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NOVEMBER, 2021

Volume 16 • Issue 9

Announcements

Christmas Drawing

Enter to win a holiday gift collection including gift cards to local restaurants, an 8 pack of festive cupcakes from Flour Child Creations and a \$25 gift certificate to Country Goods! (see ad on page 7)



- City Hall will be closed Thursday/Friday November 25 and 26 Holiday
- City Hall will be closed Friday, December 24 and Friday, December 31 Holiday

REMINDERS:

KEEP Garbage Carts off the street
KEEP Leaves and debris out of the street
Bags of leaves for pickup call Dick's Sanitation 952-469-2239

• **Wipes clog pipes:** Even if they say "flushable," disposable wipes will clog pipes. Prevent costly backups and place wipes in the trash.

WINTER PARKING BAN

City Ordinance 271.06(2)
No Parking in Streets or Alleys
2:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.
October 31 to April 15
Exception:
Call Dundas Police 645-5252

City Council will hold
**Truth-in-Taxation Hearing (TNT) on
Monday, December 13
at 7:00 pm for public input on
budget and levy for 2022.**

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

Chapel Brewing Takes Home First Place at Statewide Competition

*MN Craft Brewers Cup
professional blind taste-test selects
top true-to-style beers in the state*

On November 18, 2021, Chapel Brewing took home a first-place trophy from the Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild's MN Brewers Cup Competition, the state-wide, blind taste-test competition for Minnesota breweries and brewpubs.

Chapel's Dukes Pilsner was the winning beer in the Czech Lager category.

(continued on page 5)

Pictured from left to right: Chapel Head Brewer, David Frost; Chapel Co-owner, Tracie Vranich; Chapel co-owner, Steve Schmidt



2nd Annual Baby Supply Drive

In 2020 the Big Giants 4-Hers were looking for a way to help out the Northfield Community so they reached out to the Northfield Community Action Center to see what they could do. The CAC said that Baby Supplies are in high demand and they have limited supplies, so the 4-Hers organized a Baby Supply Drive called "Big Giants 4-H Rattles Up Baby Supplies" in Northfield/Dundas to help young families in the community. The Baby Supply Drive was so successful that they wanted to do it again!

(continued on page 7)



Olivia Hohrman at Cub Foods in Northfield

Thank You

We want to Thank You for your continued support of the Dundas Messenger, especially this past year!

In an era of online everything, your monthly newspaper, continues with an unwavering goal to bring hometown news to you.

Thanks to local advertisers and your voluntary subscriptions, we are in your mail box each month.

Without this support, we would not be here. We hope you continue to see value in the Messenger.

While there are plenty of social media sources and on line sites out there, most don't deliver the hometown news and message like we try to do here. (continued on page 14)

Stressed about HOLIDAY BAKING??

We got what you need!

Let us create scratch made, preservative free, specialty baked goods your guests will **ADORE!**

GF, NF, DF
options, too!

- * Cupcakes
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- * Pies
- * Cookies
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- * Fudge
- * Muffins
- * Scones
- * Cheesecakes



Orders taken until Noon, November 20th
for Wednesday, November 24th pickup.
Call or text 507-824-CAKE (2253)
237 Main St, Wanamingo



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Preview lots of our products on Facebook!

Thanksgiving & Generosity

A woman drove up and paid for her own iced coffee at 7 a.m. Wednesday at a St. Petersburg store, and also asked to pay for a caramel macchiato for the driver behind her, who then did the same for the next customer. After a few people continued the chain, the employees started keeping a tally on a piece of paper by the window. By 1:30 p.m., 260 people had now paid it forward, according to the Tampa Bay Times, ordering their own drinks and paying for one for the stranger behind them. After people ordered their drinks and drove up to the window, barista Vu Nguyen explained that the drink had already been paid for and asked if they'd like to return the favor. In total, 378 people agreed to keep it going! That's amazing!

Have you ever been the recipient of someone paying it forward? Gary and I have had our meal paid for a few times at different restaurants. As a single mom living near Milville- I experienced the generosity of this wonderful community. I had a baby on Thanksgiving Day- Nov. 22 (42 years ago) and when people found out our neighbors responded! We received a gift bag from Milville; and when Jeannie was a little older, we needed a sand box and one morning I looked out on our lawn and there was a large tractor tire for me to put sand in. When I needed an oil change and couldn't change the oil filter-

I called Steve's Standard in Zumbro Falls and he told me to bring it down and he changed it at no charge! People were wonderfully generous and giving to a young single mom here in this community.

I'm still very thankful for the support and help of our South Troy community. Many community members have served at our food shelf, given to the food shelf, and given to the church. We've been the recipient of time and labor from our neighbors- like our snow getting plowed, the extra gravel in our parking lot, the plants in our landscaping. We've discovered that when we are thankful and when we give back- it is often multiplied in return. Thanksgiving and generosity go hand in hand. When we are thankful, we want to pay it forward- to share and be generous with what we have. I think of a couple of examples in scripture.

First, I thought of Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus was so thankful for Jesus coming to his home and for the salvation he received that he wanted to give back- to return anything he had cheated people of and he decided to give 1/2 of his wealth to the poor! That's a huge character switch. That's thanksgiving for what Jesus had done in his life—and in turn he wanted to be generous with what he had to help someone else. Next, I want to contrast Zacchaeus thankfulness with another rich man, who had the opportunity to receive salvation- but his response was quite different.

As we read God's word, we see many examples of people being filled with joy as they are filled with thanksgiving- a thankful heart. There was the Samaritan leper that was healed and returned to thank Jesus

while the other 9 kept going. Mary, Lazarus sister expressed her love and thankful heart by pouring oil over Jesus feet, David was thankful that God had brought the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem, that he celebrated with a parade and gave food to every person that attended the celebration. The new believers after Pentecost (you can find the story in Acts 4) were so thankful for their salvation that they shared everything they had with everyone.


There wasn't welfare or any other social services during the Roman Empire- if you were poor, or lost your job, or a widow, or an orphan- you were on your own. As people became believers, they were so thankful- so filled with the love of Jesus that they wanted to share what they had to provide for those in need. Many sold their homes and land to help provide for the ministry of the early church! They were willing to sacrifice their own possessions to provide for others. That's a high calling. They recognized that God had given them everything.

