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K-W School Looks to Pass Third Operating Levy



The K-W school board is hoping the third time is the charm with a passage of an operating levy. The existing operating levy of \$296 per pupil will expire at the end of the year. The school district attempted to pass an operating levy in 2019 to replace the current one but it failed at the ballot box. They tried again in 2020 with a failed result as well, with about 60% of voters against the increase.

The district made a number of cuts to the budget last year in order to stay out of statutory operating debt. The district is currently operating at a 2.31% general fund deficit. If the negative number hits 2.5% the state would enact strict budget restraints and possibly with hold state aid if improvement was not seen. The district budget has held steady with the end of the fiscal year only weeks away, but there needs to be progress toward increasing the budget reserve.

The school board is looking at a public survey to gauge the sentiment for a fall vote



on a ten-year operating levy referendum. Without the additional funding, it is obvious



deeper cuts would have to be made to balance the budget.

Announcements

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

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

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

Do you have an announcement?

Email:

hometownmessenger@gmail.com



It is hot and the Kenyon Swimming Pool is open

Open swim hours are from 12:30pm to 4 p.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; and 12:30pm to 4 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Family/daycare swim is 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday in the small pools only, with lifeguard on duty. Cost is \$1.00

Friday night is one-dollar Fun Night from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Water aerobics are 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; and 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. There are no evening water aerobics July 12 through 16

Lap swim/adult swim is 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

(continued on page 6)



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Stand Firm

When we think of something strong and immovable, we don't think of jello, do we? Jello wiggles: it's soft, it's squishy- but we don't think of it as something firm- a foundational material. We wouldn't use gelatin to set the walls in our basements- we would use cement. Cement sets up solid and unmovable. That's why we use it for foundations, for holding our posts in, for setting up our swing sets or our basketball poles- we want something that is going to hold and to stay firm.

It's important for believers to have a solid foundation for their faith as well. It is impossible to grow our faith and become the person that God has created us to be if our faith is wiggly- or wavering. Paul said "thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." 1 Corinthians 15:57-58.

Paul says, THANKS be to GOD- He gives us victory!!! Victory- who doesn't want to be victorious. What does Jesus give us victory over? Jesus defeated death. Jesus died on the cross- laid in the tomb for 3 days and He rose victorious out of the grave! That's power!!! That's a miracle! That's Jesus! Paul has corrected, disciplined, encouraged, loved, and he has come to the end of his letter. He wants to leave them encouraged, empowered, and hopeful for the future. Thanks be to God!!" Jesus gives us victory through His mercy and grace. He gives us victory over death and over sin. Jesus didn't leave us with 'Jello' type promises, he gives us cement to build our lives on. The unswerving, unchanging, unwavering truth of Jesus Christ- HIS Word and we hold it here in our hands!

The prophet Elijah challenged the people of Israel, "How long will you waver between two opinions?" You can find this story in 1 Kings chapter 18. The definition of waver is: a) shake with a quivering motion. b) become unsteady or unreliable. c) be undecided between two opinions or courses of action. Kind of sounds like a date night, 'honey where would you like to go, oh I don't care- where would you like to go? I don't care- you pick. I really don't care either you pick! That can go on for a while. We're so busy trying to please someone else that we are missing the importance of making a choice and sticking to it. In choosing a restaurant- probably not a big deal- but in regard to our faith: it can have eternal implications. We can't be wishy washy about our faith and our life. Alexander Hamilton said, "Those who stand for nothing fall for anything." The people of Israel were worshiping an idol by the name of Baal- Elijah challenged the people- and Paul challenges you and me: it's time to choose!

We admire people that have stood firm despite terrible opposition: Dietrich Bonhoeffer stood firm in his faith. His is a story of faith, of conviction, of standing firm in his beliefs- and was willing to die for those beliefs too. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor during the Nazi regime. He spoke out against Hitler's policies, especially of the extermination of the Jews. He also worked against Hitler and his Nazi party. Dietrich was arrested and 2 days before the Allies arrived, he was executed for his unwavering faith and his belief that all Hitler stood for was diametrically opposed to the laws of Jesus Christ.

Paul wrote, "Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." We are called to give ourselves fully to the work of the Lord. Dietrich understood that- he gave himself totally and sacrificially to the work that God had called him to do. He was willing to give his all to the work that Christ called him to do.

God's calling is different for each of us- and even during our lifetimes our calling will change or morph into something different. And to us it may seem like a different direction, but all along the way, God uses those circumstances, those learning experiences to prepare us for what He has called us to in the future. Because of the experiences that I have went through in my life, I am better able to relate to people in similar journeys. The day I laid my all on the altar- was the day that truly began my life- I did become a new creature in Christ- a new person- filled with the Holy Spirit's power to live a new life.

