childcare would forever be in her future. In order to stav home and be a full-time mom she opened her in-home daycare in December of 2010 in Northfield. In 2012 her growing family moved to Dundas and her daycare moved with it. With full support from her husband, Charles, Schneider has relished being able to stay home with their own children; Gavinn (12), MiaRae (10) and Savannah (7), while also creating an income and providing quality care to many families over the past 10 years.

undas

Schneider knew that she would eventually outgrow her in-home daycare and wanted to design a place that could offer more support and further learning opportunities for even more children.

(continued on page 3)



Cover Crop Project Expands into Wolf and Heath Creek Watersheds

Farmers, resource professionals, and scientists are working together to improve the water quality of local watersheds in northern Rice County. The Farmers Protecting Bridgewater Streams Project provides financial incentives to farmers to try cover crops. The project also includes monitoring of water exiting farm tile lines to track the improvement of water quality in local streams.

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"The Little Store with More!"

Dollar General Seeks to Reshape Small Towns

By Brian Depew SMALL TOWNS

Dollar General has become a ubiquitous feature of America's small towns. The discount retailer is opening new stores at a rate of 1,000 a year.

There are now more than 16,000 spread across the country, including two in the county where I live.

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DUNDAS

MINNESOTA

MAY, 2021

Seal Coating Scheduled

Pearson Bros, Inc. will be constructing the City's 2021 Seal Coat on the following streets the week of June 14:

Hester Street East Schilling Drive South All of Third Street North & South

Attn: Residents and Businesses • Hydrant Flushing

Check water before doing laundry • Lawn Water Restrictions begins

June 1 to September 15 -- EVEN ending address number water

on Even days -- ODD ending address number water

on Odd days

-- Homeowner Associations follow the odd-even sprinkling bans or set control to 50%

EXCEPTIONS - Newly seeded/sod areas

New trees and shrubs

PENALTY - \$50.00 after first warning • Pavilion at Memorial Park

Open for renting only on Saturday and Sunday

Check City's website for more information www.cityofdundas.org

City Council – Regular Meeting June 14 at 7:00p.m.

Park & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting June 8 at 7:00p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting June 17 at 7:00p.m.

Page 2

Religion

- DUNDAS MESSENGER -

Fear Not: Mom is Here!

What is one fear that mom helped you overcome? For me it would be the fear of performing—I was still scared, but she always came to my concerts, recitals and checked on my fair projects and she was proud of me—that made me want to continue to do those very things. How about you?

Angel Fiorini suffered horrific burns to her body to save her 3 children as their home burned to the ground – October 2016 She told People magazine, "I have a really strong desire to make a difference from all of this. My life wasn't just spared for no reason. It's something that gives me strength, knowing what I've overcome and what I've been able to fight through."

Angel faced her fear and against terrific odds was able to "save" her children. Most moms will never have to save their children from a house fire- but they are willing to lay their lives down for their children. You will find moms that will help a teenager study for the ACT long into the night, or sit with a child in their room until they go to sleep or until mom gets rid of the monster under their bed. Moms are asked to put their lives on hold for years as they care for their families instead of going after some of their dreams. In extraordinary circumstances Moms' will do what it takes to take care of their children.

This month we're celebrating our mothers- all mothers—we each have one. No matter how "heroic" each was- they brought us into this world and did their best to bring you up to become all that you can be. There was a woman in the bible by the name of Jochebed, she faced extraordinary times and had to make some tough decisions to save her son.

Jochebed and Amram were hiding their son because the Pharaoh had decreed that all baby boys born to the Hebrew people were to be killed as soon as they were born. Jochebed and her husband had no intention of drowning their infant son- but they had to do something. They kept him hidden for 3 months. I'm not sure how that worked a tiny baby can make a lot of noise! She must have picked him up at the sign of every whimper. The stress she and the family must have went through—3 months hiding their baby son. His brother and sister and father all must have been under a lot of stress wondering when the authorities would break through the doors and kill the little boy! Jochebed had to have times of intense fear that her son would be discovered and that he would be killed. After 3 months it got to be too difficult to hide him anymore- so now what? If they didn't come up with something he would be killed! Jochebed was an intelligent woman and quite industrious. I have no doubt God planted this plan in her mind- but she also had a strong faith and trusting spirit to listen. "she got a basket made of papyrus reeds and waterproofed it with tar and pitch. She put the baby in the basket and laid it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile River."

She made the basket waterproof and large enough for the 3-month-old baby boy. Jochebed thought long and hard—where to put this basket and how to make sure he would be safe. I have no doubt the placing of the basket in the area that Pharaoh's daughter bathed was strategic. She also trusted that that woman had the heart of a mother and wouldn't be able to resist a baby that needed rescuing!

Jochebed faced a number of fears that would be difficult for any of us and are similar in ways to the fears that women and men face in their lives. One fear we struggle with is our fear of the future. Jochebed had courage to face that fear and trust God to protect her son.

I've battled this fear over the years with my own children. As they matured and got older, I had to let them go and do and experience life on their own. There were times, especially in the spring when my son would leave and go and help at the farm and I would have to fight the fears that he would get hurt or killed or who knows—I had to release him even at age 14 I had to accept that I couldn't be with him every minute of every day.