James wrote in 1:17, "Every good gift,

every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all" CEB. A few verses (first verse fades out) later in the same chapter James describes what pure religion really is, "Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you." We are called to care for widows and orphans and for the poor.

This is the heart of the matter. We love because He first loved us and gave himself for us.

Here's one thing I can promise you: Giving is the most fun you'll ever have with money. It's addictive—in the best way possible. So, go out and give a little until you can give a lot. I promise you it will be worth it. Thanksgiving and Generosity go Hand in Hand. When we are thankful for what we have generosity flows naturally from our hearts. Begin each day with a thankful heart.



Area Church Directory

Family Connections

Scripture Reading — Ruth 4:18-22
Perez was the father of Hezron . . . Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David. — Ruth 4:18-22

The first mention of David in the Bible comes in the book of Ruth. David's story was part of God's much bigger story. Through the lives of David and many others, God was shaping and molding a people for himself. God called men and women into a relationship of grace, responsibility, and adventure.

The story of Ruth included disappointment, death, and discouragement. But as God worked in the lives of Ruth and Boaz, encouragement, joy, and hope began to shine through. Ruth and Boaz became ancestors of David.

Family connections anchored David's life, making his family story an important part of his identity. As Eugene Peterson noted, "The genealogy shows that the story of Ruth and Boaz wasn't simply a small love story into which they had accidentally fallen; rather it was a sprawling love story of epic proportions. For through the union of Ruth and Boaz came David" (Conversations).

Genealogies show us, in part, how God works in the world. Jesse told his children the stories of Perez, Hezron, Ram . . . Ruth and Boaz, and Obed as reminders of God's faithfulness throughout the generations. And the thread of those stories went farther back to a couple named Abraham and Sarah, whom God had called into a relationship with himself (Genesis 12). This was part of the inheritance David had even before he was born.

Prayer
Lord and God, thank you for your faithfulness and for calling me into a relationship with you as part of your story of life for us all. Amen.

LITTLE PRAIRIE UNITED METHODIST 2980 130th St. E.
Pastor Edwin DuBose • pastor@littleprairieumc.org
507-663-6150 church phone • 651-503-4279 Cell
 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship; Sunday School & Nursery; Adult Group 8a.m.

CITY LIGHT CHURCH 2140 Hwy. 3 South, Northfield, MN
Pastor Pete Haase • 507-645-8829 Call for service times

LIFE21 CHURCH 2100 Jefferson Road (just north of Target)
Pastor Brent Bielenberg • 645-7730 life21church.com
 10:00a.m. Worship Experience

NORTHFIELD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 5600 East 110th Street
Pastor Dan Runke • 663-0133 • northfieldefc.org
 9:30 a.m. Worship; 11:00 a.m. Christian Life Classes

HOSANNA CHURCH - NORTHFIELD 205 2nd St. S., Dundas
Pastor Dean Swenson • 507-664-9007 • www.hosannalc.org
 Sunday: 9am & 10:45am Worship with Hosanna Kids Church ages 3-5th grade and Child Care for ages 6wks-3years at both services
 Fellowship time with refreshments between services.
 Wednesday: Middle School Ministry - doors open at 5:30; programming 6-7:15;
 High School Ministry - doors open at 7pm; programming 7:30-9pm

MAIN STREET MORAVIAN CHURCH 713 Division St., Northfield
 Tel: 507-645-7566 • Worship Services at 10:30a.m.

GOSPEL OF LIFE FAMILY CHURCH
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 admin@gospeloflifechurch.org
 www.gospeloflifechurch.org
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 or email: hometownmessenger@gmail.com

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Infused Sugars



Teri Knight



and didn't like it)

- Lavender
- Cinnamon sticks
- Nutmeg
- Cayenne
- Juniper berries
- Chili pepper
- Fennel seed – tastes like licorice
- Whatever you can think of!

After your sugar has been infused, you can either sift out the herb or spice or leave it in. I like the way it looks left in the jar. Add suggestions on the use of the infused sugar and be sure to add that they should sift the sugar if there are large pieces.

- Sprinkle on sugar cookies
- Sweeten coffee or tea
- Sprinkle on fresh fruit
- Fold into cookie, muffin, cupcake or bread batter
- Rim a cocktail glass

Inching out of a pandemic, we're gathering again. That means host/hostess gifts! Rather than last minute, consider something a little different that's easy and just takes a couple of weeks.

Start with organic sugar, be it cane, beet or coconut; and a dried herb or spice. Or a mix! Make sure your container remains dry. Combine the sugar and herb or spice into an airtight container in a 4 to 1 ratio of sugar to spice. You can play around with that ratio.

If you used a "wet" ingredient, mix it with the sugar and let it air dry. It's going to clump but you can unclump it after it dries. After about 2 weeks, the sugar will be infused and it will keep well for at least 3 months.

- Vanilla, use vanilla bean
- Mint, dried any kind
- Orange or lemon peel
- Dried rosehips (although I've heard people using the petals



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! Teri's Garden Bite Radio Program can be heard weekday mornings on AM 1080 and 95.1 FM, KYMN Radio from Northfield, MN.



Reuben "Bud" Forrest Gustafson

Reuben "Bud" Forrest Gustafson, 94, passed away on November 12 at the Northfield Long Term Care Center.



Bud was born on June 18, 1927, on a farm near Dundas, the son of Oscar and Lillian (Cleveland)



Gustafson. He was a graduate of Randolph High School and an Army veteran, serving in the Army of Occupation in Yokohama, Japan following World War II.

Bud married Joan Sheets on March 12, 1966, in Northfield. He was a dairy and crop farmer in partnership with his brother Merrill in the Stanton area until his retirement in 1995.

Bud was a long-time member of the Stanton United Methodist Church, where he was baptized and confirmed. He served his community in many ways, as a member of the church board, Stanton Township Board, Randolph School Board, and numerous farm-related organizations.

In retirement, he enjoyed volunteering in various ways, including as a driver for the Goodhue County Health Service, the Shepherd's Center senior center, and the Randolph Area Historical Society. He was a fan of sports and bluegrass music. He will be remembered for his sense of humor and his devotion to family and friends.

Survivors include his children, Corey of Apple Valley, Mavis of Northfield, and Wade and wife Cara of St. Paul; grandchildren Quinn & Tate Gustafson; brothers Russell Gustafson and Delbert (Arlene) Gustafson; brother-in-law, Donald (Bonnie) Sheets, and sister-in-law, Diane Sheets, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan in February; his parents; brother Merrill (Ruth) Gustafson; sister-in-law Shirley Gustafson; and sister-in-law June (Bob) Lind.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Northfield Long Term Care Center for their care over the last couple of years.