God is calling you. He is calling each of us. He isn't calling all of us to be pastors, or theologians, or teachers, or missionaries, or even to be activists, but He is calling us to be fully devoted followers of Jesus. He is calling us into the workplace, into the schools, into our homes and into our communities. When we walk with Christ- that's what it is- a walk- a life- it isn't a sprint- it's a marathon. We are all called to be fully devoted followers to whatever he has called us- we can become 'marketplace missionaries.' This is a term being used more and more to describe men and women that don't leave their faith at church or on the shelf in their bedroom, but men and

women that live their faith in the workplace. They share their faith stories and invite others to join them in following Jesus.

Only God is God, and He alone knows what is best for us. He alone is the path to life, love, and victory. God is calling you. God desires you to fully follow Him. To put aside all the distractions, to lay aside your plans and be totally on board with His plans for you. Will he send you to deepest darkest Africa? maybe or maybe not. He will send you to work; to go and tell, to love Him with all you heart, soul, and mind. If Jesus is Lord of your life "Follow Him" if Baal- is your god- follow him. Time to choose: No More JELLO!


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Ann Traxler Attorney

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Summer Worship Times

During the summer months, the Vang and Dennison Lutheran Parish has one service. In June the service will be at Vang.
In July it will be in Dennison.
June 16 - Vang, 9:00 am; June 20 - Vang, 9:00 am
June 27 - Vang, 9:00 am; July 4 - Dennison, 9:00 am
July 11 - Dennison, 9:00 am; July 18 - Dennison, 9:00 am
July 25 - Dennison, 9:00 am

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Seeing and Welcoming

Scripture Reading — Hebrews 11:1-2, 13-16
They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance.
— Hebrews 11:13

Hebrews 11 gives us a glance in the Bible's rearview mirror. The faithful witnesses mentioned in this chapter lived long ago, even before Jesus came. And they had this in common: they all lived by faith in God's promises. And before they died and were taken to live with the Lord, "They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance."

"Seeing from a distance" is how we can describe the sights, sounds, and scenes in the book of Revelation. Revelation 11 closes with a scene in which all heaven rejoices and gives thanks to God because "the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah." It is a powerful picture of God reigning on earth as in heaven. And the promise is that "he will reign for ever and ever." Hallelujah!

With eyes of faith, we can see this "from a distance." Close-up in the world around us, though, we often see terrible things such as cancer, COVID-19, poverty, racism, violence, addiction, and death. And there are times when these appalling things make us weep. At such times, faith is the Holy Spirit's muscle that enables us to see "from a distance."

Faith also welcomes the future of God's full kingdom today. Faith has this power because it is "confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."



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Father Cory Rohlfing
Deacon Newell McGee
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Sunday Mass 8:00a.m.
Wednesday Mass 5:00p.m.

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

Barbara A. Schaller

Barbara Ann Schaller, 89, of Kenyon, died Sunday, May 30, 2021 at her residence at Gunderson Gardens in Kenyon.



Barbara Ann Quam was born August 9, 1931, to Gerhard and Alma (Lee) Quam. She was baptized and confirmed at Dale Lutheran Church. She graduated from Kenyon High school in 1949. She played piano and organ professionally including the Rochester Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, accompanied the Rochester Male Chorus, St. Mary's Nurses' Chorus, Rochester Methodist Nurses' Chorus, as well as the annual Handel's Messiah Mixed Chorus and Orchestra concerts. She married Bill Stamm in November, 1956 and moved to Minneapolis. They were later divorced.

Her work experiences include working for VP at the Star Tribune and President of Guthrie Theatre and Walker Art Center, EVP of Operations at Control Data. She married Dan Schaller in 1971 and moved to Tucson, AZ. In Tucson, she worked for Learjet. She moved back to Minnesota in 1981 when her brother Jim was ill. Happy to be back with family and working as administrative assistant to Chairman of the Bd/CEO of ETA, a supercomputer sub of Control Data; then as coordinator of customer visits at ETA for domestic and international corporations and government dignitaries - fun working with multiple cultures. It was as honor caring for mother at her home in Kenyon for 3 years 1997-2000 and during that time worked part-time at First Lutheran Church. She worked at R.C. Smith Company in Burnsville from 2001 to 2007.

Barbara volunteered at the B. Robert Lewis Shelter for women and children in Eagan many years, both before and after living in AZ, and also as a volunteer encouraging and supporting 3rd grade students at Willard, an inner city (Mpls) school. She also volunteered with the Community Care Lay Ministries at Prince of Peace Lutheran in Burnsville.

Barb enjoyed the cultural offerings of the Twin Cities' music, theatre, sports, and dining events. Her travels in the U.S. and

Europe, along with family sporting events, school and church programs were special highlights throughout the years.