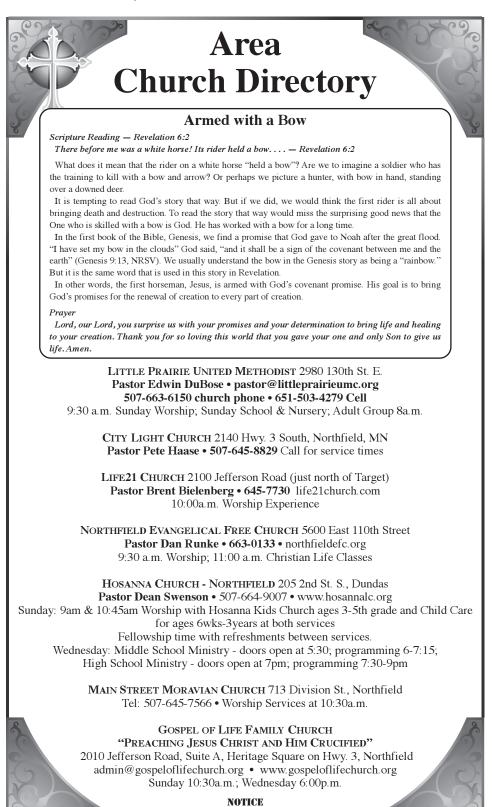
The truth is bad things do happen. I've lost a child through a freak accident; I know other families who have lost children or husbands in accidents or disease. I know there are times when people walk out the door for something routine and never return; but we can't live constantly worrying about a future that hasn't happened. We face a lot of fears, but the future is out of our control. We can choose not to live in fear of the future. God's Word is packed with sweet promises that smash all our fearful thinking. We can trust God with our circumstances and our loved ones. This



doesn't mean that everything will turn out exactly as we desire. This doesn't mean each prayer will be answered as we wish and we may not see the evidence of God's faithful hand until the end of our days, but we know it will be there.

People fear many things- getting old, getting fat, dying alone, being poor- These fears concern most of humankind as we age many of these fears become more debilitating too. All these fears- boil down to a lack of trust in our Heavenly Father. Jochebed- despite the very real possibility of her son being killed at any time for over 3 months, remained faithful. She kept trusting God had a plan and she obeyed the plan as it came to her. God blessed her faithfulness and continued to honor her devotion and trust in Him. God desires that we leave our anxious thoughts, our 'worries' at the cross and instead of worryingtrust in Him. He's got this! He loves us and those that we worry about even more

than we do. He never fails- and He will do what's best- we must only trust Him! Jochebed had to be willing to let go of control and leave her son at the mercy of Pharaoh's daughter. What are you hanging onto that needs to be laid out in the water? It's time to let go! It's time to put your complete faith and trust in God. He loves you and He will be with you... Philippians 4:6, "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." Just as Jochebed refused to worry about the future of her son- so we too can pray instead of worrying and leave the future in the Hands of God. He is faithful! Trust Him!



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

Community

- DUNDAS MESSENGER

A Dream Realized; Dundas Welcomes Little Village ELC

(continued from page 1)

In 2016, she went back to school and graduated cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in Education. This degree and the credentials that came with it finally allowed her to pursue her dream of opening her own childcare center.

During the summer of 2020, the Schneider family purchased the building on the curve in Dundas across from the post office. Previously known as the Dundas Dine and Dance, the police department and later on for housing a variety of offices, she saw the potential for this building to turn into the perfect place for her to begin her new endeavor. With help from her husband, Charles, children and many family, friends and contractors, Schneider began the construction process and what once seemed like a far-away dream quickly became a beautiful reality. In just a few short months; Little Village Early Learning Center was open for business!

The new childcare center boasts three

classrooms filled with colorful learning toys and creative crafts along with an abundant fenced-in play area in the backyard. Nutritional lunches are served daily and provided by Kahlo, a local small business. Often the children can be seen outside for daily walks and activities not only around Little Village, but also around the city of Dundas. Anyone who lives nearby can attest to the giggles and happy running of little feet as the children delivered handmade surprise May Day baskets to neighbors earlier this month!

While it has only been open and in full operation for a few short weeks, Schneider is excited and optimistic about the future. She's already planning for field trips and more learning opportunities for the children and is thoroughly enjoying seeing their long hours and hard work come to fruition.

Little Village ELC offers an intimate learning environment for children ages 6 weeks to 6 years. The Center is open Monday through Friday from 6:30am-5:00pm and is currently accepting enrollment. Call today at 507-301-3780 or go online to www.littlevillageelc.com for more information.



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Cover Crop Project Expands into Wolf and Heath Creek Watersheds

(continued from page 1)

The original project, known as the Farmers Protecting Rice Creek Project, began three years ago in the Rice Creek Watershed. Just west of Dundas, the Rice Creek Watershed is a small, subwatershed (about 3,900 acres) of the Cannon River Watershed and is Rice County's only self-sustaining trout stream.

The Rice SWCD and Cannon River Watershed Partnership teamed up with the Fishers and Farmers Partnership, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, University of Minnesota/Extension, St. Olaf College, and Compeer Financial to work with farmers to plant cover crops and improve the water quality of Rice Creek.

As a result of the project, producers have planted over 1,000 acres of cover crops in the past three years in the Rice Creek watershed. That's roughly thirty percent of the total farmland in the watershed planted to cover crops.

The results of this effort have had a huge impact on water quality. Scientists from St. Olaf College have sampled water leaving the outlets of farm field tile lines. The results show a consistent pattern that fields using cover crops have 28 percent less nitrates in the tile water than do fields without cover crops, and by 2020, nitrate concentration in Rice Creek was 41% less compared to 2013.

Using the momentum provided by the success of this project, landowners now have an unprecedented opportunity to further improve local water quality by joining the Farmers Protecting Bridgewater Streams Project.

"The expansion of the Farmers Protecting Bridgewater Streams Project will help us learn the benefits and effects of planting cover crops on water quality, and hopefully, we will be able to apply this knowledge on a larger watershed scale," said Steve Pahs from the Rice Soil and Water Conservation District.

"This is good news for improving water quality, and what is even better is many

farmers are seeing increased crop yields with the use of cover crops. Many of these same farmers are skipping spring tillage and planting soybeans into the live cover crop, which also saves time and money," Pahs added.

Farmers in Rice Creek, Wolf Creek, and Heath Creek watersheds may now apply for the Farmers Protecting Bridgewater Streams Cover Crop Incentive Program. The program provides incentive payments of up to \$35 per acre to try the cover crop practice for themselves. In addition, farmers in Rice Creek who have been receiving incentives can also get \$11 per acre to continue the use of cover crops.

Nitrate testing of tile lines will also be expanded into these new areas to monitor the change of nitrogen levels in tile water.