Memorials are preferred to the Stanton

United Methodist Church.

A joint memorial service for Bud and Joan was held at 11 AM, on Saturday, November 20, 2021, at the Northfield United Methodist Church. Visitation was from 9 AM to 10:50 AM prior to the service at the church. Masks were required for all those that wish to attend the visitation and service. A private committal service, with military honors, for Bud, was held on Friday, November 19, at Stanton Cemetery.

Arrangements are with Bierman Funeral Home & Crematory, Northfield. www.biermanfuneralhome.com

Joel Magrane

Joel Magrane, age 51, of Northfield, passed away Sunday, November 7, 2021, at his home.



Joel was born the son of Howard and Joanne (Bright) Magrane on November 8, 1969, in Kailua, HI. At the age of 10, the family moved to St. Paul for a brief

time and then to Northfield. Joel graduated from Northfield High School, class of 1988. He was a standout athlete where he played baseball, football, hockey and earned a trip to state in golf as a seventh grader. As a teenager, Joel played for the United States Golf Team which took him to Europe participating in tournaments as well as in the US. After high school, Joel attended junior college at Iowa Western and then returned to Northfield where he attended St. Olaf College. In 1992, he earned All-American honors in baseball. During his senior year at St Olaf, Joel played for the football team as well. After receiving his bachelor's degree, Joel continued to make Northfield his home. He joined the Dundas Dukes and played in numerous state tournaments over an 18-year career. During that time, Joel worked in the construction trade and went on to start his own business, D1 Construction.

He enjoyed deer, duck, and goose hunting along with being an avid movie watcher. He was a bit reserved until he got to know you and over the years made many lifelong friendships.

He is survived by his mother Joanne Kaye of Tamarack; a brother Scott Magrane of Draper, UT; a niece Quinn; nephew Campbell; his soulmate Sam Wessinger; and her children Nico and Vivian. He was preceded in death by his father.

Services for Joel were held at Bierman Funeral Home on Friday, November 12, 2021, beginning at 7:00 PM. Visitation was from 5:00 PM until the time of the service in the funeral home. Arrangements by Bierman Funeral Home and Crematory. biermanfuneralhome.com.

(obituaries continued on page 4)

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Robert Leroy Vesledahl

Robert Leroy Vesledahl was born on September 6, 1944, to Orville and Doris (Smith) Vesledahl in Northfield. Bob grew up in Northfield and attended school in town. He served in the Navy and after returning in 1966, married Katherine "Toots"



Winter at the Church of St. Dominic.

They moved out to Waterford Township and Bob worked as an electrician at Carleton College and Dakota County Technical College. After "retiring" Bob went back to work at Northwest Airlines for a short time. Bob and Toots were the proprietors of Northside Apple, an Orchard that they created on the 10-acre parcel surrounding their home in Waterford. The apple orchard was a passion of Bob's and he taught himself everything to operate and be successful and then completely retired after that endeavor. He was a mechanically inclined man who could fix anything. It wasn't uncommon for him to take 6 lawn mowers and make one that runs from all the parts. Among all these things, it should be known that Bob loved dogs and enjoyed their company. He was always happy to meet someone's dog and give attention to them.

Bob and Toots purchased a small cabin on Lawrence Lake in Bovey, MN in 1981 where they spent many vacations and long weekends. They tore down the cabin and built their dream home on the lake and enjoyed their re-

tirement fishing and listening to the loons. Bob and Toots spent the winter months in Mesa, AZ. to be close to their son Todd and his family. Truth be said, they were snowbirds and were there for the sunshine. They enjoyed nothing more than sitting and visiting with folks. Eventually the two moved to Apple Valley in 2016 to be close to Tammy, their daughter, and her husband and finally a move to Monticello in 2019, to be closer to their son, Tony, and his family. After Toots died earlier this year, Bob moved to the Veteran's Home in Silver Bay.

Bob is survived by his children, Todd (Ruth) of Cave Creek, AZ, Tony (Judee) of Becker, MN, and Tammy (Brian) Bauer of Douglasville, GA; grandchildren, Zachary, Aaron, Kadee, and Casey (Abby); and sister, Karen (Bruce) Blom of Northfield. He was preceded in death by his wife, Katherine "Toots" and parents.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at the Church of St. Dominic, 104 Linden Street, Northfield. Visitation was held from 9 AM-10:20 AM, Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at the church prior to the service. Interment was in Valley Grove Cemetery, Nerstrand.

Arrangements are with Bierman Funeral Home & Crematory, Northfield.
www.biermanfuneralhome.com

Gene Albers

Gene Albers, 78, of Dundas, Minn., passed away peacefully with loved ones by his side in Amarillo, Texas, on Nov. 8th, 2021.

Gene was born on May 15, 1943, to Harold and Dorothy (Lynch) Albers in Northfield,



Minn. Gene grew up on the family farm and was born with "fire" in his belly. He worked hard, played hard, and everyone who knew him knew he was not to be underestimated. He



loved a good challenge, looked for adventure and happily lived life on his own terms.

He went to primary school at St. Dominic's Catholic School and graduated from Northfield High School in 1961, then enlisted in the Army at Fort Polk Army Base in Vernon Parish, La. He returned home to run the family farm with his brother Henry. Gene loved farming with his brother and always sought out fellow farmers to learn what they were doing differently or better.

Gene married his soul mate, Charlene Bridges, at Albers Park on June 27, 1970, and shortly thereafter they bought and moved to one of the original Albers family homesteads previously owned and farmed by Clarence and Ellen Albers. They welcomed four kids over the next 5 years and raised their family on the farm.

In 1986, Gene and Henry started the A&A Portable Restroom business. Gene was a natural businessman and took pride in providing the best service and treating people fairly. Char was by his side every mile of the way. One of his proudest moments was when his sons took over the family farm and business upon his retirement in 2005.

Gene and Char spent the last 17 years wintering in Lake Havasu, Ariz. They both loved a good road trip, meeting new people and learning how other people lived along the way.

He taught his kids to be inquisitive, that trying something new was always worth it and usually resulted in a good story to tell. He loved watching young people succeed and provided encouraging words and advice wherever he could.