She is survived by sister, Sharon Ness of Red Wing; brother-in-law, David Wetzstein of West Concord; nieces and nephews, Kim (Dale) Urban of Dodge Center; Mark Wetzstein, Steve (Karen) Wetzstein, Greg (Katie) Ness all of West Concord, Teresa (Mark) Van de Sande of Hudson, WI, Elayne (Bobby) Thomson, Kathy (David) Thomson, Gary (Kim) Quam all of Boston, MA; Connie (Tom) Cirkl, Jerry (Sue) Quam, Jay (Sue) Quam, Jesse (Jeannie) Quam, Cammie (Walid) Nakib, all of the Twin Cities area; many great nieces and nephews and other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by parents; brothers, James and Gerald Quam, sister, Nancy Wetzstein, nephew, Jeffrey Quam, infant niece, Vicki Lee Ness and infant nephew, Baby Boy Ness; sister-in-law, Hazel Quam and special cousin, Sybil Quam Brown.

A Memorial Service will be held at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kenyon on Saturday, June 12, 2021, at 10:30 AM with visitation one hour prior. Pastor Julie Rogness will officiate. Inurnment will be in Dale Lutheran Cemetery, rural Kenyon.

Audrey Jean (Kindseth) Nesseth

Audrey Jean (Kindseth) Nesseth died peacefully at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester on May 1, 2021. True to form, she went out on her terms, waiting for her family to go to lunch, once again proving that she was in charge. She was born on



December 30, 1927 to Albin and Genevieve Kindseth. She grew up on a farm in Bombay township just outside Kenyon. There she developed a strong work ethic that she carried throughout her life. Audrey graduated from Kenyon High School in 1945. She met her husband, Orest, on a blind date. The two were married in 1948, had six children, and made Kenyon their lifelong home. Family was always important to her and she was the rock of the family.

Audrey worked for the Finseth Law Office as a secretary before starting her career at the Kenyon Tax Service with her partner, Donnie Hanson. She was an active member of First Lutheran Church, especially proud of her time as Funeral Coordinator and tying quilts for love day. She volunteered at the local food shelf in Kenyon, was a member of the Kenyon VFW Ladies Auxiliary, and a member of numerous boards and organizations in Kenyon during her lifetime. She enjoyed having company over and would always have coffee at the ready and a cookie jar full of her famous chocolate chip cookies.

She is survived by her children, Linda Watson, Shari (Dan) Quam, Ann (Ron) Kleve, Paula (Kevin) Clark, Gail (Scott) Nelson, Jim (Aimee) Nesseth; sister, Mardell Held; brother, Roger (Anita) Kindseth; brother-in-law, Harold Fogelson; grandchildren, Anthony, Traci, Jason, Hilary, Jaime, Jerad, Jill, Sarah, Kari, Anna,

Jesse, Jack, Audra, Meg, Emma, Gabbie, Sonja and 17 great grandchildren as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, brother Buddy, and several brothers and sisters-in-law and two nephews, all of whom she loved very much.

A graveside memorial service took place on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 1:45pm at Kenyon Cemetery for family and friends. Following the service, family and friends gathered at the Kenyon VFW from 2:30 to 4:00 pm to share memories. We want to thank the staff at St. Mary's Hospital, especially Megan and the hospice team. Memorials are preferred to Kenyon VFW, First Evangelical Lutheran Church or to the donor's choice.

Robert M. Vangness

Robert M. Vangness, age 73 of Kenyon formerly of West Concord died on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at his home.



Robert Michael was born on December 9, 1947 at Fort Bragg, Cumberland County, North

Carolina the son of Robert and Alma (Giesler) Hopkins. Robert's dad, Robert Junior Hopkins was killed on October 21, 1951 serving our country. Robert and his mom moved to Rochester. His mom remarried Harold Vangness and they moved to a farm outside of West Concord where Robert grew up. Robert graduated from West Concord High School where he wrestled in the state tournament his senior year. He then attended the University of Minnesota and Rochester Community College. On July 12, 1969 he married Dianne Feldmann from Kenyon and moved to Rochester. In October of 1969 they moved to a farm outside of West Concord where they enjoyed farming and life in the country for 48 years. Due to health reasons, they moved to Kenyon in 2017.

Robert worked for IBM from 1969 till 1993. From 1980 till 1990, he traveled for IBM instructing employees how to use the programs at IBM. From 1993 till 1995 he did various small jobs until he bought his first semi ("Big Blue") in 1995. He was owner operator and hauled product to various parts of the Country. Due to health issues he had to give up trucking. Bob also acquired his Private Pilot's License in 1980. This was his passion. He gave rides to many people; he was able to fly a small plane to various IBM Sites allowing him to take his family with him.

Robert is noted for his Flashing Gel Rings that he passed out to people at the Mayo Clinic, with the motto "Where there is Light, there is HOPE." He made many people smile and gave them hope for healing. He is noted among many for all his "flashing lights." He loved making people happy. Robert loved spending time with his grandchildren. He took them on fun outings and made sure there were go karts, scooters, snowmobiles and other toys at the farm for them to enjoy.