Farmers and landowners living in the project area can find out more about the expansion of project and the Farmers Protecting Bridgewater Streams Cover Crop Incentive Program at an informational meeting on Tuesday, June 15th at the L & M Bar & Grill in Dundas. The meeting will take place from 5:00 to 7:00 pm in the outdoor patio of the bar. Dinner and a free beverage will be served. Interested farmers and landowners should RSVP to the Rice Soil and Water Conservation District at 507-332-5408 or this link at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/information-

al-meeting-farmers-protecting-bridgewater-streams-project-tickets-153833882283. Attendees are asked to follow State and local mask guidelines when attending the event.

Landowners who are interested in trying cover crops on their farm may contact the Rice SWCD at 507-332-5408 to learn more about available programs to fund the practice. They also offer full-service custom interseeding, so farmers don't have to invest in equipment in order to plant cover crops. Learn more at the at district's website at www.riceswcd.org.



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Community

- DUNDAS MESSENGER

Dollar General Seeks to **Reshape Small** Towns

(continued from page 1)

The unmistakable concrete walls, steel roof, and bright yellow sign are now commonplace on the outskirts of small towns and stand out like palmer amaranth in a soybean field.

Many local economic developers see the discount retailer as a threat to local retail. Dollar General added limited groceries in 2003, posing a unique threat to local grocery stores, which often operate on tight margins.

Other economic developers argue Dollar General creates jobs and helps keep shoppers in town. I get it. In thousands of miles spent traversing the rural Midwest, I have found myself in small towns with no other retail or grocery options.

The irony is that this solution makes the situation worse with low-wage jobs, loss of local ownership, and loss of local tax revenue when other businesses close or fail to open because they cannot, or don't want to, compete with a corporate behemoth.

We must grow and nurture the communities we want to live in. Local ownership of small businesses, farms, and ranches makes communities stronger. Local owners care about their towns, neighbors, and customers.

When you shop at the local hardware store, the profit stays in town and builds the

local economy. At Dollar General, every dollar of profit goes to Wall Street. The company reported \$27.8 billion in sales in 2019, and its stock climbed 700% in 10 years.

Protecting our communities from these corporate interests is difficult, but here are a few strategies to consider.

End the common practice of awarding tax and development incentives to massive corporations. Dollar General is a highly profitable company. Subsidizing new stores is a cash transfer from local taxpayers to corporate shareholders.

Use local zoning codes to encourage good growth and discourage harmful businesses. A report available from the Institute for Local Self Reliance outlines zoning strategies to limit construction of box outlets like Dollar General.

Raise the minimum wage. The stagnant minimum wage is a subsidy we allow Dollar General to collect from the working poor. An increase will improve the lives of low-wage workers, and make Dollar General foot more of the real cost of labor.

Support local retail options when you can. We can each choose, when possible, to spend our retail dollars at stores that keep profit and ownership closer to home.

Write and call lawmakers to ask for stronger antitrust protections. While I am highlighting the case of Dollar General here, the same can be said about Walmart and now Amazon, too. Elsewhere in the rural economy multinational meatpackers, seed companies, and input suppliers have hammered local business.

In the Dollar General model, large corporations and their shareholders get rich while workers and communities suffer. There is an alternative. We must work together to create it.

Volunteers Needed for Painting and More!

Location: Rice County Historical Society Museum- 1814 NW 2nd Ave, Faribault Painting Volunteers are being sought by the Rice County Historical Society to help paint the Pleasant Valley, one-room schoolhouse located on its museum ground at the east end of the county fairgrounds.

The work was begun last summer by volunteers, RCHS Board members Pat O'Connor and Dennis Blackmer. More volunteers are needed to help them complete the job this summer. It started on Thursday, May 20, at 1pm but will continue throughout the summer. If interested, please give us a call at 507-332-2121.

Fair Volunteers Needed: The museum offers other volunteer opportunities and is always looking for new volunteers. During this summer's Rice County Fair, Wednesday, July 21 through Sunday, July 25, the Rice County Historical Society will have the schoolhouse, church, cabin, pioneer barn, and Heritage and Harvest Halls, as well as main museum, open to the public. Volunteers to supervisor those buildings during the fair are needed. Shifts are: noon to 4 p.m. and 4 to 8 p.m. No experience needed.

Anyone interested in helping paint the schoolhouse, volunteering at the fair, or learn of other volunteer opportunities, can call the RCHS Museum at 507-334-2121.

Share Your Good News with the Community! Submit your engagement, wedding or birth announcement. Email us at: hometownmessenger@gmail.com Dundas
Messenger



2021 PAVILION RENTAL GENERAL INFORMATION

• The 2021 Memorial Park Pavilion reservation season is only on weekends starting May 1 through September 26.

• Reservations will be accepted via phone at 507-645-2852 from Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Fridays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• Payment and required signed forms need to be submitted to City Hall with 5 days.

• The city will continue to closely monitor the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention

(CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines to inform all future decisions on Pavilion Rentals.

• All rental occupants must adhere to current public health guidance on event capacities, social distancing, and usage of face coverings.

• The city will continue to closely monitor the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines to inform all future decisions on Pavilion rental.

How to Reserve the Memorial Park Pavilion

• Reserving a Pavilion or Building: Due to ever-changing guidelines related to COVID-19, we cannot accept online reservations at this time. Please call 507-645-2852 or email cityhall@dunda.us for assistance. Phone reservation hours are Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. & Fridays 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Rental Cost and Deposit

Rentals include the cost of the Pavilion rental plus tax and a sanitizing fee. Please note two payments are needed to secure a reservation. The first is for the rental cost and sanitation fee of \$167.00 for the Pavilion and the other is for the deposit of \$150.00. The city only accepts checks/money orders or cash for payment.

• All Day: \$95.00 + \$7.00 (Sales tax)

• Sanitizing Fee: \$65.00

• Deposit: \$150.00 (separate check or cash)

Rental Sessions

Rentals for 2021 are only for Saturday and Sunday. Please note setup and cleanup need to be completed within your rental time of 7 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Steps to Rent the Pavilion 1. Call City Hall 507-645-2852 to secure your date.