Gene is survived by his wife of 51 years, Char Albers; children Stephanie (Jim) Alford of Bloomington, Andy (Laura) Albers of Northfield, Libby (Justin) Furry of Washington D.C., and David (Shelly) Albers of Dundas; siblings Henry (Cheri) Albers of Dundas, Paul (Donna) Albers of Faribault, Mary (Bernard) Auge of Northfield, Greg Albers of Dundas, Margaret (Casey) Christian of Owatonna, and Anne (Tom) Brumagim of Edgewater, Fl.; and nine grandchildren, Jens and Rose Alford, Katie, Ben, Molly, Isaac and Macy Albers, and Anya and Asher Furry. He is preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Dorothy Albers; and nephew Lee Albers.

A graveside service will be held at a later date at Oaklawn Cemetery in Northfield. To honor and celebrate Gene's life, take a risk without fear of failing, go on a road trip even if you don't have time or money, learn something new from everyone you encounter, and don't let the bastards get to you.

Arrangements are with Bierman Funeral Home & Crematory. www.biermanfuneralhome.com

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BEST SELECTION AROUND!

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Chapel Brewing Takes Home First Place at Statewide Competition

(continued from page 1)

This Czech style pilsner is brewed annually in collaboration with the local amateur baseball team, the Dundas Dukes. It is a clear, golden, malt forward beer that is on tap at the brewery and sold at the Dundas ballpark during baseball season.

This year, the Brewers Cup Competition had

450 beers entered from 85 breweries and brewpubs in the state. Beers were submitted to 26 categories based on beer style. The submissions were judged

blind by 20 beer judges based on how well each submission represented the standards of its style. The top three in each style category, along with the top three overall, were announced at an industry-only awards ceremony on Thursday night.

“Hats off to our brewer, David Frost, for hitting a homerun with his Pilsner recipe. Customers in the taproom and fans at the ballpark have been enjoying this beer since the spring, and we are thrilled the judges appreciated it as well” said co-founder/owner Tracie Vranich.

Chapel Brewing opened for business in 2017 in an actual chapel dating back to 1880. It’s scenic location on the Cannon River, high-quality craft beer, and the fact that it’s open seven days a week, make it a favorite gathering spot for locals and a destination for beer lovers from all over the state. Head brewer, David Frost, joined the Chapel team in January 2019 and hit the ground running brewing beer that has been enthusiastically enjoyed by many. Chapel was originally built as a place to gather for worship and it is still a place to gather today, but for a different purpose.

To see all competition winners, visit <https://www.mncraftbrew.org/brewerscupawards/>



Chapel Co-owner, Tracie Vranich; Chapel co-owner, Steve Schmidt

photo by the Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild at the awards ceremony

E-mail your engagement, marriage or birth announcement to the Dundas Messenger








hometownmessenger@gmail.com



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<p>2020 FORD EXPEDITION PLATINUM</p>  <p>#21111U</p> <p>4WD, 3.5L ecoboost V-6 twin turbocharged, 25,700 miles, metallic</p> <p>FALL SPECIAL! \$70,507</p>	<p>2018 FORD ESCAPE SEL FWD</p>  <p>#21177U</p> <p>1.5L ecoboost, automatic, magnetic metallic, 25,657 miles</p> <p>FALL SPECIAL! \$20,999</p>	<p>Call our service department to schedule your maintenance needs. Open Monday thru Friday 7:30am to 5pm.</p> <p>At Milo Peterson Ford Co., our highly qualified technicians are here to provide exceptional service in a timely manner. From oil changes to transmission replacements, we are dedicated to maintaining top tier customer service, for both new and pre-owned car buyers! Allow our staff to demonstrate our commitment to excellence.</p> 	

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Building a Foundation for Southern Minnesota's Future



Tim Penny
So. MN Initiative Foundation

For me, autumn always signals a natural time to slow down and contemplate the past year as we bundle up and move indoors. At Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF), we use this time each year to reflect on the partnerships that have resulted in a brighter future for southern Minnesota. We do this by celebrating a handful of these partnerships in our annual Impact Report.

In the first story, Beth Fynbo shares her entrepreneurial journey as the founder and CEO of Busy Baby in Oronoco. When she became a parent, she had an idea for a placemat that suctioned to surfaces and allows caregivers to connect babies' toys to a tether system so they can no longer be dropped and thrown. As she turned this idea into a successful business, SMIF supported her through three loans. She has also participated in SMIF's CEO Peer Network to connect with other entrepreneurs who helped her pivot during the pandemic. Since she first reached out to SMIF three years ago, Beth has grown to a seven-figure business and even made an appearance on ABC's Shark Tank.

Another entrepreneur, Angel Uribe, shares her story about starting Stages of Change Center, a business which empowers individu-

als to rethink their relationship with alcohol or drugs. Her business, based in Eagle Lake, began in 2011 with no financing or support. In 2016, she joined SMIF's Prosperity Initiative program which provides business coaching to entrepreneurs who identify as Black, Indigenous or People of Color (BIPOC). This program helped her to develop business competencies and strategies that are still helping her navigate her business with greater confidence today. During the pandemic, she has remained engaged with SMIF through a Prosperity Initiative Peer Network and by participating in business trainings. Angel is currently a SMIF Board of Trustee member.

In the Early Childhood space, we spoke with Jenny Carrier who is the community education director at Kasson-Mantorville Public Schools. As one of SMIF's 25 Early Childhood Initiatives, which are collaboratives that address important needs for children and families in their communities, they have a long history with SMIF. One month prior to the first shut down brought on by the pandemic, they received a Child Care Expansion Grant from SMIF, which filled a critical need of providing onsite child care for ages six to 12 years. During the past year they received two more SMIF grants to support improvements in their building and expansions in their programming, resulting in 12 new jobs.

Finally, the leaders of one of SMIF's 30 Community Foundations shared their story. Mick McGuire, president of Montgomery Community Foundation (MCF) wanted to start a Community Foundation for people to give back to their hometown. Since beginning in 2018, they have supported many local projects, including the restoration of a mural and an historic log cabin. Liz Krocak, vice president of MCF, shares about MCF's COVID-19 response efforts, which included grants to the food shelf and to the Montgomery Economic Development Authority. SMIF provided matching grants for these efforts, in addition to a Small Town Grant which they used to distribute "Monty Bucks" to people in need to spend at local businesses.