He is survived by his loving wife, Dianne; sons, Jeremy (Kerri) Vangness, John (Amy)

Vangness; grandchildren, Drake, Daniel, Bethany, Jackson, Norah; mother, Alma Vangness; siblings, Marlene Ray, Karen Schultz and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his birth father, Robert Junior Hopkins and his dad, Harold Vangness.

Visitation was at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church on Saturday, May 22, 2021 from 9am to 10am. Memorial services was held Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 10am at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. Lunch followed at the West Concord American Legion. Interment was in the St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery in West Concord. Memorials are preferred to Paws & Claws, Autisms Association or to the donor's choice.

Arlyn Johnson

Arlyn Johnson of Zumbrota died Friday June 4, 2021 at his home in Zumbrota. He was 87, and had been in declining health.



Arlyn Gene Johnson was born March 21, 1934 in

Wanamingo Township, Goodhue County, the son of Arnold and Alma (Gjemse) Johnson. A graduate of Wanamingo High School with the Class of 1952, he then enlisted in the US Navy and served in the reserves until being honorably discharged in 1960. On December 28, 1955 at the Hauge Lutheran Church in Kenyon he married the love of his life Mardell Stave. Arlyn worked as a heavy equipment operator until 1960 when he purchased a farm, which he and his wife operated until moving to Zumbrota following retirement in 2013. A lifelong member of Aspelund Norwegian Lutheran Church, he was also a member of the American Legion.

Arlyn began a long passion for riding motorcycles in high school, and over the years his enthusiasm for Harley-Davidson motorcycles never waned. While farming, his tractor of choice was always John Deere, and he became a collector of John Deere toy tractors and Harley-Davidson toy motorcycles.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mardell Johnson of Zumbrota; a brother Marvin Johnson who resides in Washington State; a nephew David (Jess) Johnson of Boston, Massachusetts; Goddaughter Joni (Tom) Gorman; sisters-in-law JoAnn Hoffman, Judy Ferguson, DiAnn (Lawrence) Johnson, Carol (LeRoy) Gjemse, Linda Durdahl, Vicki Otis, Phylis Johnson, and Debi Stave; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two children, Laurie Marie Johnson and Donald Arlyn Johnson; and a brother in infancy Duwayne Johnson.

Funeral services were held Wednesday June 9th at 2:00 PM at Aspelund Norwegian Lutheran Church, rural Wanamingo. The Reverend Lyle Aadahl officiated. Vistation was one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial, with military honors, occurred in the church cemetery.

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2021 Goodhue County Breakfast on the Farm Dairy Drive-Through Event

The Goodhue County dairy farmers, the Goodhue County American Dairy Association, and 1250 KCUE Radio will be showcasing dairy farming and wholesome products at their annual Breakfast on the Farm Dairy Drive-Through Experience held Friday, June 25th. The purpose of the Breakfast on the Farm event is to share with the public how the dairy industry works and contributes to the local economy and way of life. Events like these provide visitors the opportunity to get a first-hand look at where their wholesome and nutritious dairy products come from, and how dairy farmers care for their cows and land.

This year's breakfast will be hosted by the Lexvold Dairy in rural Goodhue. Brent and Wendy Lexvold currently milk approximately 400 cows, raise young stock, and farm 420 acres of corn and hay to provide feed for their cattle. Originally started almost 60 years ago by Lyle and Loretta Lexvold, the third generation of the



Lexvold Dairy: Brent, Wendy, Cody, Chelsea, and Jenna

Lexvold family is currently actively part of their dairy operation.

Guests at the Lexvold Dairy will be able to drive through the family's operation, seeing first-hand the facilities and how the family and their employees work to produce milk used in wholesome dairy products. There will also be opportunities to interact with local FFA members, various volunteers from agricultural agencies, the Goodhue County Dairy Princesses, and agricultural related business professionals. The 67th Princess Kay of the Milky Way, Brenna Connelly, will also be on hand as the goodwill ambassador for Minnesota's dairy

industry. Visitors will have the opportunity to get a look at the farm's milking parlor in action, various calf and cow housing facilities, and some of the farming equipment used.

Each area will be staffed by volunteers who will explain milking practices, farm safety, cow care, and answer other questions in regards to modern farming.

While a slightly different event than previous years, visitors will still have the opportunity to name a calf, receive dairy goody bags, play farm bingo, and take pictures with the Goodhue County Dairy Princesses. A highlight of the event is always the nutri-

tious and delicious dairy treats.

The Goodhue County Breakfast Dairy Drive-Through Experience runs from 7:00-11:00 am. The Goodhue County Breakfast on the Farm committee is led by local dairy producers and sponsored by KCUE Radio of Red Wing and other local businesses.. KCUE will be producing their morning broadcast live on the farm sharing information and talking with the many contributors to the dairy industry. Goodhue County's dairy farmers look forward to celebrating June Dairy Month with you on the farm!