2. Review, fill out, and sign the application and waiver

3. Submit forms to City Hall in person, by email cityhall@dundas.us (payment within 5 days or reservation is void)

4. Submit the two payments to City Hall to secure the rental

For Reservations Call: 507-645-2852 or visit website: www.cityofdundas.org

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Container Planting



It's the Rite of Spring! Container planting.... Wahooooooo We peruse our local garden centers giddy with anticipation of what we will find and create.

I created a video on Container plants with tips on root pruning, what the soil level (why does that matter?) should be and the three 'illers! Thrillers, fillers and spillers.

Your recipe for success: Thriller – big, bold and beautiful. This plant is the tallest and is your main accent. Could be outstanding foliage, fantastic flowers or both. btw, you can cut the flowers off of coleus... they don't really add much!

Filler – complimentary to your thriller, these plants are generally smaller flowers that can be monochromatic or contrasting flowers.

gordenbile ing flowers. Spiller – the trailing plants that tumble over your container to soften it. Great trailers include sweet potato vines, vincas and ivies.

A yellow/red canna with yellow celosia and purple torenia! PS, that grass overwintered! It adds a yellow/brown color and different texture to the planting

Proven Winners has some recipes if you're having trouble deciding. Here's the thing with these recipes... you won't likely be able to find all the specific plants listed but you can use this as a guide for color and sun/shade conditions.

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.



The Future of Farmland



So. MN Initiative Foundation

Many of the farmers that I know in southern Minnesota work on the same land that their parents, grandparents or even greatgrandparents farmed. Because of this, the farm is more than a parcel of land to grow crops or raise animals – it is a living piece of family history. At the same time, we are faced with the reality that the average farmer is close to retirement age, and that not everyone has an heir to transfer the land to when the time comes. Fortunately, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) has a program that can help farmers safeguard the legacy of their land while simultaneously giving back to their communities.

SMIF's Acres for Good program allows farmers to donate their land as a charitable gift. What makes this model unique is that rather than liquidate the asset as most charities do, SMIF retains the land and keeps it in production by a rental arrangement. This allows retiring farmers the peace of mind that their land will continue to be farmed. The landowner receives a tax deduction and bypasses capital gains tax while still being able to maintain a stable revenue source for life.

As the name suggests, the Acres for Good program is also a way to do good things for your community. The income stream from the land is used to support southern Minnesota communities well into the future. With more than \$7 billion of wealth in SMIF's region expected to transfer by 2030, this program can help retain that wealth locally while creating a unique opportunity for farmers to make a longlasting impact on rural Minnesota

Farmers will choose how they want to allocate their gift of land. It can go toward one of SMIF's 30 community foundations which invest in their communities through grants and programs. For a region-wide reach, farmers can allocate their land toward SMIF's general endowment, or SMIF's specific funds which support youth and entrepreneurs in the region. Farmers can even set up a Donor Advised Fund to allocate resources to their specific interests and values such as their place of worship, alma mater or local charity. We will work with farmers to make the process as simple as possible.

If you know a farmer who is thinking about estate planning, please let them know that there is a way their land can remain active farmland and provide them with a steady revenue stream, while in the longterm also benefitting the communities and causes they care about most. This is gifting with a purpose at its best – and SMIF is here to help.

To learn more about the Acres for Good program visit smifoundation.org/acresforgood or contact Alissa Oeltjenbruns, Philanthropy Officer, at 507-214-7023 or alissao@smifoundation.org.





Fri, May 28	Lake City Serpents	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sun, May 30	Hastings Hawks	Home	2 p.m.
Mon, May 31	Northfield Knights	Away	2 p.m.
Fri, June 4	Elko Express	Away	2 p.m.
Sat, June 5	Blaine Fusion	Away	6 p.m.
Sun, June 6	Forest Lake Brewers	Away	1 p.m.
Fri, June 11	Hampton Cardinals	Home	7:30 p.m.
	Presented by Merchants Bank		
Sun, June 13	Miesville Mudhens	Home	2 p.m.
Wed, June 16	New Market Muskies	Home	7:30 p.m.
Fri, June 18	Lake City Serpents	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sun, June 20	New Market Muskies	Away	2 p.m.
Wed, June 23	Lyon's Pub Warriors	Home	7:30 p.m.
Fri, June 25	Rochester Royals	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sun, June 27	Rochester Royals	Home	2 p.m.
Wed, June 30	Cannon Falls Bears	Away	7:30 p.m.
Fri, July 2	Red Wing Aces	Away	7:30 p.m.
Sun, July 4	Northfield Knights	Home	2 p.m.
Presented by Merchants Bank			
Wed, July 7	Eagan Bandits	Home	7:30 p.m.
Fri, July 9	Elko Express	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sun, July 11	Hampton Cardinals	Away	2 p.m.
Wed, July 14	Shakopee	Home	7:30 p.m.
Fri, July 16	Highland Park Beavers	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sun, July 18	Anoka Bucs	Home	2 p.m.
Wed, July 21	Austin Greyhounds	Home	7:30 p.m.
Fri, July 23	Minnetonka Millers	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sun, July 25	Miesville Mudhens	Away	2 p.m.
Fri, July 30	Faribault Lakers	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sun, August 1	1B Play In Game	TBD	2 p.m.
Sun, August 1	Forest Lake Brewers	Home	2 p.m.
Wed, August 4	St. Louis Park	Home	7:30 p.m.
Fri, August 6	1B Series (Gm 1)	TBD	8 p.m.
Sun, August 8	1B Series (Gm 2)	TBD	2 p.m.
Tue, August 10	1B Series (Gm 3)	TBD	8 p.m.
Fri, August 13	1B Seed Series	TBD	8 p.m.
Sun, August 15	1B Seed Series	TBD	2 p.m.

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Don't Let Incompetence Become Your Titanic



By Harvey Mackay

The Titanic was state-of-the art. No expense had been spared to make sure that it would be unsinkable. The officers were unconcerned by their inability to get accurate information on possible hazards which might lie in its course.

The ship had two lookouts on its masts, but they had no binoculars. The crew could see far enough ahead to react to danger, but unbelievably they had no way to get that information to the captain if they did see a problem approaching.

And we all know what happened. The unsinkable ocean liner went to her death, along with most of her passengers on her maiden voyage – the victim of a disastrous collision with an iceberg.