The voices that are highlighted in this year's impact report capture the ongoing growth, community togetherness and innovative spirit of our region that is always there, regardless of what is happening in the world. While SMIF played a significant role in helping in-



A \$2,000 grant from Montgomery Community Foundation to Tri-City United Elementary School allowed the school to purchase ukuleles, an instrument that is more conducive to COVID restrictions than recorders.

dividuals and communities throughout the pandemic, one detail that shines through each of these stories is that SMIF was there for these folks long before it began, building a foundation of support and trust over many years.

I invite you to read the stories from our 2021 Impact Report by visiting smifoundation.org/impactreport. It is through partnerships like the ones highlighted in this report that we can make an impact on southern Minnesota's future.

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

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2nd Annual Baby Supply Drive

(continued from page 1)

There are 8 boxes set up around the community to collect donations from November 15th– December 15th 2021.

Donation boxes are located in Northfield at Cub Foods (at the Service Desk), Family Fare, Northfield Montessori, Bethel Lutheran Church, Church of St. Dominic, Emmaus Baptist, St Peter's Lutheran Church, and Little Village Early Learning Center in Dundas.

The supplies that are needed the most include: baby food, formula (all types), diapers



Mackenzie Hohrman at Family Fare in Northfield



Anika Wierson at Bethel Lutheran Church

(size 6/7 or pull-ups), wipes, household cleaning supplies, and laundry detergent. The 4-H Club was awarded the Helping Hands Award from MN 4-H and Compeer Financial for the 2nd year in a row for their efforts with the Baby Supply Drive. Please help out this great cause if you are able! Thank You for your support.

The Big Giants 4-H Club is a club in Rice

County located in Northfield. 4-H is a youth organization for youth ages kindergarten through one year past high school. It is run by the youth members and promotes leadership and community service. For more information please contact the Rice County Extension Office at 507-332-6109 or you may contact Big Giants directly at big-giants1902@gmail.com.

Christmas Drawing

Enter to win a Holiday gift collection including gift cards to local restaurants, an 8 pack of festive cupcakes from Flour Child Creations and a \$25 gift certificate to Country Goods!

Deadline to enter is December 1, 2021

E-mail your name and address to: hometownmessenger@gmail.com to enter

Dundas Messenger



Holly Thyme Craft Show

Saturdays: November 27 & December 4, 11

Sundays: November 28 & December 5, 12

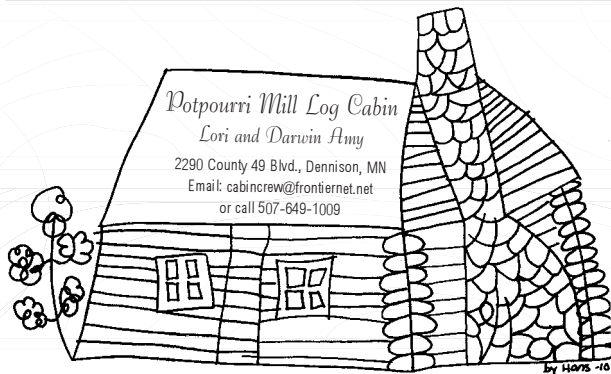
Hours: 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

Take a drive in the country and shop in our log cabin filled with crafts and antiques!

COVID 19 Plan: People should follow the 6 foot Social Distancing Guidelines.

We prefer people wear a face mask while inside buildings.

* If you prefer to set up a private time to shop in our cabin, please call.



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

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

PICTURES WITH SANTA

The Dennison Lions and the Fireside Lounge Invites You to Come Take Pictures With Santa!

Saturday, December 13
9:30am-11:30am at the Patio at Fireside

Everyone is welcome to stop by for hot cider and treats!

Sponsored By the Fireside and Dennison Lions

Reservations Welcome
Call 507-332-7772 or Email: fireside@denlions.com
to Make Your Reservation
Our "Reservation Service" is an added fee.

2020 Christmas Eve, Dennison, MN
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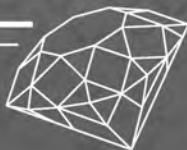
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Christmas in the Village

December 4, 5, 11 & 12, 2021
3-8 pm



**Dakota City Heritage Village
on the Dakota County Fairgrounds**

For more information & updates: www.dakotacity.org



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Family Fun for All at Dakota City December 4 & 5 and 11 & 12

Dakota City, located on the Dakota County Fairgrounds in Farmington, will once again host its annual CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE event December 4 and 5, and December 11 & 12. Last year, due to covid restrictions, a drive through event was held, hosting over 6000 people. This year the event is live once again, with many of the buildings open to once again enjoy in person.

Visitors of all ages can take a step back in time to the early 1900's era rural Dakota County Village, and experience the sights and sounds of living history and Christmas past. The Village buildings will be illuminated inside and out throughout the village. Activities planned for this years event include the horse drawn trolley, taking guests thru the streets of the village. Visitors can walk thru the village, with many of the buildings open and heated with real wood-fired burning stoves to help take the chill off. Kids are encouraged to write a letter to Santa at home, and bring it to mail box at the Village Post office. If they

include a self addressed stamped envelope, St. Nick will even get them a reply! Santa will be in the Depot greeting the kids so Parents and Grandparents can come take pictures with Santa for those that want to. There will be some cooking in the Harris House. Caroling and music will fill the air inside and outside the church. The Minnesota Fire Engine Club will have several fire trucks on display near the fire barn. The Drug Store will be open with treats and food for sale, including hot dogs, soda, hot cocoa, and Old Fashioned 1919 Root Beer. (Credit Cards are not accepted, so bring some good old fashioned CASH!) There will be the PUTZ house display at the bank building, and parents can help the kids make old fashioned craft ornaments and decorations in the old school house. Everyone can experience a more simple life and this bygone holiday era. At press time, Dakota City reminds everyone there are volunteer opportunities available during this event, and year 'round at the village. Check the website at www.dakotacity.org for more information

Dakota City was established at The Dakota County Fairgrounds in 1978, and is a 1900's era agricultural village and museum. 22 buildings, including an operational blacksmith shop, newspaper office, train depot, barber shop, family home and more represent the business and rural social life of a rural early 1900's community. Dakota City is a