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K-W Noble Knights



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for May 14, 2021
Front Row: Adrian Moreno, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Aria Amiot, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Mason Quam, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Arely Cortez, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky. **Back Row:** Travis Geisinger, Gr. 2, Mrs. Renee Hildebrandt; Jacob Johnson, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Jade Knott, Gr. 4, Mrs. Jena LeTourneau



Grace Allen, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Aiden Vadner, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme; Madison Quam, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for May 21, 2021
Front Row: Aubree Cagle, KG, Mrs. Katie Valek; Zachary Strusz, Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers; Ivan Estrada, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Jacob Hackett, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Keldyn Viker, Gr. 2, Mrs. Renee Hildebrandt. **Back Row:** Freddy Ramirez, Gr. 2, Mrs. Deb Hinrichs; Joshua Diderrich, Gr. 3, Ms. Val Ashland; Chase Cordes, Gr. 4, Mrs. Jena LeTourneau; Ethan Peterson, Gr. 4, Ms. Rhonda Thesing; Damien Horst, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme; Aiden Vadner, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme



Gavin Van Winkle Gr. 1, Mr. Tony Donkers



K-W Noble Knights of the Week for May 28, 2021
Nathan Flom, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Alaria Hunt, Gr. 1, Ms. Megan Sabrowsky; Riley Morris, Gr. 2, Mrs. Renee Hildebrandt; Egan Grant, Gr. 3, Ms. Sandy Sahl; Isaac Mills, Gr. 4, Mrs. Jena LeTourneau; Abisai Cortez, Gr. 4, Mr. Jake Wieme

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CONGRATULATIONS!

The Future of Farmland



Tim Penny
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 great-grandparents 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 long-lasting 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 long-term 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.

As always, I welcome your comments and

questions. You can reach me at timp@smifoundation.org or 507-455-3215.

It is hot and the Kenyon Swimming Pool is open

(continued from page 1)

No evening lap swim/adult swim on July 12 through 16.

The pool may close early due to weather or low attendance.

2021 fees are as listed. Daily passes afternoon \$3.50, evening \$2.50. Season passes are \$40 for individual residents, \$95 family residents, \$50 for non-resident individual and \$115 for non-resident families. Swimming lessons are \$28 with pass, \$43 without pass and \$53 for four half hour private lessons. Session one lessons are the week of June 28th, session two is week July 12 and session three is week of July 26th. A pool party is \$55 per hour. The pool will be open until August 22nd.

Swimming pool phone (starting June 7) 507-789-6545 or city hall phone 507-789-6415. Season passes and lesson registration are available at the pool starting June 7.

ATTORNEY

PETERSON LAW OFFICE

FRANKLIN D. PETERSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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We Will Be Closed July 4th-13th for Staff and Building Maintenance
 Re-opening Wednesday, July 14th at 4:00 am

Top Minnesota Dairy Farms Honored for Superior Cow Care

Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen today released the annual list of top Minnesota dairy herds with low somatic cell counts (SCC). Somatic cell count is a key indicator of milk quality – a lower SCC count is better for cheese production and a longer shelf life for bottled milk. In honor of June Dairy Month, 96 Minnesota dairy farms are being recognized for superior herd management skills by achieving an average SCC of under 100,000.

“I’m honored to be able to recognize these 96 dairies for their high level of excellence,” said Commissioner Petersen. “These dairy farmers work hard 365 days a year to produce high quality, wholesome dairy products for all of us to enjoy, and I thank them for their contributions to feed Minnesota and the world.”

Although somatic cells occur naturally and are not a food safety concern, dairy farmers monitor them because they can be used as a measure of the health of their

cows. Processors also pay a premium for milk with low counts. A farmer whose herd has a very low count can receive a significantly higher price per hundredweight compared to a farmer whose herd average is high.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and University of Minnesota dairy experts have worked with the state’s dairy farmers to lower somatic cell counts. When the initiative began in 2003, the 100 herds honored that year included those with SCC averages as high as 144,000, compared to the current goal of obtaining a SCC under 100,000.

The SCC list of Minnesota dairy farms is online at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/lowsc>

Goodhue County

Burfeind Dairy Farm LLC
Robert Hinsch
O'Reilly Organic Dairy LLC
Mark and Shari Chamberlain
Bucks Unlimited LLC
Anthony Scheffler

Rice County

Randy H. and Kathleen J. Bauer



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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 don't 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, I've seen many outstanding sales representatives promoted to sales manager when they don't 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 don't look professional when they do. Waiting until the last minute to get assignments done can also be a sign of laziness.

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 we are 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, it's a good idea to re-evaluate 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, hot-headed, 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 doesn't 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 don't 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 wasn't 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 I've ever made a house call to change a light bulb!