Disasters like this can happen in business also if we aren't careful to make sure vital intelligence doesn't get swallowed up by internal bureaucracy and inattention to detail.

Most of you have probably heard of the Peter Principle, a management concept developed by Dr. Laurence Peter. It observes people in a hierarchy rise to a level of incompetence. They dont start out as incompetent, but rather are promoted until they reach a level of respective incompetence.

An obvious solution to the Peter Principle is for companies to provide training for employees before they receive a promotion to ensure they are qualified for the job for which they are being promoted.

For example, Ive seen many outstanding sales representatives promoted to sales manager when they dont have any experience developing business plans, setting sales quotas and sales plans, analyzing data, mentoring a sales force, hiring and firing and so on.

Besides a lack of training, there are numerous other factors resulting in incompetence in the workplace, such as sheer laziness, poor communication and lack of people skills.

People are lazy for a variety of reasons from Covid fatigue to reliance on technology. People become sloppy in checking their work and thus make multiple mistakes. They show up late for work and often dont look professional when they do. Waiting until the last minute to get assignments done can also be a sign of laziness.

(continued on page 7)



May, 2021

Harvey Mackay

- DUNDAS MESSENGER -

Don't Let Incompetence Become Your Titanic

(continued from page 6)

The most basic yet crucial leadership skill is communication, yet many people struggle with giving clear instructions. To make communication really work, we have to make sure the people were talking with understand what we are saying as well as we do. Communication requires both effective sending and receiving. To avoid a breakdown in communications, break down your message so that everyone can understand it.

From time to time, its a good idea to reevaluate your performance in these fundamental areas: speaking, listening, writing, leading meetings and resolving conflict. Talk is cheap, but misunderstandings can be costly.

Communication ranks high among top people skills, but incompetent people also lack social skills like patience, politeness, sympathy and teamwork.

They are often rude, overbearing, hotheaded, tactless and have trouble getting along with others.

Many companies have had to reduce costs,



which puts a heavy burden on otherwise competent employees by spreading them too thin. Where possible, managers should consider outsourcing or hiring contractors to take away some of the burden. Those costs will be money well-spent.

Other companies hire people and expect too much, too soon. Hiring is much more than filling an open position. Not everyone hits the ground running. People grow at various speeds. Help them prove their competence by setting clear, achievable goals. If they fail, the fault may lie more in the hiring process than the employees lack of skills. Incompetence in one area doesnt necessarily carry over. We all have strengths and weaknesses. The balance between the two often determines the perception of competence. Build on your strengths but dont ignore your weaknesses.

Lets face it, everyone has had an incompetent moment or two or three in their lifetime. That includes me. When I was starting my envelope manufacturing company many years ago, I worked many long, long days. One night when I got home late again, my very pregnant wife Carol Ann, told me that the light in the hallway wasnt working. I flipped the switch and sure enough, no light. I thought there was a short in the switch or something, so I called our electrician.

He fixed the problem early the next morning, handed me the bill and said, This is the first time Ive ever made a house call to change a light bulb!

Mackays Moral: The time to right the ship is before incompetence becomes impossible.

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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DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Monday, April 26, 2021 7:00 p.m. Dundas City Hall

Present: Mayor Glen Switzer; Councilors: Larry Fowler, Grant Modory, Luke LaCroix, Luke Swartwood

Absent: Councilor Grant Modory

Staff Present: City Engineer John Powell, Attorney Jared Shepherd, City Planner Nate Sparks, Administrator/Clerk Jenelle Teppen, Deputy Clerk Linda Ripka

CALL TO ORDER

/PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE Mayor Switzer called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC FORUM – No public input

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Fowler, second by Swartwood, to approve the agenda with addition of holding a Public Hearing. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU)

PRESENTATION City Planner Nate Sparks Updated Comprehensive Plan

Planner Nate Sparks (NAC) reviewed the process taken by the Planning Commission, including public input as part of updating the Comprehensive Plan for Dundas. He reviewed the Community Survey noting overall themes were; independent, historic, small town atmosphere, employment, single family, Cannon River, parks and trails, efficient government and rural context. He stated from the theme the City Vision was incorporated: Dundas is an independent, historic small town with unique natural characteristics that provides a quality residential atmosphere with ample employment and commercial opportunities. Sparks reviewed policies and natural resources. He compared the existing land use map with future land use noting the areas of changes especially the look of the downtown area.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by LaCroix, second by Fowler, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Regular Minutes of April 12, 2021; Disbursement Report - \$424,054.82.

MCU

OLD BUSINESS - No old business was brought before Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS Resolution 2021-12 A Resolution Acknowledging and Reactivating the Dundas Economic Development Authority

Administrator Teppen reviewed the purpose of the Economic Development Authority (EDA), responsibility of the EDA, setting a budget for 2022, and responsibilities moving forward.

Motion by Fowler, second by LaCroix, to approve Resolution 2021-12. MCU

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approving Quote and Awarding Contract for Replacement of Memorial Park Playground Equipment

Administrator Teppen stated four quotes were received under budget and the Park & Recreation Advisory Board reviewed with recommendation to accept Minnesota/Wisconsin Playground Option 2 as it provides the most variety for various ages. She stated if order is placed now, the installation would be complete by July 30, 2021 and does include engineered wood fiber. She stated current area will need to be expanded to accommodate the new equipMotion by Swartwood, second by Fowler, to approve Option 2 and award to MN WI Playground contract for replacing Memorial Park playground equipment at a

ment.

cost not to exceed \$53,000. MCU Consider Approving Water Meter Technology Update

City Engineer Powell stated the City needs to upgrade to a new technology system for reading water meters and reviewed the features of the upgrade. He stated the technology is cellular in capturing the read and features include notification of any alert showing a spike of water usage, which the owner can also access via a smartphone. He stated the public works department would install the new meters. He reviewed the costs and funding for the meters with installation occurring over the next three to five years.