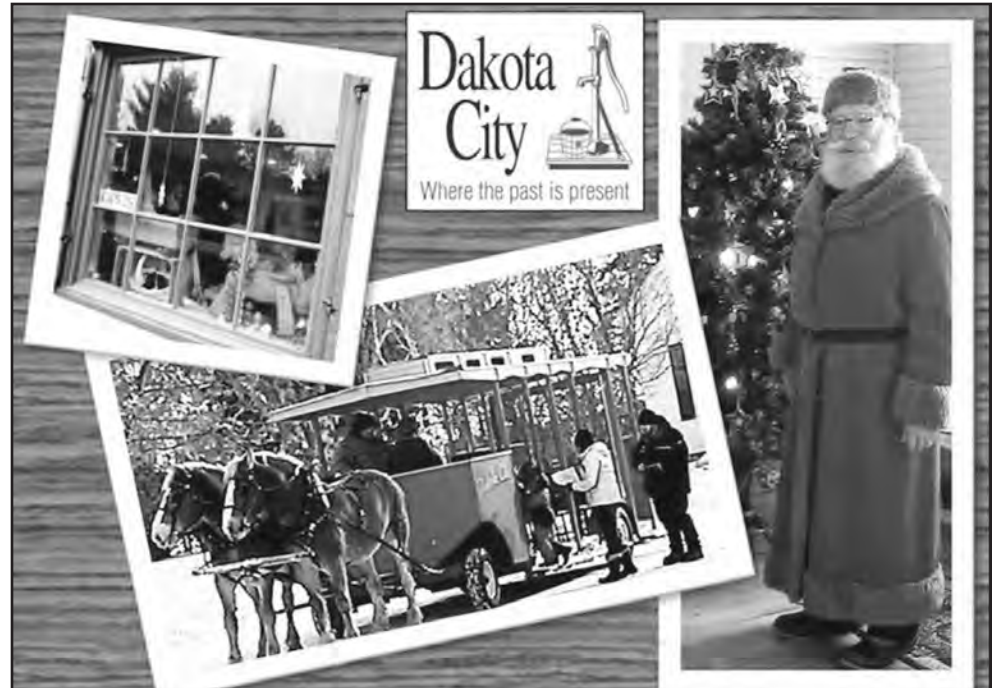


photo courtesy of Dakota City

501(c)3 non-profit organization that strives to preserve rural heritage and connects, through education and interpretation, current generations to life and agricultural heritage of the early twentieth century. Updated schedules and information are available at www.dakotacity.org, and on their facebook

page. The Cost is just \$5.00 per person and children under age 5 are Free. Start your own Christmas Tradition this year at Christmas in The Village December 4th and 5th and December 11th and 12th at Dakota City in Farmington, located at the Fairgrounds.

Sustainable Agriculture Grant Funding Available Apply by December 9, 2021

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) anticipates awarding up to \$250,000 to demonstrate and publicize the energy efficiency, environmental benefit, or profitability of sustainable agricultural techniques or systems, from production through marketing.

The Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Program's Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grant program will accept applications through 4 p.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2021.

Applicants may request up to \$50,000 per project. The first \$25,000 does not need to be matched by the applicants. For requests between \$25,000 and \$50,000, applicants must provide a dollar-for-dollar match on the amount above \$25,000.

Funding will be awarded in 2022. Projects must last two to three years and grantees must be willing to share what they learn with others.

Projects are published annually in the MDA's Greenbook, which provides a summary of each project along with results, management tips, locations of previous projects,

and other resources.

Past grants have funded a wide range of projects, such as exploring farm diversification; cover crops and crop rotation; conservation tillage; input reduction strategies; and alternative energies such as wind, methane, and biomass.

Minnesota farmers, educational institutions, individuals at educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply. Applicants must be Minnesota residents, and projects must take place on Minnesota farms.

Proposals are required to be submitted through our online application system.

Funding for this program is made available through the AGRI Program, which administers grants to farmers, agribusinesses, schools, and more throughout the state of Minnesota. The AGRI Program exists to advance Minnesota's agricultural and renewable energy sectors.

For more information, visit the AGRI Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grant webpage.



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DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 11, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Dundas City Hall

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

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

Absent: Councilor Luke Swartwood Staff Present: City Engineer Dustin Tipp, Administrator Jenelle Teppen, Deputy Clerk Linda Ripka

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Switzer called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC FORUM - No public input.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Modory, second by Fowler, to approve agenda with the addition of Recruiting a Parttime Police Officer under New Business. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU)

PRESENTATION

Monica Heil of WSB – Northfield/Dundas Wastewater Agreement

Heil presented an update of the actions taken by staff since being notified by the City of Northfield Dundas is exceeding the limits set in the Wastewater Agreement between the two cities. She reported the Agreement was originally adopted in the late 90's, amended in 2001, and does not contemplate any increased population growth in Dundas. Heil reviewed a map showing where sampling and testing have been done to attempt to pinpoint areas of high concentration. She stated Northfield is applying to PCA to increase the flow capacity of their Wastewater Treatment Plant, and if approved it will allow additional flow from Dundas in the short-term; however, in the long-term the two cities should consider amending the wastewater agreement. Heil stated staff will continue to work with Northfield on the agreement and wastewater issues.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Fowler, second by LaCroix, to approve the consent agenda as follows: Regular Minutes of September 27, 2021; Resolution 2021-30 Designating 2022 Polling Precinct Locations for the City of Dundas; and Disbursements - \$117,271.41. MCU

OLD BUSINESS – No old business brought before Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS – No Ordinance or Resolution brought before Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approving a Park Survey

Administrator Teppen presented draft of a survey on parks and park amenities for purposes of future park planning, which waws reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. She stated the intention is to send out a postcard to every City address with a QR code to scan and also have available online to complete. Discussion followed with direction to ensure it is clear the City is seeking feedback on the entire park system as well as specifically Tower Park. No action by Council; staff will do another draft.

Consider Recruiting for Part-Time Officer Position

Administrator Teppen stated due to the pending resignation of a current parttime of-

ficer, staff is seeking authorization to advertise and recruit for the open position. Motion by Modory, second by Fowler, to authorize staff to begin the recruiting process to fill an open part-time police officer position. MCU

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Engineer – Dustin Tipp

Tipp reviewed areas of his report recently updated: BMI's invoice on hold due to completion of work and will be meeting with the contractor; contacted Menards regarding issue of right of entry; concepts and cost estimated being updated regarding Co Rd 1 and Hwy 3 pedestrian crossing with an upcoming meeting with Rice County; sidewalk poured on Railway Street South to finalize the missing gap; and upcoming meetings with Northfield on further review and compliance with wastewater agreement.