Mackay's 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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'62 Farmall 460 Gas Tractor, WF, 13.6x38, Clam Shell, Fast Hitch, TA, IH 2000 Hyd Loader, Restored; '49 McCormick-Deering W-4 Standard, Fenders, 540PTO, New 14.9x26, Engine Overhaul, Restored; '52 McCormick-Deering W-6 Standard Super, Fenders, Weights, 540PTO, 16.9x30, Restored; '48 McCormick-Deering W-9 Standard, Fenders, Belt Pully, Weights, 16.9x34, Restored; '51 Farmall H, NF, 12.4x38, Weights, Restored; '52 Farmall Super C, WF, 11.2x36, Woods L306 72" Belly Mower, Restored; '48 Farmall Cub, Fenders, Lights, Restored; '45 Farmall B, NF, Fenders, 11.2x24, PTO, Restored; '39 Farmall A, WF, 11.2x24, Weights, Fenders, Restored; IH Model 300 3pt. Blade, 72"; IH 7' Mounted Sickle Mower; Custom Parade Wagon, 7'x12' On Running Gear

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Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Board of Appeals and Equalization meeting was duly held in the City Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m. on the 15th day of April 2021. The following members were present:

Mayor Doug Henke, Council Members Dan Rehtzigel, Mary Bailey and Tom Gard.
Absent: Molly Ryan Also present: City Administrator Mark Vahlsing, Representing Goodhue County, Assessor Lavon

Augustine, Austin Noble, and Chad Cernhaus.
The meeting was in session starting at 5:00 p.m.

County Assessor Augustine noted that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss only property valuations for 2021 assessments, payable in 2022. She updated the Council members present on sales activity for the period 10/1/2019 through 9/30/2020. There were 31 home sales during that period. The average valuation increase in the City was 3%. The County assessor's office had 2 calls with issues related to the proposed valuations:

Anthony Wells
66.520.0180

Mr. Wells attended the meeting and stated that he had recently purchased his property for \$90,000. It was assessed at \$135,000. He was requesting consideration for the value to be reduced.

Assessor Augustine stated that she would recommend that the Council to make no change to the valuation at this time. She asked Mr. Wells to send or email them pictures of the inside of the house.

The assessor's office will review the sale and make a recommendation for either no change in the value or a reduction. She would send a letter with the decision to Mr. Wells. He could then appeal the decision to the County Board as prescribed by state statute.

Duane Pliscott (Call in)
66.100.0500

Mr. Pliscott had called the assessors office to request an appeal of his proposed valuation increase.

His proposed valuation had increased from \$142,000 to \$145,000.

Assessor Augustine recommended no change to the valuation at this time.

Lori Conklin (Call in)
66.632.0150

Ms. Conklin had called the assessor's office to request an appeal of her proposed valuation increase.

The proposed valuation had increased from \$173,200 to \$206,000.

Assessor Augustine recommended no change to the valuation at this time. She stated the value has increased due to comparable sales in the area.

Mayor Henke asked about the values of comparable townhouses in that development.

Assessor Augustine stated there were 4 sales in that area in a 12-month period. Three were higher than Ms. Conklin's proposed increased valuation.

Motion by Bailey, second by Rehtzigel to approve the recommendations of the County Assessor's office for the above listed properties. Motion carried 4-0-0

Motion by Rehtzigel, second by Gard to adjourn the special meeting at 5:40 p.m.
Mark R. Vahlsing, City Administrator
Douglas Henke, Mayor

www.maringauction.com AUCTION CALENDAR

June 12, 2021 10:00 AM CDT
Waseca, MN

FARMALL & MCCORMICK COLLECTOR TRACTOR AUCTION FOR CONRAD & LOIS FISKNESS 11 Farmall & McCormick Collector Tractors, 460, W-9, W-6, W-4, H, B, Super C, Cub, A Tractors, 2005 Dodge 2500 Diesel Only 96,900 Miles, Gooseneck Trailer, Cub Cadet Lawn Mowers, Collector Farm Toys, Power & Hand Tools, Farm Primitives, Antiques

June 18, 2021 10:00 AM CDT
Watertown, MN

EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAN FARM ESTATE AUCTION FOR THE ROBERT (BOB) MCCABE ESTATE International 986 and (3) 886 Tractors, Massey Ferguson 275 Tractor, John Deere 466 Round Baler, Case IH 8530 & Massey Ferguson Hesston Small Square Baler, Case IH 102 Discbine, (19) Good Steel Bale Throw Racks, Kuhn GFT802 Rake, (2) H&S Rakes, (2) New Holland 256 Rakes, Diamond C Gooseneck 30' Trailer, Planting & Tillage Equipment, Other Good Farm Machinery

June 20, 2021
Bidding Begins.... June 12, 2021
Starts Closing..... June 20, 2021
Hayfield, MN

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION FOR HAYFIELD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #203 40'x60' Pole Shed to be Removed, Welders, Metal and Wood Lathes, Jointers, Planners, CNC Table, Drill Press, Grinders, Routers, Saws, Drills, Large Amount Hand And Power Tools, Hardware, Commercial Range W/ Double Ovens, Selling Online Only