Motion by LaCroix, second by Fowler, to approve implementation of updating water meter technology. MCU

PUBLIC HEARING Easement Vacations Related to Re-platting Bridgewater Heights

Open Hearing: Mayor Switzer opened the public hearing at 7:52 p.m. to consider application for public easement vacations related to the re-platting of a portion of Bridgewater Heights into Tower Heights associated with an approved preliminary plat as submitted by Fenway Land Company.

Motion by Switzer, second by Fowler, to table the public hearing until the next Council meeting, May 10, 2021 at or near 7:00 p.m. MCU

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Administrator – Jenelle Teppen Teppen reported City of Northfield stated TSS levels are high and Public Works unable to locate source coming and referred to City Engineer to assist finding the source and developing a plan to address them. Mayor, Councilors and Committees

Councilor Swartwood inquired if current Memorial Park playground equipment could be used elsewhere with Engineer Powell stating the current playground equipment would not meet safety standards. Mayor Switzer called for an Economic Development Authority (EDA) meeting for Monday, May 10th at 6:00 p.m.

WORK SESSION Review and Discuss Proposed

Residential Parking Notification

Administrator Teppen reviewed the summary from the Council meeting of March 22 along with history relating to off-street parking and the Code Section §154.067. Discussion of existing gravel driveways concluded with removal from reference in letter.

ADJOURN

Motion by LaCroix, second by Fowler, to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:36 p.m. MCU

Submitted by: Jenelle Teppen, City Administrator Attest: Glenn Switzer, Mayor

DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES Monday, May 10, 2021 7:00 p.m. Dundas City Hall UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Local Government

Present: Mayor Glen Switzer; Councilors: Larry Fowler, Grant Modory, Luke LaCroix, Luke Swartwood

Staff Present: City Engineer John Powell, Attorney Jared Shepherd, Administrator/Clerk Jenelle Teppen, Deputy Clerk Linda Ripka

CALL TO ORDER/

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Switzer called the Council meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mike Johnson of 102 1st Street South expressed concern on the speed of vehicles on First Street.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Modory, second by Fowler, to approve the agenda. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU)

PRESENTATION

Dennis Luebbe - Rice County Highway Engineer

Luebbe presented a map and plans for the proposed Rice County north-south corridor. He reported the County Board has given approval to move forward with the corridor study involving Decker Avenue with Dundas input. He reviewed the County's responsibility and authority relating to the corridor. Luebbe reviewed history of the planning process that started in 2006. He stated the plan is to have some budget numbers in the coming months as there would be a request for the City of Dundas to share in the cost of the study.

Commissioner Malecha stated the corridor is part of Decker Avenue which has out-

grown its capacity to handle the increased traffic and needs an updated traffic plan involving the County Road 1 corridor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Swartwood, second by LaCroix, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Regular Minutes of April 26, 2021; Disbursement Report - \$169,763.53. MCU

PUBLIC HEARING (continuance)

Application for Easement Vacations Related to Re-platting of a portion of Bridgewater Heights into Tower Heights

Motion by Switzer, second by Modory, to remove from the table the Public Hearing. MCU

Re-Open Public Hearing: Mayor Switzer reopened public hearing at 7:23 p.m. to consider application for public easement vacations related to the re-platting of a portion of Bridgewater Heights into Tower Height associated with an approved preliminary plat as submitted by Fenway Land Company.

Staff Presentation: Attorney Shepherd stated the easement vacations will be approved as a resolution. Administrator Teppen stated with the re-platting the easements are no longer needed.

Applicant Presentation: None

Public Comment: None

Motion by LaCroix, second by Swartwood, to closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m. MCU

(continued on page 9)

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Local Government

- DUNDAS MESSENGER -

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought before Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS **Resolution 2021-13 A Resolution** Approving an Easement Vacation Associated with the Tower Heights

Final Plat

Motion by Modory, second by LaCroix, to approve Resolution 2021-13. MCU

Resolution 2021-14 A Resolution Approving a Final Plat for Tower Heights

Administrator Teppen stated the Planning Commission reviewed the preliminary plat with recommendation to Council to approve Final Plat. Attorney Shepherd request change in resolution.

Motion by LaCroix, second by Swartwood, to approve Resolution 2021-14 with change as recommended by attorney. MCU

Ordinance 2021-06 An Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter §154.188: **Procedures for Filing and Review**

Administrator Teppen stated the City Code requires the Planning Commission to review a final plat application and explained the only review criteria is it is consistent with the preliminary plat approval. She stated the final plat review is typically simple and by State Statute is to be done within 60 days. She indicated the Planning Commission approved recommending the change to Council.

Motion by Modory, second by Switzer, to approve Ordinance 2021-06 and the Summary Ordinance for publication. MCU

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approving Development Contract and Planned Unit Development Agreement for Bridgewater Heights -**Tower Heights**

Administrator Teppen stated the Development Contract and Agreement has been reviewed by staff and Fenway Land Company along with receipt of the Letter of Credit. Mayor Switzer expressed concern on traffic control and the unfinished 115th Street. Engineer Powell stated it will be six months before a plan is completed for 115th Street.

Motion by Modory, second by Swartwood, to approve the Development Contract and Planned Unit Development Agreement for Bridgewater Heights-Tower Heights. MCU

Consider Accepting the First Quarter 2021 Financial Report

Jean McGann of AEM presented first quarter 2021 Financial Report noting the first half property taxes and state aid funds have not been received and that is reflected across the budget. She reviewed investments and distribution.