City Administrator – Jenelle Teppen

Teppen announced local business Cannon Valley Maker will be having an open house on Sunday, October 17 from 1 to 4 pm.

Mayor, Councilors and Committees

Mayor Switzer expressed concern on a recent Northfield Area Fire Rescue Service event involving the breakdown of a fire vehicle on its way to having a maintenance checkup. He stated the repair was estimated at \$60,000 and expressed concern on the way the repair expense was approved without authorization from the Board or notification to board members of this event. It was approved by the Fire Chief and after further inquiry it was reported the funding will come from the current budget reserve. Mayor Switzer stated there still is a lack of proper oversight as he caught an expense for the Fire Relief Association in with NAFRS bills. He stated at the next NAFRS meeting on October 28, there needs to be addressed lack of being informed and procedure for approving all invoice and capital expenses.

ADJOURN

Motion by Fowler, second by LaCroix, to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m. MCU Submitted by:

Attest:

Jenelle Teppen, City Administrator
Glenn Switzer, Mayor

DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 25, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Dundas City Hall

Present: Mayor Glenn Switzer; Councilors: Larry Fowler, Luke LaCroix, Grant Modory, Luke Swartwood Staff Present: City Engineer Dustin Tipp, Administrator Jenelle Teppen, Deputy Clerk Linda Ripka

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC FORUM - No public input.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Swartwood, second by Fowler, to approve the consent agenda as follows: Regular Minutes of October 11, 2021; Bituminous Materials Pay Voucher No.1 - \$43,344.34; and Disbursements -

\$120,639.59. MCU

OLD BUSINESS – No old business brought before Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS – No Ordinance or Resolution brought before Council.

NEW BUSINESS – No new business brought before Council.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

City Engineer – Dustin Tipp

Tipp reviewed areas of his report giving updates on various projects.

City Administrator – Jenelle Teppen

Teppen reported on a meeting that took place on October 27 with two Bridgewater Township supervisors regarding a proposed joint road policy. Bridgewater Township had adopted a Memorandum of Understanding without any input or review from Dundas as well as a draft of a Joint Road Policy. She indicated that she is preparing a response. Teppen indicated that there is a NAFRS Board meeting this week. Teppen stated Taxing District legislation was passed this past session and that NAFRS is proposing a subcommittee of the Board to review it and provide a recommendation to the NAFRS Board.

Mayor, Councilors and Committees

Motion by Modory, second by Swartwood, to request the Dundas Planning Commission to begin the review of various zoning code amendments. MCU.

WORK SESSION

Draft Long Term Financial Plan

Blake Torbeck, AEM Finance Director presented the 2021-2026 long term financial plan for the City. He indicated that the plan assumes normal operating expenses and operating revenues will each increase by a three percent inflation rate. He stated the City's utility rate analysis provides estimates of expenses for operations and expenses as well as projected rate increases needed to support operations, debt, and capital operations and expenses as well as projected rate increases needed to support operations, debt, and capital in those funds. He also stated the General fund tax levy increases an average of 3.52% beginning 2022, and debt is assumed for projects if the capital fund reserves are not positive. Torbeck reviewed future debt service (bonds), capital funds along with schedule of property taxes levied and tax rates thru 2026. He reviewed the cash fund balances noticing areas below target reserve levels.

Draft Water and Sewer Rate Study

Blake Torbeck, AEM Finance Director, reviewed Water and Sewer Rate Study for next five years based on assumptions in operations, expenses and capital projects. He presented proposed rates for 2022 thru 2026 for water usage per 1,000 gal and base rate for sewer usage per 1,000 gal and base rate. He showed a billing chart based on usage of 3,000 gallons average per month.

(continued on page 13)

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(continued from page 12)

He stated the increase is based heavily on the \$505,000 potential pre-treatment wastewater project.

Proposed 2022 Enterprise Fund Budgets 2022

Blake Torbeck, AEM Finance Director, reviewed his memo on the proposed budget of four enterprise funds (water, sewer, storm water, refuse) with last increase in rates in 2020 with no increase in 2021. He noted with the coming capital expenses planned, there will need to be funds available noting the proposed 2022 shows revenues under budget in water and sewer. Torbeck stated the report reflects a proposed water rate increase of 3.0% and a need for a sewer rate increase of 4.0% for 2022.

ADJOURN

Motion by Fowler, second by Switzer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. MCU Submitted by:

Attest:

Jenelle Teppen, City Administrator
Glenn Switzer, Mayor

DUNDAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 8, 2021

7:00 p.m. Dundas City Hall

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Present: Mayor Glenn Switzer; Councilors: Larry Fowler, Grant Modory, Luke Swartwood, Go To Meeting: Councilor Luke

LaCroix (able to participate but unable to vote or count toward quorum)

Staff Present: City Engineer Dustin Tipp, Administrator Jenelle Teppen, Deputy Clerk Linda Ripka

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Switzer called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC FORUM - No public input.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Modory, second by Fowler, to approve the consent agenda as follows: Regular Minutes of October 25, 2021; Resolution 2021-31 A Resolution Certifying Unpaid Storm Water Fees; Resolution 2021-32 A Resolution Certifying Unpaid Utility Charges; and Disbursements - \$196,646.05. MCU

OLD BUSINESS - No old business brought before Council.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS - No Ordinance brought before Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Health/Dental Insurance Rates and City Contribution for 2022

Administrator Teppen indicated the City will renew with Public Employees Insurance Program (PEIP) for 2022 health, dental and life insurance. She noted the increase in

health insurance of 9% is due to COVID and delayed procedures. She recommended Council approve an increase of City's contribution from \$725 to \$775 to cover cost of the HSA Single premium as well as for those employees who waive coverage. Teppen stated she will work on comparable benefits and pricing for 2023 plans and rates. Motion by Modory, second by Swartwood, to approve renewal with PEIP for qualified employees on health, dental and life insurance coverage for 2022 with the City's contribution to increase to \$775 for health insurance including those who waive coverage, pay for single preventive dental coverage, and life insurance up to \$10,000. MCU

Consider Accepting Long Term Financial Plan

Motion by Swartwood, second by Fowler, to accept the Long Term Plan prepared by ABDO Financial Solutions, LLC for the period 2021 through 2026. MCU