June 24, 20219:30 AM CDT
Belle Plaine, MN

LARGE CLEAN JOHN DEERE FARM RETIREMENT LIVE AND ONLINE AUCTION FOR MARK KOEPP John Deere 9560R 4wd, JD 8360RT, JD 8420 MFWD, JD 8100 MFWD, '16 JD S680 Rwd Combine, JD 640FD Draper, 608c Stalkmaster, Jd 1770nt 24R30, JD 4830, JD 310SE Backhoe, Manure Tanks, Drag Lines, Manure Tool Bars, 4 Semi Tractors, Grain Trailers, Manure Tanker, Wilson Semi Livestock Pot, TMR, Large Amount of Livestock Equipment, Live Onsite and Live Online Bidding.



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June 28, 2021
Bidding Begins.... June 18, 2021
Starts Closing..... June 28, 2021
Woodbury, MN

TIMED ONLINE ONLY FARM SITE REMOVAL AUCTION FOR PAUL & DEB BURANDT 2011 4 Bedroom 2 Story Custom Built Home, 2007 54'x108' Wick Pole Machine Shed, 5 Grain Bins, Livestock Machinery & Equipment, Grain Augers, Gehl Chopper, H&S Chopper Boxes, Bale Throw Racks, and More. All to be Removed from Property or Buyer Will Have Salvage Rights.

June 30, 2021 10:00 AM CDT
Faribault, MN

160 ACRES OF CROP LAND WITH EXISTING BUILDING SITE WALCOT TWP, FARIBAULT, MN FOR DAVID SWANSON ESTATE 160 Acres of Crop Land with Existing Building Site to be Sold in One Parcel, Located in the NE 1/4 Section 29, Walcott Township, Rice County MN. 144 Tillable Acres, Good Soils, 72 CPI, Drain Tile in Place. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home with Nice Machine Shed.

July 17, 20219:30 AM CDT
Mantorville, MN

LIVE ONSITE MOVING AUCTION FOR JOHN & KATHRYN BONDY 1992 Ford F250 4x4 7.5L with 52,250 Actual One Owner Miles, eXmark 60" Commercial Zero Turn Mower, Large Amount Of Lawn & Garden Items, Ariens 25HP Lawn Tractor w/42" Blower, Welders, Air Compressor, Large Amount of Power Tools, 3 Yard Canopys, 10'x16' Yard Shed, Commercial Meat Smoker, SS BBQ Grill, Kitchen Appliances, Everything Is Like New.

July 19, 20219:30 AM CDT
Northfield, MN

160 ACRES OF BARE LAND IN GREENVALE TWP, DAKOTA CO. MN FOR JAMES M. STANTON TRUST 160 Acres of Bare Crop Land in Sections 16, 17 & 21 of Greenvale Township, Dakota County, MN. 125 Acres of Good Tillable Land, 86.6 CPI, Nice Farm Land, Approx 35 Acres of Good Hunting and Recreational Land. Live Onsite Auction.

July 24, 20219:30 AM CDT
Elysian, MN

LARGE FARM EQUIPMENT ESTATE AUCTION FOR THE GORDON GALLER ESTATE Live Onsite and Live Online Auction. John Deere 8630 4WD w/50 Series, John Deere 1780 Planter 22R22", John Deere 4020 P/S, JD 7700 Combine AWD, Case 2670 4WD, Case IH 800 Plow, John Deere 520 Drill, John Deere 755 Crawler, Toro 345GM, Collector Tractors, Grain Wagons, Augers, Large Amount of Farm Support Items, 4 to 5 Hour Auction.

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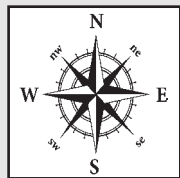


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DENNISON FEED AND FARM SUPPLY, INC.

Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes Hillbilly Dating



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.

The local newspaper has a personal section in the back of each issue and we often read it just for a good laugh. I do not believe Internet dating has taken hold in this area and the person to person ads in

newsprint are sometimes way too funny. They run them for free so anyone can have a chance at romance down here

Our all-time favorite has run a couple times and it is just too much of a gem to not share. Kind of gives you an idea of the type of guys a girl can find down here if they look hard enough.

White male, 5' 11", 170 lbs., looking for a loving lady who still likes sex and don't mind taking it all off and jumping in bed with her man. She should be 70 to 80 years old. I take my ladies on trips and stay in motels, give them \$50 a week in spending money and take them shopping one or more times a week. I am always happy and never get mad. I am a retired cop and have my own home and a late model van. I know

how to enjoy life. My age is 80+ but still young and full of life. Respond to PTP506.

Don't give up ladies. There are still a few good ones out there even though they are

getting up in years. Now whenever we see something that seems too good to be true, we look at each other, chuckle and say, "\$50 a week and a late model van."