Motion by Modory second by Swartwood, to accept the First Quarter 2021 Financial Report as presented by consulting firm Abdo, Eick & Meyers LLP. MCU

Renewal for Off Sale Intoxicating Liquor License

AJE Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a Firehouse Liquor

Motion by Switzer, second by Fowler, to approve the renewal for Off Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for AJE



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Northfield • 507-663-0003 www.holdenfarms.com Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Firehouse Liquor at 607 Stafford Road North for the period July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. MCU

Four Browns, LLC d/b/a MGM Wine and Spirits

Motion by Switzer, second by LaCroix, to approve the renewal for Off Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for Four Browns, LLC d/b/a MGM Wine and Spirits at 420 Schilling Drive North for the period July1, 2021, to June 30, 2022

Renewal for Wine On-Sale CABB II, LLC d/b/a/ Cannon Valley Cinema 10

Motion by Switzer, second by Swartwood, to approve the renewal for Wine On-Sale for CABB II, LLC d/b/a Cannon Valley Cinema 10 at 404 Schilling Drive North Unit 3 for the period July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. MCU

Renewal for 3.2 Beer On-Sale CABB II, LLC d/b/a/ Cannon Valley

Cinema 10 Motion by Switzer, second by Fowler, to approve the renewal for 3.2 Beer On-Sale for CABB II, LLC d/b/a Cannon Valley Cinema 10 at 404 Schilling Drive North Unit 3 for the period July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. MCU

Renewal for 3.2 Beer Off-Sale

Kwik Trip Inc d/b/a Kwik Trip #489 Motion by Switzer, second by LaCroix, to approve the renewal for 3.2 Beer Off-Sale for Kwik Trip, Inc. d/b/a Kwik Trip #489 at 415 Hester Street East for the period July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. MCU

Renewal for Combination On-Sale/Off -Sale Intoxicating Liquor License and for

Special Sunday On-Sale License Lyle and Pauline's, Inc., d/b/a L&M Bar and Grill

Motion by Switzer, second by Fowler, to approve the renewal for Combination On-Sale/Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License and Special Sunday On-Sale Licenses for Lyle and Pauline's Inc. d/b/a L&M Bar and Grill at 224 Railway Street North for the period July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022. MCU

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Administrator – Janelle Teppen Teppen stated due to no agenda items, the Planning Commission meeting for May 20 is cancelled.

Teppen stated a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19 at 9:00 a.m. with Bridgewater Township as they would like to amend the Annexation Agreement.

WORK SESSION

Blake Torbeck of AEM stated he will be working on the 2022 budget the next few months with Council. He reviewed the process, time line, and request for priority goals.

Councilor Modory and Mayor Switzer requested having a five-year financial proiection.

ADJOURN

Motion by Modory, second by Swartwood, to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:11 p.m. MCU Submitted by:

Jenelle Teppen, City Administrator Attest: Glenn Switzer, Mayor



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Changes in Latitudes, **Changes in Attitudes**



By Terry Campbell This column is written by Messenger editor and Minnesota native Terry Campbell. Terry now splits his time between Minnesota when its warm here and Tennessee when it's cold here.

I like to watch birds. All kind of birds. They have an incredible ability to fly and sing, neither are things I can do. This morning I looked out the front door and there were a couple robins on the porch. The one closest had its head tucked in and feathers quite ruffled. I had never seen one sleep that close to the house. But when I opened the door, it didn't fly away with the other, but moved to the end of the railing. As I got closer it then fluttered off the porch to the ground and hopped away.

I let my dog out in the yard and when I walked around the deck the robin was still hopping along the ground, but seemed a little distressed. My chocolate lab, Sable, always comes out of the door in the morning like a jet taking off. As she circled the house for the first time came tearing by and the robin tried to fly away but sort of crash landed after a few feet, with the dog run-

A Minnesotan: Third Winter



By RosaLin Alcoser

The thing that we all know about spring in Minnesota is that the weather can literally do anything. April 2021 alone went from being in the 70's on Easter Sunday to shifting into the third winter. Because after all we already had the first and second winter; how could we even live without a third winter? That would just be unheard of and unthinkable!

The point is that anything can happen in Minnesota's spring months. It can be snowing one day and 100 degrees the next; well maybe not 100 degrees but it ning right over top of the hapless bird. I picked the bird up, and set it in the box of the Gator so the dogs wouldn't be tempted to harass it. They are retrievers after all, and bringing me a feathered prize would be quite in character for them. The robin weakly looked at me and huddled up in the Gator box in a defeated and disheveled manner.

When I came back to the Gator, the bird was laying there dead. I imagined his friend had stayed by him through the night knowing the end was near. Maybe he was an old robin and the cold winter was just too much. It was sad to ponder the end of the bird, once sailing through the air with such freedom and singing merrily to welcome each new day. But as I thought about it, I was also reminded of hope. God watches even the birds and not one of them can die without Him knowing it.



can get quite warm.

I remember in May of 2012 it went from being alright weather in the mid to lower 50s to snowing on Mother's Day weekend.

The reason I remember it is because that Mother's Day weekend is also the weekend that I went to junior prom in the snow. The snow that weekend made for many memorable photos for a lot of my peers that year. Alot of people posted Facebook photos that weekend of them dressed up for prom and playing in the snow.

I on the other hand was posed in front of a dead lilac bush; that had been in full bloom the Mother's Day weekend the year before. I remember it being cold, windy and a bit awkward standing on a shoveled off strip of brown grass in front of this dormant bush for photos.

While I am sure that 2012 was not the only Mother's Day snow that I or any of us have seen it is definitely one that sticks in my mind because of that bush. With any hope the good weather that we have seen at the end of April will be sticking with us for the rest of this spring and lead us into the summer months... or it will snow mid May because it's Minnesota and it has to do a fourth winter this year.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY IDEA? E-mail: hometownmessenger@gmail.com



Dear Savvy Senior,

What are the best Medicare coverage options for COVID-vaccinated retirees who are eager to travel? My wife and I will both turn 65 over the next few months and would like to know which Medicare plans are best for extensive travelers. --Almost 65

Dear Almost,

The best Medicare plans for retirees who plan to travel will vary depending on your destinations. But, before you book a trip make sure you know the current CDC COVID-19 travel recommendations (see CDC.gov/coronavirus/ 2019-ncov/travelers), and research your destinations too so you can know if restrictions apply wherever you're going.

Medicare Review

Before we dissect how Medicare works for travelers, let's start with a quick review of your different Medicare options.

One option is original Medicare, which covers (Part A) hospital services and (Part B) doctor's visits and other medical services.

If you choose original Medicare, you may also want to get a Medicare (Part D) prescription drug plan (if you don't already have coverage) to cover your medications, and a Medicare supplemental (Medigap) policy to help pay for things that aren't covered by Medicare like copayments, coinsurance and deductibles.