Consider Accepting Water and Sewer Rate Study

Motion by Modory, second by Swartwood to accept the Water and Sewer Rate Study prepared by ABDO Financial Solutions for the years ending December 31, 2021 to December 31, 2026. MCU

Consider Accepting Third Quarter Financial Report

Blake Torbeck, ABDO Financial Solutions, summarized the Third Quarter Financial Report stating all bank accounts are reconciled through September 30, 2021, and reviewed activities in all funds. Motion by Swartwood, second by Fowler, to accept the Third Quarter Financial Report as prepared by ABDO Financial Solutions, LLC. MCU

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

City Engineer - Dustin Tipp

Tipp gave updates to his report concerning meeting with the Rice County Engineer. He also reported on the ongoing testing for TSS in the sanitary sewer system before it makes its way to the Northfield Wastewater Treat-

ment Plant. He stated the City has a discussion scheduled with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding the agreement with Northfield, and Northfield's pending submittal for an amendment to their permit.

City Administrator - Jenelle Teppen

Teppen referred to memo from City Attorney addressing the Open Meeting Law and City Council attendance via a remote method. She reported the Police will be enforcing the Winter Parking ban in effect as of October 31 which Council supported. Teppen reported the Police will now move forward to enforce parking and driveway violations per the letter sent to residents this past summer by leaving a door hanger with a notice stating owner has 10 days to comply with the City's requirements or receive a citation. Mayor, Councilors and Committees Discussion on recent meeting with Bridgewater Township supervisors and the joint road policy the Township developed.

WORK SESSION

Final 2022 Enterprise Funds Budget

Blake Torbeck, ABDO Financial Solutions, reviewed key items for consideration in this year's enterprise funds budget noting budget areas of increase and decrease along with debt service and depreciation. He showed the effects of increasing the water rates 3.0% and sewer rates 4.0%. Discussion and questions from Council followed. Final 2022 Funds Budgets and Tax Levy Blake Torbeck, ABDO Financial Solutions, presented and summarized key items for consideration in the 2022 governmental funds budget and the proposed tax levy. Discussion and questions from Council followed. He reviewed the time line and action by Council on budget for 2022 and levy.

ADJOURN

Motion by Fowler, second by Swartwood, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. MCU

Submitted by:

Attest:

Jenelle Teppen, City Administrator
Glenn Switzer, Mayor

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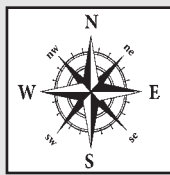


season's greetings

All of us at Mainstreet Publishing,
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thank you for your
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Dundas
Messenger

Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes One for the Old Times



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.

Coming back to Minnesota this spring we had made the decision to sell the house that my grandparents had lived in. As a rental it was becoming more of a problem to us. That meant a renovation, so we started working. Then things began to change. After stripping it down and cleaning it up, we noticed the charm hidden underneath.

The house was built out of fir. Not pine. Fir gets harder as it ages. You have to drill

eighty-year old fir floor joists. It will bend a nail right over. This was a home to my grand-parents. Two of the nicest people you would ever meet. I knew my grandmother for over forty-years, but my grandfather died the year I was born. My memories of my grandfather Otis, came from some of my neighbors.

Lester Derby was one of my neighbors who lived in the valley next to us when I was growing up. Lester and Lillian were great friends of our family. I remember Lester telling me about my grandfather about forty-years ago. Lester and his wife had moved onto their farm and had three children. Their house had a porch on the front where Lillian did the laundry. One day Otis was visiting Lester and asked how Lillian would do the laundry when the winter came and it would be too cold outside. Lester commented that he would like to enclose the porch, but farming in the 1950's did not look like the money would be available. The next day, Otis stopped down and handed Lester \$500. He said, "fix the porch for your family, pay me back when you are able."

My neighbor Jim Buehler told me about my grandfather Otis. Otis had arthritis quite bad and got around on crutches in his last years. Jim had watched my grandfather cultivating corn and the grass would plug up

the cultivator shovels. Most people would get frustrated and raise the cultivator and pop the clutch to bounce the sod balls of the shovels. But not my grandfather. Jim said he watched him raise the front mounted cultivator, back up and then dismount from the tractor and slowly make his way around the front and push the dirt and grass off the shovels with one crutch. Calmly and patiently, each time with the demeanor of a

man who was unflappable.

As I stripped the house down to the sub-floor and bare studs, I realized that I was looking at a house no one had seen since my grandfather built it, over eighty years ago. The memory of a simple farmer who lived the righteous way seemed worthy to preserve. My wife and I decided we would move into it and keep it for our summer home.

A Minnesotan: Thanksgiving



By RosaLin Alcoser

Thanksgiving 2019 was my first year back in Minnesota from Missouri. Don't get me wrong I loved Thanksgiving in Missouri, spending it with my older sister and getting Chinese food out so that we did not have to cook a large meal for two. Which made 2019 the first more traditional Thanksgiving I had had in a couple of years.

My family has the tradition of getting up watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade every year and making a big meal. The thing that stands out to me the most about that's year's Thanksgiving is cooking that meal.

The reason that cooking this meal stands out to me is because my mother's oven would not stay shut on it's own. Meaning that it was my job that day to keep the oven door shut; so I sat with my back against the oven door to hold it shut for a better part of the day so that the Thanksgiving meal could bake.

Thanksgiving 1999 was my family's first Thanksgiving in Minnesota, which is also the first time I can remember seeing snow. However, it is the Thanksgiving of 2019 that sticks in my mind this year.

Thank You

(continued from page 1)

Every year, many newspapers have consolidated or gone out of business.

We have watched this happen many times in recent years in small rural communities, and especially this past year during the covid situation.

With our small staff of 2.5, we understand this challenge first hand here at the Messenger, which is why we publish the Messenger in its monthly format.

Our goal with the Messenger is to help insure our home towns, still have a community voice of its own, direct mailing to all residents in the zip code. This format allows the community to maintain a local monthly paper, and better connect local residents, businesses and the community. We also understand the need for

more timely information within the month, so we look forward to expanding our digital and online offerings in the coming months, while still maintaining our dedication to our hometowns!



We remain a small family owned business with a goal of supporting our rural communities and businesses.

We are proud to continue to offer you this local hometown paper, in your mail box each month. Our future success depends on the support of our local community, and we thank you in advance for your continued support of The Messenger!

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