A Minnesotan: Why did the turkey cross the road?



By RosaLin Alcoser

Never did I ever think that while living in the cities I would have to wait through a green light because a turkey was using the crosswalk. I mean actually using the crosswalk; this turkey looked both ways

and everything.

Traditionally I have not had the best of luck with turkey's, or fowle in general, over the course of my life. I have been chased by turkey's, have had them run in front of my car, and have been spooked by turkey's pretending to be flying armadillos.

Now in the case of the turkey posing as a flying armadillo it was a hen roosting in the bushes and she was trying to remain hidden. So of course teenage me saw her out of the corner of my eye and mistook her for an armadillo.

Unfortunately I yelled armadillo, causing her to take off flying which resulted in me yelling flying armadillo! Flying armadillo is a phrase that my sister has not let me forget even though it has been almost 10 years since that happened.

All of these things happened out in the rural never in town, let alone in the Twin Cities. So I'm sure that you can imagine my surprise to see a turkey using the crosswalk in the middle of the city.

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F	I	L	L	U	P	O	R	A	T	O	R	Y			
O	D	E		R	E	S	I	G	N		O	L	I	O	
S	I	T	B	Y		E	L	L	S	N	I	C	K		
S	O	U	R		S	E	L	E	C	T		V	E	E	
E	M	P	O	W	E	R		H	A	T	E	R	S		
A	R	T		A	M	I	T	Y							
C	O	E	D	E	S		S	L	A	V	E	P	L	A	Y
S	L	A	V	E	S		M	O	S	E		L	O	T	A
K	A	R	A	T		E	L	K	S						
I	D	L	Y												
W	A	S													
T	E	M	P												

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- THEME: NIGHT AT THE THEATER
- ACROSS
1. *Treble or bass ____
 5. Pharaoh's cobra
 8. *Zeus' sister and wife, and character in Broadway musical "Xanadu"
 12. Hair-dwelling parasites
 13. QuinceaOera or bat mitzvah, e.g.
 14. Puts money in the bank
 15. Pearl Harbor locale
 16. Flair
 17. Inuit boat
 18. *Record-holding musical for most awards received by a single production, with The
 20. *Broadway hit "Jagged Little ____"
 21. *Comment to the audience
 22. Web address
 23. ____'er ____, at the pump
 26. Private chapel
 30. Keats' poem
 31. Quit
 34. Medley
 35. ____ or do nothing
 37. Right-angle building extension
 38. Razor nick
 39. Like lemon
 40. Make a choice
 42. 1960s teen idol, Bobby ____
 43. Give authority
 45. Bias crime perpetrators
 47. *Theater, e.g.
 48. Cordial disposition
 50. Surrender
 52. *Non-musical with record number of Tony nominations
 56. Shredded cabbage dishes
 57. *Melpomene, e.g.
 58. Just a little
 59. Gold unit
 60. Lodge fellows
 61. "Game of Thrones" bastard
 62. Without purpose
 63. Past tense of "is"
 64. Short-term employee

- DOWN
1. Hoof sound
 2. Yarn spinner
 3. Canyon sound
 4. Like medieval European society
 5. Was sick
 6. Fixed look
 7. Montblanc and such
 8. *Musical with record number of Tony nominations
 9. Like most fairytale stepmothers
 10. Madrid's Club de F'tbol
 11. Pose a question
 13. Chef's prescription
 14. Toyota sports car model
 19. Shylock's practice
 22. Coffee pot
 23. *Bob ____, choreographer with most Tony awards
 24. *"Break a leg" or "have two left feet," e.g.
 25. Reduce pressure (2 words)
 26. Eye up and down
 27. Mediterranean appetizer
 28. Type of potato masher
 29. Ox connectors
 32. *Tiresias in "Oedipus Rex," e.g.
 33. Feverish
 36. *NYC district
 38. Washington, e.g.
 40. Sun's descent
 41. Onion-like herb
 44. Seize by force
 46. Obsolete office position
 48. Spurious wing
 49. *Comedy and tragedy, on a Tony medallion
 50. Attired
 51. *James ____ Jones, multiple Tony winner
 52. Old World duck
 53. Like Silver's owner
 54. H or O in H2O, e.g.
 55. Make a raucous noise
 56. Mogul equipment

				3		6	1	
	6	1		4				
			8			5	7	3
							4	
5				7		1		2
	1							
	2	9	4			5		
					9		3	7
	5	3		7				

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



Our local dairy farmers work hard every day to nourish our nation with delicious and nutritious dairy products.

Over the years, their ongoing dedication and commitment to quality has helped us grow up healthy and strong. But the dairy industry is more than just an important part of our lives and our children's lives, it's an integral part of our local economy too.

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Thanks, dairy producers, for everything you bring to the table!



**2021 Goodhue County Dairy Princesses:
Chelsey Lexvold, Cassandra Hinsch and Madison Bartholome**



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