Or, you could get a Medicare Advantage (Part C) plan instead, which is sold through private insurance companies, and covers everything original Medicare covers, plus many plans also offer prescription drug coverage and extra services like vision, hearing and dental care all in one plan.

To help you evaluate your options contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see ShiptaCenter.org), which provides free Medicare counseling.

You can also shop and compare Medicare health and drug plans and Medicap policies at Medicare.gov/find-a-plan.

Also note that whatever Medicare plans you choose to enroll in, if you find that they are not meeting your needs or your needs change, you can always switch to a different plan during the open enrollment period, which is between Oct. 15 and Dec. 7.

U.S. Travel

If you and your husband are planning to travel domestically, original Medicare may be the better option because it provides coverage everywhere in the U.S. and its territories as long as the doctor or hospital accepts Medicare.

Medicare Advantage plans, on the other hand, which have become very popular among new enrollees may restrict your coverage when traveling throughout the U.S. This is because most Medicare Advantage plans are HMOs or PPOs and require you to use doctors, hospitals and pharmacies that are in the plan's network within a service area or geographic region. So, if you're traveling outside that area you may need to pay a higher fee, or your services may not be covered at all.

If you do decide to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan, be sure you check the benefit details carefully to see what costs and rules apply when traveling outside your service area.

Traveling Abroad

If you're planning to travel abroad much, a Medicare Advantage plan may be a better option because many Advantage plans today offer emergency care coverage outside the U.S. But be sure you check before you choose a plan because not all plans offer it.

Original Medicare, on the other hand does not provide coverage outside the U.S. and its territories except in rare circumstances (see Medicare.gov/ coverage/travel), and Medicare drug plans will not cover prescription drugs purchased outside the U.S. either.

But if you do choose original Medicare, you can still get some coverage abroad through a Medigap policy. Plans D, G, M and N plans will pay for 80 percent of medically necessary emergency care outside the U.S. to new enrollees, but only for the first 60 days of the trip, and you have to meet an annual \$250 deductible first. There's also a lifetime limit of \$50,000, so you'd need to cover any costs above that amount.

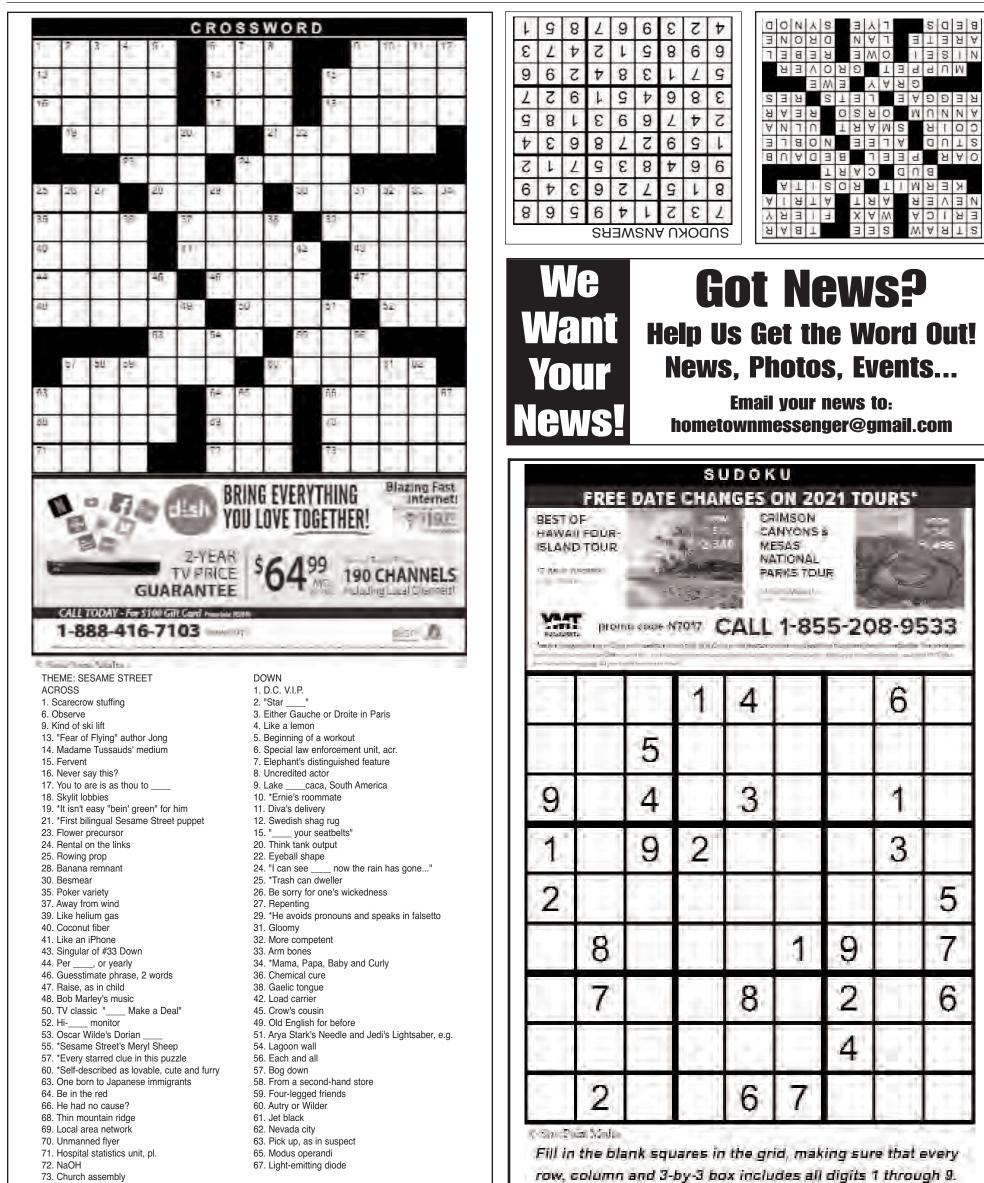
Some beneficiaries, regardless of their Medicare coverage, purchase travel medical insurance for trips abroad, which you can shop for at InsureMyTrip.com or SquareMouth.com.

May, 2021

Entertainment

Page II

- DUNDAS MESSENGER